

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1106**  
**ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023**

**MERGER OF MRTS AND CMRL**

1106. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) is reporting ₹100 crore operational loss every year although the MRTS has a potential capacity of 5 lakh passengers a day;
- (b) whether Southern Railways has given in-principle approval for handing over MRTS to Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) and the merger of the MRTS with CMRL;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Railways to expedite the merger of MRTS with CMRL and the funds allocated for the same; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Central Government to protect the interest of the employees of MRTS?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1106 BY DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 28.07.2023 REGARDING MERGER OF MRTS AND CMRL.**

(a) to (d). Profit and loss Analysis of EMU services are done for entire sub-urban services only and no separate analysis done for MRTS section (Chennai Beach - Velachery). The total loss incurred in EMU sub-urban section for the year 2021-22 is Rs. 873.93 Crore. In response to the request of Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) and Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Ministry of Railways (MoR) had agreed for a study to be undertaken by Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) through a consultant and the final report was submitted in February, 2018. During a meeting held on the issue with the officials of MoHUA, it was decided that the proposed taking over of Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS), Chennai by CMRL can only start after completion of construction of 4th line between Chennai Beach and Chennai Egmore (4 Km). Work of 4th line between Chennai Beach and Chennai Egmore has been sanctioned in March, 2022 @ cost of Rs. 279.80 Crore and a fund of Rs. 96 Crore has been allotted during FY 2023-24. Land acquisition has been taken up. All railway employees working presently on MRTS section will continue to work in other sections of Chennai Division of Southern Railway, whenever MRTS is handed over to CMRL.

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