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Title: Need to provide stoppages of all express trains at Tripunithura Railway Station in Ernakulam district, Kerala.

SHRI CHARLES DIAS (NOMINATED): Tripunithura in Ernakulam district, Kerala, is a municipal town and base town for a large number of industrial undertakings like the Fertilizers and Chemical Travancore (FACT), Kochi Refineries, Hindustan Organics Ltd., KEL Ltd. OEN Ltd. Hindustan News Print Ltd. etc. which are situated near this town with hundreds of auxiliary units functioning depending on these big factories. Also, Tripunithura was the capital of the erstwhile Cochin State and the Govt. Ayurveda College, Govt. Music College and a number of reputed educational institutions are situated here. Close to this town is the famous Chottanikkara temple where thousands of devotees come everyday.

While the facts are as mentioned above, the Railways show an unrealistic approach towards the necessity and demand of the thousands of people residing in and around Tripunithura. The popular express trains have no stoppage at Tripunithura. Large number of passengers are forced to go to the Ernakulam Railway Station and come back by vehicles on road which cause difficulties, loss of time and unnecessary expenses. Besides, works for the Metro Railway is going to start at Ernakulam and the passengers are going to face more trouble for the coming few years. The Tripunithura Municipality, Employees Unions of the industrial undertakings, the Tripunithura Action Council and many other organizations have raised their voice for allowing stoppage of the Express trains at Tripunithura.

In view of the above, I urge the Railway Minister to look into this matter urgently and allow stoppage for all express trains at Tripunithura Railway Station.