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Title: Need to review the closure of Pamban Railway Station in Ramanathapuram, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI K. SHIVKUMAR ALIAS J.K. RITHEESH (RAMANATHAPURAM): Sir, Rameswaram is one of the holiest places of Indians in the Ramanathapuram region of Tamil Nadu and it is also a crucial aspect of the holy 'Char Dham' pilgrimage. They are Badrinath, Dwarka, Jagannath Puri and Rameswaram. Rameswaram is also known as the Varanasi of South.

When I speak about Rameswaram, I should also mention about Pamban Bridge which is a very important historical tourist place. Now the condition of Pamban Road Bridge is worse. It should be renovated immediately. Thousands of Hindu pilgrims on pilgrimage to the holy Hindu shrine of Rameswaram cross the bridge everyday.

Pilgrims, tourists and travelers who travel by road get down near the Pamban bridge and see the Bridge and then proceed. Likewise, whoever travels by train also gets down at Pamban Railway Station and travel by road for a few kilometres and sees the Pamban Bridge and then returns to the Pamban Railway Station and then they proceed. Hence the Pamban Railway Station is busy and functioning well.

In this situation, the Indian Railways is planning to close down the historically famous Pamban Railway Station once for all. On hearing this, the pilgrims, travelers and the local public are very much worried.

So, I urge the Government to take a decision to abandon the plan of closing down the Pamban Railway Station immediately.