



Inauguration of Jammu and Rayagada Railway Division

[Source: IE](#)

Recently, **Prime Minister (PM)** virtually inaugurated the **new Jammu Railway Division**, India's 70th division, carved from the Firozpur Division, covering 742.1 km.

- He also inaugurated the **Cherlapally terminal station in Telangana** and laid the foundation stone for the **Rayagada railway division (69th Division) building** in Odisha under the **East Coast Railway zone**.
- Indian Railways now has **17 zones** and **70 divisions**.
- **New Jammu Railway Division:** Jammu Railway Division has been carved from the **Firozpur Division** and covers **742.1 km**.
 - A new **Katra-Reasi railway section** and **Vande Bharat train services to Srinagar** will also start from 26th January 2025.
- The PM highlighted ongoing efforts in expanding **metro networks, dedicated freight corridors**, alongside initiatives such as **solar-powered stations** and the **development of high-speed rail systems**.
- **About Indian Railways:**
 - It was established in **1853** and is **one of the largest railway networks globally**.
 - The **first train in India** ran over a distance of 21 miles, connecting **Bombay and Thane**.
 - India has the 3rd **largest metro-rail network** in the world after **China and the US**. By 2050, India is projected to account for **40% of the global rail activity**.

Vande Bharat Express salient features:

- India's first indigenous semi-high speed 160 kmph train set
- Reclining ergonomic seats & comfortable seating with revolving seats in executive class
- Intelligent regenerative braking system, faster acceleration & deceleration
- Driver cabin at both ends eliminates need for locomotive reversal
- Better ride comfort, Fully Sealed gangways for free passenger movement
- Mobile charging sockets for every seat
- Better fire safety, Emergency alarm push buttons & Talk-back units
- Aircraft-style bio-vacuum toilets, CCTVs, diffused LED lighting in all coaches
- KAVACH indigenously developed anti-train collision system
- Mini Pantry, Automatic plug doors for entry & exit
- GPS based audio-visual passenger information system, on-board hotspot Wi-Fi
- Better heat ventilation & AC control through higher efficiency compressor, with UV lamp for germ-free air



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