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title: Need to introduce a new daily Rajdhani train service from New Delhi to Thiruvananthapuram.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): May I submit the following request before the Hon. Railway Minister for his kind consideration. More than a million people from Kerala are working in New Delhi and similarly in various parts of the country. They mainly depend upon railways for their travel. At present we have only one daily train from New Delhi to Thiruvananthapuram via Agra-Nagpur-Vijayawada-Salem-Palakkad-Kottayam-Thiruvananthapuram, namely Kerala Express. All categories of people irrespective of upper, middle or lower class depend on it. Even if one books a ticket on the day of opening of reservation, he/she is not likely to get reservation due to the rush. There is a Rajdhani train bi-weekly from Nizamuddin to Thiruvananthapuram but via Konkan and coastal area and hence many of the Keralites are not benefitted by that train. Majority of the people in New Delhi and nearby areas are from Central Kerala and the present Rajdhani is not covering that place. There is a huge demand from the People of the State to introduce a new daily Rajdhani train from New Delhi to Thiruvananthapuram via Agra, Bhopal, Nagpur, Vijayawada, Salem, Coimbatore, Palakkad, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Mavelikkara (Alappuzha district), and Kollam. By introducing this train the people belonging to upper and middle class will opt for Rajdhani and thereby the rush for Kerala Express can be reduced and common people can avail reservation facility in it. In the budget speech Hon'ble Railway Minister has announced that he will announce the introduction of new trains during the end of the budget session in Parliament and hence I submit that this request may be considered.