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Title : Need to provide passenger facilities at Tirunelveli railway junction in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (TIRUNELVELI): Tirunelveli is the second largest city in Tamil Nadu. Number of tourist spots are located in and around Tirunelveli. With the result, the floating population at Tirunelveli is very high. People from southern States and other parts of the country visiting various places of importance viz. Couttralam Falls, Manimuthar Dam, ancient Nellaiappar Temple, etc. are alighting at Tirunelveli Junction. Besides, Tenkasi, Alangulam and Pavursthiram are business centres. Many of the long distance south-bound trains from various parts of the country are touching Tirunelveli. In recent years, many of the trains which were terminated at Madurai extended to Tirunelveli. To cope with the increasing train movement, Railways have recently increased one more platform in Tirunelveli Junction.

However, this platform is not served with basic facilities. Roof shed is not fully provided in the new platform and Foot-over-bridge (FOB) is not extended. People are facing lot of difficulties to safeguard them from hot summer, rain and cold weather conditions. Passengers particularly the old aged people are facing problems in moving from one platform to another with their luggage due to the absence of Escalators.

I shall, therefore, urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Railways to take necessary steps to provide Foot Over-bridge. roof shed in the new platform and also to provide escalator in the Tirunelveli Railway Junction without delay.