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Title: Need to enhance facilities on Kottarkkara Railway Station, Kerala.

SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN (ADOOR): Thank you, Sir. The famous Kottarakara Maha Ganapathy Temple is a century-old temple in my constituency. This temple is considered to be a Sabarimala Pilgrimage Sub-centre. Thousands of pilgrims are coming to the temple on their way to the Sabarimala Temple during Sabarimala pilgrim season which starts from November and goes up to January. Most of the pilgrims coming to Kottarakara from outside the State are the pilgrims from Tamil Nadu. This is due to the train service between Virudhanagar and Kollam via Kottarakara. But the facilities now available in the Kottarakara railway station are not so adequate. If more facilities are provided in the railway station it can also attract more tourists coming to various tourist destinations such as Jadayupara at Chadayamangalam, Anamala at Konni, eco-tourism centre and Palaruvi at Thenmala etc. in the district.

Therefore, I would submit that the Union Government may take immediate steps to increase the facilities in Kottarakara railway station as in the case of Chengannur railway station in view of the increasing needs of the pilgrims as well as the tourists.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): Sir, I associate myself with the hon. Member on the issue.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (MAVELIKARA): Sir, I also associate myself with the subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. C. Krishnan to speak now. Dr. Krishnan, on your issue a statement has already been made by the hon. Minister for the purpose. Your mentioning it is not necessary because he has already placed a statement about the Malaysian issue before the House. You speak just one word about it.

Your issue has already been mentioned by the hon. Minister. You just make a mention only.