# **Breaking News English.com**

## Typhoon-damaged bullet trains scrapped in Japan – 9th November, 2019

### Level 0

Ten of Japan's bullet trains were destroyed in a typhoon. The typhoon caused great damage. There were many photos of the bullet trains. They were deep in water after a river overflowed. The trains ran between Tokyo and the Sea of Japan coast. The bullet train company will operate a full service again by March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 and are a symbol of Japan. They travel at 320kph. A Shinkansen president said the damage was around \$135 million. He said water damaged motors and brakes. He added: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them."

#### Level 1

Ten of Japan's bullet trains were destroyed when a typhoon hit Japan in October. The typhoon caused great damage. There were many photos of the bullet trains lined up next to each other. They were deep in water after a river burst its banks. The trains ran between Tokyo and the Sea of Japan coast. The line is now running just 80 per cent of its normal services. The bullet train company hopes to run a full service again by the end of March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964. They are a symbol of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They travel at 320kph. The bullet train rail network covers 2,764km. A Shinkansen president said the damage was around \$135 million. He said the floodwater damaged motors and brakes. He added: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them."

#### Level 2

Ten of Japan's bullet trains will be broken up. They were flooded when Typhoon Hagibis hit Japan in October. The typhoon caused a lot of damage. There were many photos of the 10 shiny bullet trains lined up next to each other on tracks near the city of Nagano. They were deep in water after a nearby river burst its banks. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan coast. The line is now running just 80 per cent of its normal services. The bullet train company said it hopes to run a full service again by the end of March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 for the Tokyo Olympics. They became a symbol of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They reach speeds of 320kph. The bullet train rail network covers 2,764km. People take around 350 million rides a year on the trains. A Shinkansen president spoke about the flooded trains. He said the floodwater seriously damaged motors and brakes. The total cost of the damage is around \$135 million. He said: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them."

#### Level 3

Ten of Japan's famous bullet trains will be scrapped. They were caught in the floods after Typhoon Hagibis hit eastern Japan in October. The typhoon caused widespread damage and loss of life in Japan. There were many photos and TV footage of the 10 shiny bullet trains lined up next to each other at a train yard near the central city of Nagano. They were deep in floodwater after the nearby Chikuma River burst its banks. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan coast called Kanazawa. The line is now running 80 per cent of its normal services. The bullet train company said it hopes to be running a full service again by the end of March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 in time for the Tokyo Olympics. They became an iconic symbol of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They currently reach speeds of 320kph. The bullet train rail network has expanded to currently consist of 2,764km. People take around 350 million rides a year on the Shinkansen. A Shinkansen president, Yuji Fukasawa, spoke about the flooded trains. He said the floodwater seriously damaged their motors and braking systems. The total cost of the damage is around \$135 million. He said: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them."

More free lessons, listening & online quizzes at breakingnewsenglish.com - Copyright Sean Banville 2019