

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3302
ANSWERED ON 28.03.2025

REDEVELOPMENT OF KUMBAKONAM RAILWAY STATION UNDER ABSS

3302. SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Kumbakonam Railway Station is being redeveloped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS), if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the amount of funds sanctioned for the same;
- (d) whether Government is aware of the fact that any redevelopment has to be completed before the Mahamaham Festival in 2028, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e):Ministry of Railways has identified Kumbakonam Railway Station as one of the stations for redevelopment under 'Amrit Bharat Station Scheme' and the work has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹99.84 Cr.

The Master Plan of Kumbakonam station envisages new station buildings, new foot over bridge, upgradation of platforms, external development with improvement in circulating area and parking facilities, improvement in station yard, construction of one additional platform etc. Station redevelopment work is planned to be taken up for execution with minimum effect on the station operation.

Amrit Bharat Station Scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long term approach. This 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 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, 1337 Nos. of Stations have been identified under this scheme, out of which 77 stations including Kumbakonam Railway station are located in the state of Tamil Nadu.

The list of stations identified for development in the state of Tamil Nadu are as follows:

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

Out of these 77 stations, the development works have been taken up on 71 stations.

The works at identified stations have been taken up with good pace. The progress at some of the above stations is as given below:

- At Madurai station, structural works of east side multi-level two-wheeler parking and electric substation have been completed and works of east side terminal building, both sides multi-level car parking, air concourse, parcel Foot Over Bridge, subway, etc. have been taken up.
- At Chennai Egmore station, structural work of parcel building has been completed and works of both sides multi-level car parking, GI Road side terminal building, etc. have been taken up.
- At Rameshwaram station, structural works of north side terminal building, electric substation and construction of parcel office have been completed and works of construction of east side terminal building, arrival forecourt, platform improvement, etc. have been taken up.
- At Samalpatti station, works of construction of new main terminal building and main entry side circulating area have been completed and works of two-wheeler parking area, raising of platform, construction of compound wall, etc. have been taken up.

The allocation of funds for development and maintenance of stations are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not Work-wise or Station-wise, generally under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities'. Kumbakonam railway station falls under the jurisdiction of Southern Railway (SR) and the allocation under Plan Head-53 for Southern Railway for the financial year 2024-25 is ₹1098 Crores (Revised Estimate).

Further, development/redevelopment 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 fibre cables, gas pipe lines, power/signal cables etc.,) infringements, operation of trains without hindering passenger movement, 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.
