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Title: Need to allocate more funds for completion of gauge conversion work between Dindigul and Palakkad and Palani and Pollachi.

SHRI K. SUGUMAR (POLLACHI): My Parliamentary Constituency Pollachi in Tamil Nadu is surrounded by famous hill stations like Valparai, Topsleep, Moonar, Thirumurthi Hills and Aliyar, Amaravathi, Parambikulam, Solayar dams which are the famous tourists places visited by tourists from all over the country. Train is their mode of transport to reach those places. The famous Masani Amman temple is situated in Anamalai near Pollachi. Thousands of people are visiting this famous temple from nearby Madurai city and adjacent state of Kerala. Based on the demands of tourists and the general public, the gauge conversion of nearly 120 kms between Dindigul and Palakad via Udumalpet and Pollachi has been ordered by the Ministry of Railways in the year 2008. The progress of the conversion work is very slow due to the shortage of funds. I also mention that the gauge conversion between Palani and Pollachi is very much affected due to the poor financial allocation. The general public and the tourists are facing problems to reach those famous places. I, on behalf of my constituency people and visiting tourists, urge upon the Government to direct the Ministry of Railways for allocation of more funds in order to complete the project without further delay.