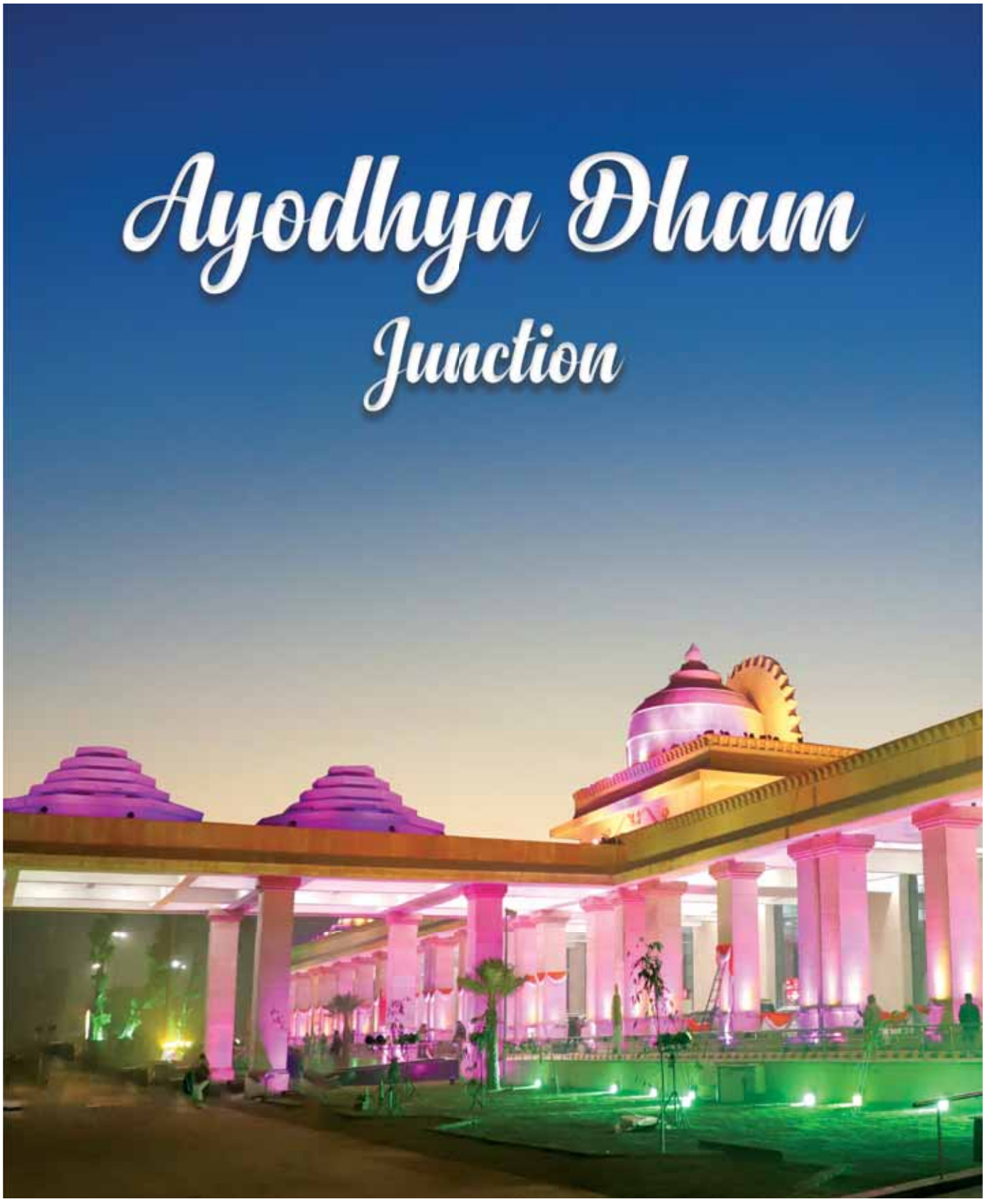
INDIAN RAILWAYS

JANUARY 2024

PRICE ₹ 20





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INDIAN RAILWAYS

Price : ₹20 | SINCE 1956 | January 2024 | Vol. 67 No. 10

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Ayodhya Dham Junction

Unless specifically mentioned, the articles and statements published in this journal do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board).

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

(Offline)

INDIA
₹250 (₹200 for Railwaymen)

FOREIGN
₹1250 (Sea Mail)
₹2500 (Air Mail)

SINGLE COPY :₹20
SPECIAL ISSUE :₹70

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Shri V. Sriram

Editorial

Ayodhya, the city of Lord Shri Ram, has its own unique religious and cultural significance. Ayodhya, the centre of reverence and faith, is now going to become the center of attraction not only for the country but for the whole world. It is natural for lakhs of pilgrims from all over the country and abroad to come after the consecration ceremony of Lord Shri Ram temple in Ayodhya on 22nd January, 2024. Indian Railways is committed to making the journey of these pilgrims pleasant and easy. The redevelopment work of Ayodhya Railway Junction, which will now be known as Ayodhya Dham Junction Railway Station, is being done at a rapid pace to provide state-of-the-art facilities at the station by the Railways. On 30th December, 2023, the Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated the first phase of the redeveloped Ayodhya Dham Junction Railway Station and also flagged off two new Amrit Bharat trains, six Vande Bharat trains and dedicated many other rail projects to the nation.

The work of redevelopment of Ayodhya Dham Junction is scheduled in three phases. The first phase has been completed. About ₹240 cr. has been spent on this. The building of this three-story modern railway station is equipped with all modern facilities like lifts, escalators, food plazas, shops selling pooja items, cloakrooms, child care rooms, and waiting halls. The station building will be 'Accessible to All' and it will be 'IGBC certified Green Station Building'. At present, Ayodhya Dham Junction Railway Station can handle 10,000 people, but after the renovation is completed, this capacity will increase to 60,000.

The number of trains is also being increased for the smooth journey of pilgrims. A new train series of superfast trains has been launched, named as Amrit Bharat train. The first Amrit Bharat train will run between Delhi-Darbhanga. This train will make the journey of rail passengers of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar comfortable. Flagging off two Amrit Bharat trains, the Hon'ble Prime Minister said that these modern Amrit Bharat trains, will be of great help to our labour colleagues. Amrit Bharat trains have been started with the spirit of service to the poor. Those who often travel long distances due to their work, but who do not have that much income, also deserve modern facilities and comfortable travel. There is dignity in the life of the poor, and with this objective these trains have been designed. People from States of West Bengal and Karnataka have also received Amrit Bharat train.

The Amrit Bharat train is an LHB push-pull train with non air-conditioned coaches. There are engines at both ends of this train for better acceleration. It has better facilities for railway passengers like beautifully and attractively designed seats, better luggage racks, mobile charging points with appropriate mobile holders, LED lights, CCTV, public information system.

Indian Railways is moving at an accelerated pace on its transformative journey. The year 2023 was full of historic achievements for Indian Railways. During the year 2023, Indian Railways registered phenomenal progress on various fronts such as freight loading, freight revenue, introduction of Vande Bharat trains, capital expenditure allocation, station redevelopment, 'Kavach' implementation, track laying, and electrification. In the year 2023, Indian Railways started the service of 82 Vande Bharat trains which are passing through more than 247 districts of the country.

Wishing you and your family a very Happy New Year 2024. Stay healthy, be happy. ■

Hon'ble President Presented
'National Energy Conservation Awards'
Indian Railways got 10 Awards



Shri Satish Kumar, GM, NCR received the award from Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Hon'ble President



Shri Arun Kumar Jain, GM, SCR received the award from Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Hon'ble President

The Hon'ble President, Smt Droupadi Murmu presented the National Energy Conservation Awards, National Energy Efficiency Innovation Awards and National Painting Competition prizes in New Delhi on 14th December, 2023 on the occasion of National Energy Conservation Day. These awards were presented in a function held by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency under the aegis of Ministry of Power, Government of India at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Shri R. K. Singh, Minister of Power, New & Renewable Energy and Shri Krishan Pal, Minister of State for Power & Heavy Industries also graced the occasion. These awards are declared for the best energy management practices during the year 2023.

North Central Railway has presented an exemplary example by achieving the first prize of National Energy Conservation Award 2023 among 17 zonal railways by adopting various energy efficient technical measures. Shri Satish Kumar, General Manager North Central Railway and Shri Anup Kumar Aggarwal, Principal Chief Electrical Engineer North Central Railway received this award from Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu, North Central Railway has established itself in the forefront of Indian Railways by getting the first prize in the regional rail category of transport sector. North Central Railway has installed 11.13 MW solar power plant, 100 percent energy efficient LED tube lights, fans and star rated air conditioners at 338 railway stations, 265 railway service buildings and Railway residences. This resulted in a saving of 12.521 million units of energy and ₹5.17 cr. in railway revenue during the year 2022-23. Diesel consumption and time has been reduced by 95% across NCR through purchase of cheap and environment friendly electricity produced from solar power plant and 100% electrification of 3222 rkm in the entire North Central Railway.

1. Hyderabad Passenger Reservation System (PRS) building got the First prize in Government Offices category.
2. Wagon Depot, Vijayawada got the First prize in Railway Workshops category.
3. South Central Railway Zone got the Second prize in Zonal Railways category.
4. Lekha Bhavan (SCR accounts office building) got



South Central Railway was presented with seven National Energy Conservation Awards for the year 2023.

the Second Prize in Government Offices category.

5. Renigunta Running Room got the Certificate of Merit in Government Offices category.
6. Guntakal Running Room got the Certificate of Merit in Government Offices category.
7. Divisional Railway Manager Office, Guntakal got the Certificate of Merit in Government Offices category.

Shri Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager, SCR along with senior officers received the first prize for Wagon Depot, Vijayawada, while Shri P.D. Mishra, Principal Chief Electrical Engineer, SCR and Shri Bhartesh Kumar Jain, DRM, Secunderabad Division received the first prize for Hyderabad PRS building. Other senior officers of South Central Railway received the awards for their respective energy efficient units.

South Central Railway being at the forefront in Energy Conservation has been winning these awards from Union Ministry of Power for the past several years consistently. The Zone has been able to bag these awards through relentless efforts in the area of Energy Efficiency and Green Initiatives by all the Divisions, Workshops, Field units of all the departments, even with the tight competition from various Ministries, PSUs and Corporate sectors.■



Shri Ranjan Srivastava, PCEE, WR received the Certificate of Merit from Shri R.K. Singh, Minister of Power on 14th December, 2023.



Shri Gaurav Saraswat, Dy. CME, Bhavnagar Workshop received the Certificate of Merit from Shri R.K. Singh, Minister of Power on 14th December, 2023.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Inaugurated
Ayodhya Dham Junction Railway Station



Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Ayodhya Dham Jn. Railway Station. Also seen are Smt. Anandiben Patel, Governor of UP, Shri Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister of UP, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways and Deputy CMs of UP, Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya and Shri Brajesh Pathak

The Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 30th December, 2023 inaugurated the redeveloped Ayodhya Dham Jn. Railway Station and flagged off new Two Amrit Bharat and Six Vande Bharat trains. He also dedicated several other railway projects to the nation.

At a public event, the Hon'ble Prime Minister said that Ayodhya Dham Jn. Railway Station handles 10,000 people now and this will reach 60,000 after its revamping. The Hon'ble PM informed about the new train series 'Amrit Bharat' trains after Vande Bharat and Namo Bharat and expressed delight that the first Amrit Bharat train is going through Ayodhya. He congratulated people of UP, Delhi, Bihar, West Bengal and Karnataka for getting these trains.

The Hon'ble Prime MInister highlighted the sense of service to the poor that underlie modern Amrit Bharat trains. People who often travel long distances due to their work, and those who do not have that much income, are also entitled to modern facilities and comfortable travel. These trains have been designed keeping in mind the dignity in the life of the poor, he added. The Hon'ble PM also highlighted the role that Vande Bharat trains are playing in linking development with heritage. 'The country's first Vande Bharat Express train ran from Kashi. Today Vande Bharat Express trains are running on 34 routes in the country. Vande Bharat connects Kashi, Katra, Ujjain, Pushkar, Tirupati, Shirdi, Amritsar, Madurai, every such big center of faith. In this series, today Ayodhya has also got the gift of Vande Bharat train', said Hon'ble PM.

Phase I of redeveloped Ayodhya Railway Station - known as Ayodhya Dham Junction Railway Station - is developed at a cost of more than ₹240 cr. The



Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi flagged off Amrit Bharat train alongwith Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways



Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways showed the model of the Ayodhaya Dham Jn. Railway Station to Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and Shri Yogi Adityanath, CM of UP and Deputy CMs of UP, Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya and Shri Brajesh Pathak

three-storey modern railway station building is equipped with all modern features like lifts, escalators, food plazas, shops for puja needs, cloak rooms, child care rooms and waiting halls. The station building will be 'accessible for all' and 'IGBC certified green station building'.

The programme at Ayodhya Dham Junction Railway Station witnessed the Hon'ble Prime Minister flagging off a new category of superfast passenger trains in the country - the Amrit Bharat Express. The Amrit Bharat train is an LHB push pull train with non air-conditioned coaches. This train has locos at both ends for better acceleration. It provides improved facilities for rail passengers like beautiful and attractive designed seats, better luggage rack, mobile charging point with suitable mobile holder, LED lights, CCTV, public information system, among others. The Prime Minister also flagged off six new Vande Bharat trains.

The Hon'ble PM flagged off two new Amrit Bharat trains i.e. Darbhanga-Ayodhya-Anand Vihar Terminal Amrit Bharat Express and Malda Town-Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminus (Bengaluru) Amrit Bharat Express.

He interacted with school children travelling in the inaugural journey of the Amrit Bharat Trains.

The Hon'ble PM also flagged off six new Vande Bharat trains. These include Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra-New Delhi Vande Bharat Express; Amritsar-Delhi Vande Bharat Express; Coimbatore-Bangalore Cantt Vande Bharat Express; Mangalore-Madgaon Vande Bharat Express; Jalna-Mumbai Vande Bharat Express and Ayodhya-Anand Vihar Terminal Vande Bharat Express.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister also dedicated to the nation three railway projects worth ₹2300 cr. to strengthen rail infrastructure in the region. The projects include the Rooma Chakeri-Chanderi third line project; Jaunpur-Tulsi Nagar, Akbarpur-Ayodhya, Sohawal-Patranga and Safdarganj-Rasauli sections of the Jaunpur-Ayodhya-Barabanki doubling project; and doubling and electrification project of the Malhaur-Daliganj railway section.■



Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi interacted with the school children

Amrit Bharat Trains
A New Gift for the Countrymen in Amrit Kaal



Indian Railways is all set to introduce the Amrit Bharat Expresses, the superfast express services for intercity travel. This marks a significant stride in modernising train travel in the country. The innovative push-pull approach will offer a unique blend of speed, efficiency, comfort and affordability to passengers. In the first go, two new trains are being introduced; Ayodhya Dham Jn.–Darbhanga and Malda Town–Bangalore. These will provide seamless and enjoyable journey to passengers travelling on these busy routes.

The notable feature of the Amrit Bharat Express trains is the utilization of two WAP-5 locomotives at the front and rear ends (push-pull configuration) to ensure efficient acceleration and to eliminate the need of switching the locomotive at stations, thereby reducing the travel time. The Amrit Bharat Express consist of 22 Non-AC coaches with the configuration 02 Second class luggage Rake (SLRD), 08 General seating coach (GS) and 12 Sleeper class coach (SCN). These coaches have a sealed gangway to provide safe transition between coaches and to reduce noise and vibrations. The trains have been planned to operate as a day-night express service, catering to the demand of travel between large cities and small towns. The train set is a Make in India innovation of Indian Railways. The Push-Pull Locomotives are being manufactured at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) Chittaranjan, one of the largest locomotive manufacturing units in India, and the coaches are being produced by Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai, the World's largest Railway Passenger Rolling Stock manufacturer. The collaborative effort of the production units of Indian Railways will ensure that both the driving engine and the passenger compartments are crafted with precision and provide efficient service.■



Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways inspected the Amrit Bharat train rake at New Delhi Railway station on 25th December, 2023



Innovative exterior colour scheme



Jerk free Semi Permanent Coupler

- Aerodynamically designed WAP5 locomotives.
- MU Control couplers on end walls for push pull operation.
- Jerk free semi permanent coupler.
- Sealed vestibule gangway.
- ACP paneling with extrusions with anti vibration measures.
- Improved and aesthetically pleasing lighting
- CCTV in luggage room with monitor in Guard room.
- Ramp for diasbaled persons.

Interiors



Upgraded Coach Interior

- Foldable snack tables.
- Mobile charger with suitable holders.
- Foldable bottle holders.
- Aesthetically pleasing and ergonomically designed seats and berths.
- Improved luggage racks.







- Radium Illumination flooring strips
- FDB shifted to one side and placed behind openable mirror frame.
- Standalone Passenger Announcement and Public Information System.
- PA system operated by Guard.
- CCTV surveillance for safe travel.



Upgraded Toilets

- Aesthetically pleasing and ergonomically designed lavatory with pleasant colour blending.
- Divyangjan toilet in Sleeper Class.

Salient Features of Vande Bharat Express Version 2.0

- Time to reach 160 kmph speed is 140 seconds.
- Better riding comfort for passengers at 3.5 (riding index).
- Automatic Plug doors with Sliding Footsteps and Touch free Sliding Doors.
- Revolving seats in Executive Class.
- Coach Control Management System for monitoring air-conditioning, communication and feedback to control centre/maintenance staff through GSM/GPRS.
- Better heat ventilation and air-conditioning control by using higher efficiency compressor with UV lamp for germ free supply of air.
- Special air-conditioning duct for silent and equal distribution of conditioned air.
- Special lavatory for Divyangjan passengers.
- Bio vacuum toilets with touch-free amenities.
- The seat handles are provided with the seat numbers in Braille letters also.
- 32" Passenger Information and Infotainment System in every coach.
- Level-II safety integration certification for better train control management.
- KAVACH (Train Collision Avoidance System).
- Emergency lighting in each coach.
- 4 platform side cameras including rear view cameras outside the coach.
- Better fire-fighting safety measures such as aspiration based Fire Detection and suppression system in all coaches and Aerosol based Fire Detection and Suppression System in electrical cubicles and toilets.
- 4 emergency windows in every coach.
- Emergency Talk Back units.
- Driver-Guard communication with voice recording facility.
- Better flood proofing for under-slung electrical equipment that will withstand floods up to a height of 650 mm.





The Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kashi Tamil Sangamam 2023 in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 17th December, 2023. Shri Modi flagged off the Kanyakumari – Varanasi Tamil Sangamam train. The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Yogi Adityanath, Union Minister for Education, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, and Union Minister of State, Dr. L Murugan among others were present on the occasion.



Hon'ble Prime Minister Flagged Off

Varanasi-New Delhi Vande Bharat Express and Dohrighat-Mau MEMU train

The Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects worth over ₹19,150 cr. in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 18th December, 2023. The projects include the inauguration of New Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Nagar-New Bhaupur Dedicated Freight Corridor Project built at a cost of around ₹10,900 cr. among other railway projects. He flagged off Varanasi-New Delhi Vande Bharat Express, Dohrighat-Mau MEMU train and a pair of Long Haul goods trains. He also flagged off the 10,000th locomotive made by Banaras Locomotive Works. He inaugurated two ROBs at a cost of more than ₹370 cr. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Yogi Adityanath, Deputy CM of UP, Shri Keshav Prasad Maurya, and Ministers from the Govt. of UP were present on the occasion.■

Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar-2023

100 Indian Railways Employees awarded for their outstanding services along with 21 Shields for Zonal Railways, Production Units & PSUs



Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways presented the Award the 68th Railway Week Central Function. Also seen are Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha, Chairman & CEO, Ms. Anjali Goyal, Member Finance, Shri Roop Narayan Sunkar, Member Infrastructure and Shri Milind K Deouskar, Secretary, RB

The Minister of Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw on Friday conferred the 'Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar' (AVRSP) on 100 Railway employees from various Zones/ Divisions, Production Units and Railway PSUs all over the country for their outstanding services. He also presented 21 Shields for promoting best practices among Railway employees. The Awards/ Shields were presented at the 68th Railway Week Central Function, organised at Bharat Mandapam at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. Chairperson and CEO and members of Railway Board, General Managers of Zonal Railways and heads of Production Units of Railways and PSUs of Railways were present on the occasion.

Addressing the august gathering after conferring the awards and shields, the Minister of Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw congratulated all the awardees for their exceptional work and effort. He said 'Transformative work is going on at full pace in Railways under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. More electrification has been done in 9.5 years than in the past 40 years. The big picture behind this transformation is, when in 2015 Prime Minister merged the Rail Budget with General Budget, interest/capital charge which had to be paid earlier on the rail grant was not needed and it removed all financial hindrances for the Railways. Lack of investment, which was the biggest problem for Railways, is now a thing of the past.'

The Minister asserted that 'People's expectations with the Railways is being fulfilled now. PM often says this is the golden period of Railways and you all are the strength behind this. This commitment of all railway employees makes everyone feel proud as we are all doing this for our nation. Railway infrastructure is being developed at record speed and scale. Several new things are happening which are helping achieve a strategic goal.'

Talking about the massive potential savings in logistics costs through Railways, Shri Vaishnaw said 'Such transportation, if done by road, involves higher costs along with fuel cost. As per an estimate, there will be 3,000 MT of new cargo, and if Railways gets half of it then it will potentially save 16,000 cr. litre of fuel and ₹1,28,000 cr. will be saved through this which will be a big achievement and saving for the nation.'

Elaborating on the economic growth of the nation, the Union Minister said that in 2014, India was on 10th spot in global economies while in 2004, India was already in the 10th spot and therefore, it was a lost decade. Now, India is at the 5th spot and in the coming years, under the leadership and vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, India will soon achieve the position of 3rd largest economy in the world. He further added 'We should all change the colonial mindset and by 2027 we will become one of the top three. Railways will play a vital role in India's growth journey. We are saving huge amounts in logistics costs alone. We are all lucky that we have a Hon'ble PM who is so emotionally attached with Railways. Hon'ble PM has often shared so many experiences with me, that it can only come from someone who has in depth knowledge about the functioning of the Railways. He has so much commitment towards the Railways, and all railway employees are part of a very committed, dedicated team which will continue to work towards ther development of the nation. You are all contributing highly to the building of the nation and I hope you will continue working like this with the same efficiency, motivation and dedication in the future too,' Shri Vaishnaw concluded.

In her welcome remarks, the Chairman & CEO, Railway Board, Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha said that Indian Railways has achieved remarkable feats in the past few years, such as 34 new Vande Bharat trains for transporting passengers, 1309 stations redevelopment under Amrit Bharat which will improve overall experience and save time for passengers. Talking about rail safety, the Chairman



Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Railways at the 68th Railway Week Central Function alongwith Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha, Chairman & CEO, Ms. Anjali Goyal, Member Finance, Shri Roop Narayan Sunkar, Member Infrastructure and Shri Milind K Deouskar, Secretary, RB

and CEO said advance technology is being used by Railways to improve overall safety including kavach which is being implemented with speed and scale. Talking about the future, she said there are lots of novel initiatives for the future which we will implement, including Mission 3000 MT of freight; increasing speed in GQGD; all unconnected regions to be connected soon including northeast and Jammu Kashmir. Congratulating the awardees, Smt. Sinha said that 'Excellence and commitment of all these awardees is taking Railways to new heights'. 'Railways will play a key role in making India 'Viksit Bharat' or a developed nation,' she added. A short documentary on the transformation journey of Indian Railways was played and a cultural programme was also organised including a mesmerizing dance performance.



Cultural performance at the award ceremony

Minister of Railways alongwith Board Members

Presented the Shields to the Winners which were Received by General Managers and Senior Officers



Comprehensive Health Care Shield
Central and Northern Railways (Jointly)



Security Shield
North Western and East Central Railways (Jointly)



Civil Engineering Shield
South Central and Northern Railways (Jointly)



Rolling Stock Shield (earlier Mechanical Engineering Shield)
South East Central Railway



Electrical Engineering Shield
South Eastern Railway



Signal & Telecommunication Engineering Shield
North Central Railway



Stores Shield
Central and Western Railways (Jointly)



Traffic Transportation Shield
Western and South East Central Railways (Jointly)



Accounts & Finance Management Shield
West Central Railway



Commercial Shield
Southern and East Coast Railways (Jointly)



Civil Engineering Construction Shield
South Central Railway



Personnel Management Shield
Central Railway



Best Production Unit Shield
RWF, Bangalore & PLW, Patiala (Jointly)



Environment & Cleanliness Shield
Central and South Western Railways (Jointly)



Best Workshop (Rolling Stock) Shield
Liluah Workshop, Eastern Railway



Running Room Shield
Awadh Running Room of Lucknow (LJN)
Division of North Eastern Railway



Sales Management Shield
Western Railway



Level Crossing and Road Over/Under Bridge Safety Works Shield
Western and East Coast Railways (Jointly)



Safety Shield
North East Frontier and Southern Railways (Jointly)

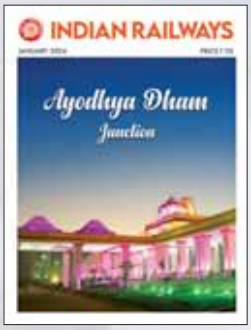


RailMadad Shield
Western Railway



Govind Vallabh Pant Shield — *Northern and North Western Railways (Jointly)*

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Single Copy : ₹ 20, **Special Issue :** ₹ 70

Break-Up of 68th Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Puraskar-2023 Category-wise

New Innovations/Processes/Procedures Leading to Economies and Expenditure, Improvement in Productivity, Import Substitution etc.

S. N.	Railway/ PU/ RB	Name of Officers (Sh. /Smt./Ms.)	Designation
1	NER	Mahendra Singh	Works Manager/ Plant
2	NCR	Ms. Prashasti Srivastava	Divisional Commercial Manager & Public Relation Officer
3	NFR	Amit Kumar Mani	Senior Divisional Signal & Telecomm. Engineer
4	SCR	C. Sivakumar Kashyap	Divisional Signal & Telecomm. Engineer
5	RCF	Surendr Kumar Singh	Senior Section Engineer/Plant
6	NWR	Munnu Lal Meena	Fitter Grade-II
7	SR	A. Selvaraja	Senior Section Engineer
8	NWR	Smt. Swati Jain	Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer
9	ICF	K. Saravanamurthy	Assistant Workshop Manager
10	NER	Satya Deo Pathak	Senior Divisional Signal & Telecomm. Engineer
11	NFR	Chandan Kumar	Senior Section Engineer
12	NWR	Suresh Chand Jangid	Technician Grade-I
13	ICF	P. Jaishankar	Junior Engineer
14	CR	Vivek N. Hoke	Senior Divisional Finance Manager
15	RWF	Venkateshwara	Senior Section Engineer

Meritorious Acts even in Disregard to Personal Safety Leading to Protection of Life and Property on Railways

S. N.	Railway/ PU/ RB	Name of Officers (Sh. /Smt./Ms.)	Designation
16	SER	Anoop Lal Rajak	Assistant Sub Inspector/RPF
17	SER	Manuj Kumar	Head Constable/ RPF
18	SECR	Pramod Kumar	Constable
19	SCR	Ms. Tarala Prathyusha	Sub. Inspector
20	NFR	Migom Doley	Divisional Security Commissioner
21	SCR	V.V. Rangaiah	Track Maintainer Grade-II
22	SR	K. Veeraperumal	Track Maintainer Grade-II
23	NFR	Narendra Palei	Senior Section Engineer
24	ER	Aman Anand	Loco Pilot Passenger
25	ECR	Satish Kumar Chaudhary	Loco Pilot (Goods)
26	SER	Narahari Das	Loco Pilot (Mail/ Exp.)
27	SR	M.K. Sudheesh Kumar	Loco Pilot Passenger
28	NCR	Ms. Ritu Masih Chattree	Chief Nursing Superintendent
29	ECR	Surya Deo Oraon	Track Maintainer Grade-I
30	NCR	Anuj Patel	Track Maintainer Grade-IV
31	WCR	Krishna Kumar Sharma	Pointsman-B
32	NCR	Manoj Kumar	Helper
33	NWR	Sunil Kumar	Track Maintainer

Special Efforts Made to Increase Earnings and to Tackle Ticketless Travel, Thefts, etc.

S. N.	Railway / PU/ RB	Name of Officers (Sh. /Smt./Ms.)	Designation
34	CR	Dr. Shivraj P. Manaspure	Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
35	SR	E. Harikrishnan	Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
36	NFR	Deba Prasad Hajarika	Chief Vigilance Inspector
37	NR	Simranjit Singh	Deputy Chief Ticket Inspector
38	SER	Ronald W A Braggs	Chief Commercial Inspector
39	SR	Deshidi Madhusudhan Reddy	Inspector
40	CR	Dharmendra Kumar	Travelling Ticket Inspector
41	SER	Samaresh Tapna	Chief Commercial Inspector
42	WR	Dr. Zenia Gupta	Senior Divisional Operations Manager
43	NR	Ms. Rekha	Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
44	SCR	T. Natarajan	Chief Ticket Inspector
45	CR	Sunil D Nainani	Travelling Ticket Inspector
46	ECR	Kumar Ankit	Divisional Traffic Manager
47	SR	T. Selvakumar	Deputy Chief Ticket Inspector
48	WR	Sanju Pasi	Commercial Superintendent
49	SCR	Mallela Srikant	Divisional Operations Manager

Exemplary Work Done to Improve Operations, Security and Safety, Better Maintenance and Utilization of Assets.

S. N.	Railway / PU/ RB	Name of Officers (Sh. /Smt./ Ms.)	Designation
50	SR	S. Mayileri	Senior Divisional Engineer
51	ECoR	Randhi Manoj Babu	Divisional Operations Manager
52	WR	Priyansh Agrawal	Divisional Engineer
53	CR	Jaiprakash Dewangan	Senior Technician (Welder-I)
54	ER	Kartik Singh	Senior Divisional Engineer
55	NR	Pravind Singh	Assistant Divisional Engineer
56	SCR	CH. Dinesh Reddy	Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer
57	NWR	Vijay Singh	Senior Divisional Operations Manager
58	SWR	Satyajeet Harne	Senior Divisional Engineer
59	SER	Arvind Pradeep S	Divisional Operations Manager
60	ECR	Anand Kumar Chaurasiya	Senior Section Engineer
61	WCR	Prince Vikram	Senior Divisional Operations Manager
62	SECR	Amitabh Chouwdhury	Senior Section Engineer
63	NCR	Vijay Narayan	Assistant Divisional Mechanical Engineer
64	Metro Railway	Amulya Prasad Mishra	Safety Counsellor/ Elect.
65	NER	Sawan Kumar Bharti	Technician Grade-I
66	NFR	Pranjit Das	Station Superintendent
67	WR	Binay Kumar Jha	Station Superintendent/ Operating
68	NFR	Narendra Singh	Senior Divisional Signal and Telecommunication Engineer
69	NR	Rakesh Kumar Sharma	Station Superintendent
70	NFR	Subhanan Chanda	Deputy Chief Engineer/ Construction

Completion of Projects etc. in Record Time

S. N.	Railway / PU/ RB	Name of Officers (Sh. /Smt./Ms.)	Designation
71	WR	Yogesh Kumar	Deputy Chief Engineer
72	NR	Matin Ahmed	Deputy Chief Engineer (Cons.)
73	SCR	D. S. Rama Rao	Deputy Chief Engineer
74	NWR	Pramod Kumar Bhakal	Deputy Chief Engineer
75	CORE	Tuljappa M. Ladwa	Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer
76	NR	Yashvir Singh Guleria	Deputy Chief Signal And Telecomm. Engineer
77	WR	Anant Kumar	Deputy Chief Engineer
78	RDSO	Amit Kumar Sisodia	Joint Director
79	NR	Monu Dhankhar	Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer (Cons.)
80	ECR	Rameshwar Singh	Deputy Chief Engineer
81	CR	Sudhanshu Mittal	Divisional Signal & Telecomm. Engineer
82	NWR	Lalit Kumar	Deputy Chief Signal & Telecomm. Engineer
83	SER	Md. Pyar Ali Khan	Senior Section Engineer
84	RB	Jitendra Kumar	Deputy Director
85	SR	S. Mariappan	Assistant Signal & Telecomm. Engineer
86	WR	Smt. Menaka D Pandian	Senior Section Officer
87	SER	Surendra Kumar Singh	Assistant Signal & Telecomm. Engineer
88	RB/ RLDA	Saurabh Singh	Deputy General Manager/ Projects

Outstanding Performance in the Field of Sports, Leading to National/International Recognition

S. N.	Railway / PU/ RB	Name of Officers (Sh. /Smt./Ms.)	Designation
89	SER	Satyajit Mondal (Sports Person)	Senior Clerk
90	NR	Sagar (Sports Person)	Clerk Cum Typist

Outstanding Performance in Any Other Field

S. N.	Railway / PU/ RB	Name of Officers (Sh. /Smt./ Ms.)	Designation
91	NR	Prateek	Executive Engineer
92	SER	Ms. Shalini	Technician Grade-III
93	SR	Smt. Durgadevi Vijayakumar	Chief Nursing Superintendent
94	NFR	Smt. Amish Gogoi	Assistant Personnel Officer
95	NCR	Vivek Diwakar	Deputy Chief Materials Manager
96	RB	Ravi Sharma	JDPG/MR Sectt.
97	RB	Rakesh Krishan Rampal	Chief-enquiry cum Reservation Supervisor
98	RB	Rajeev Kumar Saha	Section Officer
99	RB	Sumeet Singh	Director
100	CR	Sanjay Ramchandra Pol	Senior Section Engineer(P.Way)



Minister of Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw inspected the redevelopment work of Yesvantpur Railway Station and took stock of various railway infrastructure projects of Karnataka on 27th November, 2023. MP Shri P.C. Mohan, Shri Tejasvi Surya, MP and GM, South Western Railway, Shri Sanjeev Kishore were also present.

General Manager, NFR met the Chief Minister of Nagaland



A meeting between the officials of Nagaland State Govt. and N.F. Railway in the presence of Chief Minister of Nagaland Shri Neiphiu Rio and GM, NFR, Shri Chetan Kumar Shrivastava

The General Manager of N.F. Railway Shri Chetan Kumar Shrivastava, in regards to the railway projects in the state called upon the Chief Minister of Nagaland, Shri Neiphiu Rio on 4th December, 2023. The meeting held between the duo was to chalk out areas of concern related to the smooth and easy execution of various railway projects in the state.

The General Manager assured the Chief Minister that the railway connectivity in the ongoing Dhansiri-Zubza new line project till Molvom and Pherima will be achieved by September, 2024. Railway will also be developing a Goods Yard at Molvom as requested by the State Authorities. General Manager also assured that N. F. Railway will develop rail infrastructure in the state as per the requirement of the state.

NFR also aims to provide a direct rail connectivity between Kohima and Imphal, that are the capital cities of Nagaland and Manipur respectively. The General Manager also updated the Chief Minister about its status. The Reconnaissance Engineering cum Traffic survey for Zubza-Imphal new line has been completed.■

KIND ATTENTION

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.

Minister of State for Railways Inaugurated IRSE International Convention on Digital Transformation of Railways



Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Minister of State for Railways alongwith Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha, Chairman & CEO inaugurated the IRSE International Convention on Digital Transformatoin of Railways

The IRSE International Railway Convention 2023 opened at the state of the art Manekshaw Centre in Delhi Cantt on 11th December, 2023. The 3-day Convention and Exhibition on Digital Transformation of Railways — Train to Track and Operation to Maintenance conforming to Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Modernisation of Indian Railways was organised jointly by IRSE Bharat Section and IRSTE, under the aegis of the Ministry of Railways.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of Minister of State for Railways, Smt. Darshana Jardosh, Chairman & CEO Railway Board Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha, Advisor to Minister of Railway Shri Arun Saxena, and a large number of dignitaries, senior government officials and business delegations from India and across the world.

Digital transformation of Railways has become an extremely important part of infrastructure modernisation. This endeavour shall not only catapult Indian Railways into a developed railway but also generate several opportunities for industry to become a partner in this new vision of New India New Railways, for improving efficiency, creating capacity, improving productivity and most importantly enhancing safety.

This convention would focus on aspects like Modern Command and Control Signalling systems that enable train operations at higher speeds, which helps in creating additional line capacity, improves service quality and systems like LTE (4G/5G) band Kavach, CBTC etc. thereby increase the safety in train operations.

Apart from the Technical Sessions by experts from India and abroad, there was an Exhibition with a number of booths displaying various innovative services, products and solutions created by the Industry for the Digitisation and Modernisation of Railways. More than 50 Exhibitors from across the globe would be participating in this mega convention.

A lot of sponsors and partners have expressed their solidarity with this International Railway Convention being organised specifically for modernisation and digital transformation of Railways.

Inaugurations done by different Ministers of State and MPs

Minister of State Inaugurated Rail Coach Restaurant and Luxurious Executive Lounge

Shri Santanu Thakur, Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, inaugurated the opulent Executive Lounge (at Howrah station, New Complex) and the innovative Rail Coach Restaurant at Bapu Uddyan, Howrah, on 10th November, 2023. Smt. Locket Chatterjee, Member of Parliament attended the inaugural ceremony. Shri Amar Prakash Dwivedi, General Manager, Eastern Railway, and senior officers were also present on this occasion.■



Ministers of State and MPs of Divisional Committee of Kharagpur, Adra, Ranchi and Chakradharpur Held Meeting with General Manager

MPs from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha of the Divisional Committee comprising of Ranchi and Chakradharpur Divisions of SER held a meeting with Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, GM, SER at Ranchi on 29th November, 2023. Altogether 9 MPs attended the meeting. The other Members of Parliament who attended the meeting were Smt Mahua Maji, Smt. Geeta Koda, Shri Sanjay Seth, Ms. Chandrani Murmu, Smt. Mamata Mohanta, Shri Samir Oraon and Shri Aditya Prasad.



MPs from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha of the Divisional Committee comprising of Kharagpur and Adra Divisions of SER held a meeting with Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, GM, SER at Kolkata on 1st December, 2023. Altogether 12 MPs attended the meeting. The Divisional Committee Meeting was chaired by Shri Dilip Ghosh, MP. Dr. Subhas Sarkar, Minister of State for Education, Shri Bishweswar Tudu, Minister of State for Jal Shakti and Tribal Affairs, Shri Sisir Kumar Adhikari, MP, Shri Prasun Banerjee, MP, Shri Dibyendu Adhikari, MP, Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi, MP, Shri Kunar Hembram, MP, Shri Pashupati Nath Singh, MP, Shri Sunil Kumar Mondal, MP, Shri Jyotirmay Singh Mahato, MP and Shri Chandra Prakash Choudhary, MP were also present at the meeting.



Shri Anil Kumar Mishra, GM/SER welcomed the Members of Parliament and thanked them for their consistent support and cooperation. MPs appreciated the overall performance of SER and assured their cooperation for the smooth functioning of the Railway.

MPs advised the Railway authority on various issues associated with train services, stoppages, cleanliness, expeditious completion of Railway projects etc. for the benefit of the passengers. They have also offered their valuable suggestions for development of Railway infrastructure.■

New Stoppage at Kamakhyaguri by Minister of State

New stoppages of Train No. 15769/15770 AlipurduarJn-Lumding Intercity Express and Train No. 15753/15754 AlipurduarJn-Guwahati Shifung Express at Kamakhyaguri station of West Bengal was inaugurated by Shri John Barla, Minister of State Minority Affairs, Govt. of India on 18th November, 2023 in presence of Shri Manoj Kr Oraon, MLA, Kumargram and Shri Manoj Tigga, MLA, Madarihat.■



MP, Bengaluru Central Inaugurated Three New Lifts

Shri P.C. Mohan MP, Bengaluru Central, inaugurated three new lifts at Sir. M. Visvesvar aya Terminal Bengaluru Railway Station on 12th November, 2023. Divisional Railway Manager, Shri Yogesh Mohan and Shri Gul Ashfaque, Chief Project Manager, Gatishakti and senior officers were present.■



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Chairman & CEO, Railway Board Inspected Ayodhya Dham Jn. Railway Station



Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha, Chairman & CEO inspected Ayodhya Dham Jn. Railway station alongwith Shri Shobhan Chaudhuri, GM, NR and Ms. Saumya Mathur, GM, NER

On 20th December 2023, Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Railway Board along with Shri Shobhan Chaudhuri, GM of Northern Railway and Ms. Saumya Mathur GM of North Eastern Railway and other senior officials visited and inspected the newly constructed Ayodhya railway station. While inspecting the passenger facilities including the building and the completed railway works, she obtained information about the entire arrangements. She also inspected the Ramghat Halt and Katra station of North Eastern Railway falling under Ayodhya area and passed suggestions and directions to the concerned. She laid special emphasis on completing the progressive development works at Ayodhya Junction station. Smt. Jaya Varma Sinha along with other senior officers thoroughly tested the safety of the railway tracks by doing window trailing of Ayodhya to Gomti Nagar railway section.■

DG (Safety), Railway Board Visited Prayagraj and also Inspected Operation Control Centre of DFCCIL

On 23rd November 2023, Director General (Safety), Shri Brij Mohan Agarwal inspected the Prayagraj - Mirzapur section and held a meeting with senior officers/NCR. He inspected the lobby at Prayagraj Chhivki and interacted with the Loco Pilot and Assistant Loco Pilot. He also inspected the E.I. Building of Prayagraj Chhivki and also tested the operational knowledge of the working personnel. DG (Safety) inspected the E.I. Building at Meja Railway Station. DG Safety inquired about the development works to be done at Mirzapur station selected as Amrit Bharat station. DG (Safety) discussed in depth the burning issues of safety in a meeting held at North Central Railway Headquarters with Principal Chief Safety Officer and Additional General Manager/NCR and Heads of Departments and gave safety guidelines.

On 24th November 2023, DG (Safety), Railway Board inspected the Operation Control Centre of



Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd., Prayagraj along with senior officials. The DG (Safety) was shown the functioning of the Operation Control Centre. Use of new technology like Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA), Dedicated Freight Information System (DFIS), Block Management System (BMS), Hot Axle Box Detector (HABD), Machine Vision Information System (MVIS), and preventive activities were discussed.■

RAILWAYS IN PARLIAMENT

Minister of Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw replied to the questions in Parliament.

1189 'One Station One Product' Outlets Operational At 1083 Stations



Ministry of Railways has launched "One Station One Product" (OSOP) scheme with objective to promote the 'Vocal for Local' vision of the Government of India, provide a market for local/indigenous products and create additional income opportunities for the marginalised sections of the society. This scheme aims to provide enhanced opportunities for livelihood to local artisans, potters, weavers/handloom weavers, craftsmen etc, through provision of sale outlets at Railways stations across the country.

As on 30th November, 2023, 1189 OSOP outlets have been made operational at 1083 stations. These OSOP outlets have been allotted to the local beneficiaries which inter-alia include 184 Artisans, 630 Craftsmen, 147 Weavers, 202 Agricultural/ Forest product producers etc.

As on 30th November, 2023 a total of 1189 OSOP outlets are operational at 1083 stations.

The aim of the scheme is to provide enhanced opportunities for livelihood to local artisans, potters, weavers/handloom weavers, craftsmen etc. through provision of sale outlets at Railways Stations. So far, a total of 41,280 direct beneficiaries have availed the opportunities being offered under the OSOP scheme.

It is continuous endeavour of Indian Railways to proliferate the coverage of OSOP scheme at Railway stations across the country. As on 30th November, 2023 1189 OSOP outlets are operational at 1083 stations.

Development of stations and provision of passenger amenities including provision of OSOP outlets are generally funded under Plan Head – 53 'Customer Amenities'.

IR takes Several Initiatives to Maintain Cleanliness in Trains and Provide Good Quality Food to Passengers



Indian Railways take every endeavour to keep train coaches in properly maintained/ hygienic condition and to provide good quality/hygienic food to passengers as per the prescribed norms and standards by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). Some of the major initiatives taken by Indian Railways to maintain cleanliness standards in trains and to bring noticeable improvement in catering services are as under:

1. Installation of bio-toilets in entire fleet of passenger carrying coaches to eliminate the direct discharge of human waste from trains.

2. Cleaning of coaches including toilets of trains is done at both ends including mechanized cleaning.

3. On Board Housekeeping Service (OBHS) has been provided in identified long distance Mail/Express trains for cleaning of coach toilets, doorways, aisles and passenger compartments during the run of the trains.

4. Clean Train Station (CTS) scheme has also been prescribed for limited mechanized cleaning attention to identified trains including cleaning of toilets during their scheduled stoppages enroute at nominated stations.

5. Special Cleanliness Campaigns under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and cleanliness drives/campaign are organized regularly over Indian Railways with the objective to achieve significant and sustainable improvements in cleanliness standards of railway stations and trains. Indian Railways has been consistently making efforts to improve standards of cleanliness of toilets and washrooms by applying state of the art cleaning mechanism.

6. Upgradation of Base Kitchen/Kitchen Units undertaken.

7. CCTV cameras have been installed in upgraded Base Kitchens/Kitchen Units for better monitoring of food preparation right at the source. Regular and surprise inspections are conducted by Railway/ IRCTC officials including Food Safety Officers. Deployment of on board IRCTC supervisors on trains.

8. Further, as a measure to improve catering services on trains, IRCTC has been given flexibility to customise the menu within the same tariff so as to introduce the items of regional cuisines/preferences, seasonal delicacies, requirement during festivals, food items as per the preferences of different group of passengers such as diabetic food, baby food, health food options including millet based local products, etc.

9.QR codes have been introduced on food packets enabling display of details like name of kitchen, date of packaging etc.

10. Third Party Audit is done to examine hygiene and cleanliness in Pantry Cars and Kitchen Units. Customer satisfaction survey is also conducted.

11. To ensure compliance of Food Safety Norms, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), certification from Designated Food Safety Officers of each catering unit has been made mandatory.

12. A dedicated 'Rail Madad Portal' has been established to deal with the passenger complaints/ suggestions on priority basis on cleanliness and food quality. All complaints received through Twitter handle @IR CATERING, CPGRAMS, E-Mails,SMS,etc. are promptly monitored, addressed and resolved on real time basis.

13.Regular checks/surprise checks on cleanliness including toilets and washrooms and also quality of food are conducted at officers/supervisors levels and punitive/corrective action taken wherever any deficiency is noticed.

Over 2.94 lakh Vacancies Filled up by Indian Railways in the last Five Years upto September, 2023

Occurrence and filling up of vacancies is a continuous process on Indian Railways considering its size, spatial distribution and criticality of operation. Adequate and suitable manpower is provided to cater to the regular operations, changes in technology, mechanisations and innovative practices. The vacancies are filled up primarily by placement of indents by Railways with Recruitment agencies as per operational and technological requirements.

Two major competitive Computer Based Tests (CBT) involving more than 2.37 crore candidates have been conducted recently for filling up of 1.39 lakh vacancies for non-gazetted posts. 1st Stage CBT for CEN 01/2019 (NTPC) for more than 1.26 crore candidates was conducted in 7 phases from 28th December, 2020 to 31st July, 2021 in 133 shifts in 68 days across 211 cities and 726 centres in 15 languages. Similarly, CBT for CEN RRC 01/2019 (Level 1) was conducted for more than 1.11 crore candidates in 5 phases from 17th August, 2022 to 11th October, 2022 in 99 shifts in 33 days across 191 cities and 551 centres in 15 languages.

2,94,115 vacancies have been filled up in the last five years and up to 30th September 2023. More than 90% of the candidates recruited are in safety and operational categories.

Periodical review of Running Staff is done through crew review exercises by Zonal Railways as per delegations of power. This crew review is done on annual/six monthly basis by Zonal Railways, which means virtually every year crew review is done.

During the period from 2014-15 to 2023-24 (upto September 2023), 4,89,696 number of candidates have been recruited by the Railway Recruitment agencies against various group C posts (including level-1 and security related posts).

Construction of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor Fully Completed



Ministry of Railways has taken up construction of two Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) i.e. Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) from Ludhiana to Sonnagar (1337 km) and the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (WDFC) from Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal (JNPT) to Dadri (1506 km). Construction of EDFC has been fully completed and 1176 km out of 1506 km of WDFC has been completed.

The construction of Dedicated Freight Corridors will reduce the logistic cost, leading to development of new industrial hubs and Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals.

The comparative statement showing expenditure incurred and commissioning of DFCs in 2014 and in 2023 is as under:

Year	Cumulative Expenditure (in cr.)	DFCs commissioned
2014 (March, 2014)	10,357	Nil
2023 (Till Oct, 2023)	1,08,558	2513 km

Broad Gauge Network Of 60,814 km Electrified



Indian Railway has set a target of becoming Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030.

The amount spent on Railway Electrification projects since 2014 is as under:

Year	Expenditure (₹ in cr.)
2014-15	1,391
2015-16	2,291
2016-17	2,956
2017-18	3,837
2018-19	5,955
2019-20	7,145
2020-21	6,141
2021-22	6,972
2022-23	6,658
2023-24	(Upto Oct, 2023) 3,534

The long term impact of Railway Electrification to the nation are:

- Clean and green mode of transport.
- Better haulage capacity.
- Better line haul cost.
- Reduction in carbon emission.
- Saving in precious foreign exchange for crude oil.

2,002 km of BG network has been electrified during 2023-24 upto November, 2023, including 146 km BG network falling in the State of Maharashtra. Electrification of balance BG routes has been taken up.

The Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs) Projects are expected to help in reducing the carbon emissions as DFC operation will bring-in efficiency in freight operation in the country by higher throughput per wagon, lower energy consumption and reduction in transit time. Eastern DFC, which has been completed and Western DFC, which is currently under implementation are estimated to reduce emissions by about 457 million ton CO_2 over a 30 year period.

Indian Railways (IR) is committed to take steps for energy conservation and to increase energy efficiency. IR has also issued a comprehensive policy for adoption of energy efficiency measures in non-traction applications which, inter-alia, covers sustainable buildings; cloud based data monitoring and management portal; and energy efficiency in equipment and appliances. The policy also provides for procurement of Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) 5 star rated equipment.

Some of the measures taken by IR for energy conservation are as follows:

(i) Railways has introduced Insulated-Gate Bipolar Transistor (IGBT) based 3-phase propulsion

system with regenerative braking in Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) trains, Mainline Electrical Multiple Unit (MEMU), Kolkata Metro rakes and Vande Bharat Trains to conserve energy during the operations.

(ii) Production Units have completely switched over to production of energy efficient three-phase electric locomotives with regenerative braking features.

(iii) Provision of energy efficient Light Emitting Diode (LED) lighting in Railway installations including Railway stations, service buildings, coaches, EMUs/MEMUs for reduction in electricity consumption.

(iv) Use of energy efficient Brushless Direct Current (BLDC) motor fans in coaches and buildings.

(v) Conversion of End on Generation (EOG) trains into Head On Generation (HOG) system in trains to reduce diesel fuel consumption in power cars as well as noise and air pollution.

(vi) Regular energy audits at consumption points.

(vii) Regular counseling of Loco pilots for use of coasting, regenerative braking features and switching off blowers of electric locos in case yard detention is more than 15 minutes to save energy.

(viii) Locomotive pilots are trained during their initial training as well as during promotional training and refresher courses for saving of energy/fuel to achieve better energy/fuel efficiency by good driving technique and better road learning.

(ix) Guidelines have been issued for provision of energy saving mode on three phase locomotives wherein power supply to Oil Cooling Blower (OCB), Traction Motor Blower (TMB) and Scavenge Traction Motor Blower (ScTMB) will be switched off through software logic.

(x) Trailing locomotives of Multi Units (MU) hauling light loads are switched off to save energy.

(xi) Provision of 750V external power supply at washing/sick lines for maintenance and testing of LHB coaches.

(xii) IR has been made as designated consumer as part of Perform, Achieve and Trade (PAT) by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) for improving energy efficiency.

(xiii) Provision of Automatic Power Factor Controller panels in High Tension/Low Tension panels.

(xiv) Use of micro-controller based automatic platform lighting management system at stations as per train services/passenger requirements.

(xv) Use of capacitor banks in traction sub-stations to maintain near unity power factor for energy saving.

(xvi) Use of timer on high mast tower lightings/ street lighting/circulating area of Railway stations.

(xvii) Replacement of conventional geysers with solar geysers.

Broad Gauge (BG) network of 60,814 km have been electrified upto November, 2023. Of this, 39,013 km has been electrified during the period April, 2014 to November, 2023, as against 5188 km during 2004-14. Zone wise details of electrified network are as under:

S.N.	Zonal Railways	Electrified As On 30th November, 2023 (In Rkm)
1	Central Railway	3,888
2	East Coast Railway	2,954
3	East Central Railway	4,025
4	Eastern Railway	2,775
5	North Central Railway	3,257
6	North Eastern Railway	3,195
7	Northeast Frontier Railway	2,004
8	Northern Railway	6,799
9	North Western Railway	4,642
10	South Central Railway	5,988
11	South East Central Railway	2,348
12	South Eastern Railway	2,753
13	Southern Railway	4,612
14	South Western Railway	2,899
15	West Central Railway	3,067
16	Western Railway	4,827
17	Konkan Railway	738
18	Metro Railway	43

Considerable Decrease in Cases of Crime Against Women Passengers over Indian Railways



Based on the data published by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) available upto 2022, there is considerable decrease in the cases of crime against women passengers reported over Indian Railways during the year 2022 as compared to the year 2019. 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and, therefore, State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and maintenance of law and order on Railways through their law enforcement agencies i.e. GRP/ District Police. RPF supplements the efforts of GRP/ District Police to provide better protection and security to railway property, passenger area and passengers and for matters connected therewith.

The following steps are being taken by the Railways in coordination with GRP for safety and security of women passengers in trains and at stations:-

Surveillance is kept through CCTV cameras provided in a number of coaches and Railway stations for enhanced security of passengers.

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.

For immediate assistance passengers can make complaint on Rail Madad Portal directly or through Helpline Number 139 [integrated with Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) No.112].

Railways are in regular touch with passengers through various social media platforms like twitter, facebook, koo etc. 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.

Awareness campaigns are conducted in Railway premises and in train through posters, banners, distribution of leaflets, videos on Railway Display Network (RDN) etc. on regular basis to educate passengers for taking necessary precautionary measures during their journey.

Under 'Meri Saheli' initiative, focused attention has been provided for safety and security of lady passengers travelling alone by long distance trains for their entire journey i.e. from originating station to destination station.

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.

Drives are conducted against entry of male passengers into the compartments reserved for ladies.

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.

Data of crime in the years 2020 and 2021 is not considered for comparison as the passenger train operation was severely curtailed due to the onset of Covid-19. Figure for the year 2023 has not been published by NCRB.

NIRBHAYA fund allocations are made for strengthening the safety and security of women in the country. During the Financial year 2023-24, ₹200 cr. has been allotted under NIRBHAYA fund. Apart from this, all measures for safety and security of passengers are also applicable to women passengers.■

Automatic Block Signalling
Provided at 4,111 rkm



Modernization and upgradation of railway infrastructure is a need based and ongoing process subject to operational requirement, technical feasibility, commercial viability, resource availability, etc. A number of works have been taken up to modernize and upgrade railway infrastructure including rolling stock and signaling system. Some of them are as under:

- Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) has been introduced in 2017-18 for replacement/ renewal/upgradation of critical safety assets, with a corpus of ₹1 lakh cr. for five years. From 2017-18 till 2021-22 a gross expenditure of ₹1.08 lakh cr. was incurred on RRSK works.
- Electrical/Electronic Interlocking Systems with centralized operation of points and signals have been provided at 6,498 stations upto 31st October, 2023 to eliminate accident due to human failure.
- Interlocking of Level Crossing Gates has been provided at 11,137 LC Gates up to 31st October, 2023 for enhancing safety at LC gates.
- Block Proving Axle Counters (BPACs) for automatic clearance of Block Section, are provided to ensure complete arrival of train without manual intervention before granting line clear to receive next train and to reduce human element. These systems have been provided on 6450 Block Sections up to 31st October, 2023.
- Automatic Block Signalling (ABS) has been provided at 4,111 rkm upto 31st October, 2023.
- Indian Railways has also gone for implementation of advance technology system 'Kavach' as an Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system. Kavach is indigenously developed Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system which required safety certification of highest order. Kavach has also been adopted as a National ATP system in July 2020.
- Real time Train information system (RTIS) have been provided for automatic acquisition of train movement timings.
- Crew Video and Voice Recording System (CVVRS)

has been provided in Locomotives for post event analysis.

- Head on Generation (HOG) scheme has been implemented in passenger locomotives for feeding electric supply to LHB coaches for train lighting and air conditioning thereby reducing carbon emission, noise level and consumption of fossil fuels.
- For manufacturing new technology based 9,000 High Horse Power Electric Freight Locomotives, a manufacturing unit, having modern world class manufacturing facilities, sanctioned at Dahod.
- A factory has been set up at Madhepura under joint venture for manufacturing 800 numbers of 12000 High Horse Power Electric Freight Locomotives. This unit has state of the art world class manufacturing facilities to manufacture these high horse power high speed locomotives. Till November 2023, 376 locomotives have been supplied which are in operation.
- With a view to increase throughput, RDSO has issued technical specification for modern wagons (Modern Open Wagon and Modern Brake Van). In the recent past, multi-purpose and higher carrying capacity wagons have been designed by RDSO. These wagons will help in better utilization of rolling assets and increased throughput per rake.
- To capture traffic of automobile movement, Indian Railways have introduced New Modified Goods (NMG) coaches which have been converted from ICF type non-AC coaches at the end of their codal life for passenger service.
- Introduction of IGBT based 3-phase propulsion system with regenerative braking in Electrical Multiple Unit (EMU) trains, Mainline Electrical Multiple Unit (MEMU) trains, Kolkata Metro rakes and Electric Train Sets.
- Provision of energy efficient LED lights in coaches for better illumination.
- Provision of 750V external power supply at washing/sick lines for maintenance and testing of LHB coaches resulting in significant saving of diesel.
- Laying of track structure consisting of 60 kg/90 Ultimate Tensile Strength (UTS) rails on Pre-stressed Reinforced concrete (PSC) sleepers with 1660 sleepers per km at the time of renewals, laying of longer rails, minimizing the use of Alumino Thermic Welding and adoption of better welding technology for rails i.e. Flash Butt Welding, use of thick web switches and weldable Cast Manganese Steel (CMS) crossings, using improved fittings, maintenance of track with the help of track machines, Ultrasonic testing of rails to detect flaws, etc.

Dedicated Freight Corridors offer higher transport output and carrying capacity due to faster transit of freight trains, running of double stack container trains and heavy haul trains leading to reduction in overall Logistics cost. This improves the supply chain for the industries/logistics players located in the catchment areas leading to growth of Export-Import traffic as well.

Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals (GCTs) are playing a pivotal role in increasing the modal share of Railways in the freight segment through following ways.

- Construction of new GCTs significantly increases the overall cargo handling capacity of Indian Railways as it enables the railways to handle large volumes of freight, leading to increased market share.
- GCTs terminals are strategically taken up nationwide, connecting major production and consumption centres and these are developed in proximity to ports and highways to enable seamless integration with sea and road traffic.
- GCTs are equipped with modern infrastructure like automated handling system, dedicated rail sidings etc., which leads to faster loading and unloading of cargo reducing turnaround time and optimizing resource utilization.

The key statistics regarding freight loading and revenue during the last three years, are as under:-

Year	Freight Loading (in MT)	Revenue Earning From Goods (₹ in cr.)
2020-2021	1,230.94	1,15,738.38
2021-2022	1,415.87	1,39,287.30
2022-2023	1,509.10	1,60,158.48

In Last Five Years, Expenditure of ₹1,05,378 cr. Incurred on Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh



Replacement of railway assets i.e. railway track, bridges, locomotives, wagons and signaling equipment is a continuous process, which is taken up on age-cum-condition basis under codal life provisions. Regular inspection of railway assets is carried out to ensure their fitness for service. Obsolete railway assets are condemned and replaced with new technology on age-cum-condition basis.

The actual expenditure on replacement/upgradation of assets over the last 5 years is given below:

(₹in cr.)

Year	Amount
2018-19	20,407
2019-20	18,557
2020-21	28,529
2021-22	28,517
2022-23	26,855
Total	**1,22,865**

The total expenditure ₹1,22,865 cr. is funded to the extent of ₹78,501 cr. from Gross Budgetary Support and balance from Internal Generation and Extra Budgetary Resources on Ministry of Railways. The outlay for Budget Estimate (BE) 2023-24 is ₹29,325 cr. Capital expenditure on replacement of track is captured under Plan head 31-Track Renewals, while expenditure on replacement of coaching stock is included in Plan head 21-Rolling Stock. The actual expenditure on these Plan heads, over the last five years is indicated in the following table:

Year	Track Renewals	Rolling Stock Programme
2018-19	9,690	1,815
2019-20	9,391	1,178
2020-21	13,523	3,466
2021-22	16,558	2,870
2022-23	16,325	2,034

The outlay in BE 2023-24 is ₹17,297 cr. for PH-31 Track Renewals and ₹2000 cr. for PH-21 Rolling Stock.

Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) was introduced in 2017-18 for renewal/replacement/upgradation of critical safety assets with a corpus of ₹1 lakh cr. for five year period. Currency of the Fund has been extended for another five year term from 2022-23 with Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) of ₹45000 cr.

In the last five years i.e. from 2018-19 to 2022-23, a gross expenditure of ₹1,05,378 cr. has been incurred on RRSK works. This includes ₹65,000 cr. from GBS and balance ₹40,378 cr. from internal and extra budgetary resources by Ministry of Railways.■

Ministry of Railways

Year End Review

2023

Indian Railways swiftly progressing on its transformational journey

- **During 2023, Indian Railways witnessed several records in terms of Freight loading, Freight revenue, capex allocation, laying of tracks and other infrastructure works.**
- **Record roll out of Vande Bharat Express trains in 2023.**
- **Fast tracking of redevelopment of station sunder Amrit Bharat scheme.**
- **New Amrit Bharat trains for the convenience of passengers.**
- **Seventy modern Vande Bharat train services presently running in service over Indian Railways and 12 more services will be launched soon.**
- **Railways' Gross Budgetary Support saw a quantum jump to ₹2.4 Lakh cr. for the year 2023-24.**
- **One Station, One Product scheme implemented at 1,129 stations with 1250 outlets.**
- **1,309 Amrit Bharat Stations identified across the nation, with the aim to significantly modernize passenger amenities and improve accessibility and inclusivity of railway stations.**
- **Revision and increase in ex-gratia payment.**
- **Kavach contracts awarded for Delhi- Mumbai (including Ahmedabad-Vadodara Section).**

During 2023, Indian Railways has continued to usher into era of modernization with modern stations, modern trains and modern technology. The year 2023 has been extraordinarily progressive for Indian Railways on various fronts like freight loading, freight revenue, rolling out of new Vande Bharat trains, capex allocation, station redevelopment, Kavach implementation, laying of tracks, electrification.

Record Budget Allocation

GBS has been increased to ₹2.4 Lakh cr. for the year 2023-24 (30 times increase over 2004-05, and 8 times increase over 2013-14)

GBS in Railway budget for 2004-05 was ₹8,000 cr. and for 2013-14 it was ₹29,055 cr.



Record Freight and Passenger Revenue

During FY 2022-23, IR achieved an originating Freight loading of 1512 MT i.e. an incremental loading of 94 MT over the previous best of 1418 MT achieved in FY 2021-22 with a growth of ~7%.

During FY 22-23, IR earned ₹1,60,158.48 cr. from Freight. Indian Railway's performance excelled in passenger front as well, with number of passengers patronising IR increased more than 80% to reach 623 cr. in FY 2022-23 as compared to 344 cr. in FY 2021-22.

In FY 2023-24, on cumulative basis from April – November 2023, freight loading of 1015.67 MT was achieved by Indian Railways against last year's loading of 978.72 MT, an improvement of approximate 36.945 MT over last year's loading for the same period. Railways earned ₹1,10,007.5 cr. against ₹1,05,905.1 cr. over the last year which is an improvement of approx ₹4,102.445 cr. as compared to the same period of the last year.■



Record Electrification

21,801 km of broad gauge network was electrified until 2014.

Total Broad Gauge (BG) network of 60,814 km has been electrified upto November'2023.

14 states and UTs have 100% electrified rail tracks including Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha, Puducherry, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.■



भारतीय रेल 202

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विक्रमी संवत्–2080–2081 | शक

जनवरी पौष–माघ JANUARY

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
1 पंचमी	2 षष्ठी	3 सप्तमी	4 अष्टमी	5 नवमी	6 दशमी	7 एकादशी
8 द्वादशी	9 त्रयोदशी	10 चतुर्दशी	11 अमावस्या	12 एकम्	13 द्वितीया	14 तृतीया
15 चतुर्थी	16 पंचमी–षष्ठी	17 सप्तमी	18 अष्टमी	19 नवमी	20 दशमी	21 एकादशी
22 द्वादशी	23 त्रयोदशी	24 चतुर्दशी	25 पूर्णिमा	26 एकम्	27 द्वितीया	28 तृतीया
29 चतुर्थी	30 पंचमी	31 पंचमी				

01 नववर्ष दिवस / New Year's Day
13 लोहड़ी / Lohri
14 मकर संक्रांति / Makar Sankranti
15 माघ / बिहू / Magha / Bihu
17 गुरू रविदास जयन्ती / Guru Ravidas's Birthday
25 हजरत अली जयन्ती / Hazrat Ali's Birthday
26 गणतंत्र दिवस / Republic Day

फरवरी माघ–फाल्गुन FEBRUARY

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
			1 षष्ठी	2 सप्तमी	3 अष्टमी	4 नवमी
5 दशमी	6 एकादशी	7 द्वादशी	8 त्रयोदशी	9 चतुर्दशी–प्र.अमावस्या	10 एकम्	11 द्वितीया
12 तृतीया	13 चतुर्थी	14 पंचमी	15 षष्ठी	16 सप्तमी	17 अष्टमी	18 नवमी
19 दशमी	20 एकादशी	21 द्वादशी	22 त्रयोदशी	23 चतुर्दशी	24 पूर्णिमा	25 एकम्
26 द्वितीया	27 तृतीया	28 चतुर्थी	29 पंचमी			

14 बसंत पंचमी / श्री पंचमी / Basant Panchami / Sri Panchami
19 शिवाजी जयन्ती / Shiva Ji Birthday
24 गुरू रवीदास जयंती / Guru Ravi Das's Birthday

मार्च फाल्गुन–चैत्र MARCH

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
				1 षष्ठी	2 सप्तमी	3 अष्टमी
4 नवमी	5 दशमी	6 एकादशी	7 द्वादशी	8 त्रयोदशी	9 चतुर्दशी	10 अमावस्या
11 एकम्	12 द्वितीया	13 तृतीया	14 चतुर्थी–पंचमी	15 षष्ठी	16 सप्तमी	17 अष्टमी
18 नवमी	19 दशमी	20 एकादशी	21 द्वादशी	22 त्रयोदशी	23 त्रयोदशी	24 चतुर्दशी
25 पूर्णिमा	26 एकम्	27 द्वितीया	28 तृतीया	29 चतुर्थी	30 पंचमी	31 षष्ठी

06 स्वामी दयानन्द सरस्वती जयन्ती / Birthday of Swami Dayananda Saraswati
08 महा शिवरात्रि / Maha Shivratri
24 होलिका दहन / Holika Dahan
25 डोली यात्रा / Dolyatra
31 ईस्टर संडे / Easter Sunday
25 होली / Holi
29 गुड फ्राइडे / Good Friday

अप्रैल चैत्र–वैशाख APRIL

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
1 सप्तमी	2 अष्टमी	3 नवमी	4 दशमी	5 एकादशी	6 द्वादशी–त्रयोदशी	7 चतुर्दशी
8 अमावस्या	9 एकम्	10 द्वितीया	11 तृतीया	12 चतुर्थी	13 पंचमी	14 षष्ठी
15 सप्तमी	16 अष्टमी	17 नवमी	18 दशमी	19 एकादशी	20 द्वादशी	21 त्रयोदशी
22 चतुर्दशी	23 पूर्णिमा	24 एकम्	25 एकम्	26 द्वितीया	27 तृतीया	28 चतुर्दशी–पंचमी
29 षष्ठी	30 सप्तमी					

05 जुमा अल–विदा / Juma Al-Vida
09 चैत्र शुक्लादि / गुढी पड़वा / उगाड़ी / चैती चांद / Chaitra Sukladi / Gudi Padava / Ugadi / Cheti Chand
13 वैशाखी / विशु / Vaisakhi / Vishu
14 वैशाखड़ी (बंगाल) / मेशादी / बाहाग बिहू (असम) / Vaishakhadi (Bengal) / Meshadi / Bahag Bihu (Assam)
11 ईद–उल–फितर / Id-Ul-Fitr
17 राम नवमी / Ram Navami
21 महावीर जयंती / Mahavir Jayanti

मई वैशाख–ज्येष्ठ MAY

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
		1 अष्टमी	2 नवमी	3 दशमी	4 एकादशी	5 द्वादशी
6 त्रयोदशी	7 चतुर्दशी	8 अमावस्या	9 एकम्	10 द्वितीया–तृतीया	11 चतुर्थी	12 पंचमी
13 षष्ठी	14 सप्तमी	15 सप्तमी	16 अष्टमी	17 नवमी	18 दशमी	19 एकादशी
20 द्वादशी	21 त्रयोदशी	22 चतुर्दशी	23 पूर्णिमा	24 एकम्	25 द्वितीया	26 तृतीया
27 चतुर्थी	28 पंचमी	29 षष्ठी	30 सप्तमी	31 अष्टमी		

08 गुरू रविन्द्र नाथ टैगोर जयंती / Guru Rabindra Nath Tagore's Birthday
23 बुद्ध पूर्णिमा / Budha Purnima

जून ज्येष्ठ–आषाढ़ JUNE

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
					1 नवमी–दशमी	2 एकादशी
3 द्वादशी	4 त्रयोदशी	5 चतुर्दशी	6 अमावस्या	7 एकम्	8 द्वितीया	9 तृतीया
10 चतुर्थी	11 पंचमी	12 षष्ठी	13 सप्तमी	14 अष्टमी	15 नवमी	16 दशमी
17 एकादशी	18 द्वादशी	19 द्वादशी	20 त्रयोदशी	21 चतुर्दशी	22 पूर्णिमा	23 एकम्–द्वितीया
24 तृतीया	25 चतुर्थी	26 पंचमी	27 षष्ठी	28 सप्तमी	29 अष्टमी	30 नवमी

17 ईद–उल–जुहा (बकरीद) / Eid-Ul-Zuha (Bakrid)



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24 INDIAN RAILWAYS

FROM 1956 MONTHLY PUBLICATIONS OF MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

ह् संवत्-1945-1946

जुलाई आषाढ़-श्रावण JULY

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
1 दशमी	2 एकादशी	3 द्वादशी	4 त्रयोदशी-चतुर्दशी	5 अमावस्या	6 एकम्	7 द्वितीया
8 तृतीया	9 चतुर्थी	10 पंचमी	11 षष्ठी	12 सप्तमी	13 अष्टमी	14 नवमी
15 नवमी	16 दशमी	17 एकादशी	18 द्वादशी	19 त्रयोदशी	20 चतुर्दशी	21 पूर्णिमा
22 एकम्	23 द्वितीया	24 तृतीया	25 चतुर्थी	26 पंचमी-षष्ठी	27 सप्तमी	28 अष्टमी
29 नवमी	30 दशमी	31 एकादशी				

07 रथ यात्रा / Rath Yatra
17 मुहर्रम / Muharram

अगस्त श्रावण-भाद्रपद AUGUST

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
			1 द्वादशी	2 त्रयोदशी	3 चतुर्दशी	4 अमावस्या
5 एकम्	6 द्वितीया	7 तृतीया	8 चतुर्थी	9 पंचमी	10 षष्ठी	11 सप्तमी
12 अष्टमी	13 नवमी	14 नवमी	15 दशमी	16 एकादशी-द्वादशी	17 त्रयोदशी	18 चतुर्दशी
19 पूर्णिमा	20 एकम्	21 द्वितीया	22 तृतीया	23 चतुर्थी	24 पंचमी	25 षष्ठी
26 सप्तमी	27 अष्टमी-नवमी	28 दशमी	29 एकादशी	30 द्वादशी	31 त्रयोदशी	

15 पारसी नववर्ष दिवस / नवरोज / Parsi New Year's Day / Navroz
19 रक्षा बंधन / Raksha Bandhan
15 स्वतंत्रता दिवस / Independence Day
26 जन्माष्टमी (वैष्णव) / Janamashtami (Vaishnav)

सितम्बर भाद्रपद-आश्विन SEPTEMBER

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
30 त्रयोदशी						1 चतुर्दशी
2 अमावस्या	3 अमावस्या	4 एकम्	5 द्वितीया	6 तृतीया	7 चतुर्थी	8 पंचमी
9 षष्ठी	10 सप्तमी	11 अष्टमी	12 नवमी	13 दशमी	14 एकादशी	15 द्वादशी
16 त्रयोदशी	17 चतुर्दशी	18 पूर्णिमा	19 एकम्-द्वितीया	20 तृतीया	21 चतुर्थी	22 पंचमी
23 षष्ठी	24 सप्तमी	25 अष्टमी	26 नवमी	27 दशमी	28 एकादशी	29 द्वादशी

07 गणेश / विनायक चतुर्थी/ Ganesh / Vinayaka Chaturthi
15 ओणम / Onam
16 ईद-ए-मिलाद / Id-e-Milad

अक्टूबर आश्विन-कार्तिक OCTOBER

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
	1 चतुर्दशी	2 अमावस्या	3 एकम्	4 द्वितीया	5 तृतीया	6 चतुर्थी
7 चतुर्थी	8 पंचमी	9 षष्ठी	10 सप्तमी	11 अष्टमी-नवमी	12 दशमी	13 एकादशी
14 द्वादशी	15 त्रयोदशी	16 चतुर्दशी	17 पूर्णिमा	18 एकम्	19 द्वितीया	20 तृतीया
21 चतुर्थी	22 पंचमी	23 षष्ठी-सप्तमी	24 अष्टमी	25 नवमी	26 नवमी	27 दशमी
28 एकादशी	29 द्वादशी	30 त्रयोदशी	31 चतुर्दशी			

10 दशहरा (सप्तमी) / Dussehra (Saptami)
11 दशहरा (महाष्टमी / महानवमी) / Dussehra (Mahastami / Mahanavmi)
17 महर्षि वाल्मीकि जयंती / Maharshi Valmiki Jayanti
20 करक चतुर्थी (करवाचौथ) / Karaka Chaturthi (Karwachauth)
31 नरक चतुर्दशी / Naraka Chaturdashi
02 महात्मा गांधी जयंती / Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti
12 दशहरा / Dussehra
31 दिवाली (दीपावली) / Diwali (Deepavali)

नवम्बर कार्तिक-मार्गशीर्ष NOVEMBER

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
				1 अमावस्या	2 एकम्	3 द्वितीया
4 तृतीया	5 चतुर्थी	6 पंचमी	7 षष्ठी	8 सप्तमी	9 अष्टमी	10 नवमी
11 दशमी	12 एकादशी	13 द्वादशी	14 त्रयोदशी-चतुर्दशी	15 पूर्णिमा	16 एकम्	17 द्वितीया
18 तृतीया	19 चतुर्थी	20 पंचमी	21 षष्ठी	22 सप्तमी	23 अष्टमी	24 नवमी
25 दशमी	26 एकादशी	27 द्वादशी	28 त्रयोदशी	29 त्रयोदशी	30 चतुर्दशी	

02 गोवर्धन पूजा / Govardhan Pooja
03 भाई दूज / Bhai Duj
07 प्रतिहारी षष्ठी या सूर्य षष्ठी / छठ पूजा / Pratihar Shashthi or Surya Shashthi / Chhat Puja
24 गुरू तेग बहादूर शहीदी दिवस / Guru Teg Bahadur's Martyrdom Day
15 गुरूनानक जयंती / Gurunanak Jayanti

दिसम्बर मार्गशीर्ष-पौष DECEMBER

Mon सोम	Tue मंगल	Wed बुध	Thu गुरु	Fri शुक्र	Sat शनि	Sun रवि
30 अमावस्या	31 एकम्					1 अमावस्या
2 एकम्	3 द्वितीया	4 तृतीया	5 चतुर्थी	6 पंचमी	7 षष्ठी	8 सप्तमी-अष्टमी
9 नवमी	10 दशमी	11 एकादशी	12 द्वादशी	13 त्रयोदशी	14 चतुर्दशी	15 पूर्णिमा
16 एकम्	17 द्वितीया	18 तृतीया	19 चतुर्थी	20 पंचमी	21 षष्ठी	22 सप्तमी
23 अष्टमी	24 नवमी	25 दशमी	26 एकादशी	27 द्वादशी	28 त्रयोदशी	29 चतुर्दशी

24 क्रिसमस पूर्व / Christmas Eve.
25 क्रिसमस दिवस / Christmas Day



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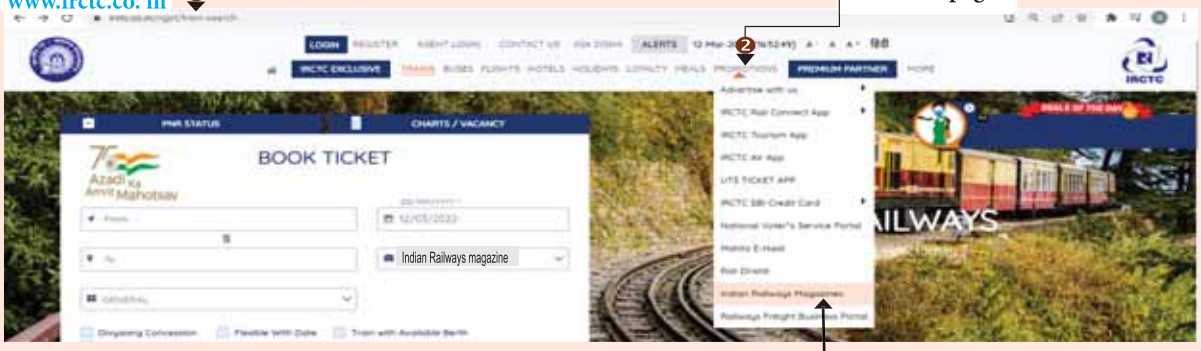
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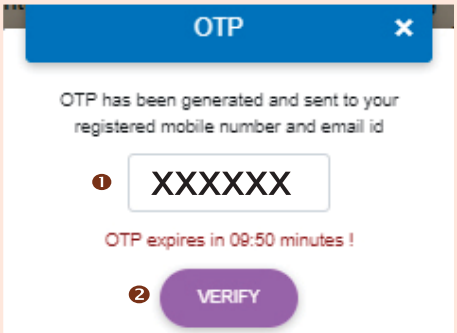


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STEP 6



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RAILWAYS

online to Indian Railways magazine

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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.



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Record Roll out of Vande Bharat Train Service in One Year

35 indigenously designed, semi-high speed Vande Bharat Express trains (70 services) are currently serving people across the country. Six more Vande Bharat trains will be launched soon, making it to 82 services.

These trains cover upto 247 districts.

The introduction of these trains is heralding a new standard of rail service in the country.

Features	Vande Bharat	Global Train-sets
Starting acceleration	Starting Acceleration from 0 to 40 kmph is >0.7 m/s^2. It takes hardly 52 seconds to attain speed of 100 kmph and 130 seconds to attain max. Speed of 160 kmph	Global average is 0.5 to 0.7 m/s^2
Ventilation and Air Conditioning	Indigenously developed Anti Viral System	No such system
Ride Quality	Light-Weight bogie with superior ride performance. 40% reduced vertical/lateral acceleration than LHB bogie	
Safety feature	KAVACH (Train Collision Avoidance System) - Prevent Signal Passing At Danger (SPAD), Head-on and rear end collision, automatic whistling at LC gates, cab signaling etc	ETCS-2 is used
Battery	Light-weight Lithium Chemistry Batteries (LiFePO4) with advanced Battery Management System (BMS) used for 3 hr backup	Heavier VRLA/NiCd batteries are in regular use. Le chemistry batteries are still under trail
TCMS	1000 Mbps ethernet based TCMS with dual homing for high performance and fast response	Globally, WTB and MVB [Wired Train Bus + Multi Train Bus] based TCMS with data rate 1 Mbps



New Amrit Bharat Trains



Two Amrit Bharat trains viz Darbhanga-Ayodhya-Anand Vihar Terminal Amrit Bharat Express and Malda Town-Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminus (Bengaluru) Amrit Bharat Express are to be launched by month end.

The Amrit Bharat train is an LHB push pull train. This train has locos at both ends for better acceleration. It provides improved facilities for rail passengers like beautifull and attractively designed seats, better luggage racks, mobile charging points with suitable mobile holders, LED lights, CCTV, public information system, among others.■



Record Amrit Bharat Stations

1,309 Amrit Bharat Stations have been identified across the nation, with the aim to significantly modernize passenger amenities and improve accessibility and inclusivity of railway stations. Three stations have been redeveloped – Gandhinagar Capital Station, Rani Kamlapati Railway station, Sir M. Visvesvaraya Terminal.

Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi laid foundation stone for 508 Amrit Bharat Stations on 6th August, 2023.

These stations are set to emerge as city centres of respective regions.■

Record New Tracks

During 2004-14, 14,985 Rkm of rail track work was done whereas in the last 9 years (2014-23), 25,871 Rkm of track laying work has been done. In the year 2022-23 per day 14 km track laid and this year's target is to achieve 16 km per day track laying.■



Fast Tracking of Major Infrastructure Projects



Jiribam - Imphal new line (110.63 km) for connectivity with Manipur at a cost of ₹14,323 cr. The project has achieved physical progress of 93%.

World's highest pier bridge with a pier height of 141 m being constructed over the valley of river Ijai near Noney is nearing completion. Once completed, it will surpass the existing record of 139 m of Mala – Rijeka Viaduct, Montenegro in Europe.

Work on Chenab Bridge is nearing completion. The first trial run on a track-mounted vehicle on the Chenab bridge in J&K's Reasi district - the world's highest railway bridge- was conducted in March 2023.

For the first time in India, a trial run of Kolkata Metro rake was conducted under Hooghly river. The tunnel work was completed between Howrah Maidan- Esplanade in Kolkata.

Work on Pamban Bridge is nearing completion. 92% civil work has been done.

Rishikesh – Karnaprayag Char Dham project has gathered steam.

Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor: All civil contracts awarded for Gujarat and Maharashtra. 115.8 km viaduct and 267 km of pier casting have been completed. Completion of 100% land acquisition in Gujarat and DNH Overall: - 99.95%, Gujarat: - 100% DNH: - 100% Maharashtra: - 99.83%

Works on all 8 HSR Stations (Vapi, Bilimora, Surat, Bharuch, Anand, Vadodara, Ahmedabad and Sabarmati) are under various stages of construction.

Achieved a remarkable milestone with the completion of first mountain tunnel of 350 m length and 12.6 m diameter located near Zaroli Village in Valsad, Gujarat in just 10 months.■



Green Initiatives

Indian Railways has set a target of becoming Net Zero Carbon Emitter by 2030. IR has taken a number of initiatives to reduce its carbon emissions which include use of energy efficient technologies like completely switching over to production of three phase electric locomotives with regenerative features, use of head on generation (HOG) technology, use of LED lights in buildings and coaches, star rated appliances and afforestation.

As of October 2023, about 211 MW of solar plants (both on rooftops and on land) and about 103 MW of wind power plants have been commissioned. Further, about 2150 MW of renewable capacity has also been tied up.■

Swachhata Hi Sewa Campaign 2023

Ministry of Railways observed Swachhata Pakhwada from 15th September, 2023 to 2nd October, 2023 with every effort to ensure the successful implementation of this campaign, aimed at fostering a much greener and more eco-friendly railway system. In this year, during the first 14 days (i.e. 15th to 29th September, 2023) of SHS campaign, more than 2.14 lakh people participated in around 1934 activities with man-hours of 6,62,990 in the campaign which includes whole-hearted participation of passengers and other stakeholders.

- Special Campaign 3.0 was launched from 1st October 2023.
- ₹66.83 Lakhs (approx.) revenue generated through disposal of office scrap.
- More than 5,297 cleanliness campaigns conducted during the period.
- Special focus on scrap disposal resulted in freeing up of 3,97,619 sq. feet of office space.



One Station, One Product Outlets



1,250 OSOP outlets are functional across 1,129 stations.

This scheme promotes 'Vocal for Local' vision, providing a market for local/indigenous products and creating additional income opportunities for the marginalised sections of society.■

Output by Production Units

Banaras Locomotive Works recently manufactured 10,0,00th Electric Locomotive on 20th December, 2023.

Chittaranjan Locomotive Works manufactured 12,000th Electric Locomotive on 26th September, 2023.

ICF manufactured 50th rake of Vande Bharat Express in 2023.■



WiFi

In the last 9 years, 6,108 railway stations across the nation started offering free and high speed wifi facilities.

CCTVs

Before 2014, the number of stations equipped with CCTV surveillance facilities was 123 whereas in the last 9 years (2014-23), CCTVs were installed across 743 railway stations.



Foot Over Bridge



During 2009-14, the number of FOBs constructed was 115 while in the span of 9 years, Indian Railways fostered uninterrupted and safe train operations across the state, by constructing 1,826 FOBs.



Improved North East Connectivity

Railways' projects are progressing swiftly in North eastern states.

All North eastern States have been connected with rail except Sikkim where the work is in progress.

Rail connectivity to Four states (i.e. Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Mizoram) provided after 2014.

Meghalaya in November, 2014 Arunachal Pradesh in Febuary, 2015 Manipur (Jiribam) in May, 2016 and Mizoram (Bhairabi) in March, 2016.

Northeast India's first semi-high speed train was launched on May 29, 2023 (it connects Guwahati and New Jalpaiguri.)

Gati Shakti Cargo Terminal

To boost investment from industry in development of additional terminals for handling rail cargos, 'Gati Shakti Multimodal Cargo Terminal (GCT)' policy has been launched on 15th December, 2021.

51 GCTs commissioned during 2023. Around 80 more locations have been identified for development of GCTs.■





Bharat Gaurav Trains

Indian Railways has launched theme-based Tourist Circuit trains with an objective to showcase India's rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places.

1st Bharat Gaurav train viz. Shirdi Yatra was launched on 14th June, 2022 from Coimbatore to Mantralayam, and Shirdi and back, covering a total distance of 2,880 km.

156 trips of Bharat Gaurav trains on 26 tourist circuits covering 90 tourist places have been operated till now. A total of 72,583 passengers have availed this service and currently this service is running on 26 circuits.■

Vistadome Coach Boost to Tourism

As a measure of passenger convenience and to showcase natural and scenic beauty, aesthetically designed Vistadome Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches on tourist routes have been introduced on Indian Railways. Vistadome coaches provide panoramic views, through wider body side windows as well as through transparent sections in the roof, thus enabling the passengers to enjoy the scenic beauty along the tracks and attract tourists. These coaches are running in Kalka-Shimla, Guwahati-Badarpur, Guwahati-Naharlagun, Visakhapatnam-Araku, New Jalpaiguri and Alipurduar.

For providing world class travel experience to passengers 57 vistadome coaches are running in various Broad, Meter, Running gauge section of Indian Railways.■



Dedicated Freight Corridor on its Way to Completion

Before 2014 not a single km of DFC commissioned. Adequate money and concentrated efforts have resulted in starting of the track laying works from the year 2014 itself.

Now almost all of EDFC has been completed and WDFC is about to complete. 2,513 km commissioned i.e. approx 90 % of DFC has been commissioned.

EDFC : Ludhiana to Sonnagar (1337 km) completed

WDFC : 1176 km out of 1506 km from Jawaharlal Nehru Port Terminal to Dadri has been completed.■



Kavach

Kavach has been deployed on 1465 km and 139 locomotives

Kavach is an indigenously developed Automatic Train Protection (ATP) system

Lingampalli - Vikarabad - Wadi and Vikarabad - Bidar section (265 Rkm)

Manmad-Mudkhed-Dhone-Guntkal section (959 Rkm)

Bidar-Parbhani section (241 Rkm)

Kavach aids the loco pilot in train running within specified speed limits by automatic application of brakes in case loco pilot fails to do so and also help the train safely run during inclement weather.



Kavach contracts have been awarded for Delhi- Mumbai (including Ahmedabad-Vadodara Section) and Delhi- Howrah (including Luknow—Kanpur Section) corridors (approximately 3000 Rkm) covering Eastern Railway, East Central Railway, North Central Railway, Northern Railway, West Central Railway and Western Railway.■

Security of Passengers

Railway Protection Force (RPF) carries on an unrelenting fight against criminals in protecting railway passengers, passenger area and railway property, facilitate passenger travel and security, remains vigilant to prevent trafficking of women and children and take appropriate action to rehabilitate destitute children found in Railway areas. The force has the distinction of the central force with largest share of women (9%) in its ranks.

During 2023, RPF has carried out various operations like Operation "Nanhe Faristey" — Rescuing Lost Children, Anti-Human Trafficking Efforts (Operation AAHT), Operation "Jeevan Raksha" — Saving Lives, Empowering Women Passengers - "Meri Saheli" Initiative, Cracking Down on Touts (Operation "Uplabdh"), Operation "NARCOS" — Combating Drug Crimes, Swift Response to Passengers' Concerns, Operation "Yatri Suraksha" — Protecting Passengers,Ensuring Safety through "Operation Sanraksha", Assisting Those in Need (Operation Seva), Curbing Illegal Goods Transport (Operation Satark) to ensure the security of passengers and other stakeholders in Railway premises.■



Sports



88 players and 11 coaches from Indian Railways represented the country in the 19th Asian Games 2022 held at Hangzhou (China) from 23rd September, 2023 to 8th October, 2023. Out of 107 medals won in these Games by India, Railway athletes bagged 22 medals (8 Gold, 7 Silver and 7 Bronze). 39 Indian Railways players from Indian Railways have won total 43 medals in individual and team events.

Redevelopment of Wrestling Academy at Kishanganj, New Delhi with State-of-the art facilities is in progress.

Renovated Sports hostel inaugurated at Kolkata, South Eastern Railway in September, 2023.■



Enhancing Safety

Indian Railways gives top priority to safety in train operations. In order to enhance the level of safety Indian Railway have taken a number of steps, some of which are as given below:

Electrical/Electronic Interlocking Systems with centralized operation of points and signals have been provided at 6,498 stations upto 31st October, 2023.

Interlocking of Level Crossing (LC) Gates has been provided at 11,137 level Crossing Gates upto 31st October, 2023..

Complete Track Circuiting of stations to enhance safety for verification of track occupancy by electrical means has been provided at 6548 stations upto 31st October, 2023..

Locomotives are equipped with Vigilance Control Devices (VCD) to ensure alertness of loco pilots.

Retro-reflective sigma boards are provided on the mast which is located between two OHE masts prior to the signals in electrified territories to warn the crew about the signal ahead when visibility is low due to foggy weather.

A Global Positioning System (GPS) based Fog Safety Device (FSD) is provided to loco pilots in fog affected areas which enables loco pilots to know the distance of the approaching landmarks like signals, level crossing gates etc.

Modern track structure consisting of 60kg, 90 Ultimate Tensile Strength (UTS) rails, Pre-stressed Concrete Sleeper (PSC) Normal/Wide base sleepers with elastic fastening, fanshaped layout turnout on PSC sleepers, Steel Channel/ H-beam Sleepers on girder bridges is used while carrying out primary track renewals.

Mechanisation of track laying activity through use of track machines like PQRS, TRT, T-28 etc to reduce human errors.

Maximizing supply of 130m/260m long rail panels for increasing progress of rail renewal and avoiding welding of joints, thereby ensuring safety.

Laying of longer rails, minimizing the use of Alumino Thermic Welding and adoption of better welding technology for rails i.e. Flash Butt Welding.

Monitoring of track geometry by OMS (Oscillation Monitoring System) and TRC (Track Recording Cars).

Patrolling of railway tracks to look out for weld/ rail fractures.

The use of Thick Web Switches and Weldable Cast Manganese Steel (CMS) Crossing in turnout renewal works.

Inspections at regular intervals are carried out to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices.

Detailed instructions on issues related with safety of track e.g. integrated block, corridor



block, worksite safety, monsoon precautions etc. have been issued.

Preventive maintenance of railway assets (Coaches and Wagons) is undertaken to ensure safe train operations and to keep a check on Rail Accidents across the country.

Replacement of conventional Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coaches with Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) design coaches is being done.

All unmanned level crossings (UMLCs) on Broad Gauge (BG) route have been eliminated by January 2019.

Safety of Railway bridges is ensured through regular inspection of bridges. The requirement of repair/rehabilitation of bridges is taken up based upon the conditions assessed during these inspections.

Indian Railways has displayed Statutory "Fire Notices" for widespread passenger information in all coaches. Fire posters are provided in every coach so as to inform and alert passengers regarding various Do's and Don'ts to prevent fire. These include messages regarding not carrying any inflammable material, explosives, prohibition of smoking inside the coaches, penalties etc.

Production units are providing fire detection and suppression system in newly manufactured Power Cars and Pantry Cars and Fire and Smoke detection system in newly manufactured coaches. Progressive fitment of the same in existing coaches is also underway by Zonal Railways in a phased manner.



Increase in Ex-gratia Amount

Ex-gratia is an emergent relief paid by the Railways to the injured/next of kin of deceased passengers at the accident site or at the hospitals where the injured are admitted for treatment. The rates of ex-gratia in case of train accident and accident at MLCs were last revised in the year 2012 and in case of untoward incident, it was last revised in the year 1996. The rates of ex-gratia now have been increased to 10 times of the existing ones.



The earlier and revised ex-gratia is as under:-

	Earlier	Revised
TRAIN ACCIDENT		
Death	₹50,000/-	₹5,00,000/-
Grievous Injury	₹25,000/-	₹2,50,000/-
Simple injury	₹5,000/-	₹50,000/-
UNTOWARD INCIDENT		
Death	₹15,000/-	₹1,50,000/-
Grievous Injury	₹5,000/-	₹50,000/-
Simple injury	₹500/-	₹5,000/-
MANNED LEVEL CROSSING		
Death	₹50,000/-	₹5,00,000/-
Grievous Injury	₹25,000/-	₹2,50,000/-
Simple injury	₹5,000/-	₹50,000/-

Major Milestone Achieved in USBRL Project: 3209 m Long Tunnel T-1 Breakthrough



In a significant breakthrough for the Udhampur-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, the 3209 m long Tunnel T-1 between Katra and Reasi Stations was successfully completed on 20th December, 2023. Tunnel T-1 is located at the foothills of Trikuta Hills near Katra in Reasi District being constructed by Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., for Northern Railway under the National Projects. Under the USBRL project, this breakthrough is a key milestone, ensuring that all tunnels required for the project have been successfully constructed. The Katra-Reasi stretch, covering a challenging 111 km, faced multiple interruptions during construction, necessitating the involvement of global experts. Tunnel T-1, formerly recognized as the most challenging tunnel due to its passage through the Himalayan Main Boundary Thrust (MBT), presented formidable geological challenges, including rugged terrain and substantial water inflow from within the tunnel.

In the beginning, the tunnelling was done adopting conventional NATM Tunnelling philosophy. However, in order to tackle the visco-elastic plastic media of Main Boundary Thrust, the tunnel excavation methodology was switched over from NATM to I – System of Tunnelling by providing deep drainage pipes, Umbrella pipe roofing, chemical grouting, face bolting, sequential excavation with multiple drift, rigid support & shotcreting etc. By adopting the I – System of Tunnelling, the excavation of Tunnel T1 through MBT (in Heading) has been successfully completed, thus clearing a major impediment in commissioning of the new Railway Line from Katra to Banihal.

The completion of this tunnel is a significant achievement in the broader context of the USBRL project, which involves the construction of 38 tunnels between Katra and Banihal. While all tunnels on this rail route have been completed, Tunnel T-1 posed the greatest obstacle, being the longest and encountering unique geological complexities. The project involved meticulous planning and the application of various engineering technologies, ensuring that the 3209m long Tunnel T-1 is now successfully excavated, underscoring the commitment of Indian Railways to infrastructural progress.

As of today, about 318m length of excavation in Benching and about 680m length of concrete lining is balanced. The works are in progress round the clock at full swing to complete the balance works. Indian Railway is edging closer to connecting Kashmir Valley to the rest of the Railway network.

READERS
are requested to send their
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News of Zonal Railways and Production Units



Shri Ram Karan Yadav joined as the General Manager of Central Railway

He is a senior officer of the IRSE of 1986 exam batch. Before taking over as General Manager, Central Railway, he was working as Director General, IRICEN, Pune. He joined Railways in March 1988. He has a very rich and vast experience of having worked on Infrastructure projects. He has attended the Executive Leadership Program (for DRMs) at SDA Bocconi School of Management, Milan, Italy and the Advance Management Training Program at INSEAD Singapore and ICLIF, Malaysia. He has also attended Strategic Management Workshop at ISB Hyderabad and Leadership Enhancement Development Program at ISB Mohali.■

ICF Awarded the Prestigious Corporate Leadership Honour

Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai has received the esteemed Excellence in Rolling Stock Solutions' award in the Corporate Leadership category announced in the 3rd Urban Infra Business Leadership Awards 2023, held at New Delhi on 7th December 2023.■

This award was given in recognition of contributions of ICF in the field of transport as a green industrial unit despite being the world's largest railway passenger rolling stock manufacturing unit, with an installed capacity of 14 MW 100% renewable/green energy. ICF has now taken up the production of Vande Metro trainset (a short-travel intercity commuter train) and Vande Bharat Trainset Sleeper Version (for long distance travel) on the Vande Bharat platform.

Shri B.G.Mallya, General Manager, ICF, congratulated the staff and officers of ICF for bagging this prestigious award and said that such awards encourage and motivate the ICF team to scale more heights.■

CLW's Remarkable Feat — 400th Locomotive Flagged Off

Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), the premier electric locomotive production unit of Indian Railways, has achieved another milestone by manufacturing 400 locomotive in FY 2023-24. Shri Hitendra Malhotra, General Manager flagged off the 400th locomotive, WAG-9 HC (No. 38314) from the Test Shed of Shop-19 of CLW workshop premises on 5th December, 2023.

The flagging off was attended by Principal Heads of Departments, senior officers, supervisors, and dedicated staff. The pace of production exemplifies a testament to the hard work, dedication, and strategic planning of the entire CLW team. Shri Hitendra Malhotra, General Manager congratulated the entire 'Team CLW' for this remarkable achievement.■





67th All India Railway Volleyball Championship Concluded



The 67th All India Railway Volleyball Championship, 2023-2024 organized by the Northeast Frontier Railway Sports Association (NFRSA) started on 7th December and ended on 12th December, 2023. In the closing ceremony, General Manager/N.F. Railway, Shri Chetan Kumar Shrivastava gave away the prizes and trophies to the winners and runners-up.

In this tournament, altogether 20 teams consisting of a total of 300 players participated from different zones/PSUs of Indian Railways spreading all over the country. In the finals, South Western Railway emerged as champions by beating Northern Railway 3-1. Ashwal Rai and Libro from SWR and Rohit Kumar from NR who represented India in recently concluded Asian Games, 2023 marked their presence through splendid performance in this tournament. Also, Sameer from Northern Railway who participated in Junior World Volleyball Championship & Junior Asian Championship, 2022 along with Arjuna Awardee Kapil Dev from Southern Railway participated in this tournament.■





Indian Railways, men and women teams won Bronze medals in their respective team championships at the Senior National Badminton Championship held in Guwahati, Assam.



Indian Railways Table Tennis players won a record 7 medals in Sr. National Championship at Panchkula with Poymantee Baisya of the Railways family becoming a National Champion after 32 years.■







Indian Railways Women's & Men's Basketball Team won Gold and Silver Medal respectively at the 73rd Sr. National Basketball Championship held in Ludhiana, Punjab.

Cueists Malkeet Singh and E. Pandurangaiah, won Gold and Silver medals, respectively, at Sr. National 6 Red Snooker Championship held in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.■



Progress Report

Chhapra-Ballia (65 km) railway section doubling





Work process : 50.9 km Doubling work completed

Remaining 14.08 km. Work continues at a rapid pace

Doubling of this railway section will increase the line capacity.

There will be savings in travel and travel time.

13th December, 2023

Beleghata Metro station, Kolkata (Orange Line)





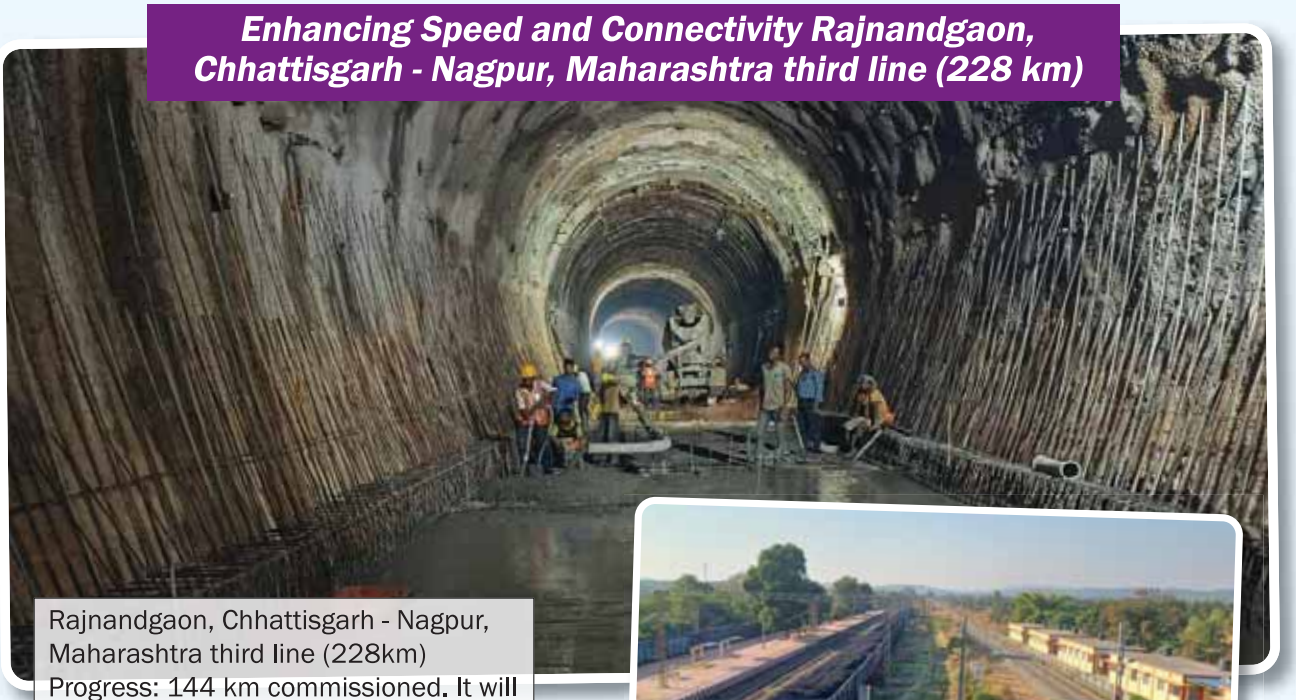
Work completed: Concrete structure

Work in Progress:

Lifts and Escalators installation, Granite floor covering, Electrification work. Upon completion, it will improve connectivity for the residents living in EM Bypass Metropolitan.

13th December, 2023

Enhancing Speed and Connectivity Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh - Nagpur, Maharashtra third line (228 km)



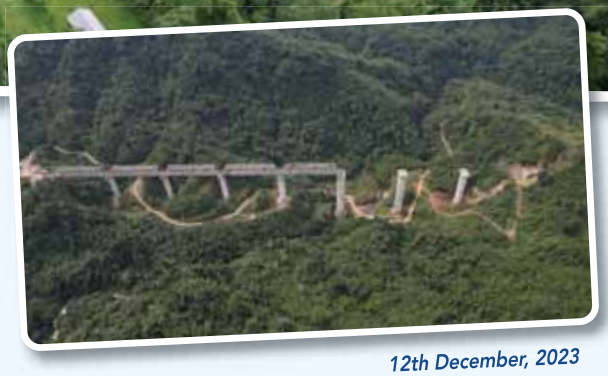
Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh - Nagpur, Maharashtra third line (228km)
Progress: 144 km commissioned. It will boost transportation capacity for mines, coal fields, and power plants in the region.

12th December, 2023

Advancing towards Seamless Rail Connectivity Bhairabi-Sairang Railway Line (51.38 km) Project, Mizoram



Bhairabi-Sairang Railway Line (51.38 km) Project, Mizoram
Overall Progress 91%
Bridge Works Completed
Major 12/55
Minor 85/87
ROB/RUB 79
Tunnels 12710m/12853m



12th December, 2023

Mathura-Jhansi 3rd Line Project (274 km)



Progress: 146 km commissioned
Benefits:
Cater to future growth of traffic on the North-South corridor
The project starts from Mathura station and traverses 31 intermediate stations covering three states.



11th December, 2023

Indian Railways is accelerating electrification efforts in the Northeast



Driven by the goal of Net Zero Carbon Emission, Indian Railways is accelerating electrification efforts in the Northeast. With 1967 RKM tracks electrified, IR paving the way for a greener and more efficient rail network in the region.



23rd December, 2023

Strengthening Last-mile Rail Connectivity





9th December, 2023

Progress on Murkongselek-Pasighat New Line Project is advancing with earthwork, minor bridges, and RUB construction. Upon completion, it will link the crucial tourist hub of Pasighat to the rest of the nation.

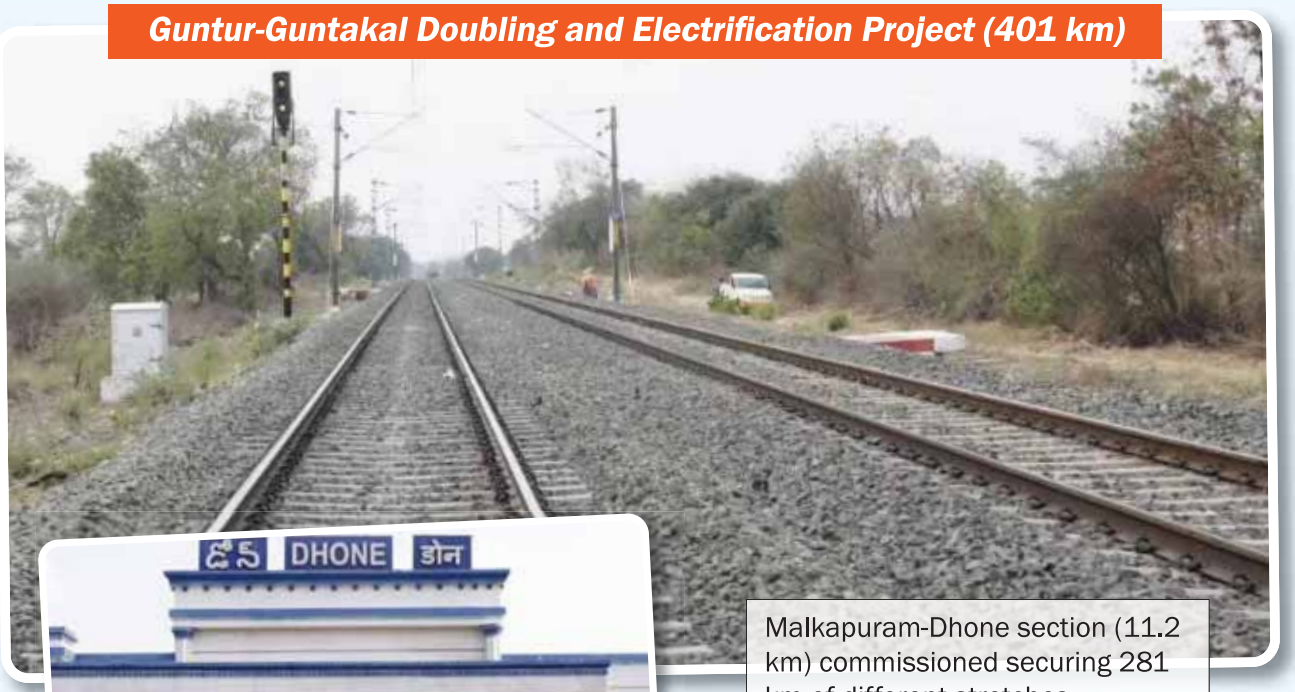
Progress of Koraput-Singapur Road



6th December, 2023

In a bid to flourish industrial growth in the tribal region of Koraput district, Doubling of Koraput - Singapur Road (164.56 Km) is progressing rapidly.

Guntur-Guntakal Doubling and Electrification Project (401 km)





3rd December, 2023

Malkapuram-Dhone section (11.2 km) commissioned securing 281 km of different stretches

This project will facilitate eastbound train operations from the southern Rayalaseema region.

Progress Update of Imphal Station Building and Station Yard Part of Jiribam-Imphal New Rail Project, Manipur



2nd December, 2023

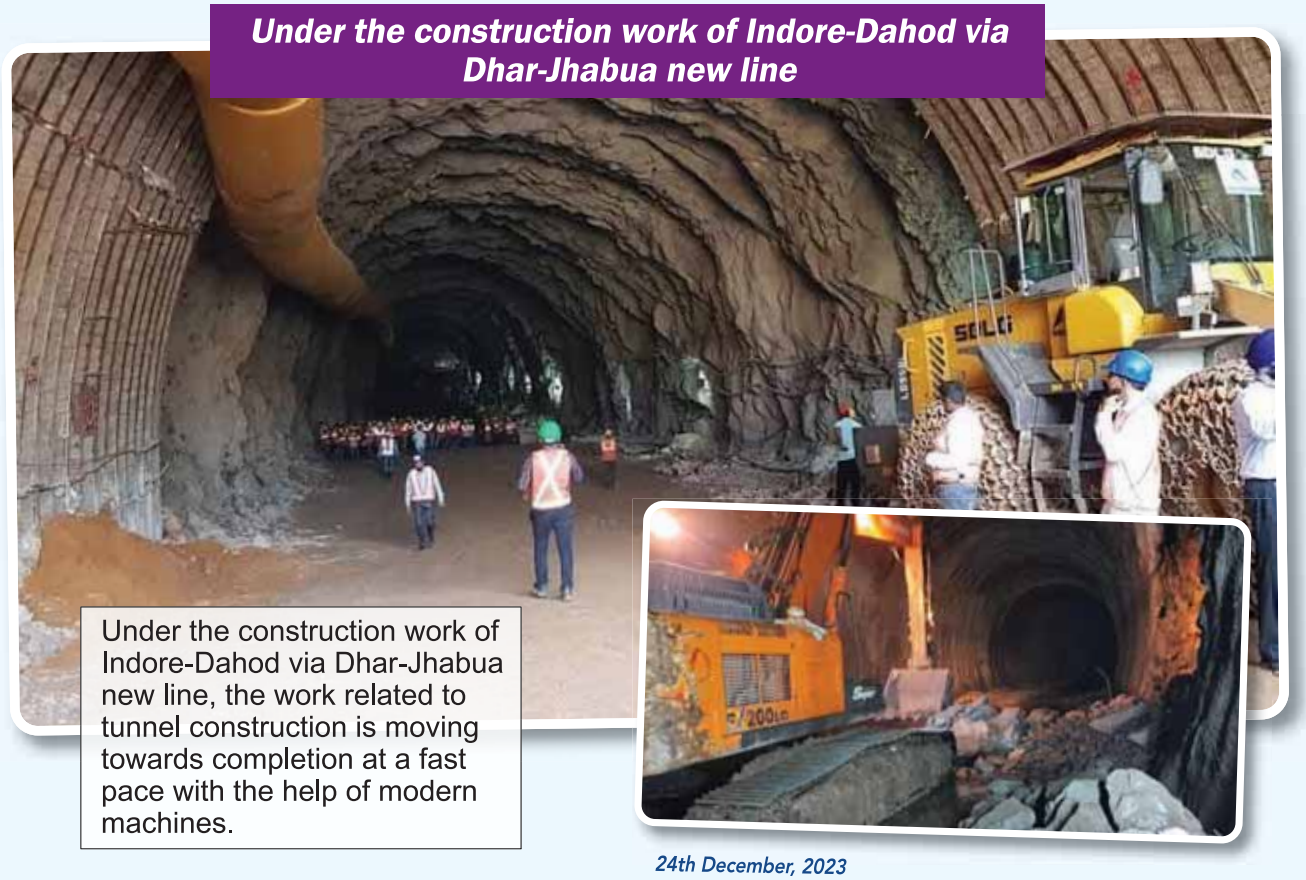
Work in Progress

90% Structural work

85% Brick work

Upon completion, the station will boast a heritage outlook equipped with modern facilities.

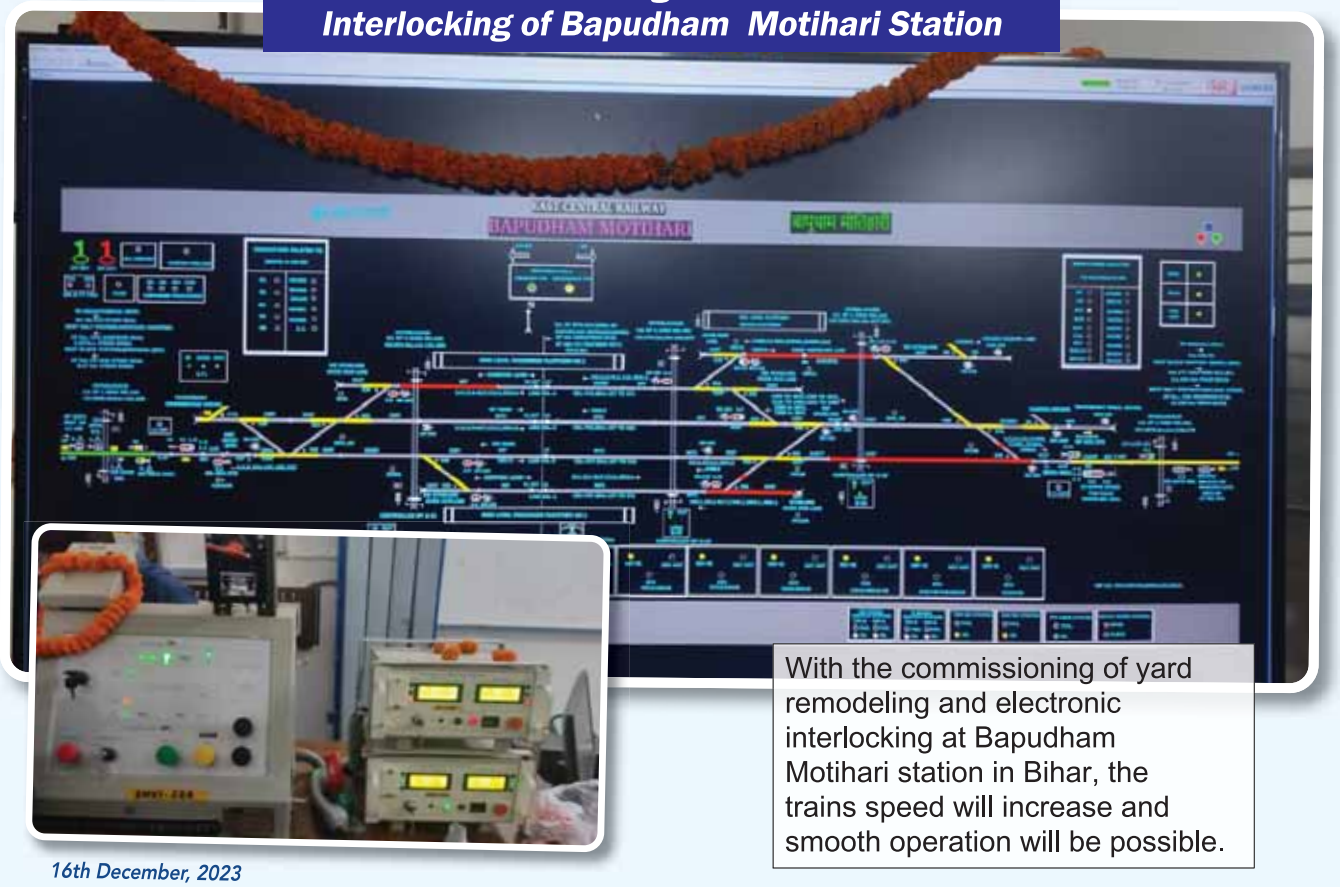
Under the construction work of Indore-Dahod via Dhar-Jhabua new line



Under the construction work of Indore-Dahod via Dhar-Jhabua new line, the work related to tunnel construction is moving towards completion at a fast pace with the help of modern machines.

24th December, 2023

Yard remodelling and Electronic Interlocking of Bapudham Motihari Station



With the commissioning of yard remodeling and electronic interlocking at Bapudham Motihari station in Bihar, the trains speed will increase and smooth operation will be possible.

16th December, 2023

Maharashtra's Wardha-Nanded New Line Project (270 km)





16th December, 2023

Work Completed- 15 km
Work in Progress:
Major/Minor Bridges- 82/400
ROB- 43
Station Building- 3/27
Upon completion, this line will enhance connectivity between the Vidarbha and Marathwada regions.

Tunnelling on Didwana-Lalsot section



19th December, 2023

Under the Dausa-Gangapur City New Railway Line Project of Rajasthan, the work of tunnelling on Didwana-Lalsot section (8.51 Kms) is going on at a fast pace.

MAHSR Project



MAHSR Project achieves a significant milestone with the completion of a 100 km viaduct, advancing toward the total of 465 km within the 508 km MAHSR alignment.

9th December, 2023

Maharashtra's Kasara Yard Modification



Work completed: Platform covershed extension on both Igatpuri and CSMT end
Work In Progress: Extension of platform. It will enhance mobility of trains in Igatpuri-Kasara section.

5th December, 2023

Redevelopment work of Sambalpur Jn. in Odisha





25th November, 2023

Redevelopment work is progressing swiftly for Sambalpur Jn. in Odisha, with modifications to add new lines, platforms, and pit lines.

Upon completion, it will significantly boost train handling capacity with improved passenger amenities.

Feast your eyes upon the beauty of Kavi Subhash Metro station, Kolkata - a future terminal and interchange station on the Orange Line.-1







21st December, 2023

Ajmer Jn. Station Mahotsav was organized on the foundation day of Railway Station



Ajmer Jn. Station Mahotsav was organized on its foundation day, during which the history of the station was presented along with various cultural programs and retired railway employees and school children were also honoured.

Rail Coach Restaurant at Lokmanya Tilak Terminus





Refurbishing an obsolete coach, Rail Coach Restaurant started at Lokmanya Tilak Terminus, Maharashtra, serving delicious meals with a true taste of Rail ambience.

Centenary of a Loved Landmark
Southern Railway building

Shri V. Sriram



It has stood on Poonamallee High Road for a hundred years, its grey Porbandar stone cladding giving it a distinct character among the surrounding plethora of red brick Indo-Saracenic structures. The offices of the Southern Railway, just across Walltax Road from Central Station, completed a century on 11th December 2022, for it was on that date in 1922 that they were thrown open by Lady Willingdon, wife of the then Governor of Madras. It is time to look at the history of this stately edifice.

The Madras Railway Company (MRC) came into existence in the 1850s and its first line was from Royapuram to Arcot, inaugurated in June 1856. The Royapuram Railway station is now India's oldest and is maintained after a fashion. Thankfully the Railways appear to have given up their earlier idea to demolish the structure. Not so lucky were the MRC's offices that stood close by the tracks. This was in the classic revival style and comprised a double-storey structure with Ionic columns all around it and a roof that had masonry urns. This building, long abandoned, was finally demolished around a couple of decades back. There are still some vestiges of it that can be sighted from the Royapuram overbridge. Within a decade of Royapuram's inauguration, it was felt that a station closer to the city centre was advisable and work began on Central. The new terminus was opened on April 7, 1873, with Chisholm's striking tower coming up a few years later. With that Royapuram declined in importance.

The Southern Mahratta Railway (SMR) company came into existence in 1882 and laid its first line from Hospet to Bellary two years later. The head office of this network was in Dharwar and comprised a handsome Indo-Saracenic building, completed in 1889. In 1907, the contract of the MRC came to an end and the lines owned by it were purchased by the Secretary of State. On 1st January, 1908, the MRC was made over to the SMR and the combined entity came to be known as the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company (M&SM). The Dharwar office was closed, and the building handed over for the purposes of education and even today houses an arts college. The head office of the new M&SM was now at Royapuram, Madras.

With Central by then being the hub of railway operations, it was desired that the head office of the railway company be close by. Moreover, the M&SM was operating from three offices in the city -Central, Royapuram and Perambur, where it had its workshops. This was deemed undesirable and the search for a suitable location began. In 1913, the

Government made over land just opposite the General Hospital. The foundation stone was laid on February 8, 1915 by the then Governor, Lord Pentland. The US Consul in Madras, Jose de Olivares reported on progress shortly after commencement.

The M&SM has begun construction of a commodious modern office building on an entire city block immediately adjacent to the central railway station in Madras. The building will be 480 by 204 feet, 3 stories, with wide verandas around three sides of the exterior. The main staircase will occupy the centre and will be lighted by a lofty dome 42 feet in diameter, while eight corner towers will likewise be topped by domes.

The facade will be based on the southern Hindu trabeated style with modifications adapting the building for modern office purposes. The materials will be brick, with facing of local stone for the building proper, and reinforced concrete foundations. Smaller adjacent structures will include tiffin quarters, a motor garage, coach houses, stables, etc. The estimated cost of $551,367 for buildings and land has been sanctioned. Excavation work is progressing, and it is estimated that the entire undertaking will be consummated by the middle of 1917.'

Things changed somewhat from this report during the actual process of construction. The stone for the facing was not local but came from Porbandar, though the substructure was faced with Pallavaram granite. The stone from Porbandar arrived via boat to Marmugao and was from there shipped by rail to Madras. N Grayson, who was the chief architect and an employee of the M&SM, introduced some changes in his preliminary design with two unique central towers, topped with cupolas. The octagonal domes in the corner were water storage tanks, with a total capacity of 35,000 gallons! The labour for laying the foundation came from Bombay for the technique was new in Madras – a reinforced concrete raft containing 500 tonnes of bent steel bars embedded in 10,000 tonnes of granite concrete on a stratum of pure sand. The foundation went five to eight feet below the ground. Built along two rectangular courtyards that divide the structure into eastern and western wings, the structure sports numerous Dravidian-style stone-clad columns, clearly inspired by temple architecture. The interiors were all completed in plasterwork. The contractors for the whole enterprise were Samynada Pillai from Madras and HH Wadia & Brothers from Bombay.

There was however a great overrun on time estimates, the First World War proving to be a major deterrent. Work was eventually completed only in 1922, at a cost of ₹ 30,76,400. The building was one of the first in the city to take electricity into consideration at design stage itself and was provided with lights and fans. Meant to accommodate 45 officers and 1,500 staff and with capacity to house double those numbers if need arose, the structure became home to the M&SM. It was considered a landmark in its time, with a boardroom and drawing offices as well. Post—Independence, with the M&SM merging with the Trichy-based South Indian Railway to form the Southern Railway, this became the headquarters of that division of the Indian Railways. The tall wrought iron gates of the building still sport the logo of the M&SM.

That the building was heavily inspired by the ongoing construction of edifices in New Delhi at the same time is very evident. The arched corridors borrow from ideas of Sir Edwin Lutyens and Sir Herbert Baker in their designs for the Viceroy's House (now Rashtrapati Bhavan) and the princely residences such as Hyderabad House and Bikaner House. More importantly, the two central towers are clearly inspired by two identical towers in the old secretariat built in the Civil Lines in Delhi in 1916. The architect was Montagu Thomas, who was the Government Architect for Madras before he moved to Delhi. It is very likely that Grayson was a close friend and collaborator.

There is no denying that the Southern Railway building is a magnificent landmark of the city. It maintains its own among a whole lot of other heritage buildings in the same stretch, though it is markedly different in style and execution. In 2010, this building was included in the list of heritage structures of the city by the High Court of Madras and accorded Grade 1 status. ■

We welcome articles from our readers about their first-hand experience while travelling by Indian Railways.

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Test Your Knowledge

1 How many Vande Bharat trains did the Hon'ble Prime Minister flagged off on 30th December, 2023?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
10	2	4	6

2 What is the new name of Ayodhya Railway Station?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Ayodhya	Ramnagari	Ayodhya Dham Jn.	Sitaram

3 What name has been given to the new non-AC train being run on the lines of Vande Bharat?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
New Vande Bharat	Amrit Bharat Express	Non-AC Vande Bharat	Vande Bharat

4 On which route is Indian Railways first high-rise pantograph Vande Bharat Express being run?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Ajmer-Delhi Cantt.	Delhi-Katra	Delhi-Varanasi	Mumbai-Ahmedabad

5 Which Production Unit of Indian Railways manufactured the first Vande Bharat Express?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
ICF	MCF	RCF	CLW

6 What is the total length of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
108 km	980 km	210 km	508 km

7 How many railway officials have been given the 'Ati Vishisht Rail Seva Award' 2023?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
250	100	75	200

8 On 17th December 2023, which railway station celebrated its 149th foundation day?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Kanpur Railway Station	Agra Railway Station	Idgah Railway Station	Delhi Cantt. Railway Station

9 In which year did the first electric passenger train run in India?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
1925	1854	1890	1985

10 How many digits are there in the PNR mentioned in the reservation ticket?

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
12	8	15	10

Right Answers

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



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ISBN 0019-6274

DL(ND)-11/6028/2021-22-2023
RNI Regd. No. 04563/1957
Published on : 3-4, Posted on : 6-7

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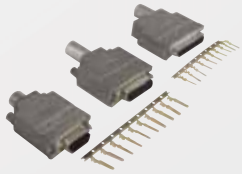
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Printed & Published by **Lalit Kumar Dhankar** on behalf of Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) from Room No. 310, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi-1 and printed at J.K. Offset Graphics Pvt. Ltd., B-278, Phase I, Okhla Industrial Area, New Delhi-110020. Editor : **Yogesh Avasthi**