

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2197
ANSWERED ON 13.12.2024

ADARSH RAILWAY STATION SCHEME IN KERALA

2197. SHRI HARIS BEERAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the modernisation under Adarsh Railway Station Scheme (ARSS) in Kerala and the current status of the said work and the timeline by which the upgradation work is likely to be completed;
- (b) the details of the amount sanctioned under the said scheme for Railway Stations in Kerala; and
- (c) whether Government has any proposal for sanctioning stoppage of Rajadhani and Vande Bharat express trains in proposed Adarsh Railway Stations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

- (a) to (c) Presently railway stations over Indian railways are being developed under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. This scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term approach.

It involves preparation of Master Plans and their implementation in phases to improve the amenities at the stations like improvement of station access, circulating areas, waiting halls, toilets, lift/escalators as necessary, platform surfacing and cover over platform, cleanliness, free Wi-Fi, kiosks for local products through schemes like ‘One Station One Product’, better passenger information systems, Executive Lounges, nominated spaces for business meetings, landscaping, etc. keeping in view the necessity at each station.

The scheme also envisages improvement of building, integrating the station with both sides of the city, multimodal integration, amenities for Divyangjans, sustainable and environment friendly solutions, provision of ballastless tracks, etc. as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centre at the station in the long term.

So far, 1337 stations have been identified under this scheme, out of which 35 stations are located in the state of Kerala. The names of stations identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the state of Kerala are as following:

State	No. of Amrit Stations	Names of Stations
Kerala	35	Alappuzha, Angadippuram, Angamali For Kaladi, Chalakudi, Changanassery, Chengannur, Chirayinkil, Ernakulam, Ernakulam Town, Ettumanur, Ferok, Guruvayur, Kannur, Kasargod, Kayankulam, Kollam, Kozhikode, Kuttippuram, Mavelikara, Neyyatinkara, Nilambur Road, Ottappalam, Parappanangadi, Payyanur, Punalur, Shoranur Jn., Thalassery, Thiruvananthapuram, Thrisur, Tirur, Tiruvalla, Tripunithura, Vadakara, Varkala, Wadakancheri

Out of 35 Amrit stations located in the state of Kerala, tenders for development works have been awarded for 33 stations and works have been taken up. The projects have exhibited good pace of execution. For example,

- At Kollam station, service building work has been completed. Structural works of

multi-level car parking, south side terminal building (Block-A&B) and parcel building have been completed and works of south side terminal building (Block-C), air concourse, Foot Over Bridge, platform improvement, platform shelters, etc. have been taken up.

- At Kuttippuram station, works of improvement of circulating area, parking area, waiting hall, construction of new platform shelters, new porch and entry ramp have been completed and work of improvement of booking office has been taken up.
- At Thalassery station, works of improvement of concourse area, booking office, parking areas on both sides, construction of new platform shelters, new porch and covered walkway have been completed and work of circulating area has been taken up.
- At Ferok Station, works of improvement of waiting room, seating arrangement, raising of platform no. 1, construction of new platform shelter and new toilet block have been completed and works of parking area at main entry side, lifts, improvement of concourse area, booking office, etc. have been taken up.
- At Shoranur Station, works of construction of new Foot Over Bridge, platform shelters, waiting halls, toilet block, improvement of concourse, porch, circulating area and parking area have been completed and works of architectural improvement of station building have been taken up.

Further, development/redevelopment/upgradation of Railway Stations is complex in nature involving safety of passengers & trains and requires various statutory clearances such as fire clearance, heritage, tree cutting, air-port clearance etc. The progress also gets affected due to brownfield related challenges such as shifting of utilities, (involving water/sewage lines, optical fibre cables, gas pipe lines, power/signal cables etc.), infringements, operation of trains without hindering passenger movement, speed restrictions due to works carried out in close proximity of tracks and high voltage power lines, etc. and these factors affect the completion time. Therefore, no time frame can be indicated at this stage.

Upgradation/development/redevelopment of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and ongoing process and works in this regard are undertaken as per requirement, subject to inter-se priority and availability of funds. However, priority for upgradation/development/redevelopment of stations is accorded to higher category of station over lower category of station while sanctioning and executing the works.

Development / upgradation / modernisation of stations including under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme is generally funded under Plan Head-53 ‘Customer Amenities’. The details of allocation under Plan Head-53 are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not work-wise or station-wise or State-wise. The state of Kerala is covered by Southern Railway. The allocation for the financial year 2024-25 for this zone is Rs 1,383 Crores.

Provision of stoppage of train services, including Rajdhani Express and Vande Bharat Express Services, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, etc.
