

## **Regarding stoppage of Vande Bharat trains at Virudhachalam Junction**

**DR. M. K. VISHNU PRASAD (CUDDALORE):** Thank you, Madam Chairperson, for giving me an opportunity to speak on a matter of public importance.

In my Cuddalore Constituency, there is a major railway station called Vriddhachalam Railway Station. Vande Bharat is moving from Nagarcoil to Chennai and Tirunelveli to Chennai. Tamil Nadu is split into Northern and Southern parts, keeping Trichy as a center. In Southern part from Trichy, Nagercoil, Kovilpatti, Virudunagar, Dindigul, Madurai, Trichy, there are six stops. But from Trichy to Chennai, there is only one stop, that is at Villupuram. Why is this disparity between Northern and Southern Tamil Nadu? Both parts of people have given land for laying the railway lines and railway stations.

I humbly request through you, Madam, that the Vande Bharat train should stop at Virudhachalam station, so that people of Pennadam, Thittakudi and Virudhachalam in Cuddalore district will get the benefit.

\*Tiruchirappalli is the central place of Tamil Nadu. Vande Bharat trains ply through Tiruchirappalli between (i) Chennai-Nagercoil and (ii) Chennai - Tirunelveli. These Vande Bharat trains, in all, have 7 stoppages and between Chennai and Tiruchirappalli it has only one stoppage at Viluppuram. I urge that these Vande Bharat trains should also have a stoppage at Virudhachalam Junction. Thank you.\*