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title: Need to provide adequate number of LHB coaches to Southern Railway from Integral Coach Factory, Chennai.

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**SHRI M. UDHAYAKUMAR (DINDIGUL):** My plea is relating to the longstanding demand of rail travellers on Chennai-Madurai section of Southern Railway serving tourism and pilgrimage destinations.

Rail travellers on this section complain of unclean coaches which are worn-out after a decade's use. As a part of the decision of Indian Railways to replace conventional AC and non-AC coaches in service for more than a decade with LHB coaches built on German technology, Southern Railway was allotted only 30 LHB coaches which is less than its actual requirement. In fact, Southern Railway holds the largest number of coaches among all railway zones in the country but has been left behind in actual allocation of LHB coaches.

Ironically even this paltry allocation of 30 LHB coaches is still lying idle in its rolling stock yards, waiting for the clearance of the Commissioner for Railway Safety to commence regular runs.

I urge the Ministry of Railways to set apart adequate number of LHB coaches made at the integral Coach Factory, Chennai for use in Southern railway zone, while other coach making facilities at Kapurthala and Rae Bareilly can cater to the rest of the railway.