

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3659
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2001
GAUGE CONVERSION OF TRICHY-MANAMADURAI-RAMESWARAM RAIL LINE
SUDARSANA E.M. NATCHIAPPAN

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has completed the survey for gauge conversion of TrichiManmadura -Rameswaram line into broad gauge line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons for delay;
- (d) whether the Government have allocated funds to commence the long pending scheme;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the three express trains viz., Kamban `Rameswaram` and Sethu would be extended upto Egmore (Chennai) station; and`
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) to (g) : A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3659 BY SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPP. BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 16.08.2001 REGARDING GAUGE CONVERSION OF TRICHY- MANAMAI RAMESWARAM RAIL LINE.

(a) Yes. Sir. The survey for gauge conversion of Trichy-Manamadurai- Rameswaram has been covered by two separate surveys i.e. Trichv- Manamadurai and Madurai-Rameswaram via Manamadurai which have been completed

(b) The survey for Trichy-Manamadurai was completed in 1999-2000. As per the survey report the cost of conversion of this 151 km long line was assessed as Rs.170..94 cr with rate of return of 12.79%.

The survey for Madurai-Rameswaram was completed in August 1997. As per the survey report the cost of conversion of this 161.5 km long line was assessed as Rs.193.98 cr with rate of return of 3.45%.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes. Sir. Funds are being provided as per availability of resources.

(e) During 2001-02 an outlay of Rs.1 0 cr each have been provided for the work of Trichy - Manamadurai and Madurai-Rameswaram.

(f) & (g) At present there is no proposal for extension of 6875/6876 Tambaram - Karaikudi Nagore Kamban Express, 6701/6702 Tambaram-Rameswaram Express and 6713/6714 Tambaram-Rameswaram Sethu Express upto Chennai Egmore.