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Title: Regarding completion of Madurai to Bodinayakkanur railway gauge conversion project in Tamil Nadu.

**SHRI P. RAVEENDRANATH KUMAR (THENI):** I would like to urge the Government to expedite the gauge conversion project of 90.41 km from Madurai to Bodinayakkanur which is pending for long period . This railway line has historical value since it had been used since pre independence period particularly for transporting cardamom, coffee and other agricultural products to other parts of the state and for exports. The gauge conversion project was sanctioned in the year 2008- 09 and this line was closed for works. In the year 2016 the estimated amount of Rs.302.90 cr was also sanctioned by the Government. But due to non-allocation of adequate fund in time, this project has been pending and the works are being undertaken very slowly. In case of completion of this project and introduction of rail services again on this line, more than one lakh people will be benefited everyday besides generating significant revenue to the Railways. Therefore, I request the Government to allocate the sanctioned amount of Rs.302.90 crore immediately and take necessary action for the early completion of this project.

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**14.33 hrs**