

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 90
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023**

RESTORATION OF TRAINS

†*90. SHRI MAHABALI SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of trains which were discontinued in 2020 before the onset of COVID-19 pandemic and those trains that have resumed operations;**
- (b) the names of those trains in which linen and catering services have not been restored so far; and**
- (c) the names of the trains which have not restarted their operations so far, division-wise?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 90 BY SHRI MAHABALI SINGH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 08.02.2023 REGARDING RESTORATION OF TRAINS

(a) to (c) Indian Railways, to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, had discontinued all regular passengers carrying trains, including Mail/Express trains, w.e.f 23.03.2020 and only special trains with limited stoppages were being operated. Further, Indian Railways have undertaken rationalization of the time table, including rationalization of train services, in a scientific manner with the assistance of IIT-Bombay. The exercise has been undertaken inter alia to provide for better passenger safety by creating maintenance corridor blocks, minimizing conflicts in existing time table, generation of additional paths for freight traffic and speeding up train services. Since, November-2021, train services are being operated with rationalised time table and all Mail/Express trains are being operated with regular numbers, subject to operational feasibility.

Owing to operational reasons, 12831/12832 Dhanbad-Bhubaneswar Garib Rath Express (Khurda Road Division of East Coast Railway), 15071/15072 Lucknow-Mau Jn Express (Lucknow Junction Division of North Eastern Railway) and 12847/12848 Howrah-Digha Express (Kharagpur Division of South Eastern Railway) are the Mail/Express trains which have not been restored yet.

Linen/Bedrolls have been restored in all eligible running trains post Covid except train No. 12740/12739 Secunderabad-Visakhapatnam Garib Rath Express. Catering services in trains have resumed from the respective date of resumption of train services after the Covid-19 pandemic. These services are provided through Pantry Cars /Mini Pantries, Train Side Vending and Static Units at en-route stations. In addition, passengers travelling in the trains have the facility to order food of their choice through e-Catering services.
