

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RAILWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3165  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006  
OLD RAILWAY TRACKS IN TAMIL NADU  
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**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Railways propose to upgrade the old railway tracks for better commutation and increase the speed;
- (b) if so, the details of action taken by the Railways in this regard particularly in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether the Railways have invited Public/Private participation to modernize the Railways; and
- (d) if so, details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R.VELU)

- (a): Track renewals are carried out as and when they become due for renewal on age-cum-condition basis and as per requirement of traffic. It is a continuous process. Speed of trains are increased when all the related infrastructure are upgraded.
- (b): In Tamil Nadu recently speed of trains has been increased in two sections:
  - (i) Chennai Central to Coimbatore Jn - from 105 kmph to 110 kmph.
  - (ii) Chennai Egmore to Didigul Jn - from 100 kmph to 110 kmph.
- (c) & (d): A number of areas/activities such as upgradation of stations at major metropolitan cities, establishment of super specialty hospitals, setting up of manufacturing units for rolling stock, infrastructure projects for port connectivity through Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and several activities in catering/tourism and hospitality area have been identified for possible execution through public-private partnership route.