2446. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to provide Vande Bharat express trains to Kerala and if so, the details of proposed routes being considered for the same;

(b) whether the Government has started providing funds for development of ‘Adarsh Bharat’ railway stations in Kerala and if so, the details regarding the same;

(c) whether the Government has noticed that file for redevelopment of Calicut railway station is pending with Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) for a long period of time and if so, the details of steps taken to resolve the same;

(d) the number of passenger grievances that are registered at Kozhikode railway station and if so, the details of steps taken to redress the same; and

(e) whether the Government has noticed that parking charges for vehicles at railway stations is huge when compared to paid parking at other areas and if so, the details of steps taken to ensure that parking charges are minimal for the customers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
(a) Indian Railways do not operate train services on State-wise basis as the railway network straddles across State boundaries. However, introduction of train services, including Vande Bharat Express, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, resource availability, traffic justification etc.

(b) Up-gradation/modernization/beautification of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and on-going process. Development of stations and provision of Passenger amenities are generally funded under Plan Head – 53 ‘Customer Amenities’. The details of allocation and expenditure for development and maintenance of stations are maintained zonal Railway-wise and not state-wise or station-wise. Stations in the States of Kerala are only catered by Southern Railway. The details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred by the Southern Railway under Plan Head-53 ‘Customer Amenities’, during last three years and current year i.e. 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and current year (till January, 2023) is as under:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Allocation</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>111.55</td>
<td>114.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>213.11</td>
<td>204.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-22</td>
<td>218.22</td>
<td>154.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022-23</td>
<td>327.78</td>
<td>108.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Till January, 2023)

(c) Calicut Railway Station has been identified and selected for Techno-economic feasibility studies for redevelopment and assigned to Rail Land Development Authority for carrying out such studies. Techno-economic feasibility studies for redevelopment of a Railway Station is a complex and
iterative process involving interactions with multiple stakeholders and as such no timelines can be assigned for such studies.

(d) During the financial year 2022-23 (upto February, 2023), a total of 298 passenger grievances were registered on Rail Madad at Kozhikode railway station. These complaints on Rail Madad are auto assigned to the concerned functionaries on real time basis for redressal. All 298 grievances have been redressed with an average disposal time of 0:37 (in hours).

(e) Parking charges for vehicles at railway station are fixed by Zonal Railways duly considering the rates prevailing at similar locations of the city/area. Periodical review of parking charges are also done.

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