

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 578
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2024

REDEVELOPMENT OF RAILWAY STATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

578. SHRI R. DHARMAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has planned to re-develop the existing railway stations to International standards in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the number of railway stations identified for redevelopment in Tamil Nadu so far;
- (d) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized for their redevelopment during the last three years and the current year; and
- (e) the details of the target set and achievements made so far?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 578 BYSHRI R. DHARMAR ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 26.07.2024 REGARDING REDEVELOPMENT OF RAILWAY STATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

(a) to (e): Ministry of Railways has launched 'Amrit Bharat Station scheme' for development of 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, etc. as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centres at the station in the long term.

So far, 1324 number of stations including 77 railway stations falling in the state of Tamil Nadu have been identified for development/redevelopment under this scheme as per the list given below :-

State	No. of Stations	Name of Stations
Tamil Nadu	77	Ambasamudram, Ambattur, ArakkonamJn, Ariyalur, Avadi, Bommidi, Chengalpattu Jn, Chennai Beach, Chennai Egmore, Chennai Park, Chidambaram, Chinna Salem, Chrompet, Coimbatore Jn, Coimbatore North, Coonoor, Dharmapuri, Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central, Erode Jn., Guduvancheri, Guindy, Gummidipundi, Hosur, JolarpettaiJn, Kanniyakumari, Karaikkudi, Karur Jn., Katpadi, Kovilpatti, Kulitturai, Kumbakonam, Lalgudi, Madurai Jn, Mambalam, Manaparai, Mannargudi, Mayiladuturai Jn., Mettupalayam, Morappur, Nagercoil Jn., Namakkal, Palani, Paramakkudi, Perambur, Podanur Jn., Pollachi, Polur, Pudukkottai, Rajapalayam, Ramanathapuram, Rameswaram, Salem, Samalpatti, Sholavandan, Srirangam, Srivilliputtur, St.Thomas Mount, Tambaram, Tenkasi, ThanjavurJn, Thiruvarur Jn., Tiruchendur, Tirunelveli Jn, Tirupadripulyur, Tirupattur, Tiruppur, Tirusulam, Tiruttani, Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Udagamandalam, Vellore Cantt., Villupuram Jn., Virudhunagar, Vriddhachalam Jn., Dindigul, Tuticorin

The allocation of funds and expenditure for development and maintenance of stations are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise/UT-wise or Station-wise, generally under Plan Head - 53 'Customer Amenities'. Tamil Nadu State is served by Southern, South Central and South Western Railways. During the year 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, a total of ₹ 2546.24 crores expenditure has been incurred by these railways under Plan Head -53.

Upgradation/modernisation of Railway station 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/modernisation of station is accorded to higher category of station over lower category of station while sanctioning and executing the work.

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, airport clearance etc. The progress also gets affected due to brown field related challenges such as shifting of utilities, (involving water/sewage lines, optical fiber cables, gas pipe lines, power/signal cables etc.,) infringements, encroachments, operation of trains without hindering passenger movement, speed restrictions due to works carried out in close proximity of high voltage power lines etc. and these factors affect the completion time. Therefore, no time frame can be indicated at this stage.
