Recently, a train travelled backwards for 11 kilometres without an engine. It was going from Ahmedabad in the west of India to Puri in the east.

How far did the train travel backwards without an engine?
Where was the train going to?
The train stopped at a station at 10 o'clock in the evening to change the locomotive. It was the job of workers at the station to change the locomotive, but when the locomotive was no longer connected to the coaches, someone forgot to use the special brakes on the coaches and they began to move slowly backwards down a very long hill.

What time did the train stop at the station?
Why did it stop?
What did someone forget to do?
There were 22 carriages on the train and more than one thousand passengers. The train continued to move backwards down the hill for several minutes. The passengers on the train were very frightened. The train passed through several stations and people shouted at the passengers on the train to use the emergency brakes.

How many carriages were there on the train?
How many passengers were there?
What landmarks did the train go through?
What did people shout to the passengers on the train?
The train didn't stop and continued going backwards until railway workers finally stopped it by putting some large stones on the track. Luckily, no one was injured in the accident. This was surprising because accidents happen quite often on Indian railways and people are often killed.

Who finally stopped the train?
How did they stop the train?
Was anyone injured in the accident?
Was this surprising? If so, why?

India has the fourth longest railway network in the world after the USA, China and Russia, with 67,368 kilometres of track. 1.3 million people work for Indian railways. Every day, more than 22 million people travel by train in India on 13,000 trains.

Which country has the longest railway network?
How many kilometres of track are there on the Indian railway network?
How many people work for Indian railways?
How many people travel by train every day in India?
How many trains are there in India?

Each year, Indian railways carry about 8.5 billion passengers and transport 1.2 billion tons of freight. The shortest railway network in the world is in the Vatican City (also the world's smallest country), where there are just 850 metres of railway track.

How many passengers in total use Indian railways?
How many tons of freight are transported?
Where is the shortest railway network in the world?
What is the Vatican City also known as?
How many metres of railway track do they have in the Vatican?

