

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3516  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023**

**SURVEY FOR DOUBLING OF THANJAVUR-VILLUPURAM RAILWAY  
SECTION**

**3516. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:**

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Railways has any plans to utilise the 40 acres of vacant land available at Tirunageswaram in Trichy Division under Southern Railway Jurisdiction;**
- (b) if so, whether final location survey for doubling of Thanjavur-Mayiladuthurai-Villupuram railway section has been completed, if so, the time by which the project is likely to be commenced;**
- (c) whether Railways has planned to convert Papanasam Station as a block station in the doubling works planning;**
- (d) whether Sirkazhi, Aduthurai in Mayiladuthurai constituency is likely to be included in the next phase of Amrit Bharat scheme;**
- (e) if so, the current status of gauge conversion work between Mayiladuthurai and Tarangampadi with a provision for extending upto Tirunallar;**
- (f) the details of the improvement and developments to be undertaken at Kumbakonam Station Redevelopment project;**
- (g) whether there is any proposal for establishing a museum at Kumbakonam during station redevelopment works, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (h) whether automatic water vending machine is likely to be restored at Kumbakonam and Mayiladuthurai, if so, the details in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)**

**(a) to (h): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (h) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3516 BY SHRI RAMALINGAM S. TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 22.03.2023 REGARDING SURVEY FOR DOUBLING OF THANJAVUR-VILLUPURAM RAILWAY SECTION.**

**(a): The vacant land at Tirunageswaram station in Trichy Division under Southern Railway Jurisdiction is required for future developmental works of Railways.**

**(b) & (c): Preliminary Engineering cum Traffic survey for doubling of Villupuram-Mayiladuthurai-Thanjavur line (193 Km) has been sanctioned. Survey is in progress. Further decision on the project would be possible after completion of survey and examination of survey report including its financial viability. As per planning of doubling work of Thanjavur – Mayiladuthurai - Villupuram Railway section, Papanasam station is planned as halt station.**

**(d): 1275 stations have been selected under ‘Amrit Bharat Station Scheme’ for development of station, based on the proposals received from Zonal Railways, stations located in major cities and towns. Further, modernization/upgradation of Railway stations is a continuous and on-going process subject to volume of traffic, inter-se priority of works and availability of funds.**

**(e): Survey for Mayiladuthurai to Karaikal railway line via Tharangambadi (47.32 Km) was completed in 2011. However, the project could not be taken forward in view of Peralam-Kariakal line being prioritized by Government of Puducherry.**

**(f): Kumbakonam Railway Station has been identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. 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, 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, 'Roof Plazas' as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centres at the station in the long term.**

**(g): Redevelopment of Kumbakonam Railway Station has been taken up under Amrit Bharat Station scheme and is under planning process. During the planning process various options of local context including museum are considered as per feasibility.**

**(h): The license of Water Vending Machines (WVMs) at Kumbakonam and Mayiladuthurai railway stations was terminated on account of breach of terms and conditions of the contract agreement by the service provider. However, Southern Railway has been advised to expedite the installation of WVMs at these stations.**

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