

PM FLAGS OFF VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS FROM GANDHINAGAR

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Green light:Narendra Modi flagging off the Gandhinagar-Mumbai Vande Bharat Express train in Gandhinagar in Gujarat on Friday.PTI-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday flagged off the new and upgraded version of the Vande Bharat Express which will run from Gandhinagar in Gujarat to Mumbai in Maharashtra. Post the flag off from Gandhinagar station, Mr. Modi also travelled on the train up to Kalupur Railway Station.

This is the third Vande Bharat Express in the country – after New Delhi-Varanasi and New Delhi-Karta Vande Bharat Express, and comes with several features to enhance comfort as well as safety.

The 16-coach train has a seating capacity of 1,128 passengers and will halt at Surat, Vadodara and Ahmedabad on both directions. One-way travel time for the train from Gandhinagar to Mumbai is estimated at around five and a half hours and the passengers would need to shell out Rs. 1,275 for traveling in chair car travel class from Mumbai to Gandhinagar and Rs. 1,440 for the journey back. Likewise, for executive chair car, the fare would be Rs. 2,455 from Mumbai to Gandhinagar and Rs. 2650 from Gandhinagar to Mumbai.

“Vande Bharat Express 2.0 between Gandhinagar and Mumbai is going to be a game changer and will boost connectivity between the two business hubs of India. It will enable business owners from Gujarat to travel to Mumbai and vice-versa without bearing the brunt of high-cost airline tickets while availing facilities that are available on air,” the government said.

The new train that came with a side recliner seat facility provided only to executive class passengers, is now available in all the travelling classes. Executive coaches have the added feature of 180-degree rotating seats. It is a pre-fitted Kavach (the indigenously-developed train collision avoidance system). The train would also offer WiFi-enabled content on demand.

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