

(d) MRTS Scheme in Chennai is being executed in a phased manner. At present phase-II from Thirumayilai to Velacheri is in progress. The execution of the proposal for phase III from Velacheri to St. Thomas Mount depends upon financial viability of the project, availability of resources and requisite clearances, so no target date is fixed.

Train between Kuppam and Bangalore

2611. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a new daily train between Kuppam and Bangalore, leaving Kuppam at 8 A.M. and Bangalore at 5 P.M. in view of developmental activities in and around Kuppam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) 6519/6520 Bangalore-Bangarapet Express (daily) has been extended to Jolarpettai via Kuppam from 1.7.2002. 6520 Express leaves Bangalore at 1730 Hours (5.30 P.M.). Introduction of additional train between Bangalore and Kuppam has been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Transfers due to Bifurcation of Railways Zones

2612. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the number of personnel that would be required for seven new Railway Zones being created; and

(b) the number of persons who would be transferred / dislocated as a result of bifurcation of the existing Zones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Around 1500 personnel would be required for each of the seven new Railway Zones being created.