

14.12 hrs

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at twelve minutes past
Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Shrimati Margaret Alva in the Chair)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House shall take up Matters Under Rule 377.

Title: Need to increase frequency of trains running between Tirupati and Arakkonamin Chennai.

DR. N. VENKATASWAMY (TIRUPATI): Madam, Chairperson, Puttur is a big town with a population of nearly 40 thousand. In and around Puttur, there are many semi-urban and rural villages depending on Puttur for travelling to Tirupati, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Chennai, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Coimbatore, Salem and Erode, etc. The railway station of Puttur is in the heart of the town.

The passenger trains Nos. 193, 194, 195 and 196 depart Tirupati and reach Arakkonam and from there to Renigunta at 8.40 a.m. From 8.40 a.m. onwards these trains remain idle at Renigunta up to 6.00 p.m.

The Sapthagiri Express No. 6054 from Tirupati to Chennai leaves Tirupati at 9.55 a.m. and at 10.40 a.m. from Puttur. So, after 9.55 a.m. there is no train facility to Chennai until 5 p.m. There is no train to Chennai or Arakkonam from 10.40 a.m. to 6.20 p.m. In order to provide more facilities to the passengers, two more trips may be introduced from Tirupati to Arakkonam and back to Tirupati.

I, therefore, request the hon. Union Minister of Railways to take appropriate action on the above request.