

>

Title: Need to complete final location survey of Erode-Palani via Dharapuram railway project in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): Sir, during 2004 while speaking on the Railways Supplementary Demands I had raised the issue of forming new line between Erode-Palani *via* Dharapuram. The same was announced in the Railway Budget 2005-06. Preliminary Survey was over and a favourable report was submitted on 31<sup>st</sup> November 2006 but unfortunately, the Railway Board and the Planning Commission rejected the approval. I then took up the issue to public and to draw the attention of the Government a *Padyatra* was conducted from Erode to Palani between the period 4<sup>th</sup> an 10<sup>th</sup> February. The Government of India then announced a scheme in the last Budget 2008-09 and final location survey was also ordered. The tendering process also was over on 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2008 but till date final location work has not started.

I would urge upon the Government to take up the issue, complete the final location survey and form a new line between Erode-Palani *via* Dharapuram as early as possible.