

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2743
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2024**

UTILIZATION OF UNUSED LAND AT CHERIYANAD

2743. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that approximately 50 acres of land at Cheriyanad railway station has been lying unused for the past 50 years;**
- (b) if so, the significant amount of unused land and the steps are being taken to utilize this land effectively by establishing a new railway station at Cheriyanad instead of Cheriyanad railway station as Chengannur South;**
- (c) the details of the plans and timelines for the development of this new station in order to contribute for improving the public transportation facilities in the region; and**
- (d) whether any feasibility study or assessment has been conducted to determine the need for a new station at Cheriyanad as Chengannur South and 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 UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2743 BY SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 07.08.2024 REGARDING UTILIZATION OF UNUSED LAND AT CHERIYANAD

(a) to (d): Upgradation/development/redevelopment of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and on-going process and works in this regard are undertaken as per requirement, subject to inter-se priority, availability of funds and resources.

Ministry of Railways has recently launched Amrit Bharat Station 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 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 ballastless tracks etc., as per necessity, phasing and feasibility and creation of city centres at the station in the long term. The Master Planning of stations, whenever undertaken, is aimed at optimal utilization of Railway Land.

So far, 1324 stations including 35 stations in the State of Kerala have been identified for redevelopment under this scheme. Chengannur railway station is one of the stations in Kerala identified for redevelopment under Amrit Bharat Station scheme. Cheriyanad railway station which is next to Chengannur station has been provided with passenger amenities such as two high level platforms, one foot over bridge, waiting hall, etc. This is considered adequate for the present level of traffic at Cheriyanad station.

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 fibre 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.
