

an>

Title: Need to provide adequate railway facilities necessary for grand success of 'Maasi Magam'- the Kumbha Mela of South.

*SHRI R.K. BHARATHI MOHAN (MAYILADUTHURAI) : Hon'ble Madam Speaker "Everybody should get everything; poverty should be wiped out of this country". Under the able guidance of Hon'ble *Puratchithalaivi* Amma, 'Maasi Magam' – the Kumbh Mela of South is organized once in twelve years. This 'Maasi Magam' festival will be organized in February 2016. Several lakhs of pilgrims from all over the country will take part in this mega event. Tamil Nadu Government under the able guidance of Hon'ble Amma has been making all efforts to organize this event in a grand manner. Union Government through its Railway Ministry should work on providing adequate rail facilities for this event. All the three platforms at Kumbakonam Railway Station should be extended and upgraded so as to cater to arrival and departure of trains with at least 24 bogies. There is a foot over bridge to go to platform No 2 from platform No 1. I urge upon the Union Government that an additional foot over bridge should be constructed for reaching platform No 3. Thousands of commuters come to Kumbakonam everyday. There are no adequate retiring rooms for rail passengers at the Kumbakonam railway station. In view of Maasi Magam (Kumbh Mela of South) I urge upon the Railway Ministry that a multi-storey Rail Yatri Niwas should be constructed. Thousands of pilgrims visit the temples in and around Kumbakonam on their religious pursuit. Therefore I request for up-gradation and extension of platforms at Papanasam and Aaduthurai. Moreover Computerized Reservation Centres should be opened in Papanasam and Aaduthurai Railway stations which can function throughout the day. All the trains in this route should also have

stoppages at these two stations, Papanasam and Aaduthurai. Information Facilitation Centre for general public should also be opened at the Kumbakonam Model Railway Station. Thank you Madam Speaker.

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.30 p.m.

13.28 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Thirty Minutes

past Fourteen of the Clock.