

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2837
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2025**

RE-NAMING OF GARIB RATH EXPRESS

2837. SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the increasing public sentiment/appeals to change the name of the Garib Rath Express due to concerns regarding the dignity and self-respect of passengers, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government acknowledges that the term Garib Rath once symbolic of affordable AC travel now risks being perceived as patronising and inconsistent with the aspirations of the emerging middle class especially the hardworking population of Amritsar who frequently use this service, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether there is any proposal to rename the train in a way that better reflects values of empowerment, Inclusion and national pride, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether the Government will conduct public and stakeholder consultations before finalising any such renaming, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) to (d) Bharatiya Rail is focussed on providing affordable, good quality services to all sections of society. While no requests have been**

received to rename Garib Rath trains, Railways has developed following trains:

1. Vande Bharat service:

Indian Railways have introduced Vande Bharat services which are semi-high speed trains and are aimed to provide better travel experience and improved safety to the passengers. These services are equipped with enhanced safety features and modern passenger amenities like-

- I. KAVACH system**
- II. Faster acceleration**
- III. Fully Sealed Gangway**
- IV. Automatic Plug Doors**
- V. Better Ride Comfort**
- VI. Mini Pantry with provision of Hot Case**
- VII. Bottle Cooler**
- VIII. Deep freezer & Hot water Boiler**
- IX. Reclining Ergonomic Seats**
- X. Comfortable Seating with revolving seats in executive class**
- XI. Mobile charging sockets for every seat**
- XII. Special lavatory for Divyangjan passengers in Driving Trailer Car(DTC),**
- XIII. CCTVs, etc.**

Presently, 144 Vande Bharat train services are operational on the Broad Gauge (B.G.) electrified network of Indian Railways.

2. Amrit Bharat service:

To provide affordable means of transportation to the low and middle income families, Indian Railways have introduced Amrit Bharat

services that are fully non-AC modern trains. Already 14 services are in operation. The present composition of Amrit Bharat consists of 11 General Class coaches, 8 Sleeper Class coaches, 01 Pantry car and 02 Luggage cum Divyangjan coaches.

High Speed and enhanced Safety standards are the hallmarks of these trains with following enhanced features and amenities:

- i. Better aesthetics of seat and berths with enhanced look & feel on the lines of Vande Bharat Sleeper.**
- ii. Jerk Free Semi-Automatic Couplers.**
- iii. Improved Crashworthiness in coaches by provision of crash tube.**
- iv. Provision of CCTV system in all coaches and Luggage room.**
- v. Improved designs of toilets.**
- vi. Improved design of Ladder for ease of climbing on to the berth.**
- vii. Improved LED Light fitting & Charging Sockets.**
- viii. Provision of EP assisted braking system.**
- ix. Aerosol based fire suppression system in toilets and electrical cubicles.**
- x. USB Type-A and Type-C mobile charging sockets.**
- xi. Emergency Talk Back system for two-way communication between Passenger and Guard/Train Manager.**
- xii. Non-AC pantry with enhanced heating capacity.**
- xiii. Fully sealed gangways with quick release mechanism for easy attachment and detachment.**

3. Namo Bharat Rapid Rail service

Indian Railways have introduced Namo Bharat Rapid Rail services. These services are aimed to enhance the travel experience to the

suburban and regional commuters for short distance travel. At present, the following 4 Namo Bharat Rapid Rail services are in operation:

(i) 94801/02 Ahmedabad-Bhuj Namo Bharat Rapid Rail

(ii) 94803/04 Jaynagar-Patna Namo Bharat Rapid Rail

The prominent features of Namo Bharat Rapid Rail include-

(i) Centrally controlled Double Leaf Automatic Sliding Doors

(ii) CCTVs for safety and passenger surveillance

(iii) Mobile charging sockets, Fire Detection System

(iv) Continuous LED lighting with Energy Efficient Lighting system

(v) Emergency Talk System

(vi) Modular interior with Cushioned Seats and Sealed Flexible Gangway

(vii) FRP Modular Toilets with vacuum evacuation and

(viii) Fully Air-Conditioned trains with Driver cab AC.

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