### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3869 TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024

#### AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME FOR THE STATIONS OF NORTH-EAST REGIONS

3869 SHRI TAPIR GAO:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme;
- (b) whether the Government has started Amrit Bharat Station Scheme for redevelopment of stations in North-East, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if so, the number of stations included under the said scheme;
- (d) the manner these stations will facilitate better passenger experience in Railways;
- (e) the details on budgetary allocation made for the redevelopment of stations in the said region; and
- (f) whether the said scheme will enable better connectivity to North East and enhance tourism in the region and if so, the details thereof?

#### **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. Development / upgradation of railway stations has a positive impact on tourism in the region.

So far, 1337 stations have been identified under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, out of which 60 stations are located in the North-East Region. The names of stations identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the North-East Region are as following:

#### Names of Amrit Stations identified in North-East Region

Agartala, Amguri, Arunachal, Chaparmukh, Dharmanagar, Dhemaji, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Dimapur, Diphu, Duliajan, Fakiragram Jn, Gauripur, Gohpur, Golaghat, Gosai Gaon Halt, Guwahati, Haibargaon, Harmuti, Hojai, Imphal, Jagiroad, Jorhat Town, Kamakhya, Kokrajhar, Kumarghat, Lanka, Ledo, Lumding, Majbat, Makum Jn, Margherita, Mariani, Mehendipathar, Murkeongselek, Naharalagun (Itanagar), Naharkatiya, Nalbari, Namrup, Narangi, New Bongaigaon, New Haflong, New Karimganj, New Tinsukia, North Lakhimpur, Pathsala, Rangapara North, Rangiya Jn, Rangpo, Sairang

(Aizawl), Sarupathar, Sibsagar Town, Silapathar, Silchar, Simaluguri, Tangla, Tinsukia, Udaipur, Udalguri, Viswanath Chariali

Out of 60 Amrit stations located in the North-East Region, tenders for development works have been awarded for 55 stations and works have been taken up. The projects have exhibited good pace of execution. For example,

- At Imphal station, structural work of main station building has been completed and works of construction of boundary wall, offices, platform retaining walls, circulating area, etc. have been taken up.
- At Dharmanagar station, works of additional platform shelters, improvement of platform surfacing, construction of boundary wall, widening of entry road and booking counters have been completed and works of construction of 12 m wide Foot Over Bridge, improvement of circulating area, etc. have been taken up.
- At Haibargaon station, structural works of new service building, parking and entry-exit gate have been completed and works of improvement of existing station building, platform shelters, circulating area, approach road, pay & use toilet, construction of porch, etc. have been taken up.
- At Gauripur station, structural works of station building and waiting room have been completed and works of improvement of circulating area, Foot Over Bridge, etc. have been taken up.
- At Hojai station, works of improvement of existing station building, platform shelters, parking area, approach road, construction of new service building, pay & use toilets, porch, entry-exit gate, boundary wall, etc. have been taken up.
- At Lanka station, works of construction of new service building, pay & use toilets, entrance porch, entry-exit gate, Foot Over Bridge, boundary wall, improvement of existing station building, platform shelters, parking area, approach road, etc. have been taken up.
- At Fakiragram station, works of improvement of platform shelters, approach road and structural work of new station building have been completed and works of construction of new Foot Over Bridge, improvement of circulating area, etc. have been taken up.

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.

Further, development/upgradation of stations and amenities for passengers 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. The priority for provision/upgradation of amenities is accorded to higher category of station over lower category of station while sanctioning and executing the works.

Development / upgradation 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/Region-wise. The North-East Region is covered by Northeast Frontier Railway. The allocation for the financial year 2024-25 for this zone is Rs 530 Crores.

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