

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1546
ANSWERED ON 01.08.2025

**REVIVAL OF RAILWAY LINE BETWEEN TINDIVANAM
AND CUDDALORE**

1546 SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government would consider reviving the shelved project of laying railway line between Tindivanam and Cuddalore via Puducherry;
- (b) if so, the time line for starting the project; and
- (c) whether the said shelved project of laying railway line will be considered as top priority considering the heavy flow of tourists to the southern parts of Tamil Nadu and laying of the said line is feasible to Railways in terms of generation of revenue in both passengers and good services?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (c): Railway projects are surveyed/ sanctioned/executed Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise/UT wise/District wise as the Railway projects may span across State/UT/District boundaries.

Railway projects are sanctioned on the basis of remunerativeness, traffic projections, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public

representatives, Railway's own operational requirement, socio-economic considerations including tourism etc. depending upon throwforward of ongoing projects and overall availability of funds.

Survey of Tindivanam - Cuddalore new line via Puducherry (77 Km) was carried out. The project could not be taken forward due to low traffic projections. However, based on persistent demand from public and to improve connectivity, a fresh survey of Tindivanam-Sedarpet (New Puducherry) has been taken up for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR).

After firming up of Detailed Project Report (DPR), sanctioning of project requires consultation with various stake-holders including State Governments and necessary approvals viz. appraisal of NITI Aayog, Ministry of Finance etc. As sanctioning of projects is a continuous and dynamic process, exact timelines cannot be fixed.
