

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1906
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2023

SCHEMES IMPLEMENTED BY RAILWAYS IN KERALA

1906 # DR. RADHA MOHAN DAS AGRAWAL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of construction schemes sanctioned by the Railways in the State of Kerala with respective cost and the details of cost of each scheme; and
- (b) the current status of the implementation of the schemes and by when the schemes are likely to be completed?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) and (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) AND (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1906 BY DR. RADHA MOHAN DAS AGRAWAL ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 04.08.2023 REGARDING SCHEMES IMPLEMENTED BY RAILWAYS IN KERALA

(a) and (b): Railway projects are sanctioned and taken up Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise as the Indian Railways' projects may span across various State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2023, 07 projects (2 New Line and 05 Doubling) of total length 409 Km, costing ₹9,436 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala are in planning/approval/construction stage. An expenditure of ₹2,286 crore has been incurred on these projects upto March 2023. These include:-

- 02 New Line projects of total length 146 Km, costing ₹2,953 crore and an expenditure of ₹311 crore has been incurred upto March, 2023.
- 05 Doubling projects of total length 263 Km, costing ₹6,483 crore and an expenditure of ₹1,975 crore has been incurred upto March, 2023.

Railway Infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala are covered under Southern Railway (SR) Zone of Indian Railways. Zone-wise details of Railway projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in > Ministry of Railways > Railway Board > About Indian Railways > Railway Board Directorates > Finance (Budget) > Rail Budget/Pink Book (Year) > Railway wise Works Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme.

The completion of Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project(s) site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions etc. All these factors affect the completion time of the project(s).

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects across Indian Railways. Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/ partly in the State of Kerala, during 2014-19 has been enhanced to ₹950 crore per year from ₹372 crore per year during 2009-14 which is

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155% more than Average Annual Budget allocation. Annual Budget allocation on these projects has increased to ₹1,866 crore in Financial Year 2021-22 (402% more than the Average Annual Budget outlay of 2009-14) and ₹1,085 crore in Financial Year 2022-23 (192% more than the Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14). For financial year 2023-24, the highest ever budget outlay of ₹2,033 crore has been provided for these projects, which is 446% more than average annual budget allocation of 2009-14 (₹372 crore per year).

During 2014-23, 125 Km sections (29 Km Gauge conversion and 96 Km Doubling) falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala have been commissioned at an average rate 13.89 Km per year, which is 31% more than average commissioning during 2009-14 (10.6 Km/year).

Recently, the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme has been launched for development of Railway stations on Indian Railways. 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, 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 such 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 ballast less tracks, 'Roof Plazas' as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centres at the station in the long term.

So far 1309 Railway Stations have been identified under this scheme including 35 stations in the state of Kerala. The list of 35 stations identified to be taken up under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the state of Kerala is given below:

State	No. of Stations	Name of Stations
Kerala	35	Alappuzha , Angadippuram, Angamali For Kaladi , Chalakudi , Changanassery, Chengannur , Chirayinikil, 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.

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 at this stage.

As on 01.04.2023, 2 Railway electrification projects of total length of 256 route Km, costing ₹349.05 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala are in planning/approval/construction stage. An expenditure of ₹180.80 crore has been incurred on these projects upto March, 2023.

Railway electrification projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala are covered under Southern Railway Zone of Indian Railways. Details of all electrification projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. https://indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/finance_budget/Budget_2023-24/PINK_BOOK_2023-24/26_CORE.pdf

The completion of Electrification project depends upon various factors like clearances from the concerned Departments/State Governments/Central Ministries, completion of Transmission Line works by State Power Utilities and resolution of law & order issues during execution, which are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways. Therefore, it is not feasible to fix time lines for completion of the project.
