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Title: Need to develop railway infrastructure to deal with pilgrims inflow during the Mahamaham festival in 2016 at Kumbakonam district in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI R.K. BHARATHI MOHAN (MAYILADUTHURAI): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise an important issue of my constituency. Before that, I would like to convey my heartfelt thanks to our hon. Tamil Nadu Makkalin Mudhalvar Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

To facilitate the transportation needs to deal with pilgrims' inflow during the Mahamaham Festival in 2016 at Kumbakonam and the ever increasing tourist and pilgrim population in Kumbakonam district of Tamil Nadu, I would humbly request the hon. Minister of Railways to develop following infrastructure at Kumbakonam.

1. A Rail Yatri Niwas may be opened.
2. Passenger and express trains may be operated during the Mahamaham Festival.
3. There is a need to complete the doubling work between Thanjavur and Kumbakonam before the Mahamaham Festival.
4. Basic amenities should be developed at Kumbakonam Railway Station.
5. Roofing on platform numbers 2 and 3 should cover the entire platform area.
6. All the three platforms should be extended properly to accommodate 24 coaches of the trains.
7. Foot over bridge is required to be extended to platform number 3.
8. A full-fledged Information Counter needs to be opened at Kumbakonam to cater to the pilgrims and public for train-related queries.
9. There should be opened PRS counters at Papanasam and Aduthurai.

I request the hon. Minister of Railways to accord necessary permissions and allocate funds in this regard.

Thank you.