GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1664 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2023

SMART STATIONS

1664. SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL: SHRI MITESH RAMESHBHAI PATEL (BAKABHAI):

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to upgrade the existing railway stations throughout the country to provide airport like facilities, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of railway stations identified to be upgraded as smart stations in the country, particularly in the State of Gujarat;
- (c) the details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized to upgrade all such stations during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has set up any target for the said redevelopment works; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

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.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1664 BY SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL AND SHRI MITESH RAMESHBHAI PATEL (BAKABHAI) TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 13.12.2023 REGARDING SMART STATIONS

(a) to (e): Ministry of Railways has launched 'Amrit Bharat Station Scheme' for development of Stations on Indian Railways. This scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long term approach.

The 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 WiFi, 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 centers at the station in the long term.

So far, 1309 number of stations including 87 stations in the State of Gujarat have been identified for development under this scheme as per list given below:-

State	No. of Stations	Names of stations
Gujarat	87	Ahmedabad, Anand, Ankleshwar, Asarva, Bardoli, Bhachau, Bhaktinagar, Bhanvad, Bharuch, Bhatiya, Bhavnagar, Bhestan, Bhildi, BilimoraJn, BotadJn., Chandlodia, ChorvadRoad, DabhoiJn, Dahod, Dakor, Derol, Dhrangadhra, Dwarka, Gandhidham, GodhraJn, Gondal, Hapa, Himmatnagar, JamJodhpur, JamWanthali, Jamnagar, JunagadhJn, KalolJn, KanalusJn, Karamsad, Keshod, Khambhaliya, Kim, KosambaJn, Lakhtar, Limbdi, Limkheda, Mahemadabad Kheda Road, MahesanaJn, Mahuva, Maninagar, Mithapur, Miyagam KarjanJn, Morbi, Nadiad Jn, Navsari, New Bhuj, Okha, Paddhari, Palanpur Jn, Palitana, Patan, Porbandar, Pratapnagar, Rajkot Jn, Rajula Jn, Sabarmati BG, Sabarmati MG, Sachin, Samakhiyali, Sanjan, Savarkundla, Sayan, Siddhpur, Sihor Jn., Somnath, Songadh, Surat, Surendranagar, Than, Udhna, Udvada, Umargaon Road, Unjha, Utran, Vadodara, Vapi, Vatva, Veraval, Viramgam, Vishvamitri Jn., Wankaner

The details of allocation and expenditure for development and maintenance of stations are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise/UT-wise or Station-wise. Development of stations and provision of Passenger amenities are generally funded under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities'. During the year 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 total Rs 6737.97 crore expenditure has been

incurred under Plan Head-53 and the allocation for the current year is ₹13,355 crore.

Modernization/Development 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.
