†193. SHRI MAHABALI SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains operated from Deendayal Upadhyaya Junction to Howrah from Dehri-on-Sone to Ranchi Palamu from Arah to Sasaram before the lockdown under Deendayal Upadhyaya Division of East Central Railway;

(b) the number of the said trains which are not running at present;

(c) the reasons why Dehri-on-Sone Railway Station is still deprived from the basic facilities even after getting Grade A status; and

(d) the time by which the Government intends to operate all the trains that have been discontinued?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS 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 w.e.f. 23rd March, 2020. Prior to outbreak of pandemic, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay station was connected to Howrah by 45 pairs of train services, Dehri-on-Sone was
connected to Ranchi by 10 pairs of train services and Ara was connected to Sasaram by 07 pairs of train services. Since, November-2021, Mail/Express trains are being operated with regular number. As per rationalized time table, the said sectors are respectively being served by 41, 07 and 05 pairs of train services. Besides, trains are being restored in a phased manner.

Dehri-on-Sone is a Non Suburban Grade-3 category station. All Minimum Essential Amenities have been provided at the station as per railway norms. In addition, recently, work of development of circulating area and provision of one additional Foot Over Bridge at the station has also been completed. Further, upgradation/modernization of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and on-going process and priority is accorded to higher category of stations over lower category of stations while sanctioning and executing the works depending upon need, volume of passenger traffic and availability of funds.

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