

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3558
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2021**

RESTORING TRAIN SERVICES

3558. ADV. A.M. ARIFF:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has fixed any time frame to restore the train services in the country to pre COVID-19 level and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) if not, whether the Government is considering to resume all the train services including unreserved passenger trains patronized by large number of daily commuters at the earliest;**
- (c) whether the Government is likely to consider issuing unreserved tickets and season tickets for daily commuters to board express trains which have resumed services in Kerala;**
- (d) whether the Government also proposes to withdraw the festival special status given to expresses like 06526 SBC-CAPE Express and 06315 MYS-KCVL Express resulting in sleeper charges collected at exorbitant rates for short distance journeys; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) and (b) In view of the COVID-19 pandemic, Indian Railways is presently operating only Special trains keeping in view the suggestions and concerns of State Governments.

As on 12.03.2021, Indian Railways has started operation of a total of 8474 daily train services (approximately 64%) which includes 2328 Mail/Express trains and 784 Passenger trains. In view of the prevailing situation, Indian Railways is keeping a close watch on the situation by regularly monitoring the waiting list, undertaking temporary augmentation, operating clone train wherever required and is resuming train services in a phased manner for the convenience of passengers.

(c) With effect from 15.03.2021, Indian Railways is providing season tickets as well as unreserved tickets, through Unreserved Ticket Counters (UTS counters) for five pairs of Mail/Express trains serving the stations located in the State of Kerala.

(d) and (e) It has been decided to operate 06525/26 Bengaluru - Kanyakumari Express and 06315/16 Mysuru - Kochuvelli Express as Festival Special upto 31.03.2021.
