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Title: Need to refix the boundaries by newly formed railway division in Southern Railway.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, I am happy that the hon. Railway Minister is also present here. In the Southern Railway, when a new division was carved out, there had been a lot of hue and cry with regard to its boundary. When a new division was formed, 60 per cent of the division fell into the new division called Salem Division. Now, the hon. Railway Minister, whom we met, had given an assurance that he would invite the Chief Ministers of both the States - Tamil Nadu and Kerala.[\[s6\]](#)

Even though the meeting was scheduled to take place within a week, yet it is more than three months since the assurance has come, but the meeting has not taken place. The work of Salem Division is going on, and the boundary -- which has been agreed to be refixed -- has not been refixed at all. There are lots of problems with regard to the administration of the division. In fact, the Palghat Division, which is one of the earliest divisions in Southern Railway, has been cut into two, and the new 'baby' division has got 60 per cent of the share of the original 'mother' division. It is a total injustice, which has been done to this division and to Kerala also. I am saying this because most of the work is being done by the Palghat Division.

MR. SPEAKER: We already had a full debate on this issue.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Therefore, through you, I would urge upon the hon. Railway Minister, who is present in the House, to respond to this matter. He should give an assurance as to when the meeting will be called, and when this matter is going to be resolved. ...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Minister is already present here. So, I would urge upon the Minister to give a reply on this matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not make it a question-answer session.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, kindly allow me to raise the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed you to raise it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, the Minister is present here. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot compel any Minister to speak.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN : Sir, it is a very important matter. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS (PALGHAT): Sir, the hon. Minister should respond to this very important issue concerning the State of Kerala. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I will not urge upon you to compel him. The Members from Kerala will urge upon the Minister to do it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is the problem that I am facing. The Chair is not even listened to these days.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This impatience is not good. So many hon. Members from Kerala have raised this point, and they have stood up in support of Shri Thomas. Therefore, I take it that the matter is important. Otherwise, the hon. Members would not have taken up this matter. I am sure the hon. Railway Minister will take note of it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, the hon. Minister is here, and he can respond on this issue. We would urge upon the Minister to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not insist on it. It is up to him to respond. I cannot compel him.

...*(Interruptions)*

ADV. SURESH KURUP (KOTTAYAM): Sir, he can very well respond to it.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you for your suggestion.

ADV. SURESH KURUP : Sir, it is a very urgent matter. ...(*Interruptions*) The whole of Kerala is concerned about it. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I call Shri Rajnarayan Budholia to raise his matter.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, we appeal to the hon. Minister, through you, to respond. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Thomas, your appeal has already been recorded.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It depends entirely on him, and I cannot compel him to do it. You are a senior Member, and you know it very well.