

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2546
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2010
OOTY METTUPALAYAM TRAIN
Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are aware of the problems being faced by the visiting tourists due to frequent stoppages of Ooty-Mettupalayam train;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Railways propose to improve the services on said route like modernization of coaches/engines and railway stations etc;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Indian Railways makes endeavour for smooth running of trains on Udagamandalam-Mettupalayam section. However, trains at times do get affected primarily due to various reasons like heavy rain, land slides, mechanical failure of locomotives etc.

(c) to (e): Yes, Madam. Nine coaches, running in Nilgiri Mountain Railway train have been rehabilitated and upgraded. 4 steam locomotives have been sanctioned as replacement of ageing locomotives.

Improvements to circulating area and renovations of retiring rooms have been completed at Mettupalayam, Coonoor and Udagamandalam stations. Renovation of toilet block has been done at Coonoor and toilet block has been constructed at Kallar.