### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2565 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2024

### **RAIL TRAVEL CONCESSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND JOURNALISTS**

# †2565 SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: SHRI ABHAY KUMAR SINHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to restore stoppages provided to train and concession extended to the senior citizens and accredited journalists during the pre corona period;

(b) whether the Government proposes to reduce the increased fares of the trains started after the Corona period to pre Covid levels;

(c) the details of present status of various surveys conducted and all the Rail projects started during the last ten years in the state of Bihar; and

(d) the details of the revenue earned by the Government by discontinuing rail travel concession facility extended to senior citizens and accredited journalists till date?

#### ANSWER

## MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) Indian Railways, with a view to provide better passenger safety by creating maintenance corridor blocks, minimizing conflicts in existing Time Table etc., have undertaken rationalization of time-table, including rationalization of stoppages, in a scientific manner with the assistance of IIT-Bombay. Besides, provision of stoppages of train services is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, etc.

During 2014-2024 and current Financial year 2024-2025 total surveys for 41 projects (23 New Line, 18 Doubling) of total length 3277 km falling fully/partly in the State of Bihar have been completed. During the same period, total 25 projects (02 New Line, 23 Doubling) of total length 1455 km costing approx. ₹28000 crore falling fully/partly in Bihar have been sanctioned.

Indian Railways strives to provide affordable services to all strata of the society and gave subsidy of ₹56,993 crore on passenger tickets in 2022-23. This amounts to concession of 46% on an average, to every person travelling on Railways. This subsidy is continuing for all passengers. Further, concessions beyond this subsidy amount are continuing for many categories like 4 categories of Persons with disabilities (Divyangjans), 11 categories of patients and 8 categories of students.

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