

Request for more coaches in Passenger, MEMU and Express Trains in Kerala

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Thank you, hon. Chairperson, Sir.

In Kerala, regular train services including Venad Express, Parasuram Express, Malabar Express, Sabari Express are running packed to the fullest, and the railway authorities are not giving the State extra train services, extension of trains, extra bogies, new bogies, and more stoppages to various trains. The worst part is that the trains that were cancelled due to lockdown are yet to be restored even though years have passed after the pandemic. I would request that more coaches be provided in passenger, MEMU and express trains in Kerala in all the railway divisions operating in the State.

Further, Nilambur-Kottayam Express train be extended to Kollam and Punalur so that passengers who are unable to avail the services of any train after Venad and Palaruvi Express departs, would be able to avail train services. The trains running in Kollam-Sengottai section are having only 14 bogies causing rush in the trains. These 14 bogies are not sufficient. Therefore, I request the Railways that instead of 14 bogies, 20 bogies should be provided in Kollam-Sengottai Section.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I would also like to point out that since the services of Vande Bharat trains have begun, almost all other trains are being held at various stops for giving right of way to the express train to pass on priority. This situation is causing daily passengers, who are mostly employees, traders and students, to lose their precious time. So, the Railways must find a way to address this issue at the earliest.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I would also like to state that the passenger trains, which are the lifelines for regular commuters, are converted into express trains. This scenario has also affected the regular commuters. I request that more passenger trains be provided in the State of Kerala, and more coaches in current passenger trains be also allotted as well.

The festival season has already started and vacation season has also begun. The number of passengers travelling by train is increasing day by day. But sufficient train services are not available in Kerala. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Government to address this important issue immediately.

Thank you, Sir.