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Title: Regarding various railway related issues pertaining to Nagapattinam Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu -laid.

SHRI M. SELVARAJ (NAGAPATTINAM): My Nagapattinam Parliamentary Constituency is a backward and undeveloped area. The main source of income and livelihood of the people is fishing. The conversion of meter-gauge to broad-gauge between Thiruthuraipoondi to Agasthiampalli is progressing at snail speed for the last 10 years, still it is incomplete. The reason for such slow progress is unknown. Further, in between Thiruthuraipoondi to Agasthiampalli so many railway stations are there particularly Kariapattinam, Kuravapulam Thopputhurai, Neivelaku etc. Once, the train service starts on this route after the completion of the conversion works, all the trains passing through on this route be given a stoppage at all the railway stations as mentioned above.

Further, a newly laid broad-gauge line has been opened and train service started recently between Karaikudi to Tiruvarur and around 72 crossings are there in which no gate keepers have been appointed so far due to which the train took around 06 hours to reach 146 kms destination. In the absence of gate keepers, trains move very slowly to avoid any accidents.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government through this august House to speed up the conversion work between Thiruthuraipoondi - Agasthiampalli at the earliest and also to take necessary action to give a stoppage to all the trains passing thorough this route at all the stations for the benefit and convenience of the people living around this route and also to appoint gate keepers at all 76 crossings between Karaikudi and Tiruvarur railway line.

