# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4761 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2021

### **RESTORATION OF TRAIN SERVICES IN KERALA**

### †4761. ADV. A.M. ARIFF:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to restore passenger type train services in the State of Kerala and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has decided to collect fares for passenger type services at the rate of unreserved tickets for express and mail services in the State of Kerala and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has imposed such higher rates for any suburban services in the country and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government is going to consider issuing season tickets for daily commuters in passenger services with immediate effect to reduce their burden and if not, the reasons therefor?

#### ANSWER

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

#### (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) Yes, Sir. In view of the prevailing situation, health protocols and feedback from State Governments, Indian Railways is gradually increasing the number of services. To this end, Indian Railways, with effect from 15th -16th March, 2021 has started operation of 4 pairs of passenger trains which are in addition to 5 pairs of Mail/Express trains already in operation, serving the stations located in the State of Kerala.

(b) and (c) Passenger fare is charged as per categorization of the train service like local trains, Mail/Express, reserved/unreserved service, festival specials/trains on special charges, COVID specials etc.

(d) Southern Railway has introduced 28 unreserved Mail/Express trains which have started running on various dates from 15<sup>th</sup> March onwards, out of which 10 are in the State of Kerala. Unreserved tickets and season tickets are being issued for passengers of these trains.