



KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY
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Amrit Bharat Station scheme

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Why is in news? Railways to modernize stations under Amrit Bharat Station scheme to improve amenities for passengers

Railways is set to **modernize its stations** under the Amrit Bharat Station scheme.

Amrit Bharat Station scheme envisages development of stations on a **continuous basis with a long term vision**.

It is based on Master Planning for long term and implementation of the elements of Master Plan as per the needs and patronage of the station.

Broad objectives:

The scheme aims at preparation of **Master Plans of the Railway stations** and implementation of the Master Plan in phases to enhance the facilities including and beyond the Minimum Essential Amenities (MEA) and aiming for creation of Roof Plazas and city centres at the station in long run.

The scheme shall aim to meet the needs of the stakeholders, station usage studies as far as possible based on availability of funds and inter-se priority.

The scheme shall cater for **introduction of new amenities as well as upgradation and replacement of existing amenities**.

This scheme will also cover the stations where **detailed techno-economic feasibility studies** have been conducted or are being conducted but the work for construction of Roof Plazas has not been taken up yet, ensuring the phasing of Master Plan being suitably implemented and relocation of structures and utilities being given more emphasis in the phasing plans.

Scale of amenities and facilities to be provided shall be finalized based on the broad guiding principles given above, footfall at the station, stakeholder consultations including users, different departments and local authorities and with approval of DRM.

The aim is to identify developing cities with potential and envisage railway stations as city centres that would link not just various parts of the city but also between different cities in the future.

These stations will be redeveloped under what is being internally called the **"Khurda model of redevelopment"**.

Khurda station in Odisha has been modernised for Rs 4 crore with all contemporary amenities for passengers.

The main structure was renovated, the facade was redone and the number of railway tracks was also increased.

Modernisation of these stations would include improved station approaches to ensure smooth access by widening roads, removal of unwanted structures, properly designed signages, dedicated pedestrian pathways, well-planned parking areas, and improved lighting among others.

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Elements of landscaping, green patches and local art and culture should be used to create a pleasant experience for the station users.