

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1341
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.12.2022**

RAILWAY PROJECTS IN BIHAR AND MAHARASHTRA

**†1341. SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:
SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of train operations discontinued during COVID-19 pandemic in the year, 2020;**
- (b) the details of the train operations that have been resumed particularly regarding Amravati;**
- (c) the details of the trains in which the facilities of providing onboard bedrolls and catering have not been resumed yet, State and division-wise;**
- (d) the details of the train operations that have not been resumed yet, State and division-wise;**
- (e) the status of work regarding all the rail projects sanctioned in Maharashtra during the last five years including date of sanction by the Railway Board and funds allotted/utilized in this regard;**
- (f) the status of acquisition of land for all the ongoing projects;**
- (g) whether the Government has received any proposals from the railway zones or Members of Parliament to run a direct Rajdhani or Vande Bharat Express from Bhagalpur in Bihar; and**
- (h) if so, the details of the action being taken by the Railways in this regard?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (h) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1341 BY SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL, SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA, SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV, MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE, SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU AND SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 14.12.2022 REGARDING RAILWAY PROJECTS IN BIHAR AND MAHARASHTRA

(a) to (d) With a view to contain the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, Indian Railways had discontinued the operation of all regular passenger carrying trains with effect from 23rd March, 2020 and only special train services were being operated. Since November-2021, Mail/express train services are being operated as per rationalized timetable and regular numbers. The passenger services are being operationalised in a phased manner. Indian Railways is keeping a close watch on the situation and regulating operations of trains accordingly. Indian Railways do not operate trains on State-wise basis. As on 08.12.2022, Indian Railways, on a daily average basis, operated 10293 train services which includes 1954 Mail/Express trains and 2680 Passenger trains. At present, Amravati is being served by 11 pairs of Mail/Express trains. Since November-2021, Mail/express train services are being operated as per rationalized timetable and regular numbers. The passenger services are being operationalised in a phased manner. The Zone-wise/Division-wise details of trains not restored as on 07.12.2022 are : Central Railway (Pune-4), East Coast Railway (Sambalpur-4, Khurda Road-2, Waltair-10), East Central Railway (Danapur-2, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya-4, Dhanbad-4), Eastern Railway (Asansol-2), North Eastern Railway(Lucknow-8), North Western Railway (Jodhpur-10, Jaipur-2), South East Central Railway (Nagpur-10, Raipur-2), South Central Railway (Secunderabad-2, Hyderabad-2, Vijayawada-6, Guntakal-2), South Eastern Railway (Ranchi-4), West Central Railway (Jabalpur-4, Bhopal -2), South Western Railway (Mysuru-1, Hubli-2), Northern Railway (Lucknow-4, Delhi-6, Firozpur-5), North Central Railway (Prayagraj-8).

Linen/Bedrolls are being provided in all trains of Divisions falling in the State of Maharashtra except Train Nos. 12767/12768 (Hazur Sahib Nanded – Santragachi Jn), 17619/17620 (Aurangabad – Hazur Sahib Nanded),

17621/17622 (Aurangabad – Tirupati), 12751/12752 (Hazur Sahib Nanded – Jammu Tawi), 12753/12754 (Hazur Sahib Nanded – Hazrat Nizamuddin). Catering services in trains have resumed from the respective date of resumption of train services after the COVID-19 pandemic. These services are provided either through Pantry Cars/Mini Pantries or Train Side Vending or static catering units at en-route stations. In addition, e-catering facilities have also been resumed.

(e) & (f) The Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise and not State wise/UT wise as the Railways' projects may span across various state boundaries. During the last 5 years i.e. 2017-18 till 2021-22 and upto November, 2022-23, 8 projects (3 New line, 3 Doubling and 2 Gauge Conversion) of total length 918 km costing ₹ 10,468 Crore falling fully/partly in the state of Maharashtra have been sanctioned. As on 01.04.2022, 34 projects (16 New Lines, 02 Gauge Conversions and 16 Doubling), of total length of 6,118 Km, costing ₹ 80,079 crore falling fully/partly in Maharashtra are under different stages of planning/ approval/ execution, out of which 1,155 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹ 21,296 crore has been incurred upto March, 2022. The Zonal Railway wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in> Ministry of Railways> Railway Board> about Indian Railways> Railway Board Directorates> Finance (Budget)> Rail Budget/Pink Book (year)> Railway-wise Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme (RSP). Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in Budget allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects across Indian Railways. Average Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/ partly in Maharashtra, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹ 4,801 crore per year from ₹ 1,171 crore per year (during 2009-14) which is 310% more than average allocation during 2009-14 (₹ 1171 crore/year). These allocations have been increased to ₹ 7,281 crore in Financial Year 2019-20 (522% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14), ₹ 6,700 crore in Financial Year

2020-21 (472% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14) and ₹ 8,547 crore for Financial Year 2021-22 (630% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For Financial Year 2022-23, highest ever budget outlay of ₹ 11,903 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 916% more than the Average Annual Budget Outlay of 2009-14 (₹ 1171 crore per year). During 2014-22, 1,141 km sections (118 km New Line, 136 km Gauge Conversion and 887 km Doubling) falling fully/partly in Maharashtra have been commissioned at an average rate 142.69 km per year, which is 144% more than average commissioning during 2009-14 (58.4 km/year).

For Railway infrastructure projects such as construction of New Lines, Gauge Conversion and Multi tracking works, acquisition of land including private land is done by the Railways through concerned State Governments. The process of land acquisition for Railway projects is continuous and some land has been acquired and some are in various stages of acquisition for execution of various Railway projects across the Maharashtra State. Railways is closely and regularly following up with State Governments and concerned authorities for expeditious land acquisition / demarcation for Infrastructure projects.

(g) & (h) Rajdhani Express services are premium services which provide direct connectivity between the National Capital and State Capitals. Requests for introduction of Rajdhani or Vande Bharat Express originating from Bhagalpur including that from the Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Shri Ajay Kumar Mandal, have been received. Introduction of Rajdhani or Vande Bharat Express from Bhagalpur, is not feasible, at present, due to operational and resource constraints. However, introduction of trains including Rajdhani Express and Vande Bharat Express is an ongoing process on Indian Railways, which is dependent on operational feasibility, resource availability, traffic pattern, competing demand etc,
