

Title:Need to release the remaining funds to extend the Electric Trains-EMUs from Chennai upto Kalpadi and requests to provide stoppage at Katpadi to the Chennai-Mysore and Chennai-Coimbatore Shatabdi Express trains.

SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM* (VELLORE) : Sir, suburban trains in the form of EMUs are run between Pune and Mumbai. It greatly benefits the commuters living in a wider area. This has enabled thousands of people to live in Pune and work in Mumbai. They travel everyday to their work places. Similarly, electric trains - EMUs should be run between Chennai and Katpadi. These suburban trains should ply every hour between Chennai and Katpadi. This would greatly benefit the people of Vellore and Katpadi towns and also number of villagers from the neighbouring mofussil areas. As such there are about half-an-hour to one-hour frequency. Those trains may be extended upto Katpadi.

Let me also request the Ministry of Railways to provide stoppage at Katpadi to the Chennai-Mysore and Chennai-Coimbatore Shatabdi Express trains. Steps may also be taken to convert the signals on the Arakkonam-Katpadi section into automatic signalling system. This is necessary to extend the EMUs from chennai upto Katpadi. For such related works Rs 22 crore was earmarked. But only Rs 6 crore has been released so far. Hence, I urge upon the Ministry of Railways to release the remaining funds at the earliest to complete the ongoing works.

*** Original in Tamil.**

श्री मोहम्मद अली अशरफ फातमी : सभापति जी, एक मिनट बोलने का मौका दीजिए।

सभापति महोदय : बाद में देंगे।

श्री मोहम्मद अली अशरफ फातमी : फिर मंत्री जी चले जाएँगे।

सभापति महोदय : मंत्री जी आपके लिए रहेंगे। अभी पुन्नु लाल मोहले जी को बुलाया है।