

PRAHA, 19 May 2020

## **Almost 47 Billion Crowns Will Go to Investments, Repairs and Traffic Management this Year**

This year, Správa železnic has at its disposal the amount of CZK 46.9 billion, which will be directed mainly to the reconstruction, repair and maintenance of the railway lines. This amount includes an increase in the budget of the infrastructure manager by CZK 3.5 billion, which was recently approved by the government. This is the second highest amount in the history of Správa železnic. From this point of view, the year 2015 was a record year, when thanks to the end of the first period of the EU Operational Programme Transport, it had CZK 50.2 billion at its disposal.

Správa železnic has prepared more than CZK 24.2 billion for investments this year, which is 4.6 billion more than last year. Despite the effects of the coronavirus pandemic, it invested almost CZK 6.9 billion of this amount as of April 30, which already represents 28 percent of the annual allocation. A year ago, only 22.5 percent of the total amount was invested on the same date.

*"Regardless of the current situation, we continue to prepare further planned investment actions without interruption. The procurement procedure is running, the conclusion of contracts with the contractors of both the projects and the construction works themselves continues,"* says Jiří Svoboda, Director General of Správa železnic.

The increase in the budget by CZK 3.5 billion, which was approved by the government, will be used by the state organization to implement and prepare dozens of actions for repairs of railway lines, dispatch buildings and track maintenance, as evidenced by the selection of specific actions:

The largest part of the money (280 million) will be used to repair both railway tracks between Děčín-Prostřední Žleb and Dolní Žleb, which should take place from mid-July to the end of October. Another 200 million will go to the repair of unstable ups in the Hájek – Dalovice section, which will cost almost half a billion crowns. There is the assumed start of work in the mid-July this year.

The largest action in the northeast of Bohemia will be the repair of the Mostek – Horka u Staré Paky line section, for which 151 million will be used at a total cost of CZK 242 million. In Central Bohemia, the lines from Kralupy nad Vltavou and Středokluky to Podlešín are already being repaired for 98 million and the holiday repair of the line section from Kladno to Řevničov is underway. In the Pilsen Region, the most money (70 million) will go to the repair of the Horažďovice – Žichovice line section.

In Vysočina Region we will spend the largest amount – CZK 72 million – on the repair of the line from Bystřice nad Pernštejnem to Rožná (total cost CZK 100 million), in South Moravia 70 million will go to modifications of the rail circuits, which are part of the interlocking system, between Brno and Vlkov u Tišnova.

The repair of the Hanušovice – Jeseník line section in the Olomouc Region will cost CZK 50 million, while the work in the Bystřička – Jablůnka section in the Zlín Region is going to cost CZK 30 million. In the Moravian-Silesian Region, it is necessary to mention in the first place the repair of the line Suchdol nad Odrou – Nový Jičín město for 80 million.

Part of the fund will also go to the repairs of selected dispatch buildings. For example, passengers at the Litoměřice město stop and in the stations Hronov, Potštejn, Sedlčany or Nová Ves u Českých Budějovic will see a better environment. The roofing of the platforms at Ostrava's main railway station or the roof and lightning conductors at the Olomouc Regional Directorate in Nerudova Street will also be repaired.