

Train 18 crosses 180 kmph limit

New Delhi, Dec. 2: India's first locomotive-less train, known as Train 18, breached the 180 kmph speed limit during a test run on Sunday, a senior railway official said. After being operational, this ₹100-crore indigenously designed train will become the country's fastest train.

"Train 18 breached the 180 kmph speed limit in the Kota-Sawai Madhopur section. The major trials are now over, with just some more remaining. Based on the reports, fine-tuning would be done if needed. As of now, no major technical problem has cropped up," S. Mani,

general manager of Integral Coach Factory (ICF) that has manufactured the train, said.

"We expect Train 18 to commence its commercial run from January 2019.

Normally the trials take three months. But now it is happening faster than expected," Mr Mani added.

If all things go well, Train 18 will replace the current Shatabdi Express - a day train. Train 18 is capable of touching 200 kmph provided the rest of Indian Railways' system such as tracks and signals permit, officials said.

— PTI