

Title: Regarding implementation of Sabari Railway Line Project-laid

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA): I request the Government to accord approval for the revised estimate submitted to the Railway Board by the Government of Kerala for the implementation of Sabari Railway Line Project, a project announced 25 years ago. I also request the Government to give necessary directions to the concerned authorities to start work for the extension of this railway line from Erumely to Thiruvananthapuram via Ranny, Pathanamthitta, Konni, Punalur and Nedumangadu. Revised estimate has been submitted after the completion of Final Location Survey. As of now, 7 kms of railway line has been laid down, a bridge across Periyar river and construction of Kalady has been completed. This railway passes through the hilly regions of Idukki, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta districts and will encourage the development of tourism. It will also help to smooth transportation of agricultural produces and plantation crops like rubber, tea and coffee. Every day several passengers are missing flights due to heavy traffic on Main Central Road in Trivandrum city. Heavy traffic can be avoid if this railway line is implemented. Once this line is extended from Erumely to Thiruvananthapuram, it will be a great help to Sabarimala pilgrims and also ease travel between Kerala and Tamil Nadu.