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Title: Need to take steps to start a sea transport link service from Chennai to Nagapattinam on Karaikal .

SHRI K. PARASURAMAN (THANJAVUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, under the guidance of our hon. Chief Minister Puratchithalaivi Amma, I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister of Shipping about the need for development of inter-State sea transport.

Though the Government has taken many steps to strengthen the road, rail and air transportation, inter-State transportation through sea route has not been given priority. According to European Commission, more than 80 per cent of commodities are transported through sea in many developed countries. ...(*Interruptions*) But in India, we face heavy traffic problems in road transport, which takes toll on our precious time as well as enhanced expenditure in road transportation that could not be averted. ...(*Interruptions*) For example, if we have to go south from Chennai, it takes more than three hours even to cross the city limit, which is just 30 kilometres, most of the contribution to this traffic comes from trucks used to move the goods. ...(*Interruptions*) In order to avoid this congestion, it is high time to take steps to start a sea transport link service from Chennai to Nagapattinam or Karaikal...(*Interruptions*)