

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1282
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2013
DISCONTINUATION OF DURANTO TRAINS
Lingam Shri P.;Semmalai Shri S.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Railways are considering to gradually discontinue the Duranto trains;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether introducing a Duranto Express train from Salem to Chennai and vice-versa is under consideration; and
- (d) whether the Railways will consider introducing a brief halt for the current Duranto train operating from Coimbatore to Chennai at Salem Junction and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. At present, there is no proposal to discontinue Duronto services. However, with a view to further improving the occupancy of certain Duronto services which had lesser patronization, they have been re-categorized by providing additional stoppages enroute:-

(i) 12241/12242 Chandigarh-Amritsar Duronto Express (converted into Superfast Express).

(ii) 12278/12277 Howrah-Puri Duronto Express (converted into Shatabdi Express).

(iii) 22211/22212 Ajmer-Nizamuddin Duronto Express (converted into Janshatabdi Express with new no. 12065/12066).

(iv) 22207/22208 Chennai-Thiruvananthapuram Duronto Express (converted into Super AC Express).

(v) 12243/12244 Chennai-Coimbatore Duronto Express (converted into Shatabdi Express).

(c): At present, there is no proposal for introducing a Duronto Express train between Salem and Chennai.

(d): 12244 Chennai-Coimbatore Duronto Express has been converted into a Shatabdi Express from 22.11.2013 with stoppage at Salem.