

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2470
ANSWERED ON:06.02.2014
TRAIN OPERATION
Alagiri Shri S.

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a train operating between Chennai and Sengottai before conversion of metre gauge line to broad gauge line has been discontinued;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not restoring the said train service after conversion to broad gauge; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Railways to restore and modernise the services via Thanjavur, Chidambaram and Cuddalore on the said railway line?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Prior to gauge conversion, 16105/16106 Chennai Egmore-Quilon Mail was running on meter gauge via Villupuram, Vriddhacham, Tiruchchirappalli, Pudukkottai, Karaikukuddi, Manamadurai Virudhunagar, Tenkasi, Sengottai, Punalur. After gauge conversion, 12661/12662 Chennai Egmore- Sengottai Pothigai Express via Vriddhachalm, Tiruchchirappalli, Dindigul, Madurai, Virudhunagar and Tenkasi has been introduced. However, this train was routed via Tiruchchirappalli, Dindigul route as gauge conversion of Manamadurai-Virdhunagar was not complete at that time. Further gauge conversion between Sengottai & Pulanur is not yet completed hence the train is running only upto Sengottai.

(c) At present, the following services are operated via Thanjavur, Chidambaram, Cuddalore:-

- (i) 16183/16184 Chennai Egmore-Thanjavur Express (daily)
- (ii) 16853/16854 Chennai Egmore-Tiruchchirappalli Express (daily)
- (iii) 16101/16102 Chennai Egmore-Rameswaram Express (daily)
- (iv) 16105/16106 Chennai Egmore-Tiruchendur Express (daily)
- (v) 16179/16180 Chennai Egmore-Manamadurai Express (daily)
- (vi) 22623/22624 Chennai Egmore-Madurai Express (bi-weekly)
- (vii) 16779/16780 Tirupati-Rameswaram Expresss (Tri-weekly)
- (viii) 18495/18496 Rameswaram-Bhubaneswar Express (weekly)
- (ix) 14259/14260 Rameswaram-Varanasi Express (weekly)
- (x) 16861/16862 Puducherry-Kanniyakumari Express (weekly)