

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2328
ANSWERED ON 08.08.2025

DEVELOPING WORLD CLASS RAILWAY STATION IN THE COUNTRY

2328 SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of railway stations in the country falling under the World Class Railway Station;
- (b) the number of stations proposed to be converted in Southern Railway, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is aware that Puducherry railway station is brought under the World Class Railway Station scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the amount of funds earmarked for the development of Puducherry station; and
- (e) the present status of the development work in Puducherry and by when it is likely to be completed?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): Ministry of Railways has launched Amrit Bharat Station Scheme for redevelopment of stations. 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, platform surfacing and cover over platform, 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, etc. as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centre at the station in the long term.

So far, 1337 stations have been identified for redevelopment under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, out of which phase-I works of 105 stations have been completed.

116 stations including Puducherry railway station falling under the jurisdiction of Southern Railway have been identified for redevelopment under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. The name of these stations is as following:

Railway Zone	Nos. of Amrit Stations	Name of Amrit Stations
SR	116	Alappuzha , Ambasamudram, Ambattur, Angadippuram, Angamali For Kaladi , Arakkonam Jn, Ariyalur, Avadi, Bommidi, Chalakudi , Changanassery, Chengalpattu Jn, Chengannur , Chennai Beach, Chennai Egmore, Chennai Park, Chidambaram, Chinna Salem, Chirayinikil, Chrompet, Coimbatore Jn, Coimbatore North, Coonoor, Dindigul, Ernakulam, Ernakulam Town, Erode Jn., Ettumanur, Ferok, Guduvancheri, Guindy, Gummidipundi, Guruvayur , Jolarpettai Jn, Kanniyakumari Terminus, Kannur, Karaikal, Karaikkudi Jn, Karur Jn, Kasargod, Katpadi Jn, Kayankulam Jn, Kollam Jn (Quilon), Kovilpatti, Kozhikode Main (Calicut), Kulitturai, Kumbakonam, Kuttippuram, Lalgudi, Madurai Jn, Mahe, Mambalam, Manaparai, Mangalore Central, Mangalore Jn, Mannargudi, Mavelikara, Mayiladuturai Jn, Mettupalayam, Morappur, Nagercoil Jn, Namakkal, Neyyattinkara , Nilambur Road, Ottappalam, Palani, Paramakkudi, Parappanangadi, Payyanur, Perambur, Podanur Jn., Pollachi Jn, Polur, Puducherry , Pudukkottai, Punalur, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central, Rajapalayam, Ramanathapuram, Rameswaram, Salem, Samalpatti, Sholavandan, Shoranur Jn., Srirangam, Srivilliputtur, St.Thomas Mount, Sullurpeta, Tambaram, Tenkasi, Thalassery, Thanjavur Jn, Thiruvananthapuram, Thiruvarur Jn., Thrisur, Tiruchendur, Tirunelveli Jn, Tirupadripulyur, Tirupattur, Tiruppur, Tirur, Tirusulam, Tiruttani, Tiruvalla , Tiruvallur, Tiruvannamalai, Tripunithura, Tuticorin, Udagamandalam, Vadakara, Varkala, Vellore Cantt., Villupuram Jn., Virudhunagar, Vriddhachalam Jn., Wadakancheri

In Phase-I, 13 stations in Southern Railway; Chidambaram, Kulitturai, Mannargudi, Polur, Samalpatti, Srirangam, St.Thomas Mount, Tiruvannamalai, Vriddhachalam Jn., Chirayinkeezh, Vadakara, Sullurpeta and Mahe have been completed.

Redevelopment work of Puducherry railway station has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹ 92.96 Crore. At Puducherry railway station, the works of parcel office building and new operation building have been completed. The works of east terminal building foundation, west terminal building foundation and structural work of sub-station building have been taken up.

Development / upgradation of stations including under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme is generally funded under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities'. The details of allocation under Plan Head-53 are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not work-wise or station-wise or State-wise. Puducherry railway station falls under the jurisdiction of Southern Railways for which a total allocation of Rs 1122 crores (Budget Estimate) has been made for the financial year 2025-26 under Plan Head-53

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, 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.
