

**TITLE: Issue relating to the approval of the Angamaly-Erumeli Sabari Rail Project of Kerala.**

**SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM):** Sir, I thank you for the opportunity. I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important matter relating to the State of Kerala. I believe that the entire House would agree with this particular matter.

This is relating to the approval of the Angamaly-Erumeli Sabari Rail Project. It is a long-pending demand of the people of Kerala. It is an alternate railway route which connects the midland of Kerala up to Thiruvananthapuram district.

The Government of India and the Ministry of Railways were kind enough to allot Rs.100 crore as an initial token amount for the development of this particular rail project. I am really thankful for that. The Sabari Rail Project connects Erumeil, the entry point of Sabarimala. Every day, a large number of people visit this particular spiritual place.

Even though the Government of India has given Rs.100 crore for this project, there is a revised estimate of Rs.3,727.56 crore submitted by K-Rail. In order to implement this project effectively, the Government of India and the Railway Ministry should sanction the revised estimate prepared by KRDCL, a joint venture company of the Ministry of Railway and the State Government of Kerala.

An urgent intervention of the Centre is required. A letter to the State Government regarding the implementing agency of the Angamaly-Sabari is also required.

Sir, KRDCL is a joint venture. It has communicated its interest to take over this project earlier. Since this project is of national importance, it should be completed without any further delay. It comes under the Prime Minister's Pragati Monitoring Scheme. But it is very important that this project of the Ministry of Railways should be included under the Prime Minister's Gati Shakti Yojana, which would expedite the pace of the project.

As I mentioned, though Rs. 100 crore is allotted, the de-freezing should of the project happen. A lot of people are suffering because of it. Earlier, the State Government agreed to share the cost of the project, but when it was rejected at the early phase, the Government of Kerala freezed this project. Therefore, de-freezing of this project should happen so that Rs. 100 crore can be allotted for the land acquisition process in the first phase. Thank you.