

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 605**  
**ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024**

**RESUMPTION OF CANCELLED TRAINS IN SOUTHERN RAILWAY**

605 SHRI C. VE. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways had cancelled many trains during COVID, in order to minimize the spread of the disease throughout the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the trains cancelled during COVID in Southern Railway in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether such cancelled trains services have been re-started throughout the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, especially in Southern Railways in Tamil Nadu?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) To contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, Indian Railways had discontinued all regular passenger carrying trains, including those operating on Southern Railway network, w.e.f. 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2020. Further, with a view to provide for better passenger safety by creating maintenance corridor blocks, minimizing conflicts in existing Time Table, and speeding up of train services, Indian Railways, have undertaken rationalization of the Time Table, including that of train services, in a scientific manner with the assistance of IIT-Bombay. Accordingly, since November-2021, passenger carrying trains are being operated as per rationalized time table. Besides, all the passenger carrying trains operating on Southern Railway, prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, are presently in operation.

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