

Seventeenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Need to sanction the detailed estimates for railway track doubling project in Ernakulam Parliamentary Constituency, Kerala.

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): This is to draw to the attention of the concerned authorities towards the matter concerning railway track doubling project being carried out in the constituency of Ernakulam, as a part of the Mumbai-Kanyakumari rail corridor under VISION 2024 projects.

The railways have taken up track doubling works between Ambalapuzha and Ernakulam in three parts – Ernakulam – Kumbalam (7.71km); Kumbalam – Thuravoor (15.59km) and Thuravoor – Ambalapuzha (45.90km). The project costs for the same are as follows: Ernakulam – Kumbalam (Rs. 600 crores); Kumbalam – Thuravoor (Rs. 812 crores); and Thuravoor – Ambalapuzha (Rs. 1281.63 crores).

Although the work has been initiated, it is understood that the detailed estimates of these projects have not been sanctioned by the Railway Board. This creates a problem for the land acquisition process, for which the railways have already deposited a sum of Rs. 510 crores with the state government. Without detailed estimated sanction, compensation for land acquisition cannot be distributed.

Therefore, the concerned authorities are urged to sanction the detailed estimates at the earliest in order to provide relief to the people and stick to the deadline of March 2024 for the projects. It is hoped that the Union Ministry will provide all possible assistance and allocations for the projects in due process.

