

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 267
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2023

UPGRADATION OF JALPAIGURI RAILWAY STATION

*267 SMT. SHANTA CHHETRI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the process of upgradation of Jalpaiguri railway station has begun and its expected completion date;
- (b) whether the number of platforms will be increased while carrying out the renovation work of the railway station; and
- (c) if so, the number of new platforms that will be built and the amount estimated to be spent on the said project, and the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.267 BY SMT. SHANTA CHHETRI ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 24.03.2023 REGARDING UPGRADATION OF JALPAIGURI RAILWAY STATION

(a) to (c) Jalpaiguri, New Jalpaiguri and Jalpaiguri Road Railway stations have been identified for upgradation under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. The Amrit Bharat Station Scheme has recently been launched by Ministry of Railways for development of Railway Stations on Indian Railways. This scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term approach.

The scheme 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, 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, 'Roof Plazas' as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centres at the station in the long term.

Jalpaiguri and Jalpaiguri Road stations are under planning process while tender for redevelopment of New Jalpaiguri station has been awarded and the work is in progress.

The funding of station development works is generally carried out under Plan Head – 53 'Customer Amenities'. Jalpaiguri and Jalpaiguri Road Railway Stations fall under Northeast Frontier Railway. The details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred by the Northeast Frontier Railway under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities', during last three years and current year i.e. 2019-20, 2020-21 2021-22 and 2022-23 (till February, 2023) is as under:-

(Fig. in crore of ₹)

| Zonal Railway | 2019-20 | | 2020-21 | | 2021-22 | | 2022-23 | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|
| | Allo- cation | Expend- -iture | Allo- cation | Expen- d-iture | Allo- cation | Expend- -iture | Allo- cation | Expend- -iture (Till Feb., 2023) |
| Northeast Frontier | 107.24 | 100.27 | 106.12 | 104.07 | 99.34 | 90.03 | 96.11 | 78.18 |

Indian Railways reviews the requirement of additional platforms as well as extension of platforms with growth in volume of traffic and other various relevant factors including technical feasibility, which is a continuous process. Redevelopment of New Jalpaiguri Railway station envisages addition of two more platforms.

Development/redevelopment/upgradation of Railway Stations is complex in nature involving safety of passengers and trains and requires various statutory clearances from urban/local bodies etc. and these factors affect the completion time. Therefore, no time frame can be indicated.
