(भारतसरकार) GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (रेलमंत्रालय) MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (रेलवेबोर्ड) (RAILWAY BOARD)

Commercial Circular no. 32 of 2023

No.TC-II/2910/2023/Special train-Socio-cultural

New Delhi, dated 27 .12.2023

The Principal Chief Commercial Managers Principal Chief Operation Managers All Zonal Railways.

Sub: Operation of Aastha special trains.

Ministry of Railways has decided to run Aastha special trains with round trip ticketing facility from different parts of country to destinations of socio cultural importance and return on the following terms and conditions:

- Single ticket shall be issued for both onward and return journey. Basic fare shall be calculated based on total round trip distance (For both onward and return journey) with telescopic benefits applicable for Mail/Express trains.
- (ii). Onboard catering shall also be provided by IRCTC in such special trains.
- (iii). Other charges like reservation charge, superfast charges, catering charges and service charges of IRCTC, GST, etc. as applicable shall be levied separately.
- (iv). Rounding off of fare shall be made as per existing principle. Normal child fare rules shall apply.
- (v). Coaching Directorate will issue notification of Aastha special trains on round trip basis with a single number. Booking of tickets in such trains shall be done only by IRCTC. Passenger manifest containing Name, age, gender, mobile number and special need if any will be provided to IRCTC by the concerned organization/entity.
- (vi). IRCTC to issue regional colour coded travel authority.
- (vii). Refund rules: Normal cancellation of tickets and refund of fare rules shall apply.
- 2. The above shall be implemented on an experimental basis for a period of one year.
- Necessary instruction may be issued to all concerned.

This issues in concurrence with Finance Directorate of Ministry of Railways.

(ipul Singhal)

Director Passenger Marketing

Railway Board

No.TC-II/2910/2023/Special train Socio-cultural

New Delhi, dated 27.12.2023

Copy to:-

1. Dy. Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Railways), Room no. 224, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi.

2. PFAs, All Zonal Railways

3. Director General of Audit, All Zonal Railways

for Member Finance Railway Board.

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Copy forwarded for information & necessary action to:

- 1. CEO & CRB, M(O&BD), Member Finance, Railway Board for information.
- 2. PS/MR, PS/MoSR(D), PS/MoSR(J) for information to MR, MoSR(D) and MoSR(J).
- 3. ADV/MR, OSD/MR, OSD/Co-ordination/MR & Addl. PS/MR for information.
- 4. PED/CHG may kindly ensure running of such special trains with round trip journey with a single train number.
- 5. MD, Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS), Chanakyapuri, near National Rail Museum, New Delhi for necessary Software changes.
- 6. MD, IRCTC, 11th Floor, Statesmans House, B-148, Barakhambha Road, New Delhi-110 001
- 7. MD/KRCL, Navi Mumbai

8. PCCM/Northern Railway/New Delhi for arrangement of issue of correction slips to Coaching Tariff.

> (Vipul Singhal) **Director Passenger Marketing** Railway Board
