

50 Kilometres, Countless Beneficiaries: Mizoram's Railway Lifeline Completes One Year of Success

Within Just One Year, Bairabi-Sairang Railway Line Transforms Travel, Tourism and Logistics in Mizoram, Opening New Horizons for the Hill State

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On 13th September 2025, the inauguration of the 51.38 km Bairabi-Sairang railway line and the Sairang Railway station by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, opened a new chapter of progress and development for Mizoram. Within just one year, the railway line has brought about transformative development in this remote hill state, and has transformed from just a line on the railway map into a gateway towards improved mobility, greater access to markets, enhanced tourism and new opportunities.

 Bairabi-Sairang railway line turns One, opening doors to endless opportunities <https://t.co/BNXtbuzpOr>

— Ashwini Vaishnaw (@AshwiniVaishnaw) September 13, 2026

The Milestone: When the Rails Reached the Hills

For generations, Mizoram's difficult terrain made long-distance movement heavily dependent on roads, making travel very time consuming, uncomfortable and unreliable. The commissioning of the Bairabi-Sairang new railway line completed changed the scenario.



(The Bairabi-Sairang line carries the national railway network across Mizoram's challenging hill terrain)

The Bairabi Sairang railway line is an engineering marvel, traversing the steep hills, deep valleys and gorges of Mizoram. The project comprises 153 bridges, including 55 major bridges, 88 minor bridges and 10 Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges. As many as six bridges exceed 70 meters in height, with the tallest rising up to 114 meters, which is 42 metres taller than Delhi's Qutub Minar. The alignment also passes through 45 tunnels stretching over almost 16 kilometres. The rail corridor connects the national railway network onwards from Bairabi with the four newly developed stations of Hortoki, Kawnpui, Mualkhang and finally the Sairang railway station, thereby completing rail connectivity to the very threshold of Aizawl, the capital of Mizoram.

Thus, the inauguration of the Bairabi Sairang Railway Line on 13th September 2025 fulfilled a long cherished dream of the people of Mizoram, and brought reliable railway passenger and freight services close to the State's largest centre of population, administration, education and commerce.



(Sairang station became Mizoram's new passenger and logistics gateway to the national railway network)

Passenger Mobility: The Numbers tell a story of trust

Three important long distance train services now connect the capital of Mizoram with the cities of Guwahati, Kolkata and Delhi. The Sairang – Anand Vihar Rajdhani Express gave Mizoram its first direct premium railway connection with the national capital, while the Guwahati and Kolkata services created dependable links with major educational, commercial and medical centres across the eastern and northern parts of the country. Further, the Sairang – Silchar passenger train service, which was inaugurated by Hon'ble Union Minister of Railways, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw in January 2026, provided a regular and reliable passenger train service connecting Sairang with the Barak Valley of Assam.

Over the course of the last one year, these train services have completed more than 1100 trips, becoming an integral part of the lives of the people of Mizoram. The strongest endorsement of the importance of these train services have come from the passengers themselves, receiving the patronage of over 15 Lakh passengers. Passenger demand for these trains have consistently remained very high, with all trains running at over 100% capacity on every trip.

The tri – weekly train service from Sairang to Kolkata has recorded an average occupancy level of over 140 %, while occupancy in the daily train service from Sairang to Guwahati has consistently stayed above 110%. The Sairang Anand Vihar Rajdhani Express has similarly achieved an average occupancy of over 145 %. These train services have also generated total ticket sales of Rs 54 Crores for the Indian Railways.

During this last one year, Sairang railway station has successfully catered to more than 5.54 lakh passenger movements, with an average of 3300 passengers visiting the station every day. The railway station has not only emerged as a vital hub for passenger travel, but also an integral part of community life in the surrounding area, with local residents carrying out tree plantations and other environmental initiatives around the station complex.



Freight Transformation: Rail Cargo to Aizawl

The Bairabi Sairang Railway line has also brought about transformative change in freight transportation in Mizoram, enabling goods including essential commodities, automobiles and construction materials to reach Aizawl in a safe, time bound and cost effective manner.

The first railway cargo train arrived at Sairang on 14th September 2025, just one day after the inauguration of the new line, carrying a consignment of more than 26000 bags of cement from STAR Cement Siding at Tetelia near Guwahati. This cargo train had an immediate impact on the prices of cement in Aizawl, clearly demonstrating how railways can drastically reduce logistics costs and contribute to economic development of an entire region. Moreover the direct freight train services bridge the gap in procuring the automobiles, thus reducing the landing cost, making it more pocket friendly to the end consumers. In another notable milestone, the first automobile consignment, consisting of 119 Maruti cars from Changsari near Guwahati, arrived at Sairang by rail in December 2025, transforming automobile logistics in the region.

In the last one year, more than 2500 wagons of railway freight have been delivered at Sairang. Of these, approximately 70% of the cargo consisted of construction materials like cement, stone and sand. These commodities have supported housing and public works in Mizoram, promoting infrastructure development in the state at lower costs as well as reducing the time required for materials to reach their destinations.

Other railway cargo at Sairang has consisted of essential commodities including rice and fertilizers, as well as 156 wagons containing automobiles. Automobile rakes have created a safer and higher capacity supply channel for vehicles, while fertilizer and foodgrains have served agriculture and local PDS distribution in the state, shifting bulk movement from long road hauls to efficient railway transport.



(The inaugural cement rake established Sairang as a freight-handling point)



(The 1st Automobile Freight Rake handled at Mizoram)

Railway enhances educational and tourism opportunities for people of Mizoram

Direct trains from Delhi, Kolkata, Guwahati and Silchar have made Mizoram easier to reach for domestic travellers. Railway has offered an affordable entry point for visitors who earlier had to depend entirely on air or lengthy road journeys. This has resulted in an overall growth of tourism in Mizoram by over 86% since the introduction of railways.

The benefits have extended beyond ticketed travel. Greater visitor movement is supporting hotels, homestays, restaurants, taxis, guides, cultural enterprises and local markets. Reliable rail access is also strengthening Mizoram's ability to host educational, sporting, cultural and official events with wider national participation.

For students of Mizoram, railway connectivity has expanded practical access to universities, professional institutes, coaching centres, examinations and academic events outside Mizoram.

Local Enterprise: From Mizo Hands to National Markets

Railways is also playing an empowering role for popularizing Mizoram's handloom, bamboo, cane and craft traditions in wider markets. The first parcel consignment from Sairang was booked on 19th September 2025, carrying Anthurium flowers to Delhi through the parcel van of the Sairang Anand Vihar Rajdhani Express. That modest consignment carried a larger message: high-value local produce could begin its national journey from within Mizoram itself.



(The first parcel consignment of Anthurium flowers was booked from Sairang for Delhi)



(Parcel space created a direct channel for delicate and time-sensitive local produce)

One Year and Beyond: From Isolation to New Possibilities

In one year, the Bairabi Sairang railway line has demonstrated the far reaching effects of the successful translation of vision into reality. The impact is visible in several directions at once. Passengers have direct access to major cities; students have a more practical route to institutions and examinations; tourists have an affordable gateway; traders receive bulk consignments closer to market; construction and food supplies move with greater capacity; and flowers, crafts and other local products gain a pathway towards national consumers.

The deeper significance of Sairang lies in what it has made possible. A railway line built through difficult hills has compressed distance, widened choice and given Mizoram a new logistics identity. It has linked mobility with dignity, infrastructure with enterprise, and connectivity with opportunity.



(The Sairang-AnandVihar Terminal Rajdhani Express gave Mizoram a direct premium connection with the national capital)



(The Sairang Railway Bridge has a pier of height 114m, which is 42 m taller than Delhi's Qutub Minar)

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