

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 657
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.07.2025**

AMRIT BHARAT STATION SCHEME FOR POTHANUR RAILWAY STATION

657. DR. GANAPATHY RAJKUMAR P:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal that Pothanur Railway Station will be transformed into the second junction of Coimbatore, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the development work is underway under the Amrit Bharat scheme at various railway stations in Salem division including Podanur Railway Station;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the fund allocated, released and spent for various development and infrastructural works at the said Station; and**
- (e) the time by when all the works will be completed and the said Station converted into the second junction of Coimbatore?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): Ministry of Railways has launched Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. It envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term approach. It involves preparation of master

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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 including Podanur Railway station of Salem division of Southern Railway have been identified for development under this scheme. The names of stations identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the Salem division of Southern Railway are as following:

Division	No. of Amrit Stations	Names of Amrit Stations
Salem	16	Bommidi, Chinna Salem, Coimbatore Jn, Coimbatore North, Coonoor, Erode Jn., Karur Jn, Mettupalayam, Morappur, Namakkal, Podanur Jn., Salem, Samalpatti, Tirupattur, Tiruppur, Udagamandalam.

Development works at railway stations under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in Salem division of Southern Railway have been taken up at a good pace and work of Samalpatti railway station of Salem division has been completed under this scheme.

Development / Upgradation / Modernisation of stations including under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme is generally funded under Plan Head-53 'Customer Amenities'. Salem division falls under the jurisdiction of Southern Railway. For this zone in financial year 2025-26, ₹1,122 crore has been allocated under Plan Head - 53 with expenditure (up to June) of ₹ 240 crore incurred so far.

New Coaching Terminal at Podanur Junction has been sanctioned at a cost of ₹98.67 Crore .

Completion of Railway project/s depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project/s site, number of working months in a year for particular project site etc. All these factors affect the completion time and cost of the project/s.
