

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2516
ANSWERED ON 21.03.2025

CONNECTING BENGALURU'S KIA AIRPORT WITH SUBURBAN TRAINS

2516 SHRI JAGGESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) Bengaluru lacks affordable public transport;
- (b) whether is it also fact that the suburban trains to the airport run empty due to poor frequency and the station is 3.5 km away from the airport and passengers have to take a shuttle bus for the last mile;
- (c) whether Railways plans to build a short line for suburban trains being run directly to Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) to ensure relief to passengers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time frame for its implementation?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d) Presently, Bengaluru Cantt./Yesvantpur is connected to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) station by 06 pairs of MEMU train services. These services are available from Bengaluru Cantt./Yesvantpur to Kempegowda International Airport station between 05:10 hrs and 18:20 hrs and from Kempegowda International Airport station to Bengaluru Cantt./Yesvantpur between 08:18 hrs and 19:23 hrs. Besides, introduction of new train services is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc.

Further, as a part of sanctioned Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP) being executed by Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited (KRIDE), a company controlled by state Govt. of Karnataka (51% equity), Airport connectivity has been sanctioned. BSRP has been sanctioned on 50:50 equity sharing between Government of Karnataka and Ministry of Railways.

BSRP has four corridors, viz.,

Corridor-1: KSR Bengaluru City – Devanahalli (41.4 Km)

Corridor-2: Baiyyapanahalli – Chikkabanawara (25.01 Km)

Corridor-3: Kengeri – Whitefield (35.52 Km)

Corridor-4: Heelalige – Rajankunte (46.25 Km)

This will provide direct connectivity to both Airport Terminals (T1 & T2) from various city locations through suburban network. Further, BSRP has interchange facility with Indian Railways Network and Namma metro at some location providing connectivity to locations connected through Indian Railways Network station and Metro station.

Further, presently a Part-time Managing Director (MD) appointed by Government of Karnataka is looking after the work of the project. There is a need for appointing a full time MD who is conversant with railway technology.

Completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors like 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.
