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Title: Need to provide funds for the Rope Car Project linking Palani Hills and Kodaikanal Hills in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): Sir, Palani hills in Tamil Nadu is one of the important six abodes of Lord Karthik and is situated at the bottom of Kodaikanal hills in the western ghats. Large number of devotees within the country and abroad are visiting Palani everyday.

Kodaikanal is situated 7,000 feet above sea level and it is an internationally acclaimed tourist spot. It takes at least two hours to reach Kodaikanal from Palani through 42 hair pin bends in the hills. Large number of youths die due to road accident between Kodaikanal and Palani.

There is a proposal to lay a Rope Car Project to connect Palani hills and Kodaikanal hills and the preliminary survey was also over. It is pending since long due to constraint of funds and there is not much headway on its implementation. If this project is implemented, it will improve the tourists flow in the region to manifold and will reduce pollution in the environmentally important region. Besides, it will enable the tourists by extending their stay to visit important places of eco-tourism in and around Palani Hills and save their precious time and energy and also fetch huge revenue to the Government.

I shall, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to provide adequate funds for the implementation of Rope Car Project between Palani hills and Kodaikanal hills in Tamil Nadu.