

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 413
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2021
OPERATION OF SPECIAL TRAINS**

***413. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the special trains that are being operated after lockdown, zone-wise;**
- (b) whether any regular trains are also being operated during this period;**
- (c) whether the special trains charge higher fares than the regular train fares; and**
- (d) the total revenue generated by increasing the fares in these special trains?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 413 BY SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN AND SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 24.03.2021 REGARDING OPERATION OF SPECIAL TRAINS.

(a) and (b) To prevent the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, Indian Railways discontinued all regular passenger carrying trains w.e.f. 23rd March, 2020 and is presently operating only Special Trains keeping in view the suggestions and concerns of State Governments. The zone-wise details of average daily number of trains being operated presently (as on 19.03.2021) is tabulated below:

Zonal Railway	Average Mail/ Express trains per day	Average Passenger trains per day	Total
Central Railway	99	5	104
East Coast Railway	44	0	44
East Central Railway	90	123	213
Eastern Railway	116	189	305
Konkan Railway	7	0	7
North Central Railway	39	15	54
North Eastern Railway	67	44	111
North east Frontier Railway	59	24	83
Northern Railway	197	49	246
North Western Railway	77	24	101
South Central Railway	88	0	88
South East Central Railway	18	25	43
South Eastern Railway	52	53	105
Southern Railway	168	9	177
South Western Railway	79	45	124
West Central Railway	43	0	43
Western Railway	97	58	155
TOTAL	1340	663	2003

(c) In view of health advisory due to COVID-19, regular train services are running as COVID specials on the fare as applicable for regular time Tabled trains. During COVID times as passenger demands are not uniform over different sectors, some special trains on special charges have been introduced to meet the additional demands over different sectors as per already published fare for special trains on special charges as applicable. Further, unreserved second class has been declared as reserved second class in view of pandemic situation.

In view of COVID-19 protocol, fare in short distance trains also varies depending upon categorization of trains as either COVID special second class unreserved express or train on demand/festival special or passenger special.

(d) The total passenger revenue between the period April, 2020 to February, 2021 is ₹ 12,409.49 crores as against ₹ 48,809.40 crores for the corresponding period of previous year.
