

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1447  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024**

**VANDE BHARAT TRAIN FROM BHOPAL-LUCKNOW AND BHOPAL-PATNA**

**†1447. SHRI ALOK SHARMA:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether new Vande Bharat trains were to be started on various routes as announced in the Budget and if so, the number of Vande Bharat trains started so far during the current financial year as per the announcement;**

**(b) the time by which Vande Bharat train from Bhopal to Lucknow and Bhopal to Patna are likely to be introduced and the latest update in this regard; and**

**(c) the time by which the works of Nishatpura railway station near Bhopal is likely to be completed, the details related to its expansion and the time by which the said station is likely to be made operational?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) & (b) As on 28th November, 2024, 136 Vande Bharat train services are running across the Indian Railways, which includes 34 Vande Bharat services introduced during the current financial year. Presently, Bhopal is connected to Lucknow area by 28 pairs of Mail/Express services while to Patna area by 08 pairs of Mail/Express services. Further, to cater to the additional needs of passengers on these sectors 04 pairs of Special train services are being operated between Bhopal and Lucknow while 06 pairs of Special train services**

**are being operated between Bhopal and Patna area. Besides, introduction of new train services, including Vande Bharat trains, and provision of stoppages of trains are ongoing processes on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic justification, etc.**

**(c) Upgradation/modernisation of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and on-going process and works in this regard are undertaken as per requirement, subject to inter-se priority and availability of funds. However, priority for upgradation/modernization of stations is accorded to higher category of station over lower category of station while sanctioning and executing the works.**

**For development works at Nishatpura railway station, tenders have been awarded and works of improvement of platform surfacing, extension of platforms, platform shelters, water booths, LED lights, ceiling fans, coach guidance system, computerized announcement system, etc. have been taken up.**

**Further, development/redevelopment/upgradation of Railway Stations is complex in nature involving safety of passengers & trains and requires various statutory clearances such as fire clearance, heritage, tree cutting, air-port clearance etc. The progress also gets affected due to brownfield related challenges such as shifting of utilities, (involving water/sewage lines, optical fibre cables, gas pipelines, power/signal cables, etc.) infringements, operation of trains without hindering passenger movement, speed restrictions due to works carried out in close proximity of high voltage power lines, etc. and these factors affect the completion time. Therefore, no time frame can be indicated at this stage.**

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