

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2382
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2022

TRAINS SUSPENDED BEFORE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

2382 SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the trains that were suspended before COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and those which have been started;
- (b) the trains in which bed rolls and pantry services have not been resumed, the details thereof; and
- (c) the passenger trains which have still not been resumed, the division-wise details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c) With a view to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, Indian Railways (IR) had discontinued all regular passenger carrying trains w.e.f 23.03.2020 and only special trains were being operated. Since November-2021, Express train services are being operated as per rationalized time table. Instructions have been issued for operation of passenger train services as per rationalized time table. As on 1st August, 2022, 1916 Mail/Express services and 2362 Passenger special services have been put in operation over various Divisions of Indian Railways. Further more passenger trains are being restored in a phased manner, which is an ongoing process.

Further, as a part of passenger amenities linen/blankets are provided in AC coaches of Indian Railways. However, with the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, as precautionary measures, linen/blankets were discontinued in the trains. Instructions for discontinuation of linen /curtains have been withdrawn. Action has been initiated by Zonal Railways to start linen/blankets in phased manner. Accordingly, Linen services have been provided in more than 80% of the identified trains. Remaining trains are being covered in a phased manner. Ministry of Railways have issued instructions on 19.11.2021 to resume the services of cooked food in trains which had been discontinued due to pandemic. Post pandemic, pantry car services have been resumed progressively. Presently, more than 97% pantry car services have been resumed. Passengers may avail of food through enroute catering units or order food of their choice through e-catering services.
