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Title: Need to run the proposed New Visakhapatnam – Sai Nagar Shirdi Express train via Vijayawada-Guntur-Nalgonda-Secunderabad-Manmad.

SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO (GUNTUR): I would like to draw the kind attention of the House that pilgrimage to Shirdi is increasing day by day and there are number of passengers from Guntur division going to Shirdi either by catching trains at Vijayawada or at Secunderabad which is very strenuous both on physical and fiscal aspects. Number of trains are going either to Nagarsol or to Shirdi only via Vijayawada, Kazipet, Secunderabad. The Vijayawada – Secunderabad route via Guntur, Nalgonda is shorter and takes only six hours journey between Vijayawada – Secunderabad. The Guntur district and Nalgonda district passengers are deprived of direct train facility to Shirdi. Hence some of the trains be diverted via Guntur or a new train be introduced between Guntur and Shirdi via Nalgonda – Secunderabad. The devotees of the area are of the opinion that they are neglected by Railway authorities when no positive action is taken against their repeated request to have a direct link to Shirdi.

Hence I request the Ministry of Railways, through the Chair, that the proposed New Visakhapatnam – Sai Nagar Shirdi Express Train (Item No. 24, Annexure 20) (Weekly) be run via Vijayawada - Guntur – Nalgonda – Secunderabad - Manmad immediately.