

Need to provide more facilities at Shoranur Junction Station in Kerala.

SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR (OTTAPALAM): Sir, Shoranur Junction Station is geographically at the centre of Kerala, a diversion point to Mangalore, Kanyakumari, Madras Central and Nilambur.

Due to constraints of line capacity no additional train services on MAS-MAQ & MAQ-TVC routes could be made to cater the ever increasing demands of travelling public. Even though the work of doubling the Shoranur-Mangalore line is in progress and preliminary works were undertaken for doubling the stretch of Shoranur-Kultippuram portion, non-provision of funds in the Budget for 2000-2001 has created apprehension in the public about the project. We request provision of sufficient funds for Shoranur-Kultippuram section also in this year's Budget.

A link line to Palghat from Cochin passes through nearby, that is, 5 kms. away from the present Shoranur Junction Station. A number of long distance trains by-pass Shoranur Junction through this link line. In between the link line and Cochin-Shoranur, Shoranur-Palghat lines sufficient space is available in the shape of a triangular and if a station is built there, not only the people of Malabar, but the whole of South India will be benefited.

The Rajdhani Express to Nizamuddin via Konkan is now having a 'stop' at Shoranur for operating purposes of 'GDR' change. The train was having a 'stop' at Palghat Junction when running via Vijayawada. Hence it is quite imperative that the 'stop' is extended for commercial purposes also so that people of not only Palghat district but also nearby districts such as Trichur and Malappuram, Coimbatore, etc. can avail of the facility thereby enhancing the revenue.