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Title: Need to introduce trains linking Tiruchendur with Tirunelveli and Chennai in Southern Railways.

SHRI P. MOHAN (MADURAI): Tiruchendur is one of the six holy pilgrim places of Lord Murugan. It is a pilgrim city that attracts devotees from all over the country. Tiruchendur connects people from hundreds of villages in Tiruchendur, Sathankulam and Srivaikuntam taluks who are doing business in Chennai. Every day thousands of people visit their native places.

As far as Southern Railways is concerned, the train service between Tirunelveli and Chennai is a highly profitable route than any other route in the state. Every day there are at least 400 wailisted passengers in every train that runs on this route. People who want to travel from Tirunelveli to Tiruchendur are forced to depend on bus service. Moreover for the people of Tiruchendur, there is no train that connects them directly to Chennai.

The local train service Nos. 731A and 732A may be restored enabling it to connect with Nellore Express, Kanyakumari Express and Ananthapuri Express. At present the people have to depend wholly on bus services. Hence, the railways may introduce Tirunelveli-Tiruchendur-Tirunelveli interlink trains.

Further, one train in between Chennai and Tiruchendur via chord line may also be introduced.