### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

## LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 274 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025

#### REVAMPING/REDEVELOPMENT OF RAILWAY STATIONS UNDER AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME

#### †\*274. DR. RAJEEV BHARADWAJ: SHRI K SUDHAKARAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of railway stations being revamped under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the country particularly Kannur Railway Station;
- (b) the total funds likely to be spent on the said scheme;
- (c) whether there has been any delay in the implementation of the said scheme;
- (d) if so, the details and the current status thereof along with the reasons for the delay, if any;
- (e) the timeline for the completion of the project at Kannur Railway Station;
- (f) whether more facilities are likely to be provided to Divyangjans and senior citizens at the stations under the said scheme; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

#### **ANSWER**

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

(a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 274 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025

(a) to (g) Kannur railway station, located in the state of Kerala, has been identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. For development works at Kannur station, tenders have been awarded and works have been taken up. Also, a number of passenger amenities works have been carried out at Kannur railway station during last three years which include provision of lift, escalator, public announcement system, solar power plant, sewage treatment plant, improvement of water supply arrangements, etc.

Amrit Bharat Station 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 stations have been identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, out of which 35 stations are located in the state of Kerala. The names of stations identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the state of Kerala are as following:

| State  | No. of Amrit Stations | Names of Amrit 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 |

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. The state of Kerala is covered under Southern Railway. For this zone, an allocation of Rs 1,098 Crores (Revised Estimate) has been made for the financial year 2024-25 under Plan Head-53 and an expenditure of Rs 990 Crores has been incurred during 2024-25 (up to January, 2025).

Development / 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.

Indian Railways is committed to make its railway stations accessible for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjans) and passengers with reduced mobility as part of "Sugamya Bharat Mission" or 'Accessible India Campaign' of Government of India. In compliance of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, "Guidelines on accessibility of Indian Railway stations and facilities at stations for differently abled persons (Divyangjans) and passengers with reduced mobility" have been circulated and notified in the Gazette of India. The guidelines include provisions of facilities for Divyangjans and passengers with reduced mobility such as entrance ramps, accessible parking, low height ticket counters/help booths, toilets, drinking water booths, subways/foot over bridges with ramps/lifts, standard signages including Braille signages and tactile pathways for visual impairment, etc.

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