

**Merger of MRTS, Chennai with Chennai metro rail limited**

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

(a) whether the Government has taken any final decision regarding merging of MRTS, Chennai with Chennai Metro Rail Limited, including the surface rights of the land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Consequent to the request of Government of Tamil Nadu, Ministry of Railways has agreed for a study on the proposed merger of Chennai Metro Rail project with MRTS, Chennai to be undertaken by Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) on 01.10.2015. The detailed Terms of Reference for the study have also been advised to CMRL on 26.07.2016. The study report is awaited.

**Compulsory keeping of books on Indian culture  
at Railway Station bookstalls**

†134. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government proposes to make it compulsory to keep books based on Indian culture and morality at bookstalls of railway stations;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any action in this regard so far; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) A new Multipurpose Stall Policy has been issued on 05.09.2017 wherein all miscellaneous/curio stalls, bookstalls, chemist stalls/corners have come under Multi Purpose Stalls (MPS). Books pertaining to Indian Tradition, Culture, Values, Morals and History are also permitted for sale through Multi Purpose Stalls. Further, instructions have also been issued on 17.10.2017 *vide* Commercial Circular No.-71/2017 for allotment of bookstalls to Social and Philanthropic organizations which have their own publications of books and periodicals for promoting social and cultural values in society.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.