

Title: Need to accord clearance to clear the Vallapadam Container Terminal Project in Kerala, without further delay.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (CHIRAYINKIL): It is a very important point and it is regarding economic development of the State of Kerala. Clearance of Vallapadam Container Terminal Project is pending with the Shipping Ministry for a long time. It has not taken a decision, in spite of repeated requests from the Kerala Government.

I have received a letter from the Chief Minister of Kerala, Shri A.K. Antony. He has also requested that the matter may be raised here. I am not reading out that letter, but he had said that the issue had already been discussed a number of times, in the Conference of MPs, but still the matter was pending.

All the Ports have been developed and the projects have been sanctioned or cleared. So, it is high time that the Union Ministry of Shipping, the Union Finance Minister and the Prime Minister should consider this for expeditious clearance of this project. I request the Central Government to clear this project without further delay. Otherwise, they will be doing a great injustice to the State of Kerala because the economic development of the State would get adversely affected.

So, I once again request the Central Government with all emphasis at my command – in the light of the letter that I received from the Kerala Chief Minister – to give clearance to this project.