485. SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether several trains and stoppages which were suspended in Kerala pre COVID-19 have been restored;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of trains and stoppages in North Kerala that have not resumed;

(c) whether the Government has noticed that the season ticketing system, which was discontinued as part of the Covid-19 regulations, is not fully operational in North Kerala, especially in the Kannur and Kasaragod districts; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken to re-establish the season ticketing system, suspended trains and stoppages in the Kasaragod district?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) Indian Railways had discontinued all regular passenger carrying trains w.e.f 23.03.2020 to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic and only special trains were operated keeping in view health advisories to manage the pandemic efficiently. Further, Indian Railways do not run train services on State-wise basis as railway network straddles across State boundaries. However, over Palakkad division of Southern Railway which, primarily serves Northern part of the Kerala state, all Mail/Express services except 8 train services are being operated as regular services.
At present, Season ticket holders of North Kerala are permitted to travel in unreserved coaches of 18 trains.

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