

significant hardships for residents and travelers alike. The prolonged nature of this project has disrupted daily routines, hampered logistics, and increased travel costs.

I urge the Government to ensure proper maintenance of National Highways in Odisha.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member, Shri Muzibulla Khan: Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala) and Shri A.A. Rahim (Kerala).

### **Need to expedite track-doubling project in the Villupuram-Thanjavur mainline section of Southern Railway**

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the people of Thanjavur delta are demanding for the track-doubling project in the Villupuram-Thanjavur mainline section via Mayiladuthurai and Kumbakonam. This line will be passing through popular tourist and religious destinations like Chidambaram, Vaitheeswaran Koil, Mayiladuthurai and Kumbakonam. The main line is an old line and is already saturated though the passenger traffic and goods traffic has increased. The project is pending for a long time.

The survey for the whole project is already completed and I assure the Railways that this line being a busy line and giving good occupancy in passenger traffic, they will get good return.

I would therefore urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways and the hon. Minister of Finance to make adequate budgetary allocations for this doubling project work so that the work can be started at the earliest and the project would be operational in the near future.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member, Shri M. Shanmugam: Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri A.A. Rahim (Kerala), Shri R. Girirajan (Tamil Nadu), Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala), Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala) and Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar (Tamil Nadu).