

Regarding issues faced by Railways in Northern Kerala

SHRI M. K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): Sir, I would like to rise before you to speak about some burning issues being faced by Railways in northern Kerala.

Shoranur-Mangalore segment of Palghat Division of Southern Railways faces brutal disparity in comparison with rest of the Divisions of Southern Railways.

Bengaluru is the nearest metropolitan city to North Kerala, nearer than its own State capital Trivandrum.

While South Kerala under Thiruvananthapuram Division has 11 trains for Bengaluru, North Kerala under Palghat Division has just two trains for Bengaluru.

Train no.16511/16512 which commutes between Bengaluru and Kannur via Mangalore stands idle at Kannur railway station for six hours. If this train is extended up to Kozhikode, as has been demanded many times, by utilising that idle time, we will get one train for Bengaluru and it will alleviate the rush in evening trains for the North Kerala.

Besides this, a new Vande Bharat train between Bengaluru and Kozhikode via Palghat is very much needed for this part of the country as the waiting lists are always long in all the classes.

Secondly, urgent measures should be taken to introduce more MEMUs in North Kerala to reduce the brutal rush in office or school-going hours. Here also, South Kerala has 13 MEMUs while North Kerala has just one. So, I would like to request the hon. Minister to consider these suggestions and sort out these issues. Thank you.