

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 240
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2024**

KOTTAYAM RAILWAY STATION AS TERMINAL STATION

***240. ADV K. FRANCIS GEORGE:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had decided and sanctioned the Kottayam railway station in Kerala as terminal station along with Nemon station of Kerala 13 years ago;**
- (b) if so, the present status of the proposal and the follow up action taken by the Railways thereon;**
- (c) whether the Government will consider extension of certain services terminating at Ernakulam to Kottayam and stops for long distance trains plying via Kottayam considering the fact that Kottayam railway station is located in the central part of Kerala and passengers from the nearby districts have to board from Kottayam; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING 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 STARRED QUESTION NO. 240 BY ADV K. FRANCIS GEORGE TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.08.2024 REGARDING KOTTAYAM RAILWAY STATION AS TERMINAL STATION

(a) to (d): Kottayam Railway Station is an existing crossing station with five platforms and considering that trains are dealt from both North and South directions, developing it as terminal station is not presently under consideration.

However, the work of “Development of new Coaching Terminal at Nemam” has been sanctioned in April, 2023 at a total cost of ₹116.57 crore.

Railway Infrastructure Projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socio-economic considerations, enhancing connectivity to tourist and cultural places etc. depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands.

Since 2014, there has been substantial increase in fund allocation and commensurate commissioning of projects in State of Kerala as under:-

Period	Average Outlay	Increase w.r.t. average allocation of 2009-14
2009-14	₹372 crore/year	-
2023-24	₹2,033 crore	more than 5 times
2024-25	₹3,011 crore	more than 8 times

Though fund allocation has increased manifold but pace of execution of project is dependent on expeditious land acquisition.

Railway acquires the land through State Government. State Government assesses the compensation amount and advises to Railway. On receipt of demand from State Government, Railway deposits compensation amount with concerned District Land acquisition Authority.

Execution of important infrastructure projects falling fully/partly in the State of Kerala is held up due to delay in land acquisition and only about 62.83 Ha land has been acquired out of total requirement of about 459.54 Ha.

Railway had initiated efforts for acquisition of land but could not succeed in acquiring land for projects though Railway has paid ₹2125.61 Crore to Government of Kerala for land acquisition.

Support of the Government of Kerala is needed to expedite the land acquisition.

Kottayam is presently being served by 89 train services including 20633/20634 Kasaragod – Thiruvananthapuram Central Vande Bharat Express. Besides, extension/provision of stoppages in an ongoing process on Indian Railways, subject to traffic justification, operational feasibility, availability of resources etc.