

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2423  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2023**

**OPERATION OF TRAIN SERVICE IN SALEM**

**2423. SHRI NATARAJAN P.R.:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that all the ordinary passenger trains were running as express special trains from March-2020 in southern railway region particularly in Salem Railway Division with three in fold increase;**
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken a decision to operate the train service as in the pre covid-19 period with ordinary passenger trains on the representations received from ordinary people and public representatives particularly in Salem Railway Division; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (d) 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. Since, November-2021, train services are being operated with rationalised time table and all Mail/Express trains are being operated with regular numbers whereas passenger services are presently being operated as special services and fare charged as per categorisation.**

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