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Title: Need to augment railway services and passenger facilities in Dindigul Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI M. UDHAYAKUMAR (DINDIGUL): Dindigul in Tamil Nadu is District headquarters of my Dindigul Parliamentary constituency. It is the 11th largest urban agglomeration in the State. Industries in Dindigul include lock-making, leather, administrative services, agricultural trading, banking, agricultural machinery and educational services. There is a lot of railway projects pending and the following Railway projects need to be undertaken for the development of my constituency and the temple city of Palani.:

1. Modernization of Dindigul Railway station with escalator in all platforms.
2. EMU train/service may be started/operated between Dindigul and Madurai on broad-gauge double electrified line.
3. A new railway line may be laid between Dindigul and Karaikudi via Natham, Kottampatti, Thirupathur.
4. Stoppage of trains at Kodaikanal road Junction viz., Vaigai Express Guruvayur Express, Nellore Express and Trichy Intercity Express etc.
5. Modernisation of Kodaikanal road Junction Railway station by providing escalator, Display boards for arrival-departure of trains.
6. The weekly service of Nellore – Dadar express may be changed into daily service and to be stopped at Kodaikanal road Junction.
7. The unmanned gate in Jallipatti near Kodai Road be converted as manned gate.
8. An Over Bridge may be constructed at the crossing level of Gandhigram Rural University.
9. A new train service may be operated from Chennai Egmore to Palani via Villupuram, Trichy and Dindigul.
- 10. A new railway line be laid between Dindigul and Sabarimala to facilitate the millions of pilgrims to worship Lord Ayyappa.**
- 11. The passengers train halt stations at Vellodu, Mettur Gate, Pallapatti, Paravai, Vilankudi, Madurai Palam Station were operational while it was meter-gauge and now closed after conversion to Broad-gauge. It should be reviewed in order to resume the earlier services.**