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"Railways, perhaps along with post offices, are the only two institutions in India with a deep network which, if tapped judiciously, can create substantial improvements in the hinterland. Railways were always considered only as a mode of transport in our country. We want to see railways as the backbone of India's economic development." – Shri Narendra Modi, prime minister of India

This report looks at the following areas:

- Why did tourist arrivals from Bangladesh double between 2009 and 2014?
- Why do certain routes suffer from congestion?
- Why might less government involvement help the railways?
- How does the Indian diaspora provide opportunities for tour operators and travel agents?

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Garib Rath trains

Duronto Express trains

Rajdhani Express trains

Shatabdi Express trains

New trains are on the way

Tejas trains: For those in a hurry

Humsafar: For the middle class

Uday double decker trains: For those travelling on busy routes

Antyodaya: For poorer travellers

The On-board Experience

A multitude of classes

AC1 or IA

AC2 or 2A

AC3 or 3A

EC or AC executive chair class

CC or AC chair class

SL or sleeper class

2S or 2nd-class seating

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The pantry car is disappearing

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Deccan Odyssey Golden Chariot

Maharajas' Express

Palace on Wheels

Royal Rajasthan on Wheels

Hill Trains in India

Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (West Bengal)

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Budget travellers, adventure travellers and backpackers

Professionals, retirees and business travellers

Well-heeled tourists

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Tour Operators Specialising in Train Trips

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