

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1845
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.07.2019**

DRINKING WATER FACILITIES

1845. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Ministry to provide drinking water facilities and to set up toilets at Thrissur railway station in Kerala;

(b) the steps taken by the Ministry to set up parking facilities at this station;

(c) whether the Government is ready to promote more bharat darshan trains to connect the cultural and tourist centres of Thrissur in Kerala to other parts of the country keeping in view the fact that Thrissur is the cultural capital of Kerala; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1845 BY SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 03.07.2019 REGARDING DRINKING WATER FACILITIES

(a) and (b) Thrissur is an “NSG-2” category station on Ernakulam – Shornaur section of Trivandrum Division of Southern Railway. This station has been provided with all Essential Amenities as per norms i.e., 60 drinking water taps and 27 toilets are available at Thrissur Railway Station. The source of drinking water to the Station is from Kerala Water Authority and also from one Railway’s open line well. In addition, new borewell has also been provided recently. Additional open well is being planned to meet shortage in summer also.

Further, automatic water vending machine by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) is sanctioned on Platform No.1, 2 & 3 (1 number on each platform) of which one on Platform No.2 has been commissioned. Provision of additional toilets (3 Numbers) on Platform No.2 has been sanctioned.

Parking area of 3375 square metre is available on main entry side and 3140 square metre of Parking area available on second entry totaling to 6515 square metre of parking area in entire Thrissur Railway Station. The existing arrangement of parking is adequate for the level of traffic dealt at this station for the present.

(c) & (d): Indian Railways, in collaboration of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC), is operating Bharat Darshan Trains since the year 2005 with different itineraries based on market demand, popularity and operational feasibility. In the past one year Bharat Darshan trains have been operated covering Guruvayur and Thrissur stations namely (1) Itinerary No. WZBD217 covering Rajkot Rameshwaram-Madurai-Kanyakumari-Trivendrum-Guruvayur-Tirupati-Mysore-Rajkot from 02.01.2018 to 13.01.2018, (2) Itinerary No.SCZBD14 covering Secunderabad-Tiruchirapalli-Thajavur-Rameswaram-Madurai-Kanyakumari-Trivendrum-Guruvayur-Tirupati-Secunderabad, from 04.05.2018 to 12.05.2018, (3) Itinerary No.SCZBD15 covering Secunderabad-Mysore-Ooty-Thrissur-Cochin-Kanyakumari-Trivendrum-Tirupati-Secunderabad from 28.05.2018 to 05.06.2018, and (4) Itinerary No. SZD341B covering Madurai-Guruvayur-Kodungalur-Chotanikara-Alleppey-Cochin-Athirapally-Madurai from 22.01.2019 to 27.01.2019.

Introduction of similar packages is an ongoing process depending upon the response of passengers.
