

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 12.11.2010
ANSWERED ON**

GAUGE CONVERSION WORK BETWEEN SENGOTTAI AND PUNALUR SECTION .

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Shri S. Thangavelu

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether the gauge conversion project between Sengottai and Punalur section of 49 kilometers with 950 meters of tunnel in Tamil Nadu is delaying for long time;
- (b) if so, whether such delay has caused escalation of estimated cost; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government for early completion of this project?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) & (b): No, Sir.

(c): MG traffic on Sengottai-Punalur (49 km) Ghat section has been suspended and gauge conversion block has commenced. Section involves difficult terrain requiring special track design and construction of 5 tunnels for which tenders are under finalisation.

This work is expected to be completed in next 2 to 3 years subject to availability of resources.