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Title: Need to provide stoppage to various trains at railway station in Dharmapuri Parliamentary Constituency, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN (DHARMAPURI): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, for giving me this opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance. I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister of Railways regarding stoppage of various trains and enhancing the frequency of trains concerning my constituency.

Our district Dharmapuri is the most backward district in the State of Tamil Nadu. Due to this backwardness the people of the district have to move away from here to various places for earning their livelihood and for better prosperity. So, rail journey plays a very important role for the people of this district.

Sir, the railway station at Morapur is an ancient railway station under the Salem Division of Southern Railway. It falls in my district Dharmapuri. This station serves the people who are heading towards Chennai and other parts of the State and the country. Hundreds of people visit this railway station everyday. However, two trains which are passing through Morapur do not stop over here. They are Train No. 3351/3352, that is, Tatanagar-Alleppey-Tatanagar-Bokaro Express and Train No. 2695/2696, that is, Chennai-Thiruvananthapuram-Chennai Express.

Another important railway station falling in this district of Dharmapuri is Bommidi. This station also serves the people of Dharmapuri district. However, this station does not have a stoppage of Train No. 6381/6382, that is, Mumbai-Kanyakumari-Mumbai Express as well as 7229/7230, that is, Sabari Express running between Thiruvananthapuram and Hyderabad *via* Tirupati. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister to make stoppage for these two trains at Morapur and Bommidi railway stations respectively.

I would also like to mention here that when Mumbai-Kanyakumari GST Express enters Kerala, it stops at almost all the stations whereas it does not have a stoppage at many important stations in Tamil Nadu. I would like to take this opportunity to request the hon. Minister to avoid this kind of discrimination towards any State, including Tamil Nadu.

Similarly, Dharmapuri Railway Station under the Bangalore Division of South-Western Railway serves the people of both Dharmapuri and Krishnagiri who are heading towards Bengaluru, Mumbai, Thiruvananthapuram etc. However, this station does not have a stoppage for Train No. 6537/6538, that is, Bengaluru-Nagarcoil-Bengaluru Express. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister to direct the concerned officials to make stoppage for this train at Dharmapuri and also enhance the frequency of this train from once a week to daily basis as there is a huge volume of passenger traffic between Nagarcoil and Bengaluru daily.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Railway Ministry will look into all these things. You have to mention if there is any specific problem, but do not bring in all the things together concerning the Railways

SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN : Though these issues were earlier brought to the notice of the Government under Rule 377, since there was no fruitful action forthcoming, I am constrained to raise this issue in 'Zero Hour' today.

I am quite sure that this time the hon. Minister for Railways will definitely look into it.