

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 312**  
**ANSWERED ON 21.07.2023**

**VANDE BHARAT TRAINS TO SOUTHERN INDIA**

312 SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Railways have started operating Vande Bharat trains on some more routes recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) number of Vande Bharat trains that are proposed to be operated in the country in next two years, details thereof;
- (d) reasons for not operating more Vande Bharat trains in Southern part of the country, where the demand is more due to commercial and industrial activities; and
- (e) whether Government would consider more such trains in South, especially to Tamil Nadu in future?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

\*\*\*\*\*

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 312 BY SHRI VAIKO ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 21.07.2023 REGARDING VANDE BHARAT TRAINS TO SOUTHERN INDIA.**

(a) to (c) During the month of July, 2023, 02 pairs of Vande Bharat Express, namely, 22549/22550 Gorakhpur – Lucknow Vande Bharat Express and 12461/12462 Jodhpur-Sabarmati Vande Bharat Express have been introduced by Indian Railways (IR). With this, 25 pairs of Vande Bharat Express services are being operated on IR. Further, introduction of Vande Bharat Express services, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification and availability of rolling stock.

(d) and (e) IR do not introduce train services on State-wise/Region-wise basis as Railways network straddle across State/Regional boundaries. However, 20643/20644 MGR Chennai-Coimbatore Vande Bharat Express and 20607/20608 Chennai - Mysuru Vande Bharat Express are catering to the needs of the stations located in the State of Tamil Nadu. These are in addition to the 04 pairs of Vande Bharat Services viz. 20833/20834 Visakhapatnam-Secunderabad Express, 20701/20702 Secunderabad-Tirupati Express, 20633/20634 Kasargod-Thiruvanthapuram Express and 20661/20662 KSR Bengaluru-Dharwar Express serving the various stations located in the Southern part of the country.

\*\*\*\*\*