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Title: Reported decision by the railways to bifurcate the Palakkad Railway Division.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Thank you, Sir. I express my unconditional and sincere regret on the incident occurred in the morning, whatever it may be.

MR. SPEAKER : Thank you.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Sir, we are thankful to you for giving us this opportunity.

MR. SPEAKER : Giving you only; no 'us'.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Sir, this is a very very serious and genuine and realistic matter which concerns the entire people of Kerala. There was a proposal to set up a new Division centralized at Salem in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu is our neighbouring State and we are having very good relationship with them. They are our brothers and sisters. We are not opposed for setting up of a new Division at Salem. This is not a question between Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Our case is with the Indian Railways only. [\[MSOffice16\]](#)

So, the proposal was to set up a new division, the formation of a new division. It should be a formation and not bifurcation of a division. Instead of forming a new division centralised at Salem, now the Indian Railway proposes to bifurcate the existing Palakkad Division into two, taking away the major portion, and giving it the name as Salem Division. There are certain conventions, traditions and rules which are being followed by the Indian Railways. It is deadly against the convention followed by the Indian Railways. Our request is that when the proposal came up, we had expressed our anxiety and anguish about the existing Palakkad Division and its future. At that time, hon. Railway Minister had given an assurance on this floor that there was nothing to worry about it and the issued would be settled amicably in consultation with the hon. Chief Ministers of both the States of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. This was the situation.

Now, unilaterally the hon. Minister of State of Railways has declared its inauguration of Salem Division on 14.9.07, without consulting both the Chief Ministers as was assured on this very floor. It is deadly against the assurance which was given by the hon. Railway Minister on the floor. So, this is our request to the Government, through you. We met several times hon. Prime Minister, several times hon. Minister of Railway, Shri Lalu Prasad and also the UPA Chairperson to express our anguish and anxiety and apprised them of the worry of the people of Kerala. Now, without taking into account the sentiments of the people of Kerala, unilaterally the Minister of State of Railways has declared the inauguration of Salem Division, that is, newly formed Salem Division.

MR. SPEAKER: I must compliment you that you have very ably presented your case.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : So, our request is that without consulting both the Chief Ministers, as was assured on the floor, they cannot inaugurate this newly proposed Salem Division before finalising the territorial jurisdiction of this Division. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You give a notice. I will allow the matter tomorrow. He will be forced to give the reply.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Sir, the setting up of newly proposed Salem Division should take into account our sentiments, the sentiments of the people of Kerala.

MR. SPEAKER: I appreciate your agony.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Our demand is that in setting up a new Division, there should be a new railway zone for Western Coast also, containing newly proposed Salem division the existing Trivandrum Division, existing Palakkad Division and area of Konkan Railway. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Is there anything to be said tomorrow?

*...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Name should be recorded and nothing else. Only names are to be recorded. You please send your names.

Shri N.N. Krishnadas, you have very ably presented your case. I compliment you. I am sure, the matter will be looked into. I have given a suggestion to you. If you accept, then there will be a very good result, I am sure.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am thankful to you for your co-operation. Dr. K.S. Manoj is allowed to associate in the matter.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Item No. 10.

...(Interruptions)

**12.49 hrs.**

Withdrawal of Member of House

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (MUVATTUPUZHA): Sir, I also want to say. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No. From the beginning, you are disturbing the House.

Item No. 10 – Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey. Nothing else will be recorded.

(Interruptions) \* \* \*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : There have been apologies expressed from all sides, not one.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : But we would like to say ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, it will be tomorrow. No more now. I will not allow one word to be recorded. I am sorry.

(Interruptions) \* \* \*

MR. SPEAKER: Only Dr. Laxminarayan Pandey's speech will be recorded.

(Interruptions) ...(Not recorded)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Thomas, you are very unfair today. You are showing irresponsibility. I am sorry to say that. Nothing is being recorded. Why are you saying?

(Interruptions) \* \* \*

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\* Not recorded

MR. SPEAKER: No, it will not be recorded. It is not being recorded. Why are you saying? It will not be recorded. I will not allow the Minister to respond.

(Interruptions) \* \* \*

MR. SPEAKER: He will not be allowed to respond. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions) \* \* \*

MR. SPEAKER: You are committing a breach of privilege. Your case will go to the Privileges Committee, if you do not stop. This is very unfair.

I will have to name you. You want to be hero today.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : My only request is that my privilege motion ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It will not come up.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : It is already submitted yesterday. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It will not come up.

MR. SPEAKER: I will not consider it.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, I only request that the hon. Railway Minister may dispel the fear of the Members in this House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are spoiling the Kerala case. I would not touch it. I would not touch that subject.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, enough is enough. I have no patience any more. Give me the Rule Book.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, I have no patience. Will you move a Motion for Suspension?

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): I would request the hon. Member to please sit down. Otherwise, I will be compelled to move a Motion. ...(Interruptions) Please take your seat.

\* Not recorded

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MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Sir, this is not a small matter. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing?

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS : I request for my privilege notice. The hon. Minister for Railways is here. ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: He is a very strange person.

...(Interruptions)