

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1229

ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010

GOODS TRAIN BETWEEN TIRUCHIRAPALLI AND CHENNAI EGMORE

Natarajan Shri P.R.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware of the fact that even after running goods train between Tiruchirapalli and Chennai Egmore via main line, the passenger trains and express trains are still not running;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Railways in the regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. The opening of a section for passenger train services requires sanction of Commissioner of Railway Safety, while Railways can authorize opening of a section for goods trains.

Thanjavur-Mayiladuthurai-Villupuram gauge conversion project has been completed in 2009-10. A decision was taken to run goods trains between Mayiladuthurai and Villupuram to utilize the assets created, till Commissioner of Railway Safety sanctions the section for passenger services. Accordingly goods services on Tiruchirappalli-Chennai Egmore section (via main line) has been commissioned with effect from 31.12.2009.

The application for sanction for opening of the section for passengers services has been submitted to Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Southern Circle by CAO/Con., Southern Railway. The passenger trains can start after the Commissioner of Railway Safety accords his sanction for running Passenger/Express trains between Mayiladuthurai and Villupuram.