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Title : Need to lay a railway line between Nagapattinam and Vailankanni in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME (NOMINATED): I would like to draw the attention of the Government that the Ministry of Railways had agreed to establish a railway line between Nagapattinam and Vailankanni for which a 10 per cent advance was paid to the Railways by the Shrine of Our Lady of Health at Vailankanni.

Despite repeated requests, several representations and a foundation stone being laid, work on the railway line has not started. The former Railway Minister had also assured the Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Health that work would begin shortly.

The hon. Minister of Railways is requested to initiate this project at the earliest as lakhs of pilgrims to the shrine are facing problem due to the delay in implementation of the project.