

Regarding completion of Railway line from Dindigul to Sabarimala

SHRI TAMILSELVAN THANGA (THENI): Hon Chairman Sir, *Vanakkam*. I thank you so much for allowing me to raise an important issue pertaining to my Theni parliamentary constituency.

I am an elected Member of Parliament representing Theni in Lok Sabha. This is an important issue. I urge that there should be a new railway line between Dindigul and Sabarimala. This is the 18th Lok Sabha. All the elected MPs of this House including hon. MPs from Kerala have demanded for a new railway route between Dindigul and Sabarimala. This is a long pending demand. Almost one crore pilgrims visit Sabarimala every year. On a particular day during every month almost 5 lakh pilgrims visit Sabarimala. If this new railway line is laid, there is a possibility of even pilgrims from Jammu and Kashmir can visit Sabarimala on a regular basis. Traffic congestion along several rail routes may come to an ease. Moreover, accidents may be prevented and usual travel time can be saved.

Keeping in view all these aspects, and the importance of this demand which has been pending for the last 100 years, I urge upon the Hon. Minister for Railways, through the Chairperson of this august House, to immediately work in bringing this new railway line between Dindigul and Sabarimala a reality, in order to benefit lakhs of pilgrims and rail passengers. Thank you, *Vanakkam*.