

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding non-utilization of Punalur-Sengottai railway route - Laid

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Punalur-Sengottai gauge conversion work was completed and commissioned in 31 March 2018. Even though the line has been commissioned, it is not being utilized for introducing new trains. The only new train introduced was a special train Tambaram Express which is 3 days in a week. The trains running prior to start of the gauge conversion work have not been restored. The demands for introduction of new trains and restoring old train services have not been considered. Rs.390 crores were spent for the Punalur-Sengottai gauge conversion works, but the same is not being utilized till this date. Punalur-Sengottai is a shortest railway line connecting Kerala and Tamil Nadu. The non-utilization of a railway line by introducing new trains is a loss to the public exchequer.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to introduce new trains to Velankanni and Rameswaram; convert Tambaram Express to daily regular train and restore all old train services through Kollam-Sengottai railway line.