

**PPP model to facilitate advanced transportation  
models and create jobs**

2992. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government believes that PPP model can bring in advanced transportation models and create jobs, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the experience in this regard during the past three years, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The main objectives underlying PPP are to leverage Private Sector's participation and efficiency in execution of projects and provision of services in selected areas. The areas identified for PPP include redevelopment of stations, setting up of Rolling Stock manufacturing factories, connectivity to ports, mines and industry clusters, operation of container trains, private freight terminals, wagon investment schemes and operation of automobile freights trains. These PPP models have evoked positive response. PPP projects have the potential to create both direct and indirect jobs.

**Reduction in travelling time between Chennai  
Egmore to Madurai**

2993. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to reduce the travelling time between Chennai Egmore to Madurai from the existing duration of approximately 8 hours to 6 hours in the future by fully doubling and electrifying the route in the current year itself; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) On Chennai Egmore-Madurai route, electrified quadruple broad gauge line exists on Chennai Egmore-Tambaram and electrified double broad gauge line exists on Tambaram-Chengalpattu-Villupuram and Dindigul-Madurai sections. On balance portion, doubling with electrification of Villupuram-Dindigul line (273 Km) has been taken up where track linking of entire line has been completed and 245 Km section has been commissioned.