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Title: Need to start work on Guruvayur to Thirunavaya rail-line project in Kerala.

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): The foundation for the 55 Km Guruvayur-Thirunavaya rail link was laid in 1995. After this, nothing substantive has taken place for the realization of this project by the railways. This rail line will connect the temple town of Guruvayur to main Mangalore and Konkan railway directly.

It is understood that funds allotted for initial work for this project has already been shifted to projects in Tamil Nadu. With the increased delay in completing the project, conflict of interest by various groups are springing up which may ultimately lead to dumping of the project. This should not happen. The new link will reduce travel distance by over 60 Kms. Especially from the Malabar region towards Kochi/Trivandrum besides a direct link to the temple town of Guruvayur which is visited by millions from across the country. The line will also touch the Muslim religious centre, Ponnani.

It is, therefore requested that the Railways should initiate starting of the work on the Guruvayur-Thirunavaya rail link immediately.