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News: Railways creates a roadmap to export Vande Bharat trains

- The Ministry of Railways is readying a roadmap to start export of the indigenously manufactured Vande Bharat trains by 2025–26, a senior railways official said recently.
- The Ministry is also working to increase production of these trains as well as introduce newer versions with sleeper coaches.

Vande Bharat Express

- Vande Bharat Express, also known as **Train 18**, is an **Indian semi-high speed intercity electric multiple unit**.
- Designed and built by **Integral Coach Factory, Perambur in Chennai**.
- These trains **operate without a locomotive** and are based on a propulsion system called **distributed traction power technology**, by which **each car of the train set is powered**.
- Under the India government's initiative **Make In India**.
- Train 18 has a **maximum speed of 160kmph**, reducing journey time by 25% to 45%.

- It is **energy-efficient** as its coaches will be **fitted with LED lights**.
- The Vande Bharat coaches incorporate passenger amenities including **onboard Wi-Fi entertainment; GPS based passenger information system, CCTVs, automatic doors in all coaches, rotating chairs and biovacuum type toilets like in aircraft**.
- The current version of the train has **16 coaches with 14 ordinary chair cars and two executive class chair cars**. The train has a passenger **carrying capacity of more than 1,100 people**.