

>

Title: Need to continue the existing system of operation of trains from Egmore Railway Station in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL): The Chennai Central Railway Station has been functioning as the first Terminus of Chennai since 1873. From 1906 onwards Egmore Railway Station has been functioning as second Terminus. Now Southern Railway has planned to convert Tambaram as the third Terminus and the preliminary work is already in progress. If the plan is implemented, all the trains operating to and from Southern Tamil Nadu which are bound to Egmore Station would be terminated at Tambaram Railway Station. This will cause a lot of inconvenience and difficulties to the general public.

Tambaram Railway Station is 24 kms away from the Egmore Railway Station. 61.5 percent of the people travelling to Southern Districts come from Chennai. If they want to go all the way from Chennai to Tambaram Railway Station for boarding south bound trains, they have to commute 30 kms by car or bus or auto or electric train and it will consume about 2 hours to reach Tambaram. This will make the already snarling road traffic more congested.

At present 18 Express trains leave Daily from Egmore Railway Station to southern parts. In addition to this 10 Express trains are also being diverted from Chennai Central to Egmore station and 8 Express trains pass through this station. If we calculate on an average 1500 commuters per train nearly 1 lakh passengers are being disturbed.

I urge upon the Hon'ble Railway Minister to take urgent and need steps to operate all trains which are being operated to and from Tamil Nadu only from Egmore station as at present. North Bound trains which are being operated at present from Egmore may be shifted to Royapuram Railway station which is having nearly 72 acres of vacant lands. Till such time status quo is to be maintained regarding Egmore Railway Station.