

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1713
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2022**

INTRODUCING NEW TRAINS TO TRICHIRAPPALLI DIVISION

1713. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken any steps to restore the Mayiladuthurai-Tharangambadi Railway Line (Tiruchirappalli Division, Southern Railway) and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to provide central financial grant to Tiruchirappalli Division and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Ministry has taken any steps to introduce new trains to Tiruchirappalli Division and if so, the details relating to Mayiladuthurai and Villupuram;**
- (d) whether the Ministry has taken any initiative to restore passenger train services between Trichy to Villupuram via Kumbakonam and if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Ministry has introduced MEMU trains in lieu of all passenger trains that are being operated in the fully electrified Trichy-Mayiladuthurai-Villupuram section and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) whether the Ministry has taken any new steps to improve the provision of level crossings and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1713 BY SHRI RAMALINGAM S. TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.07.2022 REGARDING INTRODUCING NEW TRAINS TO TRICHIRAPPALLI DIVISION

(a): Survey for Mayiladuthurai to Karaikal new line via Tharangambadi (47.32 Km) was completed in 2011. However, the project could not be taken forward in view of Peralam-Kariakal line being prioritized by Government of Puducherry.

(b): No Central Financial grants are made by the Ministry of Railways to Divisions of Indian Railways. However, allocations for Revenue and Capital expenditure are made to the Zonal Railways on Annual Budget of Railways which are further allocated to the Divisions by the Zonal authorities. Tiruchirappalli Division comes under Southern Zone of Indian Railways. In Budget Estimate (BE) 2022-23, Gross allotment of ₹9,560 crore has been made for Capital expenditure and ₹16,374 crore (including pensionary charges) for Ordinary Working Expenses for Southern Railway.

(c): Introduction of new train services is an ongoing process on Indian Railways subject to operational feasibility, traffic demand and availability of resources etc.

(d): Indian Railways have started operation of Mail/Express service with regular numbers and rationalized time table since November, 2021, while passenger services are being operated in a phased manner. Accordingly, as on 20.07.2022, 21 passenger special train services are catering to the needs of passengers of Tiruchchirappalli-Kumbakonam-Villupuram sectors.

(e): On Indian Railways, conversion of passenger trains into MEMU services is an ongoing process and is undertaken in a phased manner inter alia subject to availability of rolling stock.

(f): All unmanned level crossings on Broad Gauge (BG) route on India Railway have been eliminated. As per extant policy, no new level crossing is being provided as LCs are potential safety hazard for both rail and road users. Existing Non-interlocked level crossings are being converted into interlocked level crossings (LCs).
