

Regarding upgradation of infrastructure for commencement of train services from Salem -laid

**SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI (SALEM):** Salem is one of the divisions that come under the Southern Railway Zone and it is also one of the highest revenue-earning divisions too in terms of passenger and goods traffic. Salem is one of the biggest industrial districts in Tamil Nadu. One of the biggest steel units of the Steel Authority of India is located in Salem. The movement of people and goods from Salem is quite exorbitant as for the passengers it is a central place for many of the cities in the country like Chennai, Thiruvananthapuram, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Tirupati, etc. However, the division does not have enough infrastructure to deal with the growing needs of passengers as well as goods movement since it was created some years ago. Now the people for their journeys have to depend upon the trains coming from other parts of the area and no long-distance trains commence from Salem due to lack of infrastructure such as pit line, etc. Therefore, I urge upon the Hon?ble Minister of Railways to consider creating more infrastructure such as creation of more platforms, pitlines to accommodate maximum number of coaches for carrying out services to commence trains from Salem to rest of the country at the earliest.