



**BACKGROUNDERS**  
Press Information Bureau  
Government of India

# Amrit Bharat Express: Transforming Affordable Long-Distance Rail Travel

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## Key Takeaways

- **30 Amrit Bharat Express trains** have been operational since **December 2023**, with **9 new services added**, expanding nationwide coverage.
- Non-AC sleeper travel priced at **~₹500 per 1,000 km**, with **no dynamic pricing**, ensures accessibility for the common passenger.
- New routes link the **Northeast, eastern, central, western, and southern India**, connecting border areas, major cities, and pilgrimage centres.
- Enhanced rail access supports **employment mobility, tourism, trade, and access to education and healthcare** across multiple regions.

## Empowering Everyday Journeys

Railways have long been the backbone of India's social and economic fabric. They have carried generations of passengers across vast distances and diverse landscapes. As the lifeline of affordable mass transport, Indian Railways has played a pivotal role in connecting people, markets, and opportunities. This is especially true for those for whom train travel is not a choice but a daily necessity. Nearly two centuries after India's first train journey, Indian Railways continues to

transform mobility for millions. By extending comfort, convenience, and reliability, once associated primarily with premium services, Indian Railways have steadily built a more inclusive transport system. The focus remains on safety and a passenger-centric approach.

Aligned with this vision, the **Amrit Bharat Express** has emerged as a significant milestone for everyday travellers. It was introduced as a flagship initiative of the Amrit Kaal. Since its launch in December 2023, **30 Amrit Bharat Express trains** have already become operational, and **9 additional services** are going to be introduced. These routes will strengthen connectivity by linking the eastern and sub-Himalayan regions with major destinations across southern, western, and central India. This reinforces the nation's commitment to affordable, comfortable, and reliable travel for all.



### Amrit Bharat Express: The Idea and the Intent

The Amrit Bharat Express is a modern, non-AC long-distance sleeper class train service introduced by Indian Railways to provide **reliable, affordable, and comfortable travel**. It is designed to handle heavy passenger volumes, especially during festive seasons and peak migration periods. With fares of approximately **₹500 per 1,000 kilometres** and proportionately lower pricing for short and medium-distance journeys, the service follows a simple and transparent fare structure with no dynamic pricing. To bridge regions often separated by distance and opportunity, the Amrit Bharat Express supports travel for employment, education, and family needs. It is a part of India's continued push to expand affordable long-distance connectivity across the country.

**Amrit Bharat** trains are fully non-AC, configured with **11 General Class coaches, 8 Sleeper Class coaches, 1 Pantry Car, and 2 Second Class-cum-Luggage-cum-Guard Vans with disabled-friendly compartments**. Designed and manufactured to meet the needs of the general public, these trains aim to deliver a **modern, comfortable, and high-quality travel experience** for passengers in the non-AC segment.

## Enhanced Features and Amenities of Amrit Bharat Trains



Better aesthetics of seat and berths with enhanced look & feel on the lines of Vande Bharat Sleeper.

Jerk Free Semi-Automatic Couplers.

Improved Crashworthy features.

Provision of CCTV system in all coaches and luggage room.

Improved designs of toilets.

Improved design of Ladder for ease of climbing onto the berth.

Improved LED Light fitting & Charging Sockets.

Provision of EP assisted braking system.

Aerosol based fire suppression system in toilets and electrical cubicles.

USB Type-A and Type-C mobile charging sockets.

Emergency Talk Back system for two-way communication between Passenger and Guard/Train Manager.

Non-AC Pantry with enhanced heating capacity.

Fully sealed gangways with quick release mechanism for easy attachment and detachment.

Source: Ministry of Railways

### Broadening Reach: Nine New Amrit Bharat Express Trains

The introduction of **nine new Amrit Bharat Express trains** marks a significant expansion of the network. These new services are aimed at strengthening long-distance connectivity and meeting rising passenger demand across key regions of the country.

#### Ashtalakshmi of Bharat's North-East: Powered by Kamakhya-Rohtak Amrit Bharat Express

Connecting Kamakhya, a major spiritual hub in Assam, with Rohtak in Haryana, this Amrit Bharat Express strengthens long-distance connectivity between the North-East and northern India.

- Operates as a **weekly service** across **Assam, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Haryana**, offering affordable and comfortable travel.
- Train Timings:**
  - Departs **Kamakhya at 10:00 PM**



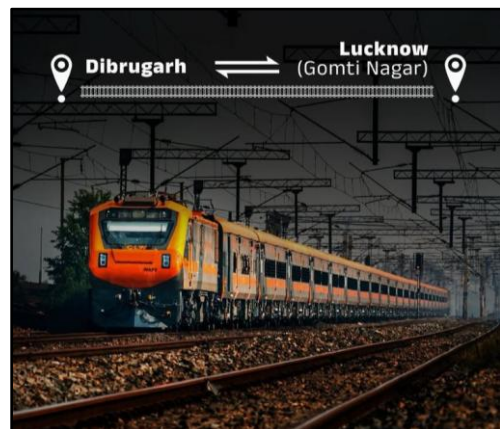
on **Fridays**, arrives **Rohtak at 2:45 PM on Sundays**.

- Return journey departs **Rohtak at 10:10 PM on Sundays**, arrives **Kamakhya at 12:15 PM on Tuesdays**.
- Serves multiple districts across six states and passes near destinations such as **Kamakhya Temple and the Ganga ghats of Varanasi**, enhancing accessibility, tourism and regional ties.

### **Dibrugarh-Lucknow Amrit Bharat Express: Strengthening Purvodaya se Bharat Uday Vision**

The Dibrugarh–Lucknow Amrit Bharat Express establishes a vital rail link between the North-Eastern region and northern India.

- Originates from **Dibrugarh in Assam** and passes through **Dimapur in Nagaland**, connecting frontier and border regions with Uttar Pradesh.
- Passes close to major destinations including **Kaziranga National Park (UNESCO World Heritage Site)**, **Kamakhya Temple**, **Vikramshila Mahavihara**, **Ayodhya** and **Lucknow**.
- Expected to boost **tourism, local trade, small businesses and employment mobility** by linking pilgrimage centres and major cities.



### **New Jalpaiguri-Nagercoil Amrit Bharat Express: From Dooars to Nilgiris**

Linking the eastern Himalayan foothills with the southern tip of the country, this service strengthens national integration and long-distance connectivity.

- Connects **New Jalpaiguri**, a key border-area hub near Bhutan and Bangladesh, with **Nagercoil in Kanyakumari district**.
- Operates as a **weekly service** along a strategically important corridor linking border-adjacent regions, ports, industrial belts and hinterlands.
- Passes near destinations such as **Darjeeling–Dooars**, **Visakhapatnam beaches**, **Madurai (Meenakshi Temple)** and **Coimbatore**, supporting tourism and regional development.

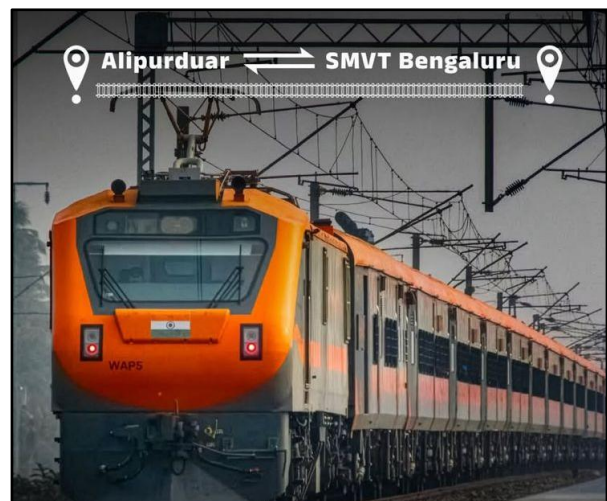




## New Jalpaiguri-Tiruchirappalli Amrit Bharat Express: From Darjeeling Foothills to Education Hub

This service creates a long-distance rail corridor from the Northeast gateway to Tamil Nadu's education and temple hubs.

- Begins at **New Jalpaiguri**, a strategically important border-region station, and connects it with **Tiruchirappalli**.
- Passes through destinations including **Agra, Prayagraj, Bhubaneswar, the Cauvery delta, Thanjavur and Chennai**.
- Strengthens access to **markets, tourism centres, educational institutions and employment hubs**, boosting local economies.



Alipurduar-Bengaluru Amrit Bharat Express:

### Boosting Border-to-Tech Connectivity

Providing a direct rail link between a strategic border district and India's technology capital, this service enhances east-south connectivity.

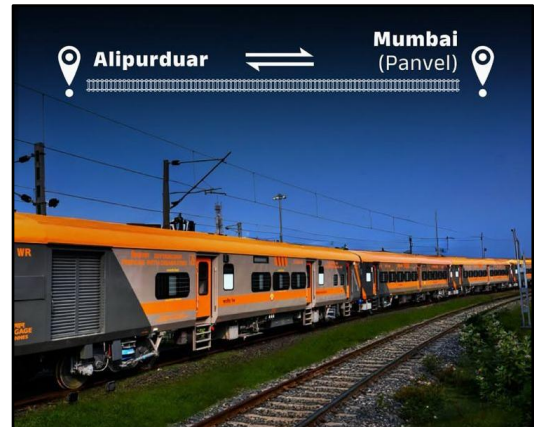
- Weekly service connecting **Alipurduar near Bhutan** with **SMVT Bengaluru**.
- **Train Timings:**
  - Departs **Alipurduar at 10:25 PM on Mondays**.

- Returns from **Bengaluru at 8:50 AM on Saturdays.**
- Serves districts across **West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka**, promoting tourism and economic integration.

### **Alipurduar-Mumbai (Panvel) Amrit Bharat Express: Northeast's Gateway to Mumbai Metropolis**

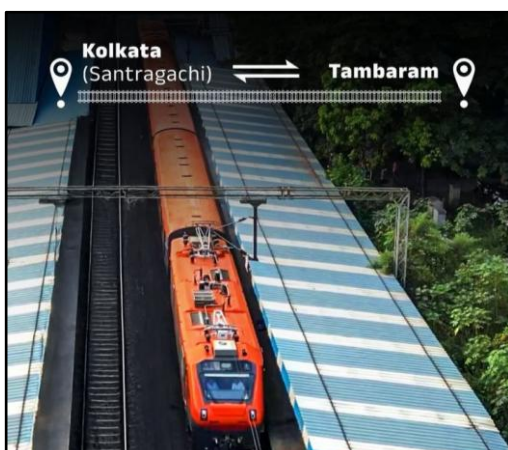
An important east–west rail corridor connecting North Bengal's border belt with the Mumbai suburban region.

- Weekly service connecting **Alipurduar** with **Panvel**, traversing **West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.**
- **Train Timings:**
  - Departs **Alipurduar** early **Thursday morning**, arrives **Panvel** by **Saturday evening.**
  - Return journey begins **Panvel on Monday**, concludes **Alipurduar on Wednesday.**
- Provides access to major destinations including **Darjeeling, Triveni Sangam, Chitrakoot Dham and Trimbakeshwar Jyotirlinga**, supporting tourism and trade.



### **Santragachi-Tamparam Amrit Bharat Express: Strengthening East-South Rail Connectivity**

Strengthening east–south rail connectivity, this service links eastern India with southern metropolitan and suburban regions.



- Connects **Santragachi** near **Kolkata** with **Tamparam**, Chennai's suburban hub.
- Benefits districts across **West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu** by improving access to education, healthcare and markets.
- Passes near landmarks such as **Jagannath Temple, Konark Sun Temple (UNESCO site) and Shore Temple (UNESCO site)**, boosting tourism and regional trade.

## Connecting Eastern India with the National Capital: Howrah - Anand Vihar Amrit Bharat Express

This service provides a fast and dependable rail link between eastern India and the National Capital Region.

- Weekly service connecting **Howrah with Anand Vihar Terminal, Delhi.**

- **Train Timings:**

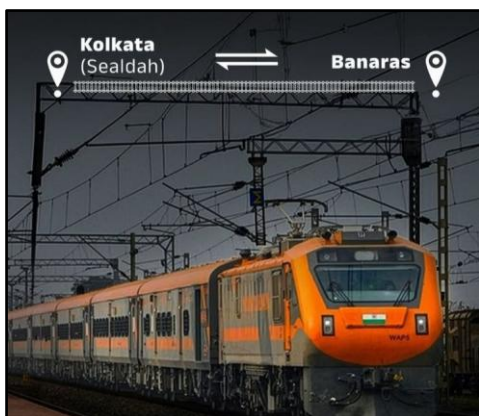
- Departs **Howrah at 11:10 PM on Thursdays**, arrives **Anand Vihar at 2:50 AM on Saturdays.**
- Return journey departs **Anand Vihar at 5:15 AM on Saturdays**, arrives **Howrah at 10:50 AM on Sundays.**

- Serves major districts across **West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh**, improving access to employment and administrative centres.



## Kolkata (Sealdah) - Banaras Amrit Bharat Express: Faith Fusion - Jyotirlinga to Gurdwara Ghats

Enhancing connectivity between eastern India and one of the country's most significant spiritual centres.



- Daily service connecting **Sealdah in Kolkata with Banaras.**

- **Train Timings:**

- Departs **Sealdah at 7:30 PM**, arrives **Banaras at 7:20 AM the next day.**
- Return journey departs **Banaras at 10:10 PM**, arrives **Sealdah at 9:55 AM the next day.**

- Passes near pilgrimage destinations including **Baidyanath Dham Jyotirlinga, Takht Sri Patna Sahib, Kashi Vishwanath Temple and Sarnath**, boosting religious tourism and regional growth.



# Amrit Bharat Express Trains Routes



Connecting Assam & West Bengal to length & Breadth of India



**Source:** Ministry of Railways

## Conclusion

The Amrit Bharat Express represents a decisive step towards strengthening India's long-distance rail network with a clear focus on inclusivity and scale. By combining affordability, extensive geographic reach, and passenger-oriented design, it supports mobility needs across regions that are critical for economic integration and social cohesion. As the network continues to expand, the Amrit Bharat Express is positioned to play a lasting role in connecting people, regions, and opportunities across the country.



## References

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### **PIB Research**