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## Title: Need to rename Chennai Central Railway station as MGR Railway station - Laid

SHRI S.R. VIJAYA KUMAR (CHENNAI CENTRAL): As a mark of respect to the yeomen service rendered by our leader Bharat Ratna Puratchi Thalaivar MGR and commemorate his birth centenary, the Government of Tamil Nadu has adopted a resolution to rename the Chennai Central Railway Station after Puratchi Thalaivar MGR.

Chennai, one of the top most metro cities in India, has been growing by leaps and bounds in terms of both infrastructure and real estate. Phase-I of the Chennai Metro is nearing completion. The two stretches of the Phase-I — Washermanpet to Chennai Central and Chennai Central to AG-DMS are likely to be opened to public by the end of January 2019. This will become the life line of Chennai.

The Chennai Metro Phase-II project will have three corridors running 108 Kilometers covering 104 stations. The tentative cost of this project is Rs 85,047 crore, a huge part of this will come as a loan from JICA, about 20-25% funding from the State and the rest from the Centre. There is an urgent need to expedite allocation of the Centre's share to facilitate CMRL to execute the Phase II Metro project as per the schedule.

Therefore, I urge the Union Government to rename Chennai Central Railway station as MGR Central Railway station and expedite the disbursement of funds allocated to the Chennai Metro Phase-TI project.