

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3737
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024**

AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME FOR KERALA

**3737 SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:
ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the timeline for the complete implementation of the Amrit Bharat Station scheme across all identified stations in Kerala;**
- (b) the number of stations upgraded so far under the said scheme in Palakkad division and the criteria followed for selecting these stations;**
- (c) the status of the redevelopment works of Varkala, Sivagiri and Chirayinkeezhu railway stations in Thiruvananthapuram Division under the said scheme;**
- (d) whether any railway stations like Kanhangad, Nileswaram from Kasargod has been included in the second phase of the said scheme and if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) the details of works completed, funds provided and utilized for the redevelopment works for each stations; and**
- (f) the expected time of completion of these projects?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f) Ministry of Railways has launched 'Amrit Bharat Station Scheme' for development of Railway stations on Indian Railways. 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, platform surfacing and cover over platform, 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 centre at the station in the long term.

So far, 1337 station have been identified under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, out of which 35 stations are located in the state of Kerala. Stations are identified based on proposals received from Zonal Railways, stations located in major cities and towns. In Palakkad Division of Southern Railway, 18 railway stations have been identified under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, out of which 14 stations are located in the state of Kerala. The names of 35 stations identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the state of Kerala are as following:

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

Tenders for development works have been awarded and works have been taken up for 33 Amrit stations, including Verkala Sivagiri, Chirayinkeezh and Kasargod stations, located in the state of Kerala. At Verkala Sivagiri station, works of construction of air concourse, main station building, parking area, etc. have been taken up. At Chirayinkeezh station, works of improvement of waiting hall and parking area have been completed and works of additional platform shelters, improvement of concourse, platform surfacing, circulating area, entrance porch, etc. have been taken up. At Kasargod station, works of raising of platform no. 3, improvement of parking area and erection of high mast light have been completed and works for extension of platform shelter, raising of platform no. 1, provision of lift, improvement of station building, porch, platform surfacing, etc. have been taken up.

Other projects have also exhibited good pace of execution. For example,

- **At Kollam station, service building work has been completed. Structural works of multi-level car parking, south side terminal building (Block-A&B) and parcel building have been completed and works of south side terminal building (Block-C), air concourse, Foot Over Bridge, platform improvement, platform shelters, etc. have been taken up.**

- **At Kuttippuram station, works of improvement of circulating area, parking area, waiting hall, construction of new platform shelters, new porch and entry ramp have been completed and work of improvement of booking office has been taken up.**

- **At Thalassery station, works of improvement of concourse area, booking office, parking areas, construction of new platform shelters, porch and covered walkway have been completed and work of circulating area has been taken up.**

- **At Ferok Station, works of improvement of waiting room, seating arrangement, raising of platform no. 1, construction of new platform shelter and new toilet block have been completed and works of parking area at main entry side, lifts, improvement of concourse area, booking office, etc. have been taken up.**

- **At Shoranur Station, works of construction of new Foot Over Bridge, platform shelters, waiting halls, toilet block, improvement of concourse, porch, circulating area and parking area have been completed and works of architectural improvement of station building have been taken up.**

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, air-port clearance etc. The progress also gets affected

due to brownfield 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 tracks and high voltage power lines, etc. and these factors affect the completion time. Therefore, no time frame can be indicated at this stage.

Upgradation/development/redevelopment of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and ongoing process and works in this regard are undertaken as per requirement, subject to inter-se priority and availability of funds. However, priority for upgradation/development/redevelopment of stations is accorded to higher category of station over lower category of station while sanctioning and executing the works.

Development / upgradation / modernisation of stations including under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme is generally funded under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities'. The details of allocation under Plan Head-53 are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not work-wise or station-wise or State-wise. The state of Kerala is covered by Southern Railway. For this zone, an allocation of Rs 1,383 Crores has been made for the financial year 2024-25 under Plan Head-53 and an expenditure of Rs 620 Crores has been incurred during 2024-25 (up to October, 2024).
