

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1726
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2023**

REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ERNAKULAM

1726.SHRI HIBI EDEN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the redevelopment plans consider passengers entering from the rear of the Ernakulam Town and Junction Railway Stations, particularly to ensure access to basic facilities like toilets, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether provisions have been made to meet the needs of special groups, including lactating women, differently-abled individuals, transgenders and women in general, concerning facilities, security and mandatory arrangements;**
- (c) if so, the details in this regard;**
- (d) whether there are strategies to address obstacles and ensure the timely completion of the redevelopment projects in Ernakulam Town and Junction Railway Stations with specified quality;**
- (e) whether a comprehensive overview is available for the new facilities planned for Ernakulam Town and Junction, such as the proposed Sky Walks and Multilevel Car Parking; and**
- (f) if so, the details including capacity, quality, efficiency and effectiveness and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1726 BY SHRI HIBI EDEN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 13.12.2023 REGARDING REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN ERNAKULUM.

(a) to (f): Redevelopment plans of Ernakulam Junction and Ernakulam Town stations have provisions for passengers entering from rear side through station building/ foot over bridge/ Skywalks as applicable. The redevelopment plans also have provisions for feeding room, Child Help line, health facilitation, security arrangements, toilets etc. There is provision of Multi-Level Car Parking at Ernakulam Junction and Ernakulam Town and Skywalk arrangement from Ernakulam Junction station to Ernakulam South Metro station. Skywalk is planned from Ernakulam Town station to Ernakulam North Road Over Bridge from where access is available to bus stop and Town Hall Metro Station. East Terminal of Ernakulam Junction station is very close to Manorama Bus stand. Above arrangements are adequate and effective for passengers coming to Railway station by Metro/Bus/Road Vehicle.

Indian Railways has an inbuilt mechanism to check the quality of works, which is being performed at various levels by concerned Railway officials as per guidelines laid down in the Indian Railways Engineering Code, Indian Railways Works Manual and Specification etc. and the works meeting the laid down standards only are accepted.

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.
