

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 152
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022**

BHARAT GAURAV TRAINS

***152. SHRIMATI NUSRAT JAHAN RUHI:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to run Bharat Gaurav Trains under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model;**
- (b) if so, the details of routes on which these have been started, company - wise;**
- (c) whether the Government has proposed to lease out the railway land and run the regular routes of the Indian Railways also under PPP model; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 152 BY SHRIMATI NUSRAT JAHAN RUHI TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.07.2022 REGARDING BHARAT GAURAV TRAINS

(a) & (b) : No, Sir. However, the Ministry of Railways have issued policy instructions on 23.11.2021 vide Commercial Circular No. 14 of 2021 for operation of theme-based tourist circuit 'Bharat Gaurav Trains'. These trains are theme-based tourist circuit trains offering comprehensive tour packages to tourists, and intended to tap the vast tourist potential of India and showcase India's rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places to the people of India and the world.

Under the policy, potential service providers which may include Public Sector Undertakings or other entities who meet the eligibility criteria can run Bharat Gaurav trains. They can place requests for allotment of coaches earmarked for this scheme to run Bharat Gaurav Trains. The service provider will pay applicable charges to Railways. Indian Railways will continue to retain ownership of the coaches and provide operational assistance including coach maintenance and stabling facilities. The service provider may carry out coach refurbishments/minor modifications to showcase the theme and meet tourists' needs.

The Bharat Gaurav Trains policy envisages freedom for the service provider to develop their own tourism theme and circuit. As such they have freedom to decide the route and itinerary. These itineraries may be repeated or changed for different trips as decided by the service provider. No routes are specified by the Railways for this scheme.

Three Bharat Gaurav Train services have so far been operated over Indian Railways. Details are as under :

Date of start of operation	Routes	Theme	No. of Tourists	Service Provider
14.06.2022	4 Nights/5 Days Package Itinerary: Coimbatore - Tirupur- Erode - Salem - Bangalore- Mantralayam- Shirdi and back (Total kms-2880).	Shirdi Sai Temple Yatra	810	M and C Property Development Pvt Ltd.
21.06.2022	17 Nights/18 Days Package Itinerary: (SHRI RAMAYANA YATRA)- New Delhi - Ayodhya - Sitamarhi - Janakpur (Nepal) - Buxar - Varanasi - Prayagraj - Chitrakoot - Nasik - Hampi - Rameshwaram - Kanchipuram - Bhadrachalam - Delhi Safdarjung (Total kms-7707).	Ramayana Yatra	499	Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd.
23.07.2022	11Nights/12 Days Package Itinerary : (Divya Kashi - Aadi Amavasya Special Trigaya & Saptha Shakti Peeth Darshan) Madurai - Chennai- Vijayawada- Puri- Kolkata- Gaya- Varanasi-Prayagraj- Vijayawada- Chennai- Madurai (Total Kms- 5269)	Divya Kashi-Aadi Amavasya Special	395	Travel Times India Private Limited

(c) : No, Sir. For running of Bharat Gaurav Trains, neither any land parcel nor regular routes have been leased out.

(d) : Does not arise.