

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2935
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2023**

AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME IN ASSAM

2935.SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of major railway stations that have been modernised along with the number of railway stations proposed to be modernised in Assam especially in backward and rural areas;**
- (b) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized for its modernisation so far along with the target fixed for modernisation of stations;**
- (c) whether the Government has conducted quality checks of modernisation works carried out at major railway stations of the country especially in Assam;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government found the works to be of substandard quality and if so, the action taken in this regard; and**
- (f) whether the Government is considering to make the passenger amenities better at the railway stations and if so, the details thereof?**

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. 2935 BY SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 20.12.2023 REGARDING AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME IN ASSAM

(a) to (f): Ministry of Railways has launched 'Amrit Bharat Station scheme' for development of Stations on Indian Railways. So far, 1309 number of railway stations including 50 railway stations in the State of Assam have been identified for development/redevelopment under this 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.

The allocation of funds and expenditure for development and maintenance of stations are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise/UT-wise or Station-wise, generally under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities'. During the year 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-

23, total ₹6737.97 crore expenditure has been incurred under Plan Head-53 and the allocation for the current year is ₹13,355 crore.

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. Therefore, no time frame can be indicated at this stage.

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.No major quality issues have been noted so far. The minor nature of inferior quality of incidences found during execution is corrected then and there.

Upgradation/modernization of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and on-going process. Works for improvement of passenger amenities are undertaken depending upon need, volume of passenger traffic and inter-se priority, subject to availability of funds.
