

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1476
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2021**

DOUBLING OF RAILWAY LINE IN KERALA

1476. ADV. A.M. ARIFF:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to release the amount required for the doubling of railway line from Ambalappuzha to Ernakulam via Alappuzha on the Ernakulam-Kayamkulam stretch in Kerala and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) if not, whether the Government will expedite the said release of amount;**
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any timeline for the completion of the doubling of the above stretch in a time-bound manner and if so, the details thereof;and**
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to enhance the infrastructure and amenities at Alappuzha railway station, which is a major back-water tourism destination in Kerala and if so, the details thereof?**

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. 1476 BY ADV. A.M. ARIFF TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 28.07.2021 REGARDING DOUBLING OF RAILWAY LINE IN KERALA

(a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. Doubling between Ernakulam – Ambalappuzha has been taken up in three parts viz. Ernakulam- Kumbalam, Kumbalam - Turavur and Turavur - Ambalappuzha. On account of considerable increase on the cost of the project due to abnormal rise in the cost of the land, the State Government of Kerala was requested to provide land free of cost and to share 50% cost of the project. The Government of Kerala refused to share the cost of project. Therefore, Railways has decided to take up this project with its own funding. Adequate funds have been provided for execution of these projects. Details are given below:-

Ernakulam-Kumbalam doubling project (7.71 Km)- A Budget outlay of ₹10 Crore was provided in the Financial year 2021-22 for the project. However, in June, 2021, additional funds of ₹262 Crore have been allotted.

Kumbalam – Turavur (15.59 Km) doubling project- A Budget outlay of ₹10 Crore was provided in the Financial year 2021-22 for the project. However, in June, 2021, additional funds of ₹248.20 Crore have been allotted.

Turavur- Ambalappuzha (45.90 Km) doubling project- A Budget outlay of ₹10 Crore has been provided in the Financial year 2021-22 for the project.

(c): The completion of any Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost share by State Government in cost sharing projects, priority of projects, shifting of

infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions etc. and all these factors affect the completion time of the project(s) which is finally worked out at the completion stage. However, Railways is making all the efforts for expeditious completion of project(s).

(d) Yes, Sir. Alappuzha a NSG3 (Non-Suburban Grade-3) category station on Ernakulam –Alappuzha– Kayankulam section of Thiruvananthapuram Division. This station has already been developed under Model, Modern and Adarsh Station schemes. In addition, the work of façade improvement, provision of galvalume roof over station building, provision of 10-seater stainless steel benches (30 nos.) and improvement to toilets have been completed at the station. Works for provision of monumental flag and upper class waiting room are in progress. Another work for provision of 2 lifts and improvement to approach road have been sanctioned.
