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SŽDC Discussed Priorities in Railway Transport with Central Bohemia Representatives

Správa železniční dopravní cesty (SŽDC) met with representatives of the Central Bohemia Region with the objective to deal with immediate needs and plans of the public transport ordering authority. The main discussion topic was dealing with the dismal situation and problems on selected regional lines which slow and complicate regional transport.

"The railway plays a key role in assuring transport servicing of our country. We can see the dramatic increase in railway transport importance in the capital and in the Central Bohemia Region. The definite task of SŽDC is assuring a reliable infrastructure and dealing with potential problems. That is why I reacted immediately to the call of the Region Marshal and the Mayor. This year, we are going to increase considerably the amount of financial resources in order to eliminate the most problematic restrictions in Central Bohemia Region", says Mr. Jiří Svoboda, Director General of SŽDC.

František Petrtýl, Councillor of Central Bohemia Region for the field of transport, welcomes the active approach of SŽDC management. *"I am pleased that things went in motion after a common letter of our Marshal and our Mayor was sent. In this letter, the Central Bohemia Region and the capital city of Prague were giving common notice of the untenable situation concerning the state of railway lines in our region. The railway constitutes a transport backbone in the region and keeping the railway infrastructure in decay would be unacceptable".*

SŽDC has clearly set priorities in this field. *"I assume that even this year we are going to reduce the number of so-called slow rides and operational restrictions at least by 65% compared to the initial situation at the end of 2017. We will concentrate especially on the lines Praha-Balabenka – Poděbrady, Lysá nad Labem – Mělník, Praha-Smíchov – Karlštejn, Neratovice – Kralupy nad Vltavou, Kralupy nad Vltavou – Velvary, Poříčany – Nymburk město and the lines in the areas of Kutná Hora, Mladá Boleslav and the neighbourhood of Hostivice", specifies Mr. Svoboda.*

The infrastructure manager's plans reflect priorities of the region. *"The new SŽDC management established a new course and will start repairing both main and local lines which are very important for carrying local inhabitants as well as for tourism. We welcome that e.g. the so-called "Sázava Pacific" line section from Ledečko through Kácov up to Zruč nad Sázavou will undergo major repairs. More extensive repairs will be also carried out on main lines in the region. We will be meticulously dealing with the railway infrastructure situation in the Central Bohemia Region together with SŽDC", adds Mr. Petrtýl.*

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