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Title : Need to expedite the setting up of the proposed joint venture Public Sector Undertakings in Kerala, particularly Kerala Rail Components Limited.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): The setting up of a joint venture Public Sector Undertaking in Kerala named Auto Cast with Indian Railway needs urgent attention and action from the Government. The State Public Sector Undertaking Auto cast Cherthala and a fabrication unit of SILK has been identified for a joint venture with Railway for a coach factory two years ago and in the rail budget of 2007, Rs. 85 crore had been sanctioned for the initiative. The State Government had made a MOU with Indian Railway and the concerned authorities announced that the factory will start within three months. But no action has been taken to set up the proposed factory. The State Government had agreed to set up a new company in the name of Kerala Rail Component Ltd and merge it with Indian Railway, after a settlement of liabilities of State PSU. But the formation of the said company has not been done so far. As a major central PSU it will strengthen the State's industrial and financial sectors, and this is considered as one of the most needed project for Kerala. Therefore, an urgent action must be taken on this project by the concerned ministries to make this project a reality.