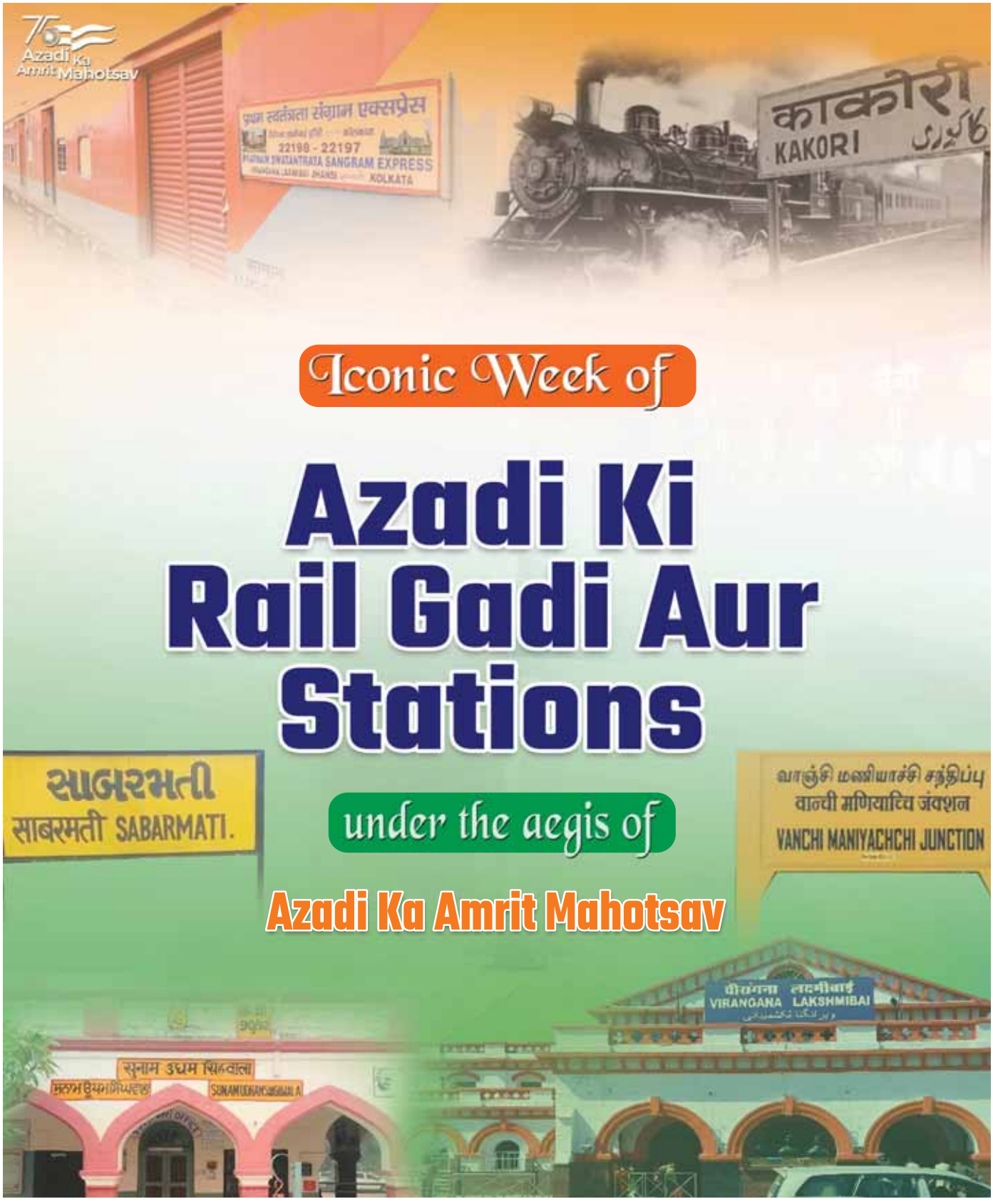
INDIAN RAILWAYS

AUGUST 2022

PRICE ₹ 20





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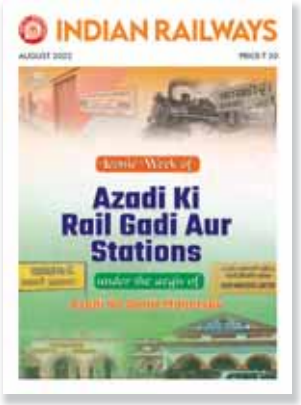
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Editorial



India completes 75 years of Independence–a matter of pride for us all. To commemorate the special occasion, the country is celebrating 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' that hails the Indian spirit and unprecedented development. We, as a country, have achieved since the Independence. Riding high on the spirit of nationalism, Indian Railways organized 'Iconic Week' during July 18-23, 2022 on the theme of 'Azadi ki Rail Gadi aur Station' with great enthusiasm. As part of the event, 75 stations were earmarked as 'Freedom Stations', while 27 trains were selected for 'spot lighting'. Historically, these 75 stations share a deep connection with India's freedom struggle–directly or indirectly. Indian Railways has always been integral to nationalism.

The 'Azadi ki Rail Gadi aur Station' week was inaugurated by Chairman & Chief Executive Officer Shri Vinay Kumar Tripathi at Rail Bhavan. Street plays, light and sound shows, presentation of video films, patriotic songs and many other events were organized at all the 75 stations that are spread over the 24 states of India. People in large number turned out to take part in these events. Special attractions like photo exhibitions and selfie-points, created at the background of 'Azadi ki Rail Gadi', pulled in a large crowd of enthusiasts. During this week, some of the trains were beautifully decorated with flowers and they were flagged off by the freedom fighters.

These freedom fighters were felicitated by the Zonal and Divisional Railway. Likewise, freedom fighters were also felicitated during the closing ceremony of 'Azadi ki Rail Gadi aur Station' week which, was organized at New Delhi. The programme was graced by the presence of Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shri Pralhad Joshi, Minister of State for Railways and Textiles Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Ms. Pratima Bhowmik and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Shri Vinay Kumar Tripathi.

Our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated two Rail projects–Godda–Hansdiha electrification section and Garhwa-Mahuria doubling projects at a function organized in Deoghar. He also laid foundation stone for three Rail projects–the redevelopment of Ranchi Railway Station, Jasidih Bypass Line and LHB Coach Maintenance Depot, Godda. The redeveloped Ranchi station will have world-class passenger amenities along with food court, executive lounge, cafeteria, air-conditioned waiting hall etc., to ensure smooth movement and passenger comfort.



PM Dedicated and Laid Foundation Stone of Various Railway Projects in Jharkhand



Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister laying the foundation stone for redevelopment of Ranchi station

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated /dedicated to the Nation/laid the Foundation Stone of a number of infrastructural projects in Jharkhand from Deoghar on 12 July, 2022. This included The Prime Minister dedicated two Railway projects viz. Godda-Hansdiha Electrified Section and Garhwa-Mahuria Doubling project to the nation. These projects will help in facilitating seamless traffic movement of goods for industries and power houses. They will also ensure ease of train movement from Dumka to Asansol. The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone for three Railway projects viz. redevelopment of Ranchi railway station; Jasidih Bypass Line and LHB Coach Maintenance Depot, Godda. The proposed redeveloped.

Simultaneously a programme was held at Ranchi station to mark the occasion. Shri Rameshwar Oraon, Minister of Finance, Planning & Development, Commercial Taxes, Food, Public Distribution and Consumer Affairs, Govt. of Jharkhand; Shri Sanjay Seth, MP;

LAUNCH	FOUNDATION
Electrification of Hansdiha-Godda Rail Section	Redevelopment of Ranchi Railway station
Doubling of Garhwa Road- Mahuria Rail Section	Jasidih Bypass Rail Line
	Maintenance of LHB Coach Depot, Godda

Smt. Mahua Maji, MP; and Shri Chandreshwar Prasad Singh, MLA; were present at Ranchi station during the function and addressed the gathering. Ms. Archana Joshi, General Manager, South Eastern Railway welcomed the distinguished guests at Ranchi station. Shri Pradeep Gupta, Divisional Railway Manager, SER, Ranchi and other senior railway officers were also present on the occasion.

Ranchi station will be redeveloped at an estimated cost of ₹447 crore. The features include world-class passenger amenities with Food Court, Executive Lounge, Cafeteria, Air-conditioned Waiting Halls,Retail Outlets etc. There developed station building will have adequate surface parking space for smooth entry and exit and will ensure better integration of the city with Ranchi Railway station.



Seen on the dais (From left) Shri Chandreshwar Prasad Singh, MLA, Shri Rameshwar Oraon, Minister, Govt. of Jharkhand, Smt. Mahua Maji, MP, Shri Sanjay Seth, MP, Ms. Archana Joshi, General Manager, South Eastern Railway and Shri Pradeep Gupta, Divisional Railway Manager, Ranchi.



The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the construction of Taranga Hill–Ambaji–Abu Road new rail line to be constructed by Ministry of Railways at an estimated cost of ₹2,798.16 crore.

The total length of the new rail line will be 116.65 kms. The project will be completed by 2026-27. The project will generate direct employment during construction for about 40 lakh mandays.

Improving Connectivity & Mobility

- Famous pilgrimage center Ambaji, one of the 51 Shaktipeeths
- Connectivity to Ajitnath Jain Temple at Taranga Hill
- Easy access for millions of devotees
- Boost to religious tourism in Rajasthan & Gujarat

In line with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji's vision of a New India, the project is going to enhance connectivity and improve mobility leading to overall socio–economic development of the region.

Ambaji is a famous important pilgrimage destination and is one of the 51 shaktipeeths in India and attracts millions of devotees from Gujarat as well as other parts of the country and abroad every year. The construction of this line will facilitate easy travel for these millions of devotees. Further, the devotees visiting the Ajitnath Jain temple (one of the 24 holy Jain Tirthankaras) at Taranga Hill would also be greatly benefitted by this connectivity. This railway new line between Taranga Hill–Ambaji–Abu Road will connect these two important religious sports with railway's main network.

This line will facilitate faster movement of agricultural and local products and also provide

Estimated cost
Rs.2798.16 crore

Total length
116.65 kms

To be completed by
2026-27

improved mobility of the people in the region within the state of Gujarat and Rajasthan and also to other parts of the country. This project will also provide alternative route for existing Ahmedabad-Abu Road railway line.

The alignment of the proposed doubling will traverse through Sirohi district of Rajasthan and Banaskantha and Mahesana districts of Gujarat. The construction of new rail line will attract investment and lead to overall socio-economic development of the region.

Home Minister Inaugurated Various Passenger Amenities at Chandlodiya and Sabarmati Stations



Home and Co-operation Minister, Shri Amit Shah dedicated various passenger amenities at Chandlodiya and Sabarmati stations of Ahmedabad Division

Home and Co-operation Minister, Shri Amit Shah inaugurated and dedicated to nation various passenger amenities at Chandlodiya and Sabarmati stations of Ahmedabad division in a function held at Chandlodiya railway station on 2 July, 2022.

Shri Shah dedicated to the nation various facilities at Chandlodiya station such as the 430 m long High Level Platform at Chandlodiya 'B' panel constructed at a cost of 1.64 crores, new Unreserved cum Reserved Booking Office constructed at a cost of 25 lakhs, a new road under bridge between Chandlodiya and Khodiyar stations constructed at a cost of 7.93 crores in lieu of Level Crossing No. 1. The High level platform has reduced the gap between the coach and the platform and hence passengers will not face any difficulty in getting on and off the train.

At Sabarmati railway station, Shri Shah dedicated to the nation, three new waiting rooms including Ladies Waiting Room, General Waiting Room and AC Waiting Room constructed at a cost of 1.5 crores as well as a new foot over bridge constructed at a cost of ₹3.87 crores (at Ahmedabad end).

Further, Shri Shah inaugurated four Road Under Bridges (RUBs) constructed at a cost of 18.00 crores in lieu of LC Gate nos. 240, 241, 242, and 243 in Amdavad Municipal Corporation (AMC) area.

Dream comes True for the People of West Bengal: Sealdah Metro Station Inaugurated

The much awaited Sealdah Station of East-West Metro was inaugurated by Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Minister of Women & Child Development and Minority Affairs on 11 July, 2022 virtually from Howrah Maidan Metro station. She also inaugurated the extended Metro service from Phoolbagan to Sealdah by vitually flagging off the first train from the underground Sealdah Metro Station.

The East-West Metro is now extended from Phoolbagan to Sealdah. This stretch from Salt Lake Sector V to Sealdah can be covered within 21 minutes only. The commercial service on this extended route will start from 14 July, 2022.

Smt. Irani addressing the gathering at Sealdah station has said that the development of West Bengal will be enhanced with the extension of Metro services upto Sealdah. Mr. Nakagawa Koichi, Consulate General of Japan has expressed his hope that the inauguration of Sealdah Metro Station will further enhance India-Japan relationship and East-West Metro will provide a smooth and pollution- free journey in Kolkata. Aesthetically designed



Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Minister of Women & Child Development virtually flagged off from Howrah Maidan Metro Station

Sealdah station is replete with a host of passenger amenities and safety features which match the world standard. Lifts, elevators, drinking water facility, modern toilets, platform screen doors, double discharge platforms have all been provided at this station.

MR Flagged off Ambikapur-H. Nizamuddin Express Through VC from Saharanpur Railway Station

- Minister of Railways Inspected New Delhi -Saharanpur Railway Section of Northern Railway

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways flagged off the inaugural run of 00864 Ambikapur-H. Nizamuddin Weekly Special Train through video conferencing from Saharanpur Railway Station on 14 July, 2022. The regular service of this train (04044) was initiated from H. Nizamuddin from 19 July, 2022 departing at 11.00 pm to reach Ambikapur the next day at 07.30 pm. The service from Ambikapur (04043) was initiated from 21 July, 2022, departing at 07.15 am to reach H. Nizamuddin at 04.35 am the next day. The train will stop at Bijuri, Anuppur Jn., Shahdol, Katni Murwara, Saugor, Agasod, Virangana Lakshmibai Jhansi, Gwalior Jn., Agra Cantt., Mathura Jn. stations enroute both ways.



Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways alongwith senior officers flagged off the inaugural run of Ambikapur-H.Nizamuddin weekly special train through video conferencing

The Minister interacted with the media present on the station. He replied to their queries and informed them that Railways is leaving no efforts to complete the on-going developmental projects and works of passenger amenities on time. He also keenly listened to the expectations and demands of the people, especially introduction of more trains in the region and stoppages of existing ones. He assured them that the Ministry will definitely ensure that better and convenient services are provided to the rail users of this region.

The MR conducted rear window inspection of New Delhi-Saharanpur rail section on 14 July, 2022. He was accompanied by Shri Ashutosh Gangal, General Manager, Northern Railway, Shri Dimpy Garg, DRM, Delhi and Principal Heads of the Departments of Northern Railway. They were joined by Shri G.M. Singh, DRM Ambala and other branch officers of Ambala Division at the Saharanpur Railway Station.



Shri Ashwani Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways inspected the Electric Loco Maintenance Depot of Northern Railway at Khan Alampura on the second day of Saharanpur inspection program

Boarding the inspection carriage from New Delhi station for the inspection, the Minister was briefed about the developmental projects ongoing in the New Delhi-Saharanpur section. He was also informed about the various stations falling on this section and the passenger amenities present on them. Expressing satisfaction on the progress of the works MR advised that all these projects should be completed on time. He further emphasized that utmost importance should be given to safety of train operations in this section as there is high density of rail traffic on this route.

MR Co-chaired the 14th Joint Committee Meeting on Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project

- Dr. MORI Masafumi, Special Adviser to Prime Minister of Japan co-chaired the meeting from Japanese side
- In the meeting, Minister of Railways emphasises for early completion of the project



Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways addressed the Joint Committee meeting from Indian side. Also seen Shri V. K. Tripathi Chairman & CEO and other officers

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology co-chaired the 14th Joint Committee Meeting from Indian side to discuss and decide on all important issues related to execution of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project. Dr. MORI Masafumi, Special Adviser to Prime Minister of Japan co-chaired the meeting from Japanese side.

During the meeting, presentation and video films were shown regarding the progress of the project. Further, issues related to funding, contracts and execution were discussed for mutual resolution and targeted commissioning of the project.

Joint Committee meeting between Government of India and Government of Japan is the highest consultative body for taking ahead projects of mutual interests and benefits. Japanese government is committed to fund the MAHSR project with a soft loan and technical and financial cooperation. The meeting was fruitful and productive and finalized strategic issues for early completion of the project. Both sides agreed to work to PM's view of One Project-One team in the overall interest of the project.





Indian Railways teams won Gold Medal in both Men and Women championships and IR players secured top 3 individual positions in both the sections in the World Railway Cross Country Championships held in Berlin, Germany from 13 to 16 July 2022. In men championship, 11 countries and in women championship, 10 countries participated. Both the teams with their Gold Medals are seen with Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways and Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Minister of State for Railways

Minister of Railways Inaugurated Various Passenger Amenities in Bhubaneswar

Extension of Bhubaneswar–Mahipur–Bhubaneswar Passenger Special up to Nuagaon Road Flagged off

Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways, flagged off the extension of the train number 08429/08430 Bhubaneswar–Mahipur–Bhubaneswar Passenger Special up to Nuagaon Road Station.



Khurda Road New Station Building Inaugurated



Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways, and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship inaugurated the new station building at Khurda Road Station, East Coast Railway.

Prashanti Express and Bhubaneswar- New Delhi Duronto Express with LHB Rake Flagged off

Minister of Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw and Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan flagged off the Bhubaneswar-Bengaluru Prashanti Express and Bhubaneswar -New Delhi Duronto Express with LHB rake.



New Station Building of Patia PH and Vani Vihar PH Inaugurated



Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship inaugurated the New Building of Patia PH and Vani Vihar PH through Video conferencing from Khurda Road station.

Minister of State of Railways Flagged off Inaugural Service of H.S Nanded-Pune Daily Express From Jalna

Shri Raosaheb Patil Danve, Minister of State of Railways, Coal & Mines flagged off the inaugural service of Train No. 17630 H.S Nanded–Pune Daily Express service on 4 July, 2022 at Jalna railway station in the presence of public representatives and senior railway officials.



Shri Raosaheb Patil Danve, Minister of State of Railways flagged off the inaugural service of H.S. Nanded-Pune daily express service in the presence of senior Railway officers

The H.S Nanded–Pune Daily Express will cater to the needs of the people of Marathwada region and provides convenient and affordable train journey to all.

Nanded–Pune Express:

Convenient evening/night journey timings to reach Pune in the early hours. Cost effective transportation compared to other modes of transport. Covers around 650 kms in 14 hrs with stoppages at 11 stations. The train has been inducted with state-of-the-art LHB coaches, which will offer a comfortable journey experience to the passengers. With a view to provide safe and secure travel to the passengers, CCTV cameras have been installed both inside and at the entry of the coaches which will help in keeping an eye on entry of unauthorized persons.

The train with different coach composition caters the needs of all segments of the traveling public.

MoSR Dedicated to the Nation Various Projects at Kamarkundu



MoSR Shri Raosaheb Patil Danve dedicated to the nation various projects at Kamarkundu

Shri Raosaheb Patil Danve, Minister of State for Railways, (MoSR) Coal and Mines, dedicated to the nation a host of projects including newly completed 3rd line between Bandel and Magra Stations, Yard remodelling and Commissioning of India's Largest Electronic Interlocking Cabin at Bandel covering 1002 routes, Yard remodelling and commissioning of Electronic Interlocking at Adisaptagram, modification of Electronic Interlocking at Magra, new station building including Electronic Interlocking at Chandannagar Station, new road over bridge at Kamarkundu Station, new station building at Kamarkundu, new platform shelter at Kamarkundu, extended foot over bridge at Balarambati, Mirzapur Bankipur and Adisaptagram Stations, raised/ Extended/widened platforms at Adisaptagram, Kamarkundu, Balarambati, and Mirzapur Bankipur stations, up loop line platform at Magra Station, extended subway at Adisaptagram Station. MoSR also laid foundation stone for new road under bridge (RUB) at Kamarkundu station through video conferencing on 10 June, 2022. All the projects pertaining to Hooghly district of West Bengal comes to the tune of ₹254 core. Smt. Locket Chatterjee, Member of Parliament, Shri Biman Ghosh, MLA, Pursurah, Shri Madhusudhan Bag, MLA, Arambag, Shri Biswanath Karak, MLA, Goghat and Shri Susanta Ghosh, MLA, Khanakul also graced the occasion. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Danve said that by commissioning of Bandel- Magra 3rd line, a stretch of 6.99 km, which is a super-critical project between Bandel and Magra will make provision of seamless movement of traffic from Bandel to Bainchi and increase the mobility on Howrah- Barddhaman Main Line.

Lok Sabha Speaker
Inaugurated the Escalator at Kota Station

Shri Om Birla, Lok Sabha Speaker inaugurated the escalator and lift service at Kota railway station. The redevelopment project of Kota and Daknia Talab Station was also reviewed. Along with maintaining the historical pattern, both these stations were made state-of-the-art at the cost of ₹323 crore.



Deputy CM Opened a Medical Camp
of Lifeline Express



Shri Tarkishore Prasad, Deputy Chief Minister of Bihar along with other dignitaries on 6th July opened a Medical camp and felicitation of Lifeline Express train at Katihar Jn. station of Northeast Frontier Railway. Surgeries of the eye and throat will be performed on this train for the needy person.



The second meeting of 9th Zonal Railway Users and Consultative Committee of North-Central Railway was conducted in Prayagraj. In this meeting, 44 committee members were present including MP Shri Vind Sonkar. During this meeting, the information was given about various works being carried out by the North Central Railway.

Approach Road at Kathkuiyan Station Inaugurated

Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey, Member of Parliament, Kushinagar inaugurated approach road connecting Kathkuiyan station to main road at a function organized on 11 July, 2022 at Kathkuiyan station of Varanasi division over North Eastern Railway. Addressing the function Shri Dubey, said that 800 metres long approach road has been constructed at a cost of ₹60 lakhs.



Under Pass at Kodesia Level Crossing



Dr. Arun Kumar, Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Uttar Pradesh inaugurated newly constructed underpass at Kodesia level crossing No. 243 between Izzatnagar and Bareilly City stations at a function organized in Loco Colony, Izzatnagar on 10 July, 2022.

Tree Plantation Programme on North Eastern Railway

Shri Ravi Kishan Shukla, Member of Parliament planted saplings in the premises of Railway Cricket Ground, Gorakhpur during massive tree plantation programme organized by North Eastern Railway on the occasion of 'Van Mahotsav' on 5 July, 2022.



Chairman and CEO, Railway Board's Three-Day Visit to South East Central Railway



Shri V. K. Tripathi, Chairman and CEO, Railway Board inspected Centre of Excellence at Rourkela. Ms. Archana Joshi, General Manager and other senior officers were also present during the inspection.

Shri V.K. Tripathi, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Railway Board visited Chakradharpur Division of South Eastern Railway on 9th and 10th July, 2022. Ms. Archana Joshi, General Manager, South Eastern Railway, Shri V K Sahu, Divisional Railway Manager, Chakradharpur and other senior officers accompanied Shri Tripathi on his two-day visit.

On the first day, i.e. on 9th July, 2022, Shri Tripathi inspected Jharsuguda station premises including different passenger amenity measures like Waiting Lounge etc. While expressing his satisfaction about the different facilities available to the passengers at Jharsuguda station, he advised steps for development of Jharsuguda Passenger Yard. At Jharsuguda station, Shri Tripathi visited the 'One Station One Product' stall exhibiting Tribal Textile Products. He also inspected West Cabin Panel Room and Combined Crew and Guard Lobby at Jharsuguda. Later, he visited Sardega and held a meeting with senior officers of Mahanadi Coal Fields Limited regarding Coal loading. He also reviewed the progress of third line work between Rourkela and Jharsuguda.

On 10th July, 2022, the next day, Shri Tripathi held discussion on different passenger amenity measures at Rourkela station and gave instructions for further development of different facilities available to the passengers. On that day, Chairman visited Rourkela steel plant and interacted with the officials of RSP regarding loading/unloading facilities inside the Steel Plant. At the Rourkela Steel Plant, Shri Tripathi visited Hot Strip Mill and Raw Material Handling Plant. Later, he inspected the Bondamunda Railway Yard and Centre of Excellence at Rourkela. CRB also met with public representatives, other dignitaries and media persons at Rourkela station.

Chairman and CEO of Railway Board Visited RDSO

Shri Vinay Kumar Tripathi, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Railway Board visited RDSO on 2 July, 2022. Director General RDSO Shri Sanjiv Bhutani welcomed Shri Vinay Kumar Tripathi, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Railway Board in the meeting held in RDSO Auditorium. Shri Bhutani in his welcome speech said that RDSO is continuously making the necessary improvements and assimilating the rapidly changing railway technology that under the able leadership of Shri Tripathi.



Shri V. K. Tripathi, Chairman and CEO attended a meeting alongwith Shri Sanjiv Bhutani Director General/RDSO

Shri Tripathi stressed upon the officers and employees of RDSO to adopt latest technologies and complete the ongoing projects in a minimum time. He directed the officers to speedily complete the projects related to rail operation and safety, try to increase the number of approved vendors of safety items, make vendor approvals more quick and transparent. Shri Tripathi said in his address that Indian Railways is passing through a challenging phase and he called on the RDSO officials to contribute their best to accept this challenge.

Member Traction and Rolling Stock
Railway Board Visited RDSO



Member, Traction and Rolling Stock, Shri D.C. Sharma visited RDSO on 16th June, 2022. On this occasion RDSO officials ED/Wagon, Shri Manish Thaplyal and ED/Testing, Shri Rupesh Kohli delivered the presentation on on-going research projects and agenda items of RDSO.

Shri Sharma in his address appreciated endeavours made by RDSO, especially in last few years and urged for further improvement amidst rapidly changing environment of Science & Technology. DG/RDSO Shri Sanjiv Bhutani thanked MTRS Railway Board for visiting RDSO and assured him that RDSO will come up to his expectations.

Additional Member (Traction),
Railway Board Visited RDSO



Additional Member (Traction) Railway Board, Shri Radhey Raman visited RDSO on 29th June 2022. On this occasion RDSO officials delivered detailed presentation covering recent achievements and current on-going research projects. PED/Traction, Shri Sunil Kumar and ED/TI, Shri B. Chowdhary delivered the presentation on performance, reliability issues and action plan on RDSO research projects like; EOT(End-of-Train) system, High Reach Pantograph, and progress of 2x25 KV Traction system for upgrading speed to 160 kmph, and to modernise Electric Locomotives.

AM (Traction), Railway Board, Shri Radhey Raman in his address appreciated endeavours made by RDSO, and urged for further improvement amidst rapidly changing environment of Science & Technology. Shri Raman emphasized RDSO officials to focus more on increasing coordination with Production Units to achieve targets in shorter period of time and further stressed the need for technical assistance from the experts for modernisation in Railways. He also motivated RDSO Officers and staff for giving their best to the organisation and called upon the officers to take care of their man power. DG/RDSO Shri Sanjiv Bhutani thanked AM (Traction), Railway Board Shri Radhey Raman for visiting RDSO and assured him that RDSO will come up to his expectations and assured to complete all the research works well in time.

Member Finance, Railway Board Visited North Central Railway

Member Finance, Railway Board, New Delhi Shri Mohit Sinha visited North Central Railway on 8 July, 2022. Member Finance held a meeting at NCR Headquarters and addressed General Manager and all PHODs/ CHODs. He briefed the Zonal Railway on the flagship projects of the Railways dealing with infrastructure development and the need for all units to complete these projects on priority. Projects such as Gatishakti, Station Development, High Density corridors, etc. pertaining to the division were discussed during the meeting.



While speaking on the occasion GM/NCR Shri Pramod Kumar briefed the Member finance about the NCR's achievements. Shri Sinha also reviewed the performance of Prayagraj Division and interacted with the Divisional Railway Manager and his officers during his visit.

Thereafter he conducted a review meeting with the all Accounts Officers of North Central Railway and CORE, Prayagraj in the office of the Principal Financial Advisor.

Operation "NARCOS" RPF Recovered Narcotics Products Valued Over ₹7.40 crore during June 2022

Railway Protection Force as one of the law-enforcing agency has gained prominence in recent times. RPF has been empowered to conduct search, seizure and arrest under NDPS Act since April 2019 and has been actively participating in the efforts of Government to restrict this illegal trade. In order to bring attention to the menace of NDPS, a month long pan-India drive against smuggling of narcotics through rail, was launched under code name Operation 'NARCOS' in the month of June, 2022. Under this operation RPF has performed excellently against the carriers/transporters of Narcotics product through Indian Railways. RPF intensified its checks in trains and in identified black spots across the country in coordination with NCB and other LEA's to target drug peddlers involved in this illegal trade. In the month of June, 2022, RPF has recovered various narcotics products including designer products valued ₹7,40,77,126/- and within its own domain arrested 165 persons who were carrying NDPS and handed them over to the concerned Law Enforcement Agencies for onward legal action.

Narcotics not only destroys the health of youth, they also damage the economy and the well-being of the nation. Drug addiction has far reaching implications as it affects both the body and the mental health of the person.

Indian Railways plays a leading role in transportation of passengers and goods and has the widest network in India, that is why long-distance trains are often used by offenders to smuggle the NDPS into different states disguising drug carriers as common passengers. Thus, it becomes very challenging for the security agencies to stop this flow and prevent railways from becoming a conduit of illegal transportation of NDPS.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Azadi Ki Railgadi aur Stations

75 Railway Stations

were identified as Freedom Stations

27 Trains

for Spot Lighting



Attractive Sand Art done by Shri Ajay Rawat, Railway employee

MANN KI BAAT

Friends, in this very July an interesting endeavour has been undertaken, named Azadi Ki Railgadi Aur Railway Stations. The objective of this effort is to make people know the role of Indian Railways in the freedom struggle. There are many such railway stations in the country, which are associated with the history of the freedom movement. You too will be surprised to know about these railway stations. Gomoh Junction in Jharkhand is now officially known as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Junction, Gomoh. Do you know why? Actually at this very station, Netaji Subhash was successful in dodging British officers by boarding the Kalka Mail. All of you must have heard the name of Kakori Railway Station near Lucknow. The names of bravehearts like Ram Prasad Bismil and Ashfaq Ullah Khan are associated with this station. The brave revolutionaries had displayed their might to the British by looting the treasury of the British being carried by train. Whenever you talk to the people of Tamil Nadu, you will get to know about Vanchi Maniyachchi Junction in Thoothukudi district. This station is named after Tamil freedom fighter Vanchinathan ji. This is the same place where Vanchi, 25 years of age then, had punished one British collector for his actions.



Prime Minister Shri Narendar Modi Mann Ki Baat (31st July, 2022

Friends, this list is pretty long. 75 such railway stations have been identified, spread over 24 states across the country. These 75 stations are being decorated very ornately. Many types of programs are also being organized in these stations. You should also take out time to visit one such historical station in your vicinity. You will get to know in detail about pages from the history of the freedom movement that you have not been aware of. I urge the students of the nearby school, and the teachers to take the small children of their school to the station and narrate the whole chain of events to those children, explaining them about the historical background of these stations.





AZADI KI RAILGADI AUR STATIONS

Valedictory Ceremony of Week Long Celebrations

- Minister of Parliamentary Affairs participates in the Closing Ceremony of the Iconic Week Celebrations of the 'Azadi Ki Railgadi aur Stations'
- Bharat Gaurav Divya Kashi Aadi Amavasya Express was flagged off from Madurai via Video Conferencing
- Freedom Fighters were felicitated at various locations during week long celebrations from 18th -23rd July
- Nukkad Natak, Prabhat Pheris, Exhibitions were organized across Indian Railways

Shri Pralhad Joshi, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Shri Rao Saheb Patil Danve, Minister of State for Railways and Coal & Mines, Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Minister of State for Railways and Textiles, Sushri Pratima Bhoumik, Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment participated in the valedictory ceremony of the weeklong celebrations 'Azadi Ki Railgadi aur Stations' held in New Delhi on 23 July, 2022. Chairman and CEO Railway Board, Shri. V. K. Tripathi, senior officers of Railway Board and Northern Railway were also present during the function.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Pralhad Joshi said, "Under the guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister, the country is celebrating Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Indian Railways has organized an excellent program in this Iconic week by felicitating so many freedom-fighters across India at various locations. I congratulate Indian Railways for hosting such a grand celebration today and giving me an opportunity to interact with the freedom-fighters. The experiences of our freedom-fighters will surely enlighten the younger generation and instil patriotism".

During the closing ceremony, the freedom-fighters and family members joined the closing ceremony via VC from various locations. All Zonal Railways also



The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Coal and Mines, Shri Pralhad Joshi alongwith Smt. Darshana Jardosh, MoSR felicitating freedom fighters at the function of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, New Delhi

joined the event through online mode. A film prepared by Railways highlighting the importance of 75 stations and 27 trains over the country associated with the independence movement was screened at the venue. Bharat Gaurav Divya Kashi Aadi Amavasya Express was flagged off from Madurai via VC. A Nukkadnatak was performed by the artists of Northern Railway.

The activities during the weeklong celebrations over IR included colorful lighting and decorations of the station building. Exhibitions, photo galleries and Standee displays were set up at the stations. Video clips were shown and patriotic songs were played at the station platforms. Nukkad Nataks and skits bearing the essence of freedom struggle belonging to the station were staged to highlight the importance of the station. During the iconic week, few trains were tastefully decorated with flowers and flagged off by freedom-fighters.



The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Coal and Mines, Shri Pralhad Joshi alongwith Smt. Darshana Jardosh, MoSR and Sushri Pratima Bhoumik, MoS for Social Justice flagged off Bharat Gaurav Divya Kashi Aadi Amavasya Express from Madurai via VC

The country is celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsava', 75 years of Independence and the phenomenal growth and development of India. In this connection Indian Railways held a week long celebration to highlight the role of Railways in the freedom struggle with an objective to connect the people and the youth with the glorious history of India. The celebrations were impactful to kindle patriotic spirit in the minds of travelling public and the people at large.

The Iconic Week Celebration was very impactful across the country and more vibrant around the Freedom Stations and Spotlight Trains to kindle the patriotic spirit in the minds of travelling public and people at large.



Chairman & CEO, Railway Board, Shri Vinay Kumar Tripathi inaugurated the Iconic Week Celebrations of the 'Azadi Ki Railgadi aur Stations' in Rail Bhawan on 18 July, 2022

CENTRAL RAILWAY



Central Railway gave a memorable start of the iconic week of 'Azaadi ki Railgadi aur Stations' event with various activities organized as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations on 18 July, 2022 at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai.

Shri Anant Laxman Gurav and Shri Motilal Shankar Ghongade, both freedom-fighters and families of 7 more freedom-fighters flagged of the historic Punjab Mail from platform no 18, CSMT in presence of Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, General Manager, Central Railway. Both the Freedom-fighters along with families of 7 more Freedom-fighters were also felicitated during the event. The oldest and one of the most prestigious train on Central Railway, the Punjab Mail was one of the 27 trains selected over Indian Railways to be decorated and flagged off as part of the celebrations. The Punjab Mail, which had its maiden run out of Ballard Pier Mole station on 1st June 1912, completed 110 years of its service recently.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, a UNESCO World Heritage site, city icon and headquarters of the Central Railway was one among the 75 Railway stations selected is one of the most photographed building in India was specially illuminated to commemorate this historic occasion.

Also, General Manager, Central Railway flagged off a Motorcycle Rally, Digital Video Wall and Run for Unity from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus.

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY



Shri Ashok Kumar Mishra, General Manager, North Eastern Railway inaugurated Iconic Week functions at Chauri Chaura and Ballia stations under 'Azadi Ki Railgadi Aur Station' at a function organized at Chauri Chaura station on July 18, 2022. After inspecting photo gallery, he felicitated the family members of freedom-fighters.



General Manager, North Eastern Railway flagged off a Motorcycle Rally organized by Railway Protection Force (RPF) on July 17, 2022 at a function held at Gorakhpur station as a part of celebrations of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Under the 'Azadi ki Railgadi aur station' programme, various programme were organized in Veerangana Laxmibai Jhansi station. The program was inaugurated by the Divisional Railway Manager Jhansi, Shri Ashutosh by lighting the lamp with the family members of 6 freedom-fighters, who were also present on this occasion.

Under the Amrit Mahotsav of freedom, various programme had been organized under the 'Azadi ki Railgadi aur station' program in between 18 July to 23 July, 2022 at Prayagraj Junction. On this occasion RPF band performance, patriotic cultural programme were organized.



NORTHERN RAILWAY

Northern Railway showcased the stations and trains which have association with the freedom struggle. During this period colorful lighting and decorations were done at the stations. Photo galleries and standee were set up at the station. Video clips were shown and patriotic songs were played at the station platforms. Nukkad Nataks and skits bearing the essence of freedom struggle belonging to the station were at the staged. The identified trains were decorated and flagged off by the freedom-fighters or their descendants in the presence of public representatives of that area.



The Stations over Northern Railway are: Palwal and Meerut (Delhi Division), Pt. Ram Prasad Bismil (Dist. Shahjahanpur) and Kakori (Moradabad Division), Khatkarkalan, Bhagtanwala and Amritsar (Firozpur Division), Charbagh (Lucknow Division) and SunamUdham Singh Wala (Ambala Division). The trains included: 12953/54 August Kranti Express (Mumbai Central- H. Nizamuddin), 15273/74 Satyagrah Express (Raxaul Jn - Anand Vihar Terminal), 12312/11 Netaji Express (Kalka - Howrah Jn), 13005/06 Howrah Mail (Howrah Jn-Amritsar) and 12903/04 Frontier Mail (Mumbai Central - Amritsar Jn).

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

As part of 'Azadi Ki Railgadi Aur Station' concluding day celebrations held at Hyderabad Railway Station i.e., 23rd July, 2022. Shri K. Chandra Prakash Rao, Shri P. Mohan Rao and Shri G. Galaiah Freedom-fighters from Telangana region have been felicitated on the occasion.

The four Railway stations on the zone i.e., Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Guntur and Gadwal have been blooming with festivities during the week. Various activities such as Nukkad Natak, dance and patriotic songs programs were conducted at all the four Railway stations remembering the freedom movement. South Central Railway,





Train No. 12723 (Hyderabad to New Delhi) Telangana Express was flagged off by the freedom-fighters from Hyderabad Railway Station on 22nd July, 2022.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY



The Valedictory Central function of the Iconic week celebration of the event 'Azadi ki Railgadi Aur Stations' was held, on 23rd July 2022 in New Delhi. In Southern Railway, the central valedictory function was live streamed at all the five stations, namely, Vellore Cantonment, Vanchi Maniyachi, Tiruppur, Nilambur Road, and Tiruvallikeni which are among the 75 railway stations pan-India identified for the program.

In Chennai Division, at Tiruvallikeni MRTS Station, Shri Karuppaiah, a 99-year old freedom-fighter was the special guest at Tiruvallikkeni. He was a volunteer in the Netaji's Azad Hind Fauj (INA) movement. As part of the iconic week celebrations, cultural programmes and photo exhibitions recalling the legacy of freedom-fighters were held at the five stations in Southern Railway during 18th-23rd July 2022.

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY





Shri Shobhan Chaudhuri, Additional General Manager, West Central Railway, inaugurated the 'Azadi Ki Railgadi Aur Stations' week celebrations. On this occasion, Shri Chaudhuri also inaugurated an event gallery based on the contribution of Indian Railways in the freedom struggle. On this occasion, cultural programmes based on patriotism were also organized, in which splendid performances of patriotic songs were given. Apart from this, both sides on Platform no. 1 and 6 at Jabalpur Railway Station building have been specially equipped with tricolor lights. RPF/WCR Organized Awareness Campaign in West Central Railway at various stations through motor cycle rally and various events.

WESTERN RAILWAY



The five stations of WR which have been chosen are Porbandar famously known as the birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi; Sabarmati famous for Sabarmati Ashram, which was established by Mahatma Gandhi to promote cottage industries; Navsari, it was here where Mahatma Gandhi challenged the British government's Salt Law. This incident is a milestone in the freedom struggle; Adas Road-Following Bapu's values of non-violence, 5 freedom-fighters achieved martyrdom in the Quit India Movement in this place; Bardoli-The Bardoli Satyagraha under the leadership of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel for the farmers of Bardoli against unjust raise in taxes during the British Raj was a major episode of Civil Disobedience in the Indian independence movement.

As part of the 'Azadi ki Railgadi Aur Stations' celebrations, 9 trains of Western Railway were decorated and flagged off by freedom-fighters and family members from various stations throughout the week. Historical facts about these trains were displayed for the information of people. Some of the selected trains include Lokshakti Express, Ashram Express, Sabarmati Express, Ahimsa Express, Gujarat Mail, Ahmedabad-New Delhi Rajdhani Express etc.

Motorcycle rally was flagged off from all the divisional headquarters of WR.

METRO RAILWAY



Shri Arun Arora, General Manager, Metro Railway flagged off a Motor Bike Rally from Eastern Railway Headquarters, Fairlie Place, Kolkata on 18 July, 2022 to mark the beginning of celebration of the Iconic Week 'Azadi ki Railgadi Aur Stations'.

Netaji Bhavan Metro station of Kolkata Metro has been selected for its proximity with the residence of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Shri Sugata Bose, grand nephew of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose who is also a renowned historian and former Member of Lok Sabha graced the occasion. A special cultural programme was also held at all women managed Netaji Bhavan Metro station.

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

As a part of the celebrations in Northeast Frontier Railway, Shri Anshul Gupta, General Manager inaugurated the iconic one week event of 'Azadi ki Railgadi Aur Stations' in a function held at Guwahati Railway Station. Family members of freedom-fighters were invited in the occasion where they were felicitated with mementos in presence of senior railway officials and other dignitaries. Speaking on the occasion, the General Manager, N. F. Railway remembered the name of freedom-fighters who spearheaded the movement from North-eastern states.



RPF



As a part of the celebration of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Motorcycle rallies by RPF personnel from 75 different locations across the country were flagged off on 01 July, 2022. This rally would head towards their Zonal headquarters at 16 locations and from there, they will move towards the 4 iconic places related to the freedom movement of India i.e. Jallianwala Bagh, Amritsar in the North; Bhitiharwa Ashram, Champaran in the East; Hussain Sagar Lake, Hyderabad in the South and Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad in the West. Moving from these places, the Motorcycle Rally culminated in Delhi.

CLW

A Run for Unity on the occasion of 75th year of independence (Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav) was organized by CLW's RPF wings on 3rd July, 2022. Total 137 RPF staff along with officers participated in a half marathon for unity with great zeal and fervor. The unity run was flagged by Shri Birendra Kumar, IG cum PCSC from CRJ club. Shri Birendra Kumar appreciated all participants for their efforts to make this event successful.



75 Railway Stations were identified as Freedom Stations

S.No.	Rly. Zone	Station Identified	State
1	C. Rly	Mumbai CSMT	Maharashtra
2	C. Rly	Nasik Road	Maharashtra
3	C. Rly	Satara	Maharashtra
4	C. Rly	Pune	Maharashtra
5	E.C. Rly	Ara	Bihar
6	E.C. Rly	Patna	Bihar
7	E.C. Rly	Shaheed Khudi Ram Bose, Pusa	Bihar
8	E.C. Rly	Bapudham Motihari	Bihar
9	E.C. Rly	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Gomoh	Jharkhand
10	E.C. Rly	Deen Dayal Upadhyay Station	Uttar Pradesh
11	E.Co. Rly	Vishakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
12	E.Co. Rly	Cuttack	Odisha
13	E.Co. Rly	Khurda Road	Odisha
14	E.Co. Rly	Sakhigopal	Odisha
15	E.Co. Rly	Sambalpur	Odisha
16	E. Rly	Bhagalpur	Bihar
17	E. Rly	Bardhaman	West Bengal
18	E. Rly	Jirat	West Bengal
19	E. Rly	Naihati	West Bengal
20	E. Rly	Subhasgram	West Bengal
21	METRO	Netaji Bhavan Metro Stn.	West Bengal
22	N.C. Rly	Agra	Uttar Pradesh
23	N.C. Rly	Deen Dayal Dham	Uttar Pradesh
24	N.C. Rly	Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh
25	N.C. Rly	Prayagraj	Uttar Pradesh
26	N.E. Rly	Chauri-Chaura	Uttar Pradesh
27	N.E. Rly	Ballia	Uttar Pradesh

S.No.	Rly. Zone	Station Identified	State
28	N.F. Rly	Naharlagun	Arunachal Pradesh
29	N.F. Rly	Gohpur	Assam
30	N.F. Rly	Raha	Assam
31	N.F. Rly	Sibsagar Town	Assam
32	N.F. Rly	Kaimai Road	Manipur
33	N.F. Rly	Bhoirabi	Mizoram
34	N.F. Rly	Dimapur	Nagaland
35	N.F. Rly	Mendipathar	Meghalaya
36	N.F. Rly	Agartala	Tripura
37	N. Rly	Delhi	Delhi
38	N. Rly	Sunam Udham Singh Wala Station	Punjab
39	N. Rly	ASR	Punjab
40	N. Rly	Charbagh	Lucknow
41	N. Rly	Khatkarlan	Punjab
42	N. Rly	Kakori	Uttar Pradesh
43	N. Rly	Pt. Ram Prasad Bismil	Uttar Pradesh
44	N. Rly	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh
45	N.W. Rly	Hansi	Haryana
46	N.W. Rly	Sirsa	Haryana
47	N.W. Rly	Rewari	Haryana
48	N.W. Rly	Bijolia	Rajasthan
49	N.W. Rly	Jaisalmer	Rajasthan
50	N.W. Rly	Jaipur	Rajasthan
51	N.W. Rly	Alwar	Rajasthan
52	S.C. Rly	Guntur	Andhra Pradesh
53	S.C. Rly	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
54	S.C.Rly	Asifabad Road	Telangana
55	S.C. Rly	Hyderabad	Telangana

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

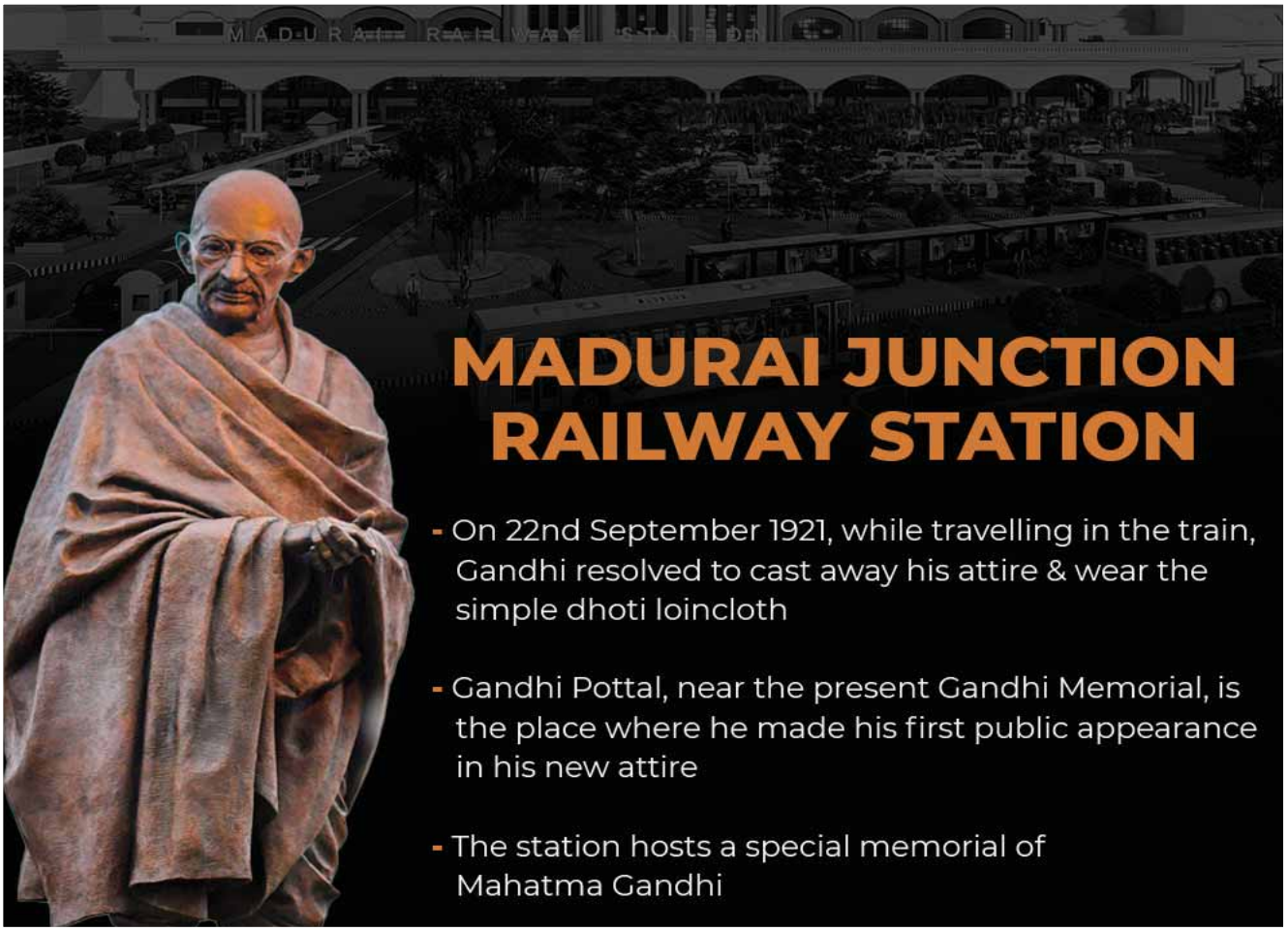
S.No.	Rly. Zone	Station Identified	State
56	S.E. Rly	Chakradharpur	Jharkhand
57	S.E. Rly	Tatanagar	Jharkhand
58	S.E. Rly	Ranchi	Jharkhand
59	S.E. Rly	Balasore	Odisha
60	S. Rly	Nilambur Road	Kerala
61	S. Rly	Vellore Cantonement	Tamil Nadu
62	S. Rly	Vanch1 Maniyach1	Tamil Nadu
63	S. Rly	Tiruppur	Tamil Nadu
64	S. Rly	Tiruvallikeni MRTS	Tamil Nadu
65	S.W. Rly	Haveri	Karanataka
66	S.W. Rly	Maddur	Karanataka
67	S.W. Rly	Kittur	Karanataka
68	S.W. Rly	Vidhurashwatha	Karanataka
69	W.C. Rly	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh
70	W.C. Rly	Bhopal	Madhya Pradeash

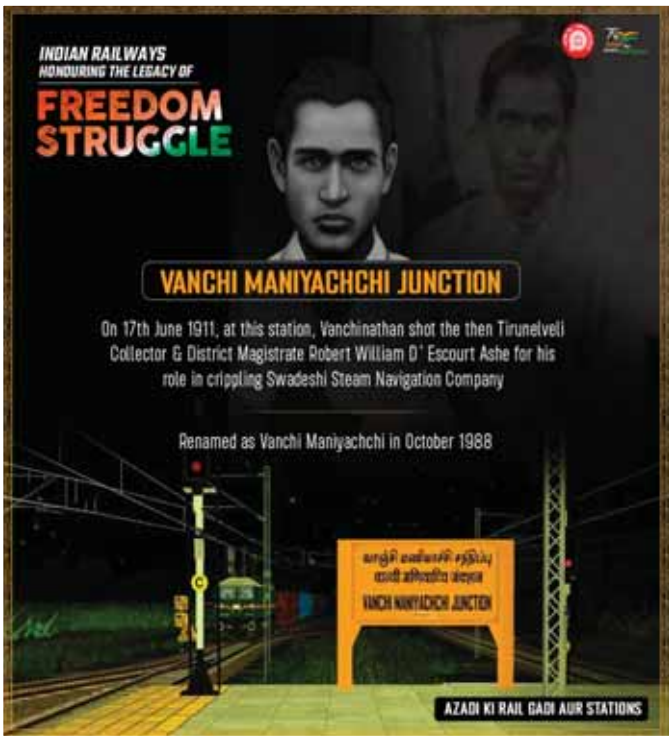
S.No.	Rly. Zone	Station Identified	State
71	W. Rly	Porbandar	Gujarat
72	W. Rly	Sabarmati	Gujarat
73	W. Rly	Navsari	Gujarat
74	W. Rly	Bardoli	Gujarat
75	W. Rly	Adasroad	Gujarat
65	S.W. Rly	Haveri	Karanataka
66	S. W. Rly	Maddur	Karanataka
67	S. W. Rly	Kittur	Karanataka
68	S.W. Rly	Vidhurashwatha	Karanataka
69	W.C. Rly	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh
70	W.C.Rly	Bhopal	Madhya Pradeash
71	W. Rly	Porbandar	Gujarat
72	W. Rly	Sabarmati	Gujarat
73	W. Rly	Navsari	Gujarat
74	W. Rly	Bardoli	Gujarat
75	W. Rly	Adasroad	Gujarat

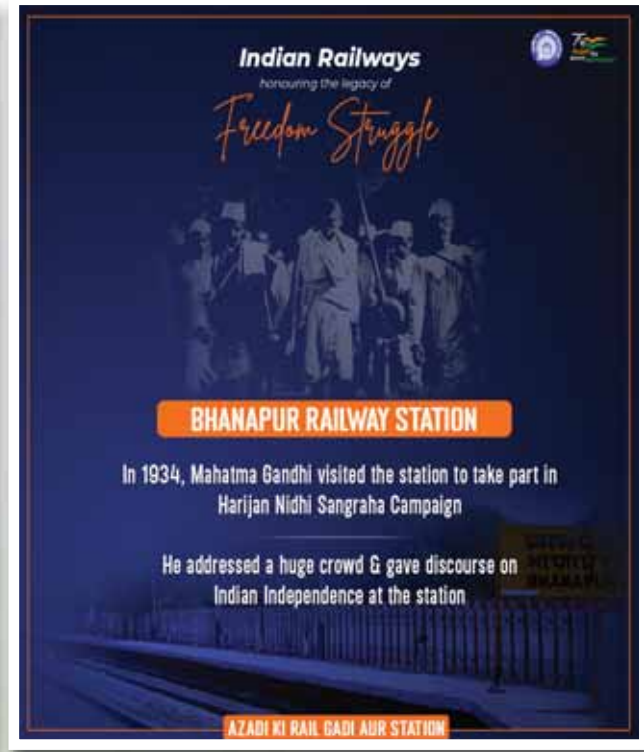
Trains to be Spotlighted (27)

Central Railway	Punjab Mail (12137)
	Hutatma Express (12157)
Eastern Railway	12311/12312
	12379/12380
	22321/22322 Hool Exp.
East Central Railway	12311 – Howrah – Kalka Mail
	Heritage Special Train
Northern Railway	Howrah Mail
	Frontier Mail Exp.
	Netaji Express (12312/11)
	August Kranti Exp. (12953/54)
	Satyagraha Exp. (15273/74)
South Central Railway	Telangana Express
South Eastern Railway	12809/12810 HWH-CSMT Express

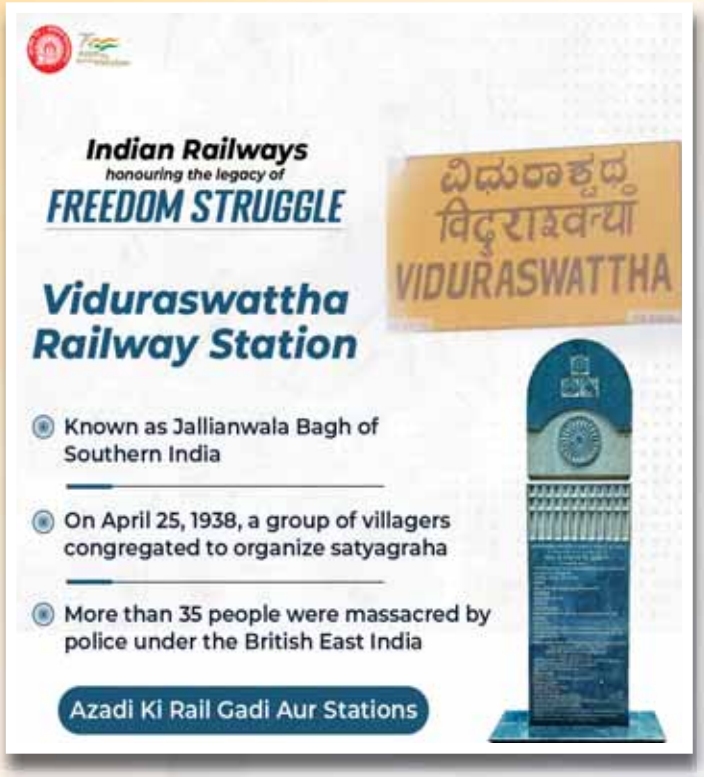
South Western Railway	12613/12614 MYS-SBC-MYS Tippu Exp.
	16589/16590 SBJ- MRJ- SBC Rani Chennamma Exp.
Western Railway	Ahimsa Exp.
	Ashram Exp.
	Lokshakti Exp.
	Navjeevan Exp.
	Sabarmati Exp.
	Shanti Exp.
	The Gandhi Special Train
	Gujarat Mail
	12935/12936 BA-ST SF Inner City EXP
	Rajdhani Express ADI- NDLS
	Sankalp Fast

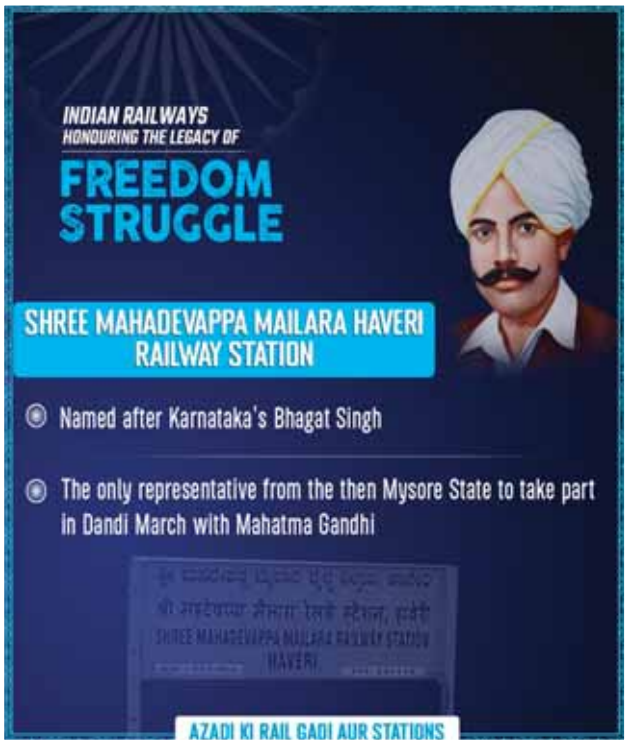

MADURAI JUNCTION RAILWAY STATION
- On 22nd September 1921, while travelling in the train, Gandhi resolved to cast away his attire & wear the simple dhoti loincloth
- Gandhi Pottal, near the present Gandhi Memorial, is the place where he made his first public appearance in his new attire
- The station hosts a special memorial of Mahatma Gandhi

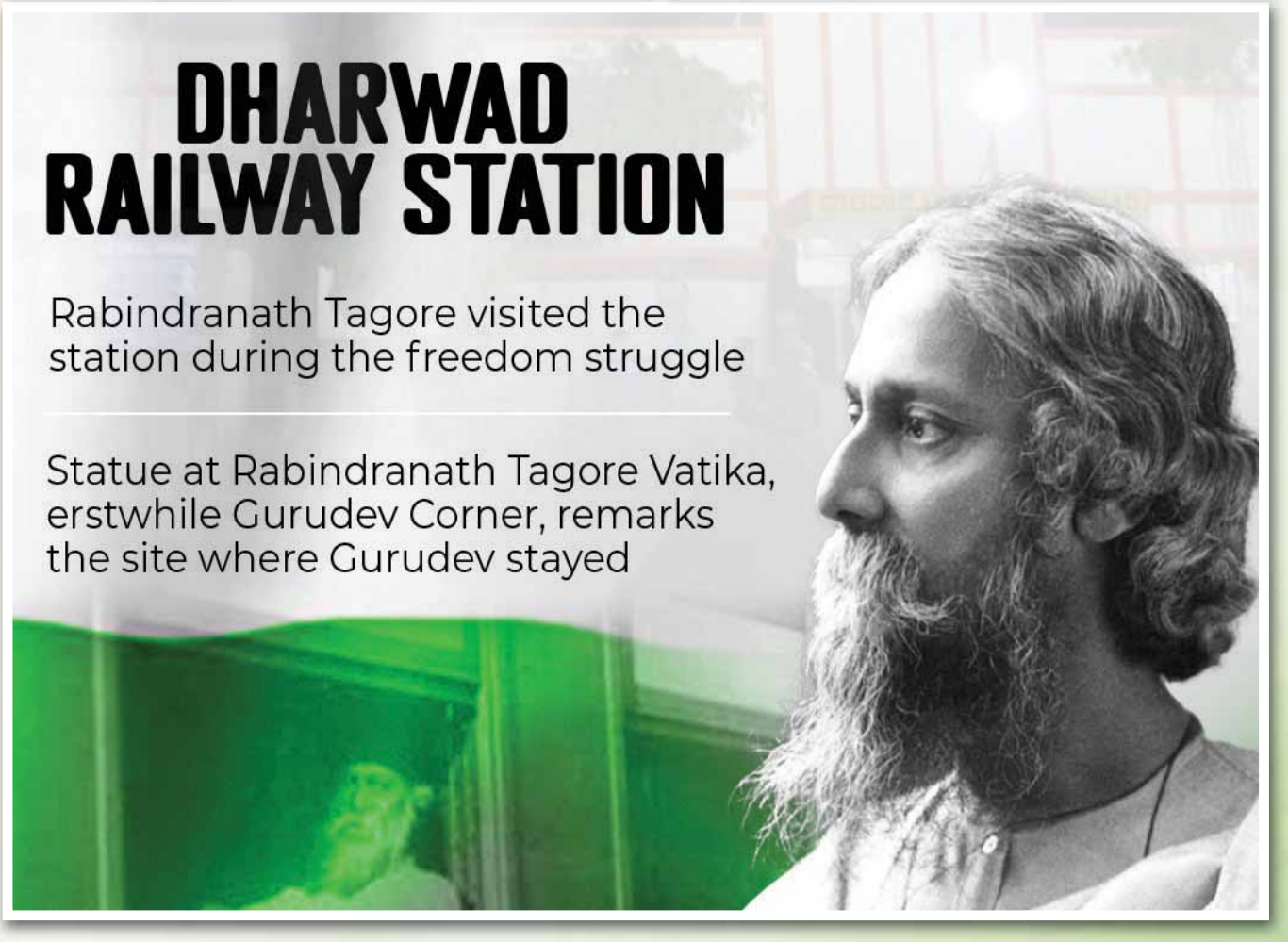

INDIAN RAILWAYS
HONOURING THE LEGACY OF
FREEDOM STRUGGLE
VANCHI MANIYACHCHI JUNCTION
On 17th June 1911, at this station, Vanchinathan shot the then Tirunelveli Collector & District Magistrate Robert William D' Escourt Ashe for his role in crippling Swadeshi Steam Navigation Company
Renamed as Vanchi Maniyachchi in October 1988
AZADI KI RAIL GADI AUR STATIONS


Indian Railways
honouring the legacy of
Freedom Struggle
BHANAPUR RAILWAY STATION
In 1934, Mahatma Gandhi visited the station to take part in Harijan Nidhi Sangraha Campaign
He addressed a huge crowd & gave discourse on Indian Independence at the station
AZADI KI RAIL GADI AUR STATION

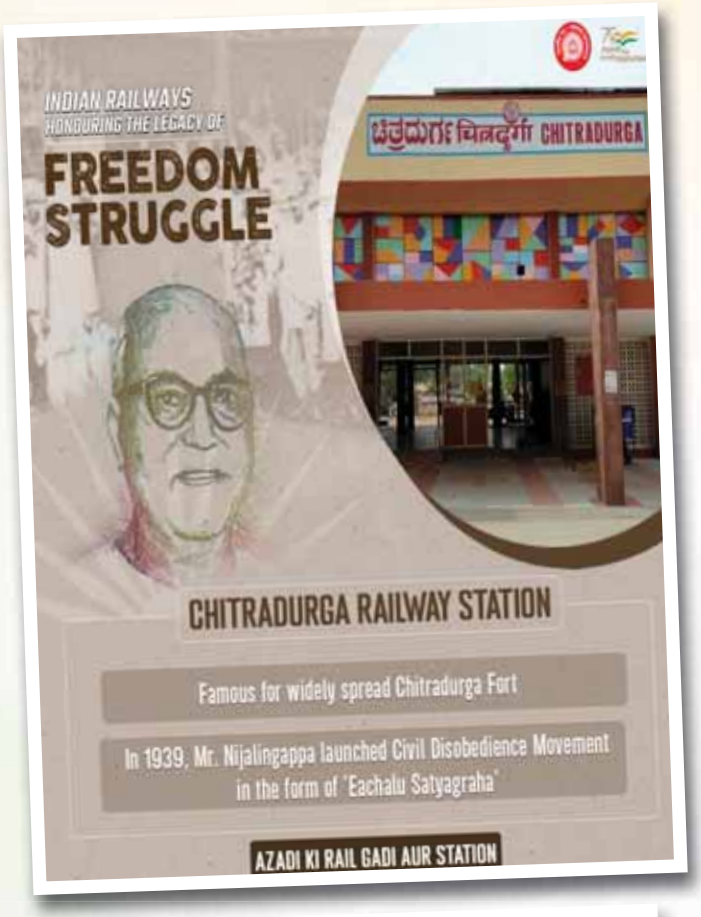
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

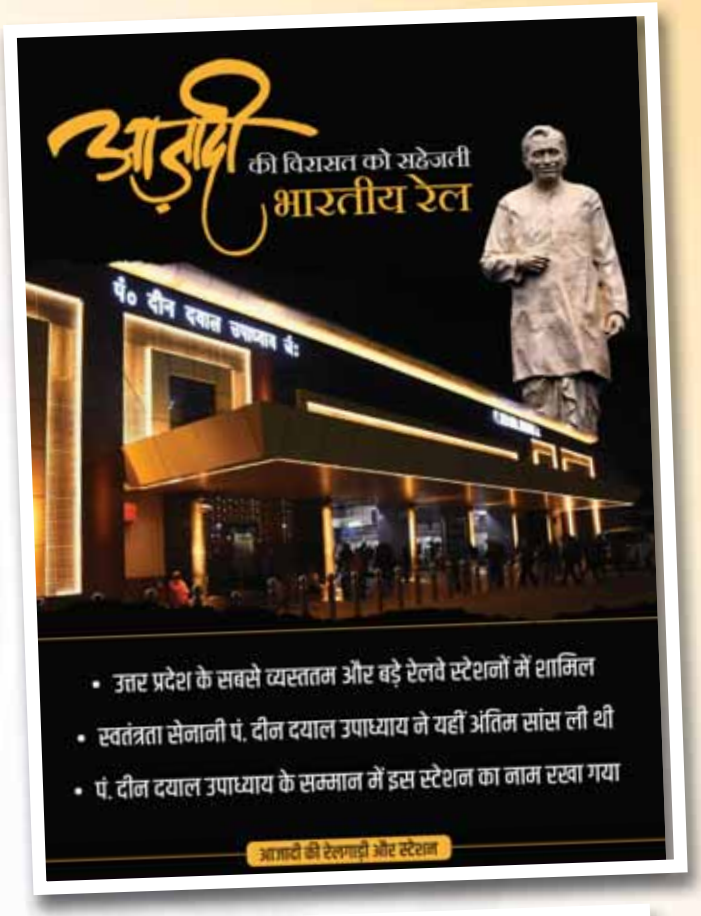






Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav



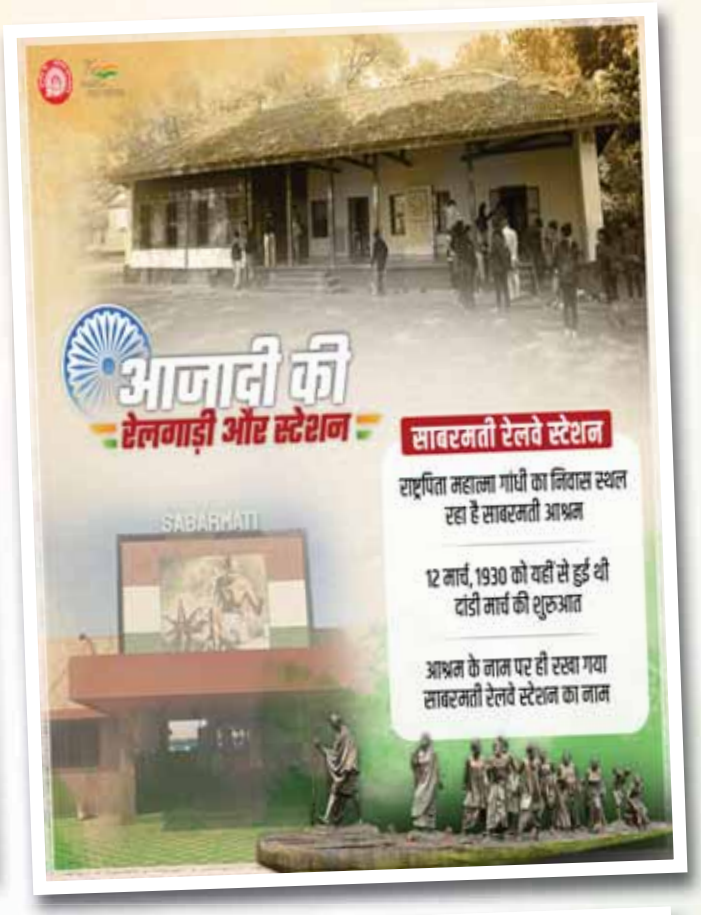


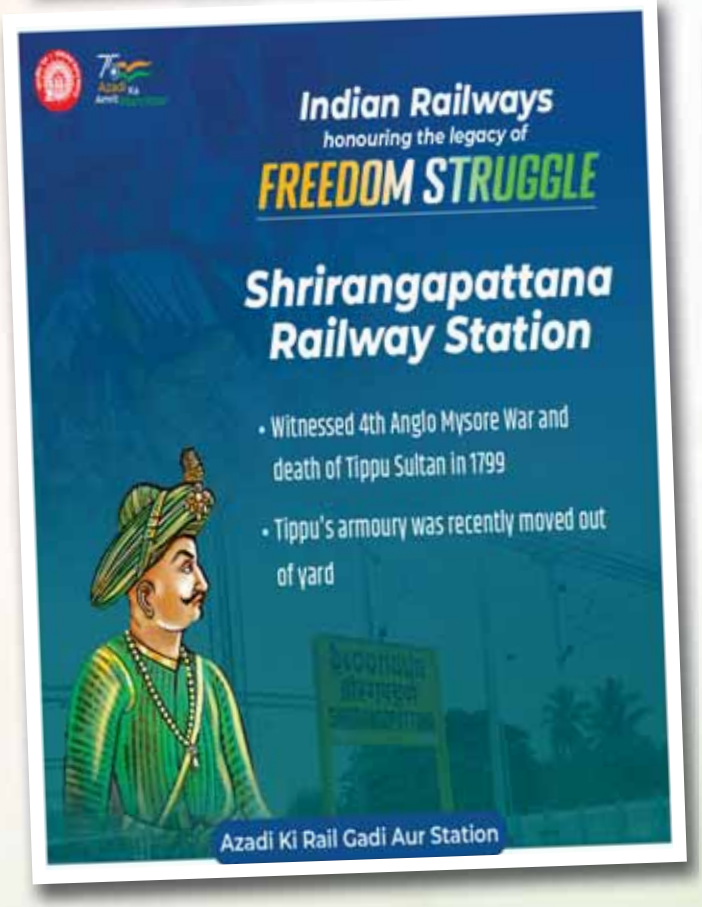




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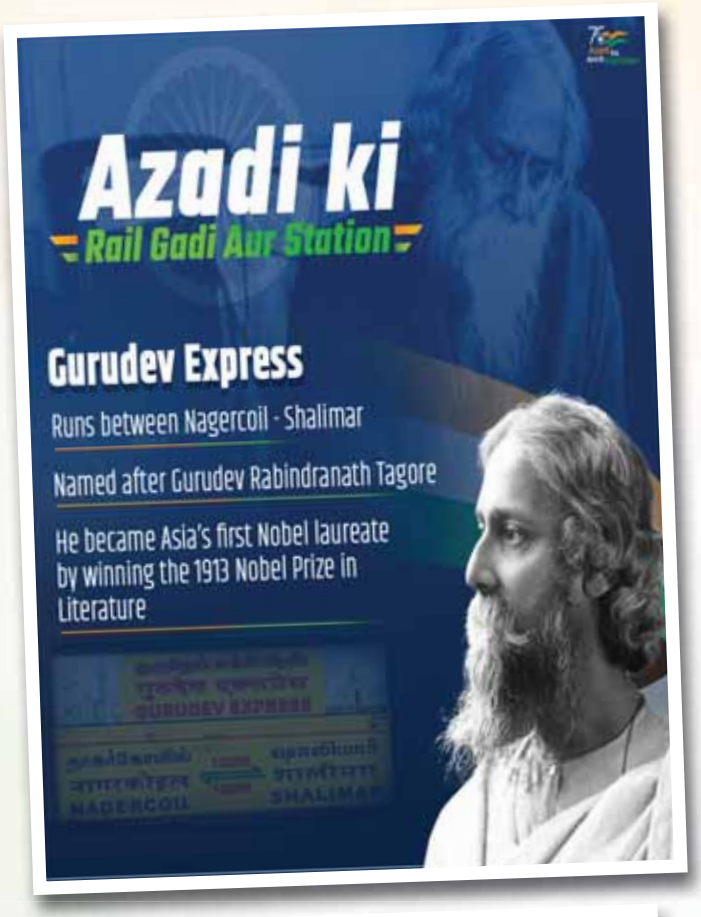


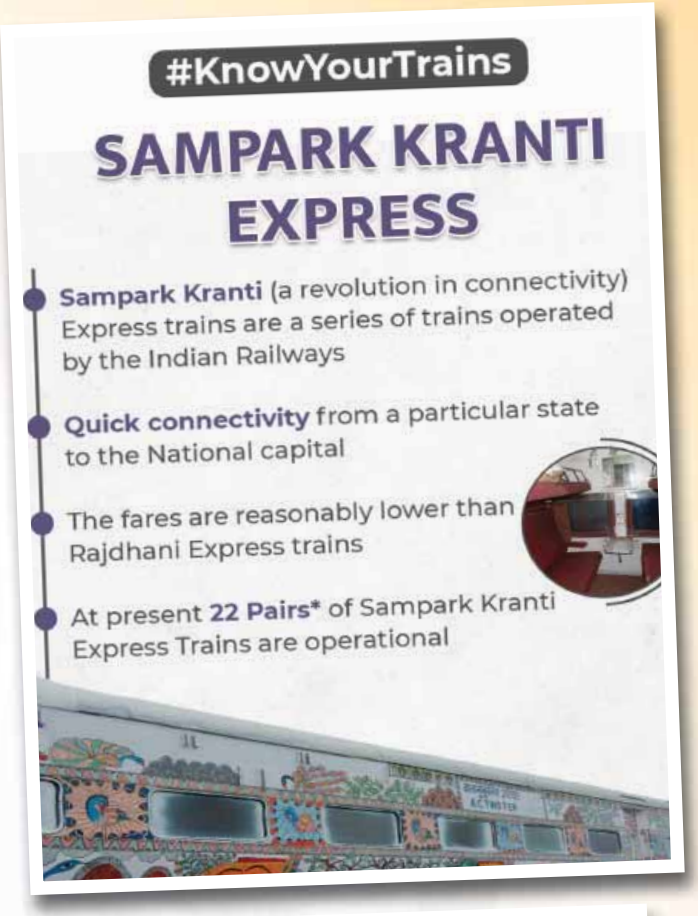


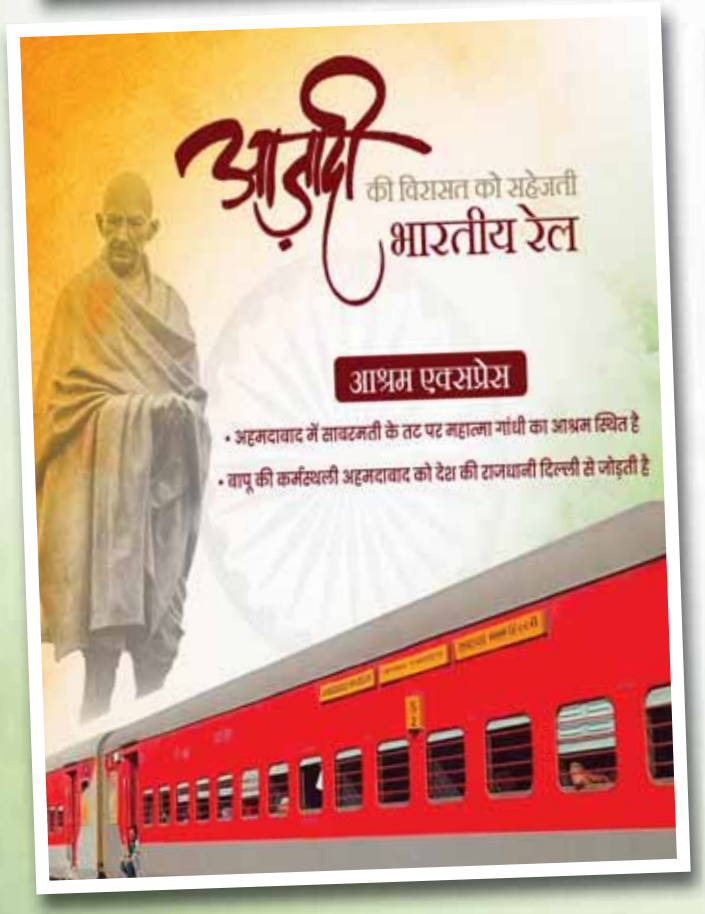


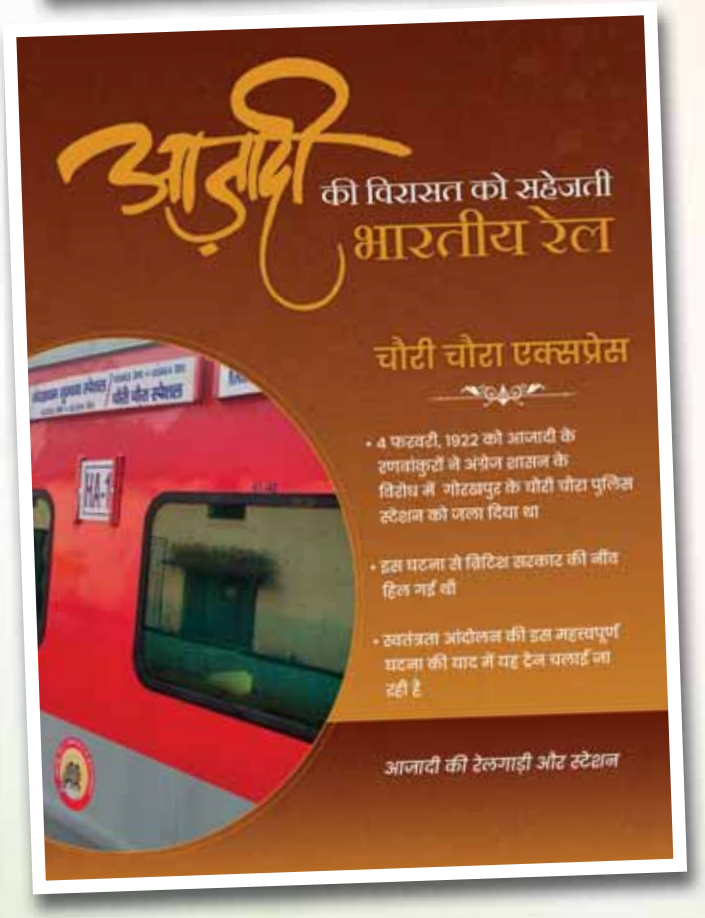


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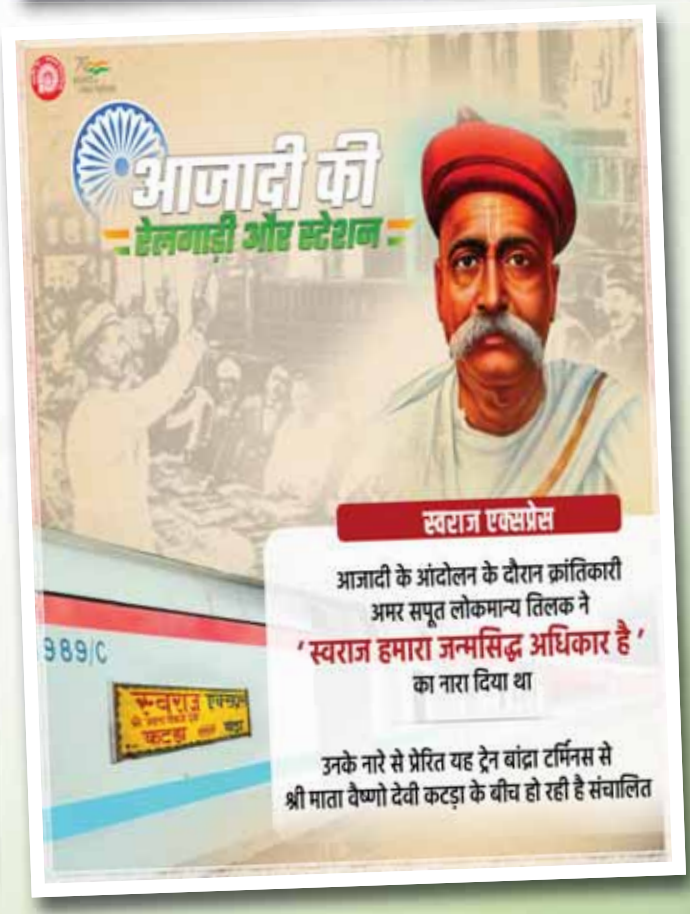


Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav









RAILWAYS IN PARLIAMENT

This information was given by the Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronic & Information Technology, **Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw** in a written reply to the questions in Parliament.

Bharat Gaurav Trains

The Ministry of Railways have issued the 'Bharat Gaurav Trains' policy with the objective to showcase India's rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places to the people of India and the world through Bharat Gaurav Trains (theme based tourist circuit trains).

So far, two Bharat Gaurav trains have been operated with the following itinerary:

- Coimbatore-Mantralayam-Shirdi-Coimbatore.
- Delhi Safdarjung-Ayodhya-Buxar-Janakpur (Nepal)-Varanasi- Nasik-Hospet-Rameshwaram-Kanchipuram-Bhadrachalam Road-Delhi Safdarjung.



Achievements of RPF

Railway Protection Force has been empowered to arrest, search and seize under Railway property (unlawful possession) Act, 1966, The Railways Act, 1989 (as amended in 2003), The RPF Act, 1957 and The Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003. Under the power conferred through these Acts, RPF conducts arrests and seizures and prosecutes offenders with an aim to control crime against passengers and railway property.

Further, the Government of India through its notification no.1403 dated 11.04.2019 published in Extraordinary Gazette of India S.O. 1582(E), in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 42 and section 67 of the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985 (61 of 1985), the Central Government empowered the officers of the Railway Protection Force, of the rank of Assistant Sub-Inspector and above, to exercise the powers and perform the duties specified under section 42 within the areas of their respective jurisdiction and also authorised the said officers to exercise the powers conferred upon them under section 67 of the NDPS Act.

The Narcotic drugs seized and suspects arrested by RPF under NDPS Act are handed over to the agencies empowered to register and investigate it i.e. GRP/local police/Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)/State Excise etc. During the last three years i.e. 2019 to 2021, 1262 cases have been detected by RPF with arrest of 1108 persons and recovery of narcotics worth ₹40.58 crores (approx.).

Safety of Women Passengers in Trains



Police and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, as such, State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and maintaining law and order etc. on Railways through their law enforcement agencies viz. Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP/ District Police to provide better protection and security of passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith.

Further, the following steps are being taken by the Railways in coordination with GRP for safety and security of passengers including women passengers in trains:

- On vulnerable and identified routes/sections, trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force in addition to trains escorted by Government Railway Police of different States daily.
- Zonal railways have been instructed for deployment of proper combined strength of male and female RPF/RPSF personnel in train escort parties, to the extent possible.
- Under 'Meri Saheli' initiative, focused attention has been provided for safety and security of lady passengers travelling alone by trains for their entire journey i.e. from originating station to destination station.
- Railway Help Line number 139 is operational (24x7) over Indian Railways for security related assistance to passengers in distress.
- Drives are conducted against entry of male passengers into the compartments reserved for ladies.

Through various social media platforms viz. twitter, facebook etc., Railways are in regular touch with passengers including women to enhance security of passengers and to address their security concern. Frequent announcements are made through Public Address System to educate passengers to take precautions against theft, snatching, drugging etc.

Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras provided in 5882 coaches in trains for enhanced security of passengers. Emergency Talk Back System and Closed Circuit Television Surveillance Cameras have been provided in ladies compartments/coaches of all newly manufactured Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) and Air-conditioned rakes of Kolkata Metro. Flasher lights have also been provided in ladies coaches in EMU rakes in some zonal railways.

State Level Security Committee of Railways (SLSCR) have been constituted for all State/Union Territories under the Chairmanship of respective Director General of Police/Commissioner of States/ Union Territories for regular monitoring and review of security arrangements of the Railways.

In compliance of orders of Supreme Court and as recommended by Committee of experts constituted at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), instructions have been issued to provide a Medical Box containing life saving medicines, equipments, oxygen cylinder etc. at all Railway stations and passenger carrying trains.

For immediate assistance including medical, passengers can make complaints on RailMadad Portal or through Helpline Number 139 (integrated with National Emergency No.112).

World Class Station

For development of Railway stations, Ministry of Railways has formulated various developmental schemes viz. Model, Modern and Adarsh Station Schemes for upgradation/ modernization/augmentation of stations on Indian Railways including stations in various small and big cities.

Railway stations are upgraded/ modernized under Adarsh Station Scheme based on identified need of providing better enhanced passenger amenities at stations. 1253 Railway stations of Indian Railways have been identified for development under Adarsh Station Scheme. Out of these, 1215 Railway stations have been developed and the remaining 38 stations are targeted for development in Financial Year 2022-23.

A new scheme of major upgradation of Railway stations has been initiated. The facilities envisaged in this scheme includes provision of roof plaza/concourse wherever feasible where passengers and other users can wait comfortably and enjoy superior and well designed amenities like lounges, recreation areas, waiting areas, seating arrangement, shopping areas, restaurants/ cafeterias, tapped potable drinking water points, restrooms, WiFi, ATMs, medical facilities etc., integration with both sides of the city as far as possible along with segregation of Arrival and Departure, lifts/ escalators/ travelators for a comfortable movement, drop off, pick up and parking facilities for passengers.

An umbrella work costing ₹12000 cr has been sanctioned in Supplementary Budget 2021-22 and another umbrella work costing ₹5,500 cr has been sanctioned in Budget 2022-23 for development of stations across Indian Railways under Major Upgradation Scheme.

The details of allocation and expenditure for development and maintenance of stations are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise or station-wise. Passenger amenities are generally funded under Plan Head-53 'Passenger Amenities'. The details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred under this Plan Head-53, over Indian Railways during the last two years i.e. 2020-21, 2021-22 and current year 2022-23 are under:-

(₹in Crores)

Financial Year	Allocation	Expenditure
2020-21	2615.30	2582.92
2021-2022	2344.55	1566.32
2022-23 (till June 2023)	2700.00	309.91

Three railway stations viz. Rani Kamlapati Railway Station, Gandhinagar Railway Station and Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal have been developed and commissioned. Work is in progress at 5 stations viz Ayodhya, Gomtinagar, Bijawasan, Safdarjang, and Tirupati. Recently contract has been awarded for redevelopment of Gaya, Udhna, Somnath and Ernakulam Junction Stations. Work of various other stations is at different stages of technoeconomic feasibility studies and tendering.



Co-Branding of Railway Stations

The concept of co-branding of Railway stations entails generation of non-fare revenue by allowing government and private business entities (or firms/agents acting on their behalf) to prefix or suffix their brand names or logos to the names of Railway stations. For all purposes, the concept is purely a form of advertisement only, and does not tantamount to change in the name of the Railway station. Co-branding rights have been awarded only at eleven metro stations in Kolkata Metro under the policy guideline of Metro Railway, Kolkata. No stations on Indian Railway have been awarded for co-branding.

Megger

SMRT1

Single phase relay test system

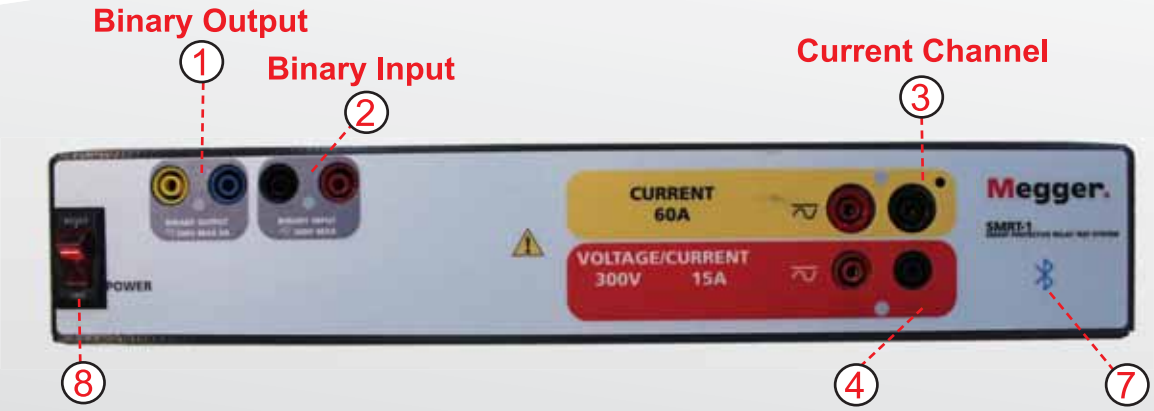
- The SMRT1 is the “smart” relay test set designed to test the “smart grid” relays
- Smart, lightweight and Powerful single phase relay test system 4kg



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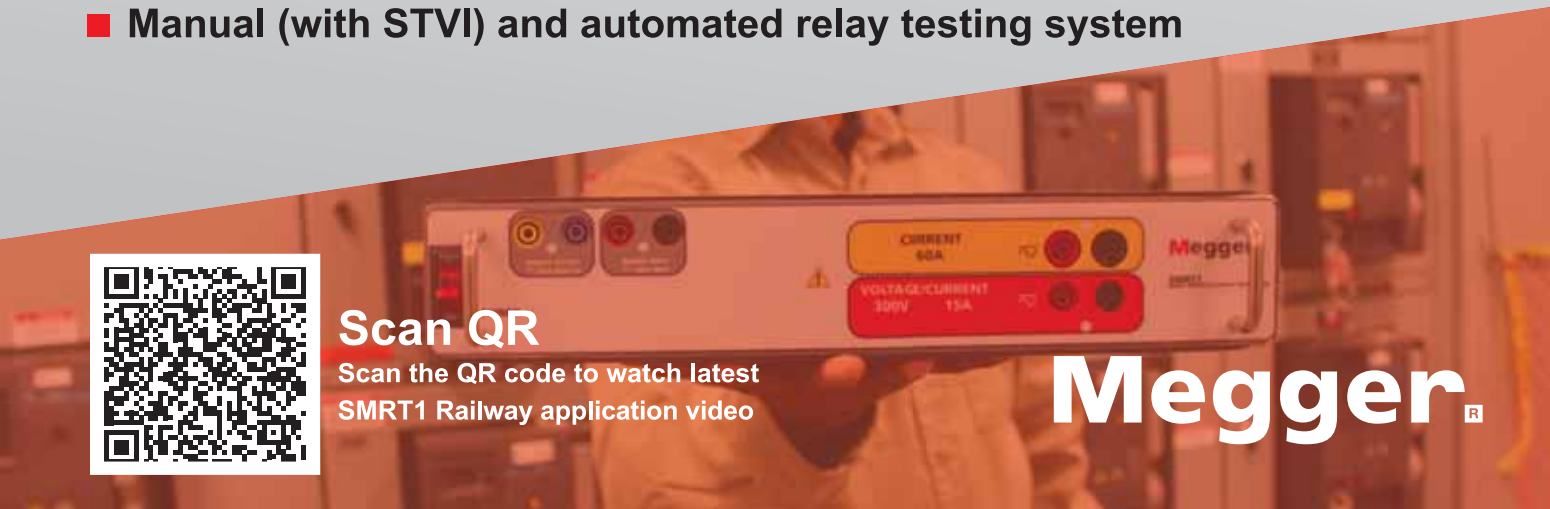
SMRT1 test system has the ability to perform 1phase Relay testing and IEC 61850 testing including Sample values





KEY FEATURES!

- 75Amps high current capacity for testing instantaneous trip elements and high current COMTRADE Playback applications
- With regulated output power and accuracy to test microprocessor and electro-mechanical relays
- 15Amps convertible voltage channel for testing current differential high slope characteristics
- Automated testing templates for a typical Railway testing applications
- Ability to string multiple units together with an Ethernet cable
- Manual (with STVI) and automated relay testing system



Scan QR

Scan the QR code to watch latest SMRT1 Railway application video

Megger®

INDIAN R

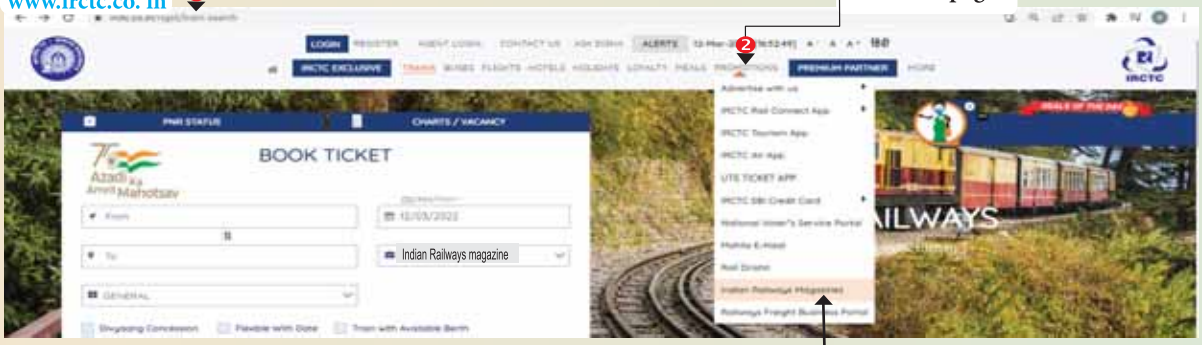
The easy procedure of subscribing

STEP 1

For online membreship please go to www.irctc.co. in ❶

You can go directly to www.irctctourism.com/IRBRmag/#/home

Please go to the Promotions of this page ❷



❸ Click on **'Indian Railways'** magazine

STEP 3

❶ If you have IRTCT login and password, use it in the box.

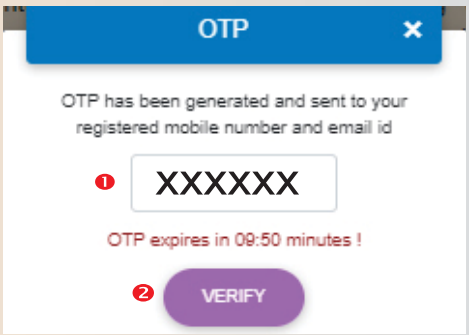


❷ If you don't have login ID, click the guest login.

❸ Please submit your email and mobile no. in it

❹ Press SUBMIT

STEP 5



❶ Write the OTP received on your registered mobile no.in the box and

❷ Verify

STEP 6



❶ Payment mode (card, net banking, UPI, wallet, international card and ipay) and

❷ Choose the option of payment gateway.

❸ Press MAKE PAYMENT

RAILWAYS

g online to Indian Railways magazine

STEP 2

1. If you are a railway personnel, please click' yes ', if not click ' no'.
2. If yes, please upload your RQID/ I D/PPO no. and a scanned copy of your authenticated I D proof.
3. For Bharatiya Rail patrika , click Hindi and for Indian Railways magazine, click English
4. Click one, two or three for the no. of years for which you want to subscribe.

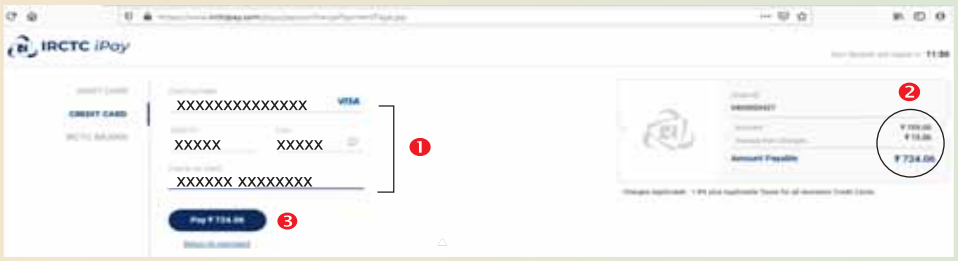


STEP 4

1. Register your full address with Pincode.



STEP 7



1. Fill up the details of payment mode.
2. If satisfied press PAY.
3. See the details of payment amount.

Payment successfully will appear on the screen on completion of bank OTP procedure.

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- On completion of payment process, you will get the confirmation about your membership through SMS and email.
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Changes and Improvement in Railway Stations and Services in Trains

Modernisation/upgradation of Railway stations is a continuous and on-going process. At present development of railway stations is undertaken under Adarsh Station Scheme based on identified need of providing better enhanced passenger amenities at stations. Various passenger amenities such as improvement to facade of the station building, retiring room, waiting room (with bathing facilities), separate waiting room for ladies, computer based public address system, landscaping of circulating area, signages, Pay & Use toilets, water coolers, ramps at entry to station for divyangjan and senior citizens etc. are provided depending upon the respective category of the station identified and developed under this scheme. Indian Railways are also setting up modern facilities like lifts, escalators etc. at railway stations in a progressive manner.

(i) Major initiatives undertaken to improve the quality of catering services over Indian Railways are as under:

- Upgradation of base kitchen/ kitchen units,
- CCTV cameras in upgraded Base kitchens/kitchen units to ensure real time monitoring through artificial intelligence and sharing of live streaming,
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) certification of each catering unit is made mandatory,
- QR codes on food packets enabling display of name of kitchen, date of packaging, expiry date etc.,
- Hand held Point of Sales (POS) machines to generate printed bills have been provided,
- Availability of e-catering service to pre-order meals while booking of e-ticket or on board,
- Third party audit of pantry cars and kitchen units along with regular inspections and customer satisfaction survey are being conducted.

(ii) In order to provide hygienic and quality drinking water to passengers, approximately 9.30 lakh litres of Rail Neer (packaged drinking water) is being supplied to passengers on Indian Railways per day. In addition, Water Vending Machines (WVMs) have been installed at Railway stations across the country to provide drinking water of prescribed standards at affordable rates.

(iii) With a view to facilitate passengers to obtain reserved as well as unreserved tickets, various steps have been taken by Indian Railways by providing various ticket booking facilities for reserved tickets such as Computerized Passenger Reservation System (PRS) counters, through the website of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) and through mobile app, computerized PRS counters in Post Offices, facility to book physical as well as e-tickets through authorized ticketing agents like e-ticketing agents of IRCTC, Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendra (YTSK).

Further, facilities for booking of unreserved tickets are also provided such as Unreserved Ticketing system (UTS) counters at various stations, Automatic Ticket Vending Machines (ATVMS)/Cash-coin, through UTSonMobile app and through various authorized agents like Jansadharan Ticket Booking Sewaks (JTBS), Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendra (YTSK), Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA) etc.

Indian Railways continuously strive to increase revenue through its ongoing transformative initiatives to attract new passenger and freight traffic streams alongwith improved customer experience over its network. The key initiatives by Railways in this regard inter-alia include increasing freight loading, development of Cargo terminal under Gati Shakti Multi-Modal Cargo Terminal (GCT) policy, running of special trains, liberalised automatic freight rebate policy in empty flow directions, short lead concession to certain streams of traffic, discount on loading of bagged consignment in open and flat wagons, station to station rates, containerization of short lead container traffic, running of time-tabled parcel trains and Kisan Rail services for movement of perishables and agricultural produce, introduction of e-Auction for Commercial Earning and Non Fare Revenue (NFR) contracts, Joint Parcel Product (JPP) in collaboration of India Posts for business-to-customer (B2C) and business-to-business (B2B) market for e-Commerce and micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), non-fare revenues from content on demand, rail display network, out of home advertising, unsolicited proposals, NINFRIS (New, Innovative Non-Fare Revenue Ideas Scheme), Mobile Assets etc.

Kisan Rail

Since the launch of Kisan Rail service on 7 August, 2020 and upto 30th June, 2022, Railways have operated around 2,359 Kisan Rail services, transporting approximately ₹7.9 lakh tonnes of perishables including onion, banana, potato, ginger, garlic, mango, grapes, pomegranate, oranges, chikoo, lemon, capsicum, cabbage, cauliflower, and other fruits and vegetables. The year-wise and state-wise break up of number of services is as under:-

(provisional figures)

State (train originating)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (upto 30 June)
Andhra Pradesh	8	108	-
Assam	-	1	-
Gujarat	25	34	3
Karnataka	12	34	-
Maharashtra	353	1,434	51
Madhya Pradesh	28	46	-
Punjab	1	14	-
Rajasthan	-	5	-
Telangana	-	66	-
Tripura	-	1	-
Uttar Pradesh	-	68	8
West Bengal	28	30	1
Total	**455**	**1,841**	**63**





Authors/writers contributing articles for the magazine are requested to restrict their articles to a reasonable size. Ideally an article should not exceed 1000 words. In view of the space constraints of the magazine, sometimes it becomes difficult to include longer articles. All are requested to appreciate our problem and co-operate.



RailTel Finalizes Agencies to Execute for the Work of Video Surveillance System at 756 Major Stations

- Project is being executed under the Nirbhaya Fund by Indian Railways and RailTel
- The work is scheduled and is likely to be completed by January 2023.
- Need to rapidly absorb new technology in Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways

RailTel, a Mini Ratna Central Government PSU under Ministry of Railways, entrusted with the implementation of Video Surveillance System (VSS) project (CCTV cameras network) under Nirbhaya Fund at Railway stations has taken a major step by finalizing the agencies for executing the job. First phase of the project will cover major stations of category A1, A, B, C numbering 756 and is likely to be completed by January 2023. The remaining stations will be covered in phase-2 of implementation. Safety and security of passengers is one of the key focus areas of Ministry of Railways. In order to enhance security at Railway stations which are major hubs of transportation, Indian Railways is in the process of installing Internet Protocol (IP) based Video Surveillance System (VSS) at stations, that is, waiting halls, reservation counters, parking areas, main entrance/exit, platforms, foot over bridges, booking offices etc. Ministry of Railways has approved works for provision of Video Surveillance System over Indian Railways major stations under Nirbhaya funds.

> We need to rapidly absorb new technology in Railways, be it for rolling stock, construction, safety, cyber security, or in situations where there is a human interface.
>
> **Shri Ashwani Vaishnaw**
> **Minister of Railways**

Smt. Aruna Singh Chairman and Managing Director, RailTel assured that with the finalization of the executing agencies, the implementation of the project will be fast-tracked. The most modern software and hardware will be used in this project.

This VSS system will be IP based and will have a network of CCTV cameras. These CCTVs are being networked on optical fiber cable and the video feed of the CCTV cameras will be displayed not only at local RPF posts but also at a centralized CCTV control room at divisional and zonal level. The CCTV cameras of stations and video feeds will be monitored at these 3 levels to ensure enhanced safety and security at Railway premises. The system comes with Artificial Intelligence (AI) enabled Video Analytics Software and Facial Recognition Software which will help to detect known criminals triggering an alert when they enter station premises. Network Management System (NMS) has been also been provided for monitoring of cameras, server, UPS and switches which can be viewed from any web browser by authorized personnel.



4 types of IP cameras (dome type, bullet types, pan tilt zoom type and Ultra HD- 4k) are being installed to ensure maximum coverage of the Railway premises. This will give an extra edge to the RPF officials for ensuring enhanced security. The recording of the video feeds from CCTV cameras will be stored for 30 days.

Safety Features of this System

The system implemented shall act as a tool to respond to situations/ incidents effectively, aiding faster decision making and act as a great learning for better preparedness to meet any incident and eventualities with some software based application like Video Analytic and Face Recognition, as per RDSO

Version 6.0.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) enabled analytics software have the following features with a certain alarm and PoP UP view at the Operator end.

- Intrusion detection (people entering in Railway operation areas)
- Camera Tampering
- Loitering Detection
- Human and vehicle detection
- Search of humans based on attribute
- Colour Search
- Fallen person.
- Combination search (human/ vehicle and colour)
- FRS: The VSS (CCTV) system shall capture face images from live CCTV video feed and generate alerts, if blacklist match is found. FRS alerts should be pushed to the Video Management System/NVR. (seamlessly integrated with Video Management System/ NVR).
- The VMS software will support alarm input monitoring and Output activation for the proposed IP cameras. The VMS have the feature of mobile phones clients so that in case of any emergency, the authorized users can upload videos and snapshot to local VMS server from the registered mobile phones, which should include identification of location. Operators at centralized location shall have ability to view these alarms and playback video, if required, from stations. Operator at centralized location shall be able to push the alarms to selected RPF/Thana and registered mobile phone number of concerned security officer.
- Panic Button: Two numbers of panic button are to be installed at each platform. Once the panic button is activated by any person in distress, an alarm shall appear on the VMS along with the pop-up of the associated camera on the operator workstation. In case, associated camera is a PTZ type, the camera shall move and zoom on to the panic button to see the person in distress.
- The recording of the video feeds from CCTV cameras of stations will be stored in the nearest RPF Thana/Post for 30 days for playback, post event analysis and for investigation purposes. Important videos to be stored for longer duration at data centre (by using 240TB storage) and RPF Thana/Post by using additional 10% storage (as per Railway's requirement).

For effective operations and management of IT operations, an industry standard Enterprise Management System (EMS) has been provisioned for monitoring of VSS equipment (cameras, switches, server/workstation, storage, PC workstations and UPS etc.). Some of the critical aspects of EMS are as follows:

- Centralized and integrated dashboard view
- Centralized and customizable service level reporting
- Server/workstation change, provisioning and configuration
- Network automation
- Service management (Helpdesk) and SLA management
- Centralized IT asset inventory discovery and tracking
- Server/workstation monitoring
- Network Fault and performance management
- Penalty monitoring and management

About RailTel

RailTel, a 'Mini Ratna (Category-I)' Central Public Sector Enterprise under Ministry of Railways, is one of the largest neutral telecom infrastructure providers in the country owning a pan-India optic fiber network covering several towns and cities and rural areas of the country. Along with a strong and a reliable network of 61000+ RKM of Optic fibre, RailTel has two MeitY empaneled tier III data centers as well. With its pan-India high-capacity network, RailTel is working towards creating a knowledge society at various fronts and has been selected for implementation of various mission-mode projects for the Government of India in the telecom field. RailTel offers a bundle of services like, MPLSVPN, telepresence, leased line, tower co-location, data center services etc. RailTel is also working with the Indian Railways to transform railway stations into digital hub by providing public Wi-Fi at railway stations across the country and 6100+ stations are live with RailTel's RailWire Wi-Fi.

GM Central Railway Inaugurated Q-Series Relay

Production at Signal & Telecommunication Workshop



Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, General Manager, Central Railway inaugurated the production of Q-Series Relay at the Signal & Telecommunication Workshop, Byculla on 15 July, 2022. He also inaugurated the Thick Web Switch specially made for in-house training purposes The General Manager in his address said that, relays are an important part of the signalling system and non-availability of the same can lead to delay in several projects.

The Signal & Telecommunication Workshop, Byculla is the 3rd workshop on Indian Railways with the facility of in-house manufacturing of relays. The production of relays inhouse will also cater to needs of relays for signal works on Central Railway.

General Manager Central Railway

Chaired 123rd ZRUCC Meeting



Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, General Manager, Central Railway chaired the 123rd Zonal Railways Users' Consultative Committee (ZRUCC) meeting at the Central Railway Auditorium, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai on 8 July, 2022. Addressing the meeting, Shri Lahoti said that the suggestions of the ZRUCC members hold an important place and helps railways to better its services to passengers. He added that Central Railway has also registered a record freight Members of the ZRUCC discussed various rail users related issues and offered a number of suggestions in this meeting. The G. M. assured the members that Central Railway has examined the suggestions of the members and to implement the various suggestions offered detailed deliberation of the same. Principal heads of departments and senior officers of central Railway were present during the meeting.

South Central Railway RPF Holds Workshop in Anti Human Trafficking for Key Railway Personnel's

South Central Railway Protection Force (RPF) has conducted an awareness programme on Capacity Building and Sensitization Workshop in Anti Human Trafficking for key railway personnel on 16 July, 2022 at Rail Nilayam auditorium, Secunderabad with the association of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU). More than 150 constables, Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners of Security participated in the programme.

Delivering the key note address Shri Raja Ram, IG-Principal Chief Security Commissioner, SCR has stated that of late it is integrating vocational education with or skill based education with higher education to promote the educational wellbeing of the community. It has designed a number of need based programmes which relate to society and life and continuing professional development. These programmes will add new dimension and enrich the professional growth of the primary stake-holders in the Railways such as Station Master/Station Superintendent people directly coming in contact with TTE/TC, RPF/GRP and other commercial and technical Railway station.



He further added that there is evidence of a need within the community for the proposed course of study. we therefore consider this an opportunity and encourage all our primary stake-holders such as RPF constables and police officials of South Central Railway to take up these programmes (certificate in human rights and anti-human trafficking).

Western Railway Staff Gives Fresh Lease of Life to an Ailing and Unconscious Passenger Aboard Shatabdi Express

Railways are always in the forefront to help the passengers with an aim to provide the best of services for their comfortable and convenient travelling. In a benevolent example of such promptness to help a passenger, two railway staff members at Nadiad station rushed to the help of a passenger travelling in Shatabdi Express, who was feeling uneasy and fell unconscious.



Shri Rakesh Mittal, Station Superintendent, Nadiad



Shri Jayesh Medha Pointsman, Nadiad

Shri Ajay Rawal and his wife were traveling from Gandhinagar to Borivali in Train No. 12010 Gandhinagar–Mumbai Central Shatabdi Express. Enroute, Shri Rawal started feeling uneasy and became unconscious. This was immediately informed to Shri Rakesh Mittal, on-duty Station Superintendent of Nadiad Station. Shri Mittal got the ambulance ready at station and brought the stretcher to the platform to rush the patient to a nearby hospital. As the patient was detrained, it was found that his condition was critical with irregular breathing. Sensing this, pointsman Shri Jayesh Medha and Mittal started giving CPR (artificial breathing) to the patient which succeeded in regaining his consciousness. Thereafter, he was immediately taken to the MahaGujarat Hospital in Nadiad. The patient's wife Smt Vandana Rawal, appreciated the promptness shown by the railway staff who helped her husband to recover and expressed her immense gratitude.

Central Railway's Record Parcel Revenue for the First Quarter i.e April-June 2022-23

Central Railway has kept its momentum of giving its best performance in commercial revenue consistent.

During the first quarter of the current financial year i.e., from April to June 2022-23 Central Railway registered parcel revenue of ₹64.39 crore as against revenue of ₹59.25 crore during the corresponding period last year which is an increase of 8.68%. This revenue has been generated with a transportation of ₹1.30 lakh tons of parcel for the first quarter of the current financial year i.e., from April to June, 2022-23. The revenue from parcel transportation for the month of June, 2022 stood at ₹18.78 crores.



The increase in parcel revenue is attributed to the various initiatives taken by Central Railway such as setting up of Business Development Units (BDUs) on Divisions and at Headquarters office for intensive marketing and other similar innovative ideas to boost parcel transportation.

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Sleeping Pods Facility Opened
at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus–Mumbai



Central Railway has brought in new initiatives through Non- Fare Revenue. The Pod hotel at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus Railway station. It is opened to give more comfort, affordable and cheaper stay options to the passengers at CSMT, Mumbai, located near the waiting room on the main line of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus Railway station. There are a total of 40 pods including 30 single pods, 6 double pods and 4 family pods. This classy air-conditioned accommodation Pod Hotel will provide full privacy, mobile charging facility, locker room facility, fire alarm, intercom, deluxe toilet and bathroom etc. Booking of these Pods can be done through physical mode (at reception) and online mode via Mobile app. Railways has just provided 131.61 sq mtrs of space to have all the modern facilities for a comfortable stay for the passengers who want to stay near the Terminus itself. Central Railway which achieved number one among all Zonal Railway in Non-Fare Revenue generation in the Financial Year 2021-22 and has brought in new initiatives through NFR this year in first three months, i.e from April to June 2022 has earned ₹14.10 crores against ₹1.89 crores during April to June 2021 showing an incredible increase of 646%.



Meeting on StartUps for Railways on North Eastern Railway



StartUps for Railways initiative has been launched by Ministry of Railways for faster adoption of technology on Indian Railways. Shri Ashok Kumar Mishra, Additional General Manager, North Eastern Railway presided over a meeting, organized in General Manager's Conference Hall, Gorakhpur on 21 June, 2022, to discuss various facets of this innovational portal with the stakeholders. Prominent amongst those present at the meeting included principal heads of departments, senior railway officers apart from representatives of micro, small and medium enterprises, single innovators, partnership firms, companies, Madan Mohan Malaviya Technical University, ITM, BIT, KIPM Engineering Institutes and District Industrial Centre, Gorakhpur.

Addressing the meeting Shri Ashok Kumar Mishra said that Indian Railways is a very big industry and there is a vast scope of incorporating new technology. Youth of today is replete with various ideas which would get manifestation through this innovative portal launched by the railways. In order to boost startups in railways a grant upto ₹ 1.5 crore would be provided to innovator on an equal sharing basis with provision of milestone-wise payment.

Shri Pankaj Kumar Singh, Chief Public Relations Officer gave a detailed information about salient features of startups in railways through Power Point Presentation.

Solar Mission NCR
First Quarter Performance 2022-23

- NFR Net revenue saving of 1.56 crores achieved in 3 months through the use of solar energy.



In line with National initiative on Solar Mission, North Central Railway (NCR) has attached top priority to solar energy generation. In last financial year, NCR generated 124 lacs units of electricity using solar power and a net revenue saving of ₹5.01 crores. Continuing the momentum this financial year too, 38.4 lacs units of electricity has been generated by NCR in the first quarter of economy. Net revenue saving of ₹1.56 crore has thereby recorded through the usage of solar power.

NCR has a total installed capacity of 11.03 MWp. While 120 kWp has been installed by the Railway, remaining 10882.34 kWp capacities has been installed by two major Solar Power Developers (SPD) Azure and ReNew on a PPP basis. Among the major places where roof top solar plants have been installed are station buildings, workshops, training schools, GM office and DRM office buildings.

NCR Registers 21.3% Growth

in Originating Freight Loading in First Quarter



As the first quarter of economy ends, North Central Railway (NCR) registers 21.3% growth in originating freight loading. NCR loaded 5.24 million tonnes of cargo during April-June 2022 surpassing all previous records. This is the best ever quarter ending figures for NCR since its inception in 2003. Freight loading of 4.32 million tonnes was achieved in the corresponding period of previous year.

1.81 mt of loading was achieved in the month of June 2022 which is the best ever loading performance by NCR in a single month. This yields a revenue of ₹181.02 crores.

Originating freight revenue during these three months comes to be ₹528.56 crores, which is 20.53% more than the originating freight earning of ₹438.54 crores in the first quarter of previous financial year.

NCR GM Interacted with Passengers on Board

Patliputra-Lokmanya Tilak Term Express and Took Feedback

GM NCR Shri Pramod Kumar travelled in Train No. 12142 Patliputra-Lokmanya Tilak Term Express from Prayagraj Chheoki to Manikpur and took feedback from passengers regarding cleanliness in the train. Feedback regarding cleanliness at station and station premises was also taken. General Manager, accompanied by Shri Principal Chief Commercial Manager Shri S. K Singh, ADRM/G Shri Sanjay Singh and CPRO Shivam Sharma interacted with the passengers travelling in all classes of the train. During the journey, General Manager took their views of some South Indian tourists who were returning from Prayagraj. In this sequence, GM also interacted with some senior citizens and advised all the passengers to contact All India Railway Help Number 139 in case of any complaint or emergency.



During the inspection of the train, General Manager checked the arrangement of the pantry car and saw the rate list and the list of approved item. In this sequence, Shri Kumar also checked the equipments like refrigerator and boiler etc. General Manager also looked after the medicals of all Pantry Car Staff. Shri Pramod Kumar also interacted with the OBHS staff and enquired about their functioning and their problems. He also took stock about the quality of linen as well as its entire management cycle.

The Factories of NWR

Achived Excellent Rank in External Quality Audit





The factories of North-Western Railway i.e. Ajmer, Jodhpur and Bikaner have achieved excellent rank in external quality audit conducted by Railway Board. Carriage factory, Ajmer is a famous factory in Indian Railways for the periodic repairing of coaches. This factory is a pioneer in the implementation of new reforms for the high quality of work and functioning system. On the basis of detailed inspection of activities, as per the set standards the Carriage factory, Ajmer has been given 95.32% with 162.04 marks from 170 marks of RDSO Score sheet. Recently, this factory in Indian Railways received Excellent Factory Rolling Stock Shield 2022 by Minister of Railways Shri Ashwani Vaishnav in Bhuvaneshwar, which was received by Shri Vijay Sharma, General Manager of North-Western Railways and Shri Ashok Abrol, Chief Manager of the factory.

Under the efficient leadership of General Manager, Shri Vijay Sharma, from the 14 best Good Practices of Indian Railways, 05 factories of North-Western Railways (04 Jodhpur Factories and 01 Ajmer Factory) have been implementing them, which is appreciating in itself. Each and every officer and employee of North-Western Railway is a participant directly or indirectly for this work. In addition, he/she is committed to take his/her quality of work to the higher dimensions.

Stepping towards Transparency–100% Online Billing of Store Contract

As per the guidelines of Shri Vijay Sharma, General Manager, North-Western Railway, continuous efforts are being done for making the work system excellent and to increase transparency. On these lines, all the bills of store contract have been switched over to 100% online billing. Now after the initiation of this system, the suppliers can submit their bill from their house/ office on IREPS module. These online submitted bills can be tracked online on computer. After the beginning of this system, there is a transparency and ease of business for the suppliers and due to on-time payment, the satisfaction level of the seller has been increased and G2B relations have also been improved.

In addition, the store department has also launched UVAM (Unified Vendor Approval Module). Till then, the vendors had to apply to 7 different-different vendor approval agencies, which was a difficult and cumbersome process. For solving these problems of the sellers, the store department has started the online UVAM portal. All the vendors, who want to get the approval of the railway agencies like ICF, MCF, RDSO, they can apply through this online portal and they can also check online the status of their applications through the portal. Likewise, the approving agency can also ask for the desired information from the vendor through online



mode. The sellers can also submit the required information online. In this system, it is essential for the approval giving agency of the vendor to approve any application within six months of the date of the application.

General Manager of NWR Inaugurated the Seminar of Signal & Telecommunication Department

Shri Vijay Sharma, General Manager, North-Western Railway inaugurated on 14 July, 2022 the seminar of Signal & Telecommunication Department at the head office. This seminar was conducted for two days under the chairmanship of Shri Puneet Chawla, Principal Chief Signal and Telecommunication Engineer. The department heads of all the departments of North-Western Railway Headquarters and Divisional officers working in the construction, project and rail operations of Signal and Telecommunication Department had participated in this seminar. On this occasion, Chawla presented a detailed presentation about the



previous achievements and this year's targets of Signal & Telecommunication Department. Shri Sharma ordered the maximum use of modern equipments for the development of Railway Operations and directed to take appropriate steps for the self-reliance in the maintenance of these equipments. Shri Vijay Sharma, General Manager-North-Western Railway praised working officers and employees at the head office and fields of Signal and Telecommunication Department and congratulated all for getting the shield after near-about one decade for excellent work at national level.

Western Railway Crosses ₹100 Crore

Mark in Scrap Sale in the Current Financial Year



Western Railway has always been committed to making all its railway establishments and units scrap-free under the 'Mission Zero Scrap'. Continuing with consistent efforts, Western Railway has crossed the big figure of ₹100 crore by scrap sale.

Western Railway has sold scrap worth more than ₹100 cr, which is 105% more than the corresponding figure of last year of ₹47.89 cr. This has helped in the monetization of blocked funds and consequent revenue generation.

North-Western Railway:

The Successful Speed Trial of the Train at the speed of 130 km/hour on Ajmer-Palanpur Railway Section



The special stress has been given to fast, safe and accessible railway transportation along with building strong infrastructure in North-Western Railway. Under the efforts for safe and fast operation of railways, on 25 June, 2022 first time at the High Reach OHE railway section, at the Palanpur-Madar Railway Section of Ajmer zone, the successful test of COCR (Confirmatory Oscillograph Car Run) at the speed of 130 km/hour had been conducted by RDSO (Research, Design and Standard Organization) from Electric Locomotive and team of Indian Railways. The special train test with 24 rail coaches, the 366 km distance in between Madar-Palanpur Railway Section covered in 03 hours and 23 minutes and the average speed of this train was 107.65 km/ph and during this trial the maximum speed was recorded at 135 km/hour. During the trial, in addition to track standards, the many other aspects like signaling, traction distribution device, locomotive and coach fitness were also tested and recorded.

Western Railway Achieves Highest Ever Single Day Revenue in Originating Revenue

WR achieved an originating revenue of ₹4,485.31 crore upto 23rd June, 2022. It is also noteworthy to mention that highest single day revenue of ₹68.42 cr has been generated on 23 June, 2022.

During the period from 1 April, 2022 to 23 June, 2022, WR achieved revenue to the tune of ₹4,485.31 crore registering a growth of almost 67% in comparison to previous year for the corresponding period. Out of this, revenue of above ₹1,256.66 cr has been garnered from passenger sector and about ₹3,098 cr has been generated from goods sector. ₹71.81 cr has been received from Parcel and Luggage which has registered an increase of 42.54% as against the previous year for the corresponding period. Further, ticket checking has contributed a record breaking revenue of ₹58.69 cr, thereby, registering a growth of whopping 922% as against the same period last year.



Passenger Services Committee Conducted
Inspection of Various Stations of Mumbai Division

The Passenger Services Committee visited six stations of Western Railway over Mumbai Division and conducted extensive inspection with respect to various key parameters from passenger's convenience point of view. The Committee was headed by Shri Ramesh Chandra Ratn, Chairman of Passenger Services Committee and other members.



The committee inspected the stations for the arrangements and also interacted with the passengers for their feedback. The Committee received positive feedback from the passengers and expressed their appreciation regarding the cleanliness at stations and the overall arrangements at stations. They visited the catering stalls at stations and appreciated the concept of 'No Bill No Payment'. The Committee also visited the One Station One Product stall at Vapi station. They also undertook inspection of RPF Posts at stations and reviewed the functioning of CCTV. The Committee appreciated the beautification work of Valsad and Udhna railway stations. Awards were declared by the Committee to the stations for their upkeep and efforts to provide better convenience to passengers. At Surat station, the Committee interacted with media persons and briefed them about the various steps initiated by railways to provide better travelling experience to passengers.

WR-GM Presided the Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committee Meeting



The second meeting of the 34th Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committee (ZRUCC) of Western Railway was held on 22 June, 2022 at Rail Nikunj, Mumbai Central. Shri Prakash Butani, General Manager (In–Charge), Western Railway, who is also the Chairman of the committee, presided over the meeting. This meeting was attended by 40 members of ZRUCC. A presentation of various achievements, passenger amenities and infrastructural related work undertaken by Western Railway was presented. During the meeting, the members discussed various rail related issues and provided suggestions for improvement in amenities/ services provided to passengers. GM thanked all the members for giving their valuable suggestions.

Metro Staff Rescue a Lost Child

On 11 July, 2022 at about 10.30 hrs., an on-duty RPF staff near the Luggage Scanner Machine at Kavi Subhas Metro station found a child aged 9 years loitering in front of the booking counter of the station. Seeing the suspicious movement of the child, the RPF personnel brought him to the Station Master's Office and the child disclosed his identity and gave phone number of his mother to the Station Staff.

Thereafter, the Station Master made repeated announcements through the Public Address System requesting the parents of the child to contact him immediately and a control message was communicated to all the stations in this regard. His parents were also contacted over phone. After sometimes, a couple came to the Station Master's Office and identified the recovered child as their son. After complying with all official formalities, the rescued child was handed over to them. They thanked Metro Railway Authority for co-operation to get back their lost child. RPF and other Metro staff always remain vigilant and work relentlessly to ensure safety and security of commuters on 24X7 basis.

Energy Efficient Escalator Commissioned at Sovabazar-Sutanuti Metro Station

Metro Railway has commissioned an escalator from mezzanine to surface at Sovabazar-Sutanuti Metro station replacing the old one on 2 July, 2022.

This escalator has been equipped with energy efficient VVVF drive which helps to reduce the energy consumption by upto 50%. Apart from that, this escalator has a unique feature that it can stop or move slowly during idle time. It is not only convenient for the common passengers but also for divyangjan, aged persons, ladies and children to use this heavy-duty escalator as more flat steps are added to it. This newly commissioned escalator will ensure smooth and quick movement of commuters at Sovabazar- Sutanuti station premises.



MD DFCCIL Inaugurated the Heavy Haul Institute

Sh RK Jain, MD DFCCIL inaugurated the Heavy Haul Institute (HHI) at the upcoming DFCCIL Corporate office in Noida. The first batch of 39 Executive (OP and BD) trainees commenced their training here. The HHI will provide training for DFC officials and stakeholders.

In his keynote address Sh Jain stated that the four defining characteristics of DFCCIL, Heavier, Higher, Longer and Faster are making it a gamechanger in freight operations. He called upon the Executive OP and BD trainees to discharge their duties with a sense of integrity, responsibility and ensuring personal safety and inculcating a habit of lifelong learning in their career ahead.



The DFC Law Department Organized a Seminar



The DFC Law Department organised a seminar on Delay Analysis and the Society of Construction Law (SCL) Delay and Disruption Protocol on 9 July, 2022 at New Delhi. Shri RK Jain, MD DFCCIL, Directors and senior officials attended the seminar where leading International and National experts spoke. Shri RK Singh, Sr. Advocate; Shri D Negi, Partner, JSA; Shri J Prudhoe, Senior MD, Ankura Consulting, Singapore; Shri R Saha, Dir, PWC India, Shri C Kavdia, Managing Attorney, Secure Legal, Shri GT Dunna, Arbitration Counsel shared their insights.

CLW General Manager Inspected Various Shops
'Induction Brazing Machine' Inaugurated

Shri Satish Kumar Kashyup, General Manager Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) inspected the Electric Loco Assembly (ELA) 16 & 19 Shop, Traction Motor Shop and GSD, on 25 July, 2022. He advised for improvement in quality, house-keeping, expediting scrap disposal etc. Shri Kashyup inaugurated 'Induction Brazing Machine' inside Traction Motor Shop which will help in improving the quality and outturn of Traction motors, during his visit.



100th Electric Locomotive of FY 2022-23 Flagged off,
CLW Achieved in Record 73 Working Days

Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) has turned out 100th electric locomotives of the financial year 2022-23 in record 73 working days, which is fastest in terms of working days in any FY. Shri Satish Kumar Kashyup, General Manager, CLW flagged off the 100th locomotive from Test shed of Shop-19 inside the shop floor, on 29th June, 2022. Senior Officers, supervisors, staff were also present during the flag off ceremony. Shri Kashyup congratulated the 'Team CLW' and appreciated their hard work, dedication and commitment and sincere efforts in successfully manufacturing 100 locomotives of FY-2022-23.





GM/NFR inspected Dhansiri-Kohima New Line Project



The General Manager of NFR, Shri Anshul Gupta inspected the progress of Dhansiri-Kohima New Line project on 10th July, 2022. He visited the construction sites of Bridge No. 154, Tunnel No. 4, Molvom and Pherima Station Yard. Discussions were also held with geologists and the construction team at the sites. On the same day, he also inspected the Dimapur station under Lumding division. Various safety equipment and gears were checked and staffs dealing with train operations were counselled by him on important safety aspects.

756 Major Railway Stations Across Country will have Video Surveillance System- 8 Railway Stations under NFR to be covered

RailTel, a Mini Ratna Central Government PSU under Ministry of Railways, entrusted with the implementation of Video Surveillance System (VSS) project (CCTV cameras network) under Nirbhaya Fund at Railway Stations has taken a major step by finalizing the agencies for executing the job. First phase of the project will cover major stations of category A1, A, B, C numbering 756 and is likely to be completed by January 2023. Ministry of Railways has approved works for provision of Video Surveillance System over Indian Railways major stations under Nirbhaya funds.

8 Railway stations within the jurisdiction of N.F. Railway will also be covered under this project in first phase. Purnea Jn, Raiganj and Samsi stations under Katihar Division; Agartala station under Lumding Division; Barpeta Road and Bongaigaon stations under Rangiya Division; Jorhat Town and Tinsukia stations under Tinsukia Divisons are to be covered with Video Surveillance System.



The remaining stations will be covered in phase-2 of implementation. Safety and security of passengers is one of the key focus areas of Ministry of Railways. In order to enhance security at Railway stations which are major hubs of transportation, Indian Railways is in the process of installing Internet Protocol (IP) based Video Surveillance System (VSS) at stations, that is, waiting halls, reservation counters, parking areas, main entrance/exit, platforms, foot over bridges, booking offices etc.

The system implemented shall act as tool to respond to situations/ incidents effectively, aiding faster decision making. It will also act as a great learning for better preparedness to meet any incident and eventualities with some software based application like Video Analytic and Face Recognition, as per Research Design and Standards Organization (RDSO). Artificial Intelligence (AI) enabled analytics software has advanced technical features with a certain alarm and PoP UP view at the Operator end.

The integrated command and control centre and IP based Video Surveillance System will help in providing better security to passengers, especially the women passengers. It will enable quick and coordinated action from RPF and also assist them in crowd management and crowd control.

India's First Bullet Train Project to get Training Simulators to Train Work Force

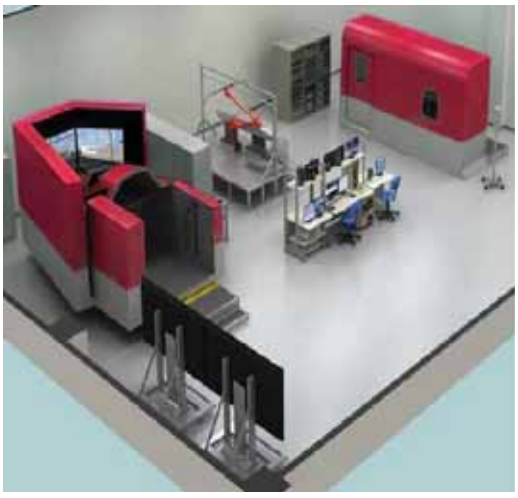
National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited issues 'Letter of Acceptance' for design, manufacturing, supply and commissioning of Training Simulators of HSR train (popularly known as Bullet Train) to be used for training purpose in the HSR Training Institute of Mumbai–Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor (MAHSR) in Vadodara, Gujarat where a sample track is already installed for training purpose.

The training simulators will help the drivers, conductors, instructors and train/rolling stock maintenance staff to understand the driving theory of high speed trains. It shall be possible to conduct training for single driver, single conductor as well as collective training of driver, conductor and despatcher together.

The following two types of simulators shall be installed in the Training Institute at Vadodara under the scope of this package (MAHSR-TI-4):

- Train Set Simulator for Crew Training: 1(one) set
- Simulators (classroom type) for Driver Consoles: 10(ten) Trainee+1(one) Instructor Console

The driving console of MAHSR Train will be simulated with motion platform. The package is awarded to M/s Mitsubishi Precision Company, Limited, Japan, at a cost of ₹201.21 crores. The time period for the supply of the simulator is 28 months from commencement of the contract.



Train Set Simulator for Crew Training

Bandra Kurla Complex HSR Station the only Underground Station in Mumbai Ahmedabad HSRC

NHSRCL invites bids for the design and construction of Bandra Kurla Complex high speed rail station in Mumbai (Maharashtra) under C1 package. This will be the only underground station in Mumbai Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor.

The station will have 6 platforms and length of each platform is approx. 415 m (sufficient to accommodate a 16 coach bullet train). The station will have connectivity with metro and road.

Bandra Kurla Complex HSR station is the only underground station on Mumbai–Ahmedabad HSR corridor.

The platform is planned at a depth of about 24 mtrs from the ground level. There will be three floors including platform, concourse and service floor. Two entry/exit points are planned one to facilitate the access to nearby Metro station of metro line 2B and other towards the MTNL building. A dedicated skylight provisions have been made for natural lighting. The amenities planned for passengers at stations include–security, ticketing, waiting areas, business class lounge, nursery, rest rooms, smoking rooms, information kiosks and incidental retail, public information and announcement system, CCTV surveillance, etc.

Besides that, the integration with other modes of transportation like metro, buses, autos and taxis is also planned.









Indian Railways Kabaddi team bagged the 69th Senior National Kabaddi Championship title consecutively for the fourth time, defeating Maharashtra in finals by 38-21.



Indian Railways' gymnast Pranati Nayak for winning a Bronze Medal in Vaulting Table event at the 9th Artistic Gymnastics Asian Championships Doha, Qatar.

Assam Premier Handball League



The Women Handball team of Indian Railways won silver medal in the first edition of 'Assam Premier Handball League' organized in Guwahati from July 10 to 12, 2022. Six Handball players. Jyoti Shukla, Neena Seel, Pavittar, Monika, Srishti Agrawal and Sushma of NER were the part of the team. Neena Seel of NER was adjudged the best Goalkeeper of the tournament. Coach of Indian Railway Women Handball team Shri Arvind Kumar Yadav belongs to North Eastern Railway.

READERS

are requested to send their

SUGGESTIONS/FEEDBACK

feedbackindianrailways2021@gmail.com

Gaurav Baliyan clinches Bronze Medal in Asian Wrestling Championship

Indian wrestlers are continuing to perform superbly on international arena. Talented wrestler of North Eastern Railway Gaurav Baliyan brought laurels to the country by clinching Bronze medal in 79 kg (Free Style) in 'Under-23 Asian Wrestling Championship' organized in Bishkek City of Kyrgyzstan from June 22 to 26, 2022. Shri Yogesh Mohan, President, North Eastern Railway Sports Association (NERSA), Shri Pankaj Kumar Singh, General Secretary, Shri J.P. Singh, Secretary Wrestling, senior railway officers and sports persons have congratulated Gaurav Baliyan on his exemplary achievement.

Gaurav Baliyan has many achievements to his credit such as Bronze medal in 'Junior World Wrestling Championship' held in Ufa, Russia, Gold medal in 'Senior National Wrestling Championship' and Silver medal in 'International Ranking Series', Bulgaria. He is getting regular training under able supervision of Shri Chandra Vijay Singh, Assistant Sports officer, North Eastern Railway and Coach of Indian Wrestling team.



General Manager Felicitated SER Archers



Ms. Archana Joshi, General Manager, South Eastern Railway felicitated lady Constable, Soni Kumari of RPF Post, Muri and Constable Neetesh Kumar of RPF Post, Ranchi for their commendable performance in Inter Zonal RPF Men & Women Archery Tournament-2022.

Lady Constable, Soni Kumari has secured Gold in Women's Compound Category and Constable Neetesh Kumar has secured Gold in Men's Recurve Category. South Eastern Railway Archery Team has also won the Champions Trophy in this Tournament. Inter Zonal RPF Men & Women Archery Tournament-2022 was held at Maligaon, Guwahati Northeast Frontier Railway on 17 & 18 June, 2022. Shri D B Kasar, IG-cum-Principal Chief Security Commissioner and other officers were also present at the felicitation ceremony held at SER Headquarters, Garden Reach on 23 June, 2022.

SCR Women's Kabaddi Team Won All India Kabaddi Tournament

South Central Railway Women's Kabaddi Team won the All India Kabaddi Tournament held at Soolagiri, Bangalore, Karnataka from 8-10 July, 2022. Total 19 teams participated in the Tournament. Shri Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager (In-charge) congratulated and complimented the team members for their victory. Ms. Pooja of South Central Railway was awarded the Best Player of the Tournament.



'Know Your Railway'

Royapuram : Showcasing the Rich Legacy of Railways in India

Shri B. Guganesan
Chief Public Relations Officer

- Royapuram completes 166 years and continues to be the oldest operational railway station in India



Royapuram Railway Station, prominently located on the Chennai Suburban Network of Southern Railway is the oldest railway station currently operational in India. Opened for traffic on 28 June, 1856, Royapuram is located on the Chennai Beach–Arakkonam section in the jurisdiction of Chennai Division. Presently, 40 pairs of EMU trains and 7 pairs of express trains (non stop) are being dealt with everyday. With a footfall of 10,500 per month, the Royapuram Halt station registers a monthly earnings of ₹1 lakh on an average.

Brief history of Royapuram: The reconstitution of Madras Railway Company in the year 1849 revived the plans for a new railway line in South India. Royapuram was chosen as the location for the new station as it was on the edge of a settlement of British traders and natives near Fort St. George. Work on the southern line began in 1853 and the railway line was extended from Royapuram to Arcot, then titular capital of the Nawab of the Carnatic (the present day Walajapet, near Ranipet in Tamil Nadu). Royapuram railway station was opened as the main terminus on 28 June, 1856 by the then Governor Lord Harris and the first railway line in South India was opened for traffic on 1 July, 1856.

Significance : Royapuram railway station imprinted its mark in the annals of Railways' rich history by hosting the first passenger service in South India. On the inaugural day of the first railway line in South India, i.e. on 1 July 1856, South India's first passenger train ran from Royapuram to Wallajah Road in Arcot, a distance of 60 miles (97 km). The first train, manufactured by Simpson and Company, started its journey with the Governor Lord Harris and 300 European people from Royapuram to Wallajah Road (Walajapet). On the same day, one more train service was operated from Royapuram to Tiruvallur. The second train carried Indian invitees to a shorter distance till 'Triveloor' (the present day Tiruvallur). Royapuram railway station also remained the headquarters of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway till 1922, when the headquarters were shifted to Egmore.

Architecture : The 166-year-old Royapuram station still showcases the vestiges of its former architectural splendor. Royapuram station remains as the oldest surviving railway station structures of the Indian Railways, as well as the Indian subcontinent. The heritage structure built in classical style of the Renaissance period was designed by William Adelpi Tracey.

Royapuram station— Developmental work and future plans: In 2005, the building was refurbished at an estimated cost of ₹ 35 lakhs and was re-opened to the public on 2 October 2005. Presently, one end of the station is being used for the transport of goods trains and the platform adjacent to the main building is utilized for passenger trains.

The Justice Padmanabhan committee, constituted by the Tamil Nadu state government, has identified the station as among the 800 heritage structures. As per the city's list of heritage structures, the station is under the Grade I category which includes buildings/properties that are of exceptional national/ regional importance with unique features and are the prime landmarks of the city. Southern Railway is committed to preserve and maintain the heritage structures in its jurisdiction and Royapuram railway station will continue to be a jewel in the crown of Indian Railways as it completes 166 years.



Multi-Pronged Approach of Indian Railways Towards Enhancement in Freight Transportation

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It is amazing to know but a fact that roughly 64% of all Indian Railways earnings are fetched by poorly fed freight sector. The passenger operations contribute merely 30%, despite the fact of maximum overhead expenses incurred to pull the wheels of coaching traffic. Bitter but true to mention that passenger sector survives upon the resources earned by freight traffic.

To maintain our entity as an organization, it is an abiding compulsion that financial viability of freight sector needs to be viewed very prudently and with utmost care.

The key of survival for Indian Railways is hidden in the principle of, 'Maximization of freight earning up to optimum level and also, simultaneously, minimization of passenger losses to the least possible extent.'

That was the theme upon which Railways was compelled to attract more and more freight traffic upon it's iron roads. To shoot the bull's eye, a number of initiatives were taken in last few years. Consequent upon that, Indian Railways has embraced a 'Freight on Priority' policy by pushing for an aggressive customer-centric approach to expand the freight carried not only from the traditional segments but also by attracting new customers to its fold, as elaborated ahead.

English Essay Competition (Non-Gazetted) Ist Prize

Reducing logistic costs of customers and capturing market share (tariff & non tariff measures): Some of the important Tariff reforms undertaken to reduce transportation cost. Liberalized Automatic Freight Rebate Policy in Empty flow Directions. Being loading points usually entrusted at some specified direction, while supply points in other, empty wagons after unloading were rushed for reloading at originating points. This empty running of stock was most unyielding compulsion to Railways. To curb this unproductive exercise a policy was introduced during 2015. Loaded traffic in empty flow direction is being charged at low rate LR1 (with certain conditions), which amounts to an average discount of 30-40%.

Rationalization of distance slab (April, 2015): The distance slab above 1500 km to 3500 km have been rationalized from the existing 250 km to 125 km. By this step, freight rate was reduced in the

range of 3 to 5% in the distance slab which gave big relief to customers dealing with long lead traffic.

Station to Station Rates-Decentralization of Power (September, 2016) : Zonal railways were empowered to grant concessions of up to 30% depending upon their local conditions.



Discount for loading of bagged consignment in open and flat wagons (October, 2016): In order to garner additional volumes of traffic and revenue 20 to 40% discount was granted on loading of commodities as bagged consignment in open and flat wagons. Bag size upto2.5 ton is allowed.

Policy on Long Term Tariff Contract with key freight customers (March, 2017): In past, various concession policies to attract new customers and retain the old, were of short term in nature. This more comprehensive, stable and concrete policy of LTTC was introduced by empowering zonal railways for the same, subjected to customers of potential within their jurisdiction. The customers of repute like Tata, SAIL, RINL, Ultratech Cements, ACC, JSW are mention worthy in this context. So far, 31 LTTC agreements have been executed on different zonal Railways.

Levy of Busy Season Charge (BSC) Deferred (September, 2019): BSC levied at 15% charge from October to June, has been deferred till further advice (except for iron ore and POL). Coal and coke and container traffic are already exempted.

Short lead concession-reintroduced (July, 2020): Earlier, short lead traffic whether moved even for a few kms was subject to charge minimum for 100 km. Discount in freight at the rate of 50%, 25% and 10% has been granted to the traffic booked upto 0-50 km, 51-75 km and 76-90 km respectively except coal and coke and iron ore traffic to attract short lead traffic.

Concession on long lead traffic (July, 2020): To facilitate long lead traffic of coal and coke, Iron ore and iron and steel traffic, discount in freight is granted. The long lead concession has been extended to Clinker (cement) traffic also with certain conditions.

Round Trip Traffic (RTT) (October, 2020): Incentive for customers offering traffic in both directions. The return traffic under this traffic is charged at lower level.

Incentive to fly ash (May, 2020): Discount of 40% in freight granted to fly ash traffic booked in Open Stock; both in bagged condition as well as bulk/loose condition.

Non-levy of Terminal charges at unloading point (July, 2020): The traffic booked to and from notified alternate goods shed instead of busy goods shed exempted from levy of Terminal charge of ₹20 per tonne for goods sheds and Private Freight Terminal (PFTs). This intends to offer efficient and faster handling of goods at less busy terminals for the benefit of customers.

Long lead discount for clinker traffic (December, 2020): Clinker being moved above 1,000 kms is being offered a 20% discount for incremental NTKMs over 2019-20 in the current financial year and 25% over 2020-21.

Tapping e-commerce Business: Though e-commerce has gained immense popularity, there was hardly any business given by this segment to IR. Transportation of e-commerce consignments through sub-urban trains (EMU/DMU/MEMU trains) has been permitted with certain terms and conditions. As a result, around 12,000 tonnes of e-commerce consignment has been loaded by IR (up to December, 2020). Apart from tariff measures, some important non-tariff measures were also undertaken to capture market share for Rail transportation:

Mini Rake Loading-distance restriction (March, 2016; revised further during the year): To remove restriction in transportation of non-bulk commodities due to previous policies distance for mini rake operations enhanced from 400 km to 600 km. Due to this, average increase in loading and earnings during 2016-17 and 2017-18 was around 310 and 355% respectively as compared to

2015-16.The restriction further relaxed and now can be loaded up to1,500 km with train load benefit, beyond 1,500 km up to 2,000 km.

Freight Advance Scheme (January, 2020): Intended to establish long term commitments from customers, it offers tariff certainty in lieu of freight advance. Under this scheme, Railway shall accord priority in allocation of rakes within the same class to freight customers who have signed agreement.

Debit/Credit system of Demurrage (October, 2020): Allows banking of release time of wagons by process of debit/credit. It has been permitted in case of private sidings, up to one year.

Additional free time for covering wagons with Tarpaulins (October, 2020): To ensure pollution free transportation of loose commodities, additional free time of one hour per rake may be permitted for covering open wagons with tarpaulins during loading of loose/bulk commodity at specific sidings.

Private Investment in Rolling Stock (Wagons)

Changes brought about in wagon investment policies are as follows:

Liberalized Special Freight Train Operator (LSFTO) scheme: Aims at inducting more high-capacity and special-purpose wagons, by targeting end-users (producers or consumers) as well as transport and logistics companies, port and land-terminal operators, warehousing companies, CTOs and wagon-leasing companies.



Car Carrier Freight Train

General Purpose Wagon Investment Scheme (GPWIS): Launched in April, 2018 to promote private investment in induction of general purpose wagons (BCN BoxN etc) by end users, PSUs and CPSEs, logistics providers etc.

Automobile Freight Train Operator Policy (AFTO): AFTO policy was modified and re-launched in January 2015 to bring-in private entities to induct special purpose wagons for transportation of automobiles. The policy has been further liberalized by removing the 'minimum net worth' criteria from eligibility conditions and the response from the industry has been quite encouraging. So far, 06 AFTOs have been granted license. The investment by private sectors in wagons generates demand for steel and engineering goods having multiplier effects on the economy. Further, since most of the wagon manufacturing in India is under private sectors (unlike coaches and locomotives) this investment fuels the growth of the private sector and contributes through capital formation in the economy.

To sustain increased level of improved transit times IR is taking the following steps:

- Creation of dedicated freight paths through zero based timetable.
- Increasing the maximum permissible speed of freight, wagons to 75 kmph for loaded and 100 kmph for empty wagons.
- Completion of two dedicated freight corridors by June, 2022. 351 km of Bhadan-Khurja section of Eastern DFC, 306 km. of Rewari-Madar section of Western DFC and Operation Control Centre at Pryagraj (EDFC) dedicated to the nation recently.
- Completion of targeted



Double Stack Train



Operation Control Room,EDFC



Kisan Rail



Parcel Special Train

supercritical and critical doubling, Multi tracking and traffic facility works.

- Introduction of time tabled Container and parcel trains.
- This will ensure fast and smooth flow of goods, linking factories and farms to ports. It will bring unprecedented economic growth and employment generation.
- Double stack long haul container train–The innovative endeavor introduced by Railways, doubles the carrying capacity of freight trains.

Our PM Narendra Modi said in this regard' "These freight corridors will become a very big medium of Atmanirbhar Bharat. Whether it is industry, business, farmers or consumers, everybody is going to get the benefit." He further added "Dedicated Freight Corridors will enhance ease of doing business, cut down logistics cost."

Reforms in Freight Terminals, Good-Sheds & Parcel Private Freight Terminal Policy (PFT): Revised Private Freight Terminal (PFT) policy was issued in June, 2020 with important changes like reimbursement of Terminal Charges to PFT owners for all traffic handled, reduction of application fee for establishing PFT from ₹10 lakhs to ₹20,000 only. More than 71 PFTs have been commissioned over Indian Railways.

Private Siding Policy: With a view to commission more number of Private Sidings, the revised policy was issued in August, 2016. Including important changes like removing limits on co-users of Private Sidings removed, streamlining approval and construction procedure with establishment of standing Committees at Divisional and Zonal levels etc.

Development of Goods-sheds through private investment: Launched in October, 2020, it aims at developing existing goods-sheds (and commissioning new Greenfield goods-sheds) without any investment from Railways.

Parcel Business Steps:

Following steps have been taken in the parcel business

- Powers delegated to zones for revision of reserve price even downwardly (June, 2016).
- Increase in duration of contract from 3 to 5 years (June, 2016).
- Permission to lease parcel Vans in Ordinary/ Passenger trains (September, 2019).
- Opening of all terminals for handling of Parcel Traffic (August, 2020).
- Formation of dedicated teams at Zonal & Divisional Levels for dealing with Parcel related issues (August, 2020).
- Advance booking of Parcels up to 120 days in advance (September, 2020).
- 8% discount on base freight rate of P-scale applicable on Indented Parcel Trains for composition 24+1 (October, 2020).

Kisan Rail-Under this project, announced in the budget for 2020-21, movement of vegetables, fruits and other perishables have started in a big way. First Kisan Rail was run in August, 2020 from Devlali (Maharashtra) to Danapur (Bihar). Till May, 2022 2,352 Kisan Rail operated across the country on 167 rail routes transporting 7.87 lakh tonnes of agricultural products so far. It has become a game changer in ensuring a fast transportation of agricultural produce across the nation. It provides seamless supply chain of perishable produce.

Parcel Special trains: More than 7,000 parcel trains have been run, transporting 6.13 lakh Ttonnes of consignments. Currently, train services are operational over more than 40 routes.

Digital Enablement in Freight Business

With a focus to minimize the need of human-to-human interaction following initiatives have been taken: Electronic Registration of demand for wagons (e-RD): Provides facility to customers to register their demands for goods electronically instead of having to visit the goods sheds physically. It is

simpler, convenient, speedier and transparent.

Electronic Transmission of Railway Receipt (eT-RR): A paperless transaction system where Railway receipt is also generated and transmitted electronically to customer through Freight Operation Information System (FOIS), and even delivery of goods is given through e-surrender of eT-RR.

Terminal Management System (TMS): It provides system based preparation of Railway Receipt for freight traffic. Two new features have been added to promote digital working (a) Preparation and submission of online goods balance sheet and (b) System generated Money Receipt for ancillary charges e.g. Demurrage, Wharfage etc.

Electronic Payment System: It enables fast, safe, efficient and transparent mode of payment for freight charges, which normally are large value transactions. In the recent past, Automobile Freight Train Operators (AFTOs) have been allowed single agreement e-payment facility with base terminal Railway.

Ease of Doing Business with IR new Freight Portal: A Freight Business Development Portal launched recently, as one stop solution for all the needs of freight customers e.g. freight class and rate; position of indent/demand for each station; outstanding indents, shortest/popular routes, terminal handling facilities; freight calculator; facility to track and trace rakes. First of it's kind dedicated Freight portal will ensure that all operations stay customer centric, reduce the costs for logistics providers, provide online tracking facility for suppliers. This can be accessed by logging on to Indian Railways website

https://www.fois.indianrail.gov.in/RailSAHAY

The outcome of all these efforts as elaborated above may be visualized through the tangible efforts as below growth in freight loading of various commodities (in MT–million tonnes) (Source–Indian Railways Annual Report and Accounts 2013-14 & 2019-20) Indian Railways has created history by record Freight Loading of 1,418.10 MT in the financial year 2021-22. Thus, we see Indian Railways energized itself towards direction of our Minister of Railways Shri Ashwini Vaishnav motto 'Hungry for Cargo.'

Conclusion

Harsh but true, Railways may not survive if focused merely upon social motives. To exist for long and fulfill her commitments to Nation in competitive sector of transportation, aspects of commercial norms are also needed to be taken into consideration. With the pace of time we have to be innovative and pragmatic, while formulating our policies in favor of customers and ultimately in the vast interest of our beloved Nation.

Undoubtedly, as usual, Railways will prevail its track record of excellence with never ending considerations to their customers in time as Father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi said. "A customer is the most important visitor on our premises. He is not dependent on us, we are dependent on him. He is not outsider of our business. He is part of it."



Home Page of IR Freight Portal

DRAWINGS

ARE INVITED FROM CHILDREN

Entries may be sent to **editorindianrailways@gmail.com**

(Please attach a copy of proof of your date of birth also)



Avinandan Banerjee
D.O.B. : 14.03.2014





Aditi Vinod
D.O.B. : 20.05.2013







Dhanvin Krishna.V
D.O.B. : 20.04.2017





Test Your Knowledge

1 Which type of coach in Indian Railways has 180 degree rotable seat and see through roofs?

(a) Vistadome tourist coach | (b) 3 AC economy coach | (c) LHB coach | (d) None of these

2 The first train in India ran on 16th April, 1853 from ..... to .....

(a) Bori Bunder (Mumbai) to Thane | (b) Kolaba to Thane | (c) Thane to Kolaba | (d) Thane to Mumbai

3 In which year Railway Budget was merged with Union Budget?

(a) 2017 | (b) 2018 | (c) 2016 | (d) 2019

4 First Rajdhani Express train made its inaugural run from New Delhi to .....

(a) Howrah | (b) Mumbai | (c) Ahmedabad | (d) Surat

5 Under which section of Indian Railways Act 1989, smoking on train and inside railway premises is a punishable offence?

(a) Section 147 | (b) Section 166 | (c) Section 164 | (d) Section 167

6 Which station is the UNESCO listed World Heritage site?

(a) Lokmanya Tilak Terminus, Mumbai | (b) Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, Mumbai | (c) Gandhi Nagar Railway Station | (d) Kharagpur Railway Station

7 How much less is the fare of 3AC economy coach compared to 3AC coach?

(a) Approx 5% | (b) Approx 8% | (c) Approx 2% | (d) Approx 6%

8 What is the full form of IRCTC?

(a) Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd. | (b) Indian Railway Catering & Tourist Corporation Ltd. | (c) Indian Railway Caretaking & Tourism Corporation Ltd. | (d) Indian Railway Canteen & Tourism Corporation Ltd.

9 Kisan Rail train services are used to transport perishables and agri-products. How much subsidy is provided on the freight of Kisan Rail?

(a) 30% | (b) 40% | (c) 50% | (d) 60%

10 Retiring room can be booked for maximum .....hours

(a) 12 | (b) 24 | (c) 8 | (d) 48

Right Answer

1- (a) 2- (a) 3- (c) 4- (a) 5- (c) 6- (b) 7- (b) 8- (a) 9- (c) 10- (d)



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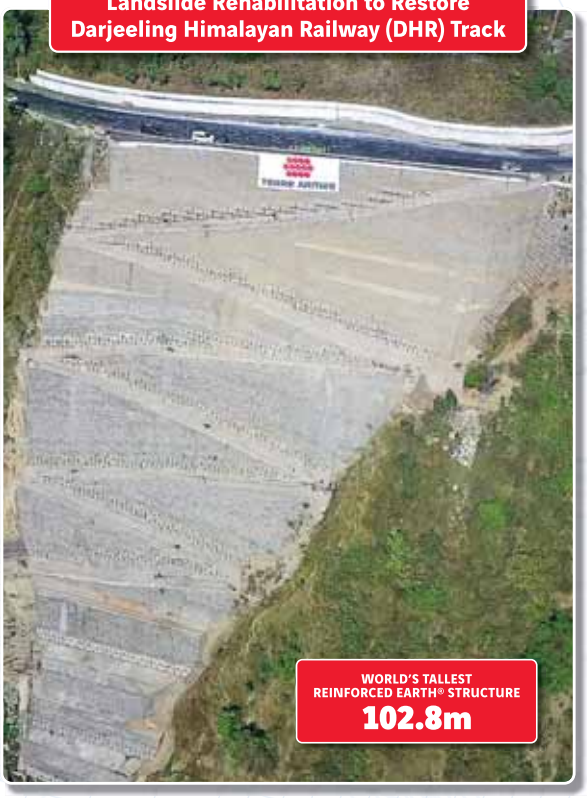
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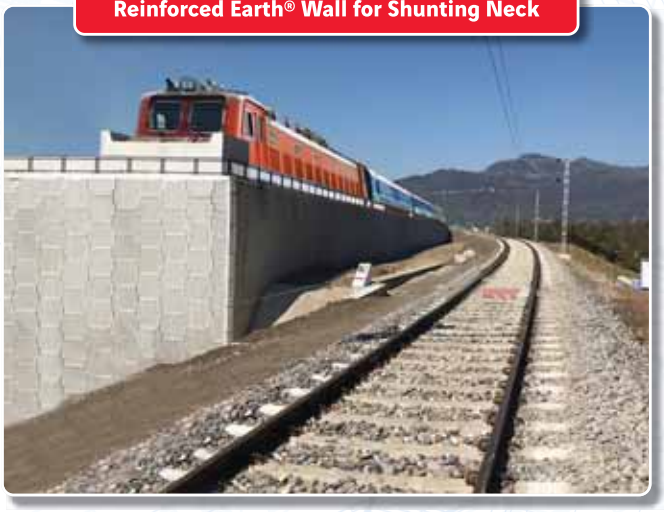
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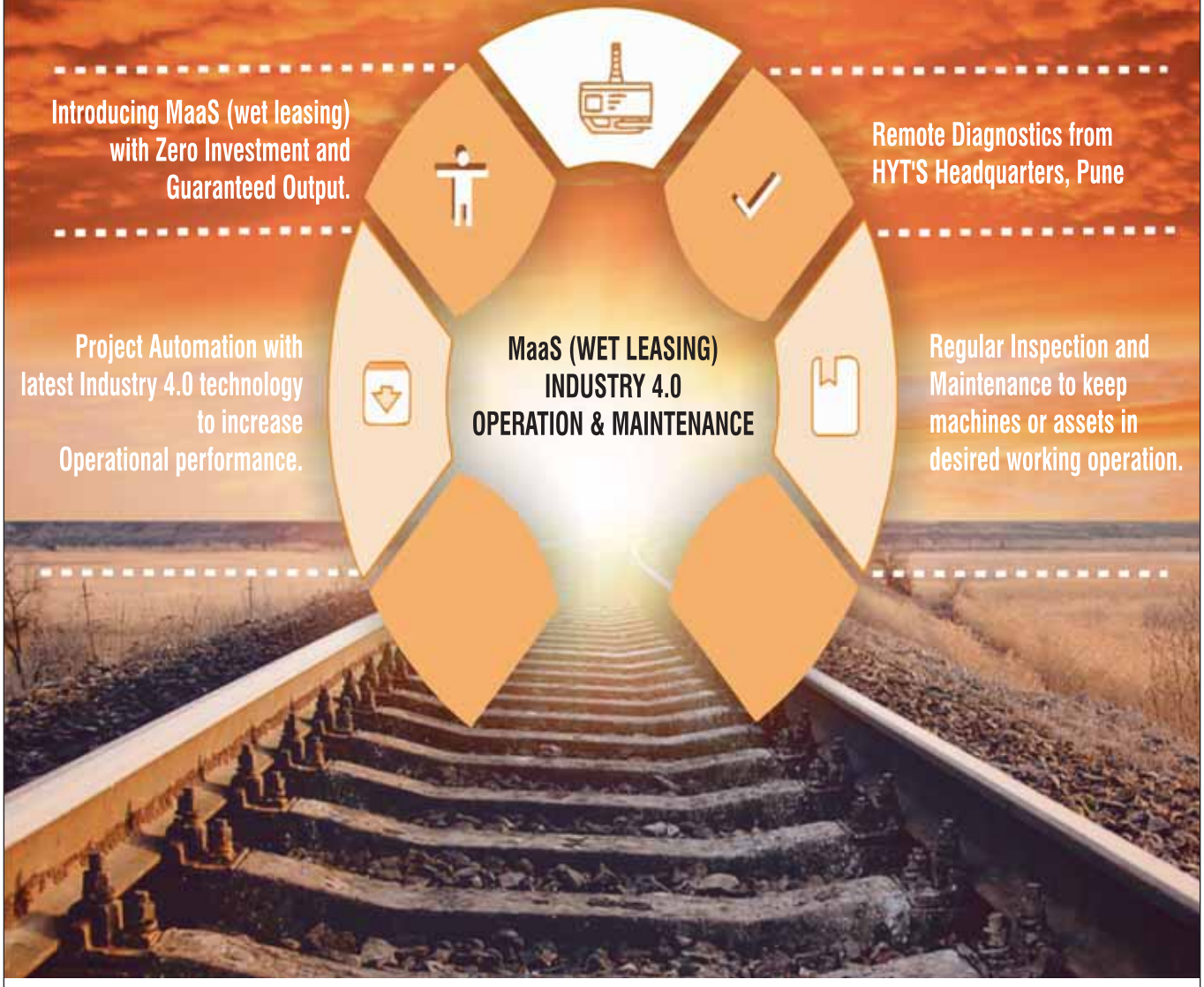
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