GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 779 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.02.2024

REDEVELOPMENT OF STATIONS UNDER ABSS IN KERALA

779. ADV. A.M. ARIFF:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps for the development of railway stations under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme (ABSS) in the State of Kerala, if so, the details thereof including the names of such stations and the amount sanctioned;
- (b) whether the Government has monitored the status of implementation of the development works undertaken under ABSS in Alappuzha and Kayamkulam railway stations in Kerala, if so, the details thereof including the proposed date of completion;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared the list of stations to be developed under ABSS in the second phase in the State of Kerala, if so, the station-wise details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government is aware that several passenger amenities and development works completed in railway stations in Alappuzha Parliament constituency are yet to be inaugurated, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 779 BY ADV. A.M. ARIFF TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.02.2024 REGARDING REDEVELOPMENT OF STATIONS UNDER ABSS IN KERALA.

(a) to (d): Ministry of Railways has launched 'Amrit Bharat Station scheme' for development of Stations on Indian Railways. So far, 1318 number of stations including 35 Railway stations in the state of Kerala have been identified for redevelopment under this scheme. A List of those stations from Kerala is Appended.

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 details of fund allocation for development and maintenance of stations are maintained zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise or station-wise. Development of stations and provision of Passenger amenities are generally funded under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities'. Since Southern Railway caters to the State of Kerala, the fund allocated to Southern Railway for the current year 2023-24 (RE) is ₹ 562.72 crores.

Modernisation/upgradation of Railway Station is a continuous and ongoing process. Works are taken up as per need, feasibility, category of stations etc.

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.

Various activities of project like foundation stone, inauguration etc. are carried out at appropriate times as per the scale and development of the project, and no separate compendium for the same is maintained.

APPENDIX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 779 BY ADV. A.M. ARIFF TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.02.2024 REGARDING REDEVELOPMENT OF STATIONS UNDER ABSS IN KERALA.

(a) to (d): List of Stations Identified for development under 'Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the State of Kerala.

SNo.	State	No. of stations	Name of Stations
1	Kerala	35	Alappuzha, Angadippuram, Angamali For Kaladi, Chalakudi, Changanassery, Chengannur, Chirayinikil, Ernakulam, Ernakulam Town, Ettumanur, Ferok, Guruvayur, Kasargod, Kannur, Kayankulam, Kollam, Kozhikode, Kuttippuram, Mavelikara, Neyyatinkara, Nilambur Road, Ottappalam, Parappanangadi, Payyanur, Punalur, Shoranur Jn., Thalassery, Thiruvananthapuram, Thrisur, Tirur, Tiruvalla, Tripunithura, Vadakara, Varkala, Wadakancheri
