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Title: Need to construct new railway line connecting Ariyalur, Perambalur, Thuraiyur and Namakkal in Tamil Nadu -laid.

**DR. T. R. PAARIVENDHAR (PERAMBALUR) :** My constituency Perambalur in Tamil Nadu is an under developed one. 70% of people are engaged in agriculture. In the absence of rail transportation, farmers are not able to move their produces to different markets to realize better price. If the rail connection is provided, it will be of great help to the farmers. Their produces could be sold at fair price in the nearby markets. Absence of rail route also deters industrialists from establishing new industries. The industrialists will come forward to establish industries only if there is rail line connectivity.

Sometime back there was a proposal to lay down the rail lines connecting Ariyalur-Perambalur-Thuraiyur and Namakkal. The distance connecting these four Centres, is about 108 kms. It will also provide vital link to all the main rail routes. The Government of India surveyed the land a few years ago at a cost of Rs.16.5 lakhs. Still the project has not taken off and the reasons are not known.

Considering the helpless farmers' and unemployed youth's plight, I urge upon the Union Government through this august house to take necessary action for laying of new rail lines which connects Ariyalur-Perambalur-Thuraiyur and Namakkal.