

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3206
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025**

GUEST HOUSE FOR PASSENGERS

†3206. SHRI PARIMAL SUKLABAIDYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to build a Guest House or Rest House for the convenience of passengers at Silchar Railway Station;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government is taking any steps to ensure availability of adequate railway quarters for Railway employees at Silchar Railway Station;**
- (d) if so, the number of new quarters proposed to be constructed;**
- (e) whether the Government is planning to convert Silchar local trains to Diesel Electric Multiple Unit (DEMU) racks; and**
- (f) if so, the details of the current status of this process and the timeline for its implementation?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f) Development/upgradation 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. The priority for development/upgradation of stations is accorded to higher category of station over lower category of station while sanctioning and executing the works.

At Silchar railway station located in the state of Assam, three retiring rooms (double-bedded) and one dormitory (six-bedded) are existing for convenience of the passengers. In recent years, various works related to passenger amenities have been executed at Silchar station which include improvement of platform surfacing, waiting hall, platform shelters, circulating area, approach road, provision of lifts, etc.

Further, Silchar railway station has been identified for development under 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, 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 50 stations are located in the state of Assam. The names of stations identified for development under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the state of Assam are as following:

State	No. of Amrit Stations	Names of Amrit Stations
Assam	50	Amguri, Arunachal, Chaparmukh, Dhemaji, Dhubri, Dibrugarh, Diphu, Duliajan, Fakiragram Jn., Gauripur, Gohpur, Golaghat, Gosai Gaon Halt, Guwahati, Haibargaon, Harmuti, Hojai, Jagiroad, Jorhat Town, Kamakhya, Kokrajhar, Lanka, Ledo, Lumding, Majbat, Makum Jn, Margherita, Mariani, Murkeongselek, Naharkatiya, Nalbari, Namrup, Narangi, New Bongaigaon, New Haflong, New Karimganj, New Tinsukia, North Lakhimpur, Pathsala, Rangapara North, Rangiya Jn, Sarupathar, Sibsagar Town, Silapathar, Silchar, Simaluguri, Tangla, Tinsukia, Udalguri, Viswanath Chariali

Master planning for development of Silchar station under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme has been taken up. This is an iterative process requiring optimization and the time frame for such optimization cannot be indicated at this stage.

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 Assam is covered by Northeast Frontier Railway. For this zone, an allocation of Rs 547 Crores (Revised Estimate) has been made for the financial year 2024-25 under Plan Head-53.

At present, 243 Railway quarters are available at Silchar railway station, all of which are occupied by railway staff. Railway has identified the requirement of additional 100 no. staff quarters out of which action has been taken up for execution of work for construction of 22 new quarters in first phase.

Silchar is presently being served by 30 train services. Conversion of Passenger trains into MEMU/DEMU services is an on-going process on Indian Railways, which is dependent on factors like operational feasibility, availability of MEMU/DEMU rakes, competing demands etc.
