

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to withdraw the decision to divert the route of Mannai Express in Tamil Nadu.

Shri K. Parasuraman (Thanjavur): I would like to bring to the notice of the Government about the necessity of Mannai Express (16179/16180) running between Mannargudi - Tharavur and Kumbakonam to reach Mayiladuthurai. However, now Southern Railways have planned to divert this route Via Thiruvarur without connecting to Thanjavur and Kumbakonam. If the route of this train is diverted, there will be huge difficulty to the people coming to Thanjavur district. At present, there is only Uzhavan Express running between Thanjavur and Chennai in nights. So, I urge the government to maintain the status quo relating to running of Mannai Express. If it is not possible, an alternative train in this route be operated before diversion of Mannai express or add reserved coaches for Thanjavur which can be connected with the Mannai Express at Mayiladurai. It will be more beneficial to Thanjavur district and also generate more income to the Railways even if the route of Mannai Express is diverted.