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Title: Need to convert level Crossing No. 78 between Mettur and Pavoorchatram in Tenkasi Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu into a manned level crossing.

SHRIMATI M. VASANTHI (TENKASI): I wish to bring the following important issues causing difficulties to the farmers of my Tenkasi Parliamentary Constituency.

There is an Unmanned Level Crossing (LC No 78) located between Mettur and Pavoorchatram Railway Station on Tenkasi — Ambasamudram Tirunelveli Line. This LC is used by farmers and the locals of nearby villages Ariyapuram, Thippanampatty, Avudaiyanur, Nattanpatti etc. These villages are located on both sides of the Railway line and this railway line runs between Narayanaparkulam & Kaikondankulam water Reservoirs.

I wish to state that this LC is the only way of transport of agricultural products and livelihood. It is good that Railways has a policy decision of converting all LCs to Railway over Bridge (ROB) or Railway Under Bridge (RUB) for people safety; but it will not apply in this case as it is a low lying land and RUB will not be feasible due to water logging & no necessary land is there to build ROB. Currently a contract person is on duty on LC-78.

I request the Railway Ministry to appoint a permanent Railway Staff on LC-78 and convert it into a manned LC, which will only solve the difficulties faced by farmers and also loss of human lives.