

Regarding need to expedite laying of new railway line from Dindigul to Sabarimala via Theni-Laid

SHRI TAMILSELVAN THANGA (THENI): Theni Parliamentary constituency of Tamilnadu is located in the western part of Tamil Nadu bordering the State of Kerala and lies at the foot of the Western Ghats. There has been a long pending demand for several years to lay/construct a railway line from Dindigul to Sabarimala via Theni. Recently, the Southern Railway has announced that a tender will be floated for the survey work/ site selection study to lay a broad gauge railway line from Theni to Erumeli and Rs. 2.90 crore has been fixed for the study work to construct a new broad gauge railway line for a distance of 115 km between Theni and Erumeli Further, Rs 46 lakhs was allocated for the Dindigul-Sabarimala broad gauge railway survey work. Earlier, the Railway Board had done the survey for a new broad-gauge line from Dindigul to Sabarimalai and received the report in the year 2014, but it is still pending with the Railway Board but not willing to come forward to lay a new railway line from Dindigul to Sabarimala. Our Tamilnadu Government is ready to extend any possible help to complete the project as early as possible. Hence, I urge upon the Union Govt. to take further necessary action to expedite to lay a new railway line from Dindigul to Sabarimala via Theni for the benefit of crores of crores of pilgrims thronging /visiting across the country to Sabarimalai in Kerala and Palani Temple in Dindigul District in Tamilnadu. If a new railway line is constructed a lot of money and time will be saved through travelling by the pilgrims and more income will be earned by the Railway Department.