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Title: Need to provide better

SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN (MADURAI): Madam Speaker, I would like to bring to your kind attention towards the needs of the people of my parliamentary constituency, Madurai, for improved rail services and speedy implementation railways projects there. All these are long pending demands of the people of my constituency.

Honourable Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has special affection for Madurai and its people. The world famous Meenakshi Temple of Madurai is frequently visited by people residing in different States and countries. In view of this, all trains running between Madurai to Chennai should be converted into Super fast Express Trains. The existing old and outdated coaches of Pandian Express have to be modernized. Efforts should be taken to decongest Madurai Railway Station by renovating and making Koodal Nagar Railway Station as additional station. Koodal Nagar station is announced as a Model Station. Neither funds nor work have reached there.

Likewise, Thiruparankundram and Thirumangalam Railway Stations should be made as Model Stations. Stoppage of all trains should be provided there. Duronto Express running twice a week between Madurai and Chennai should be introduced to benefit the people of Madurai. An additional train service between Madurai and Bengaluru with 1st AC coach has to be introduced. Similarly, 1st AC coach has to be added to Thoothukudi-Mysore Express train running *via* Madurai.