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Title: Need to mitigate hardship being caused to commuters due to closure of roads for construction of a new over-bridge at Tirunelveli Railway Junction, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P.H. PANDIYAN (TIRUNELVELI): Tirunelveli, being a big town has Palayamkottai and Melapalayam as adjacent suburbs. Due to the constant movement of pilgrims and tourists, there is a lot of traffic congestion at the site of the construction of a new bridge. Hence, the people of Tirunelveli town are facing much hardship in commuting to their offices, schools, business places, etc. To avoid the present hardship they have to take a circuitous route to reach their respective destinations. The existing side roads of the bridge have been unnecessarily closed for public traffic in view of the ongoing construction. The people have already requested the district authorities and the Madurai Railway Divisional Authorities to open this existing side road for use of travelling public. As an elected member of Tirunelveli parliamentary constituency, I visited the site personally on 29th and 30th of March, 2000 and came to know the daily problems faced by removing the side walls at the railway junction gate which is presently closed and the road may be opened for public until the construction of the new overbridge is completed. I request the Government to take immediate action and necessary instructions may be issued to the District authorities and Madurai Railway Divisional Authorities in order to overcome the daily problems faced by the people of Tirunelveli town in Tamil Nadu.