

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1256**  
**ANSWERED ON 16.12.2022**

**APPROVAL OF SABARI RAIL PROJECT**

1256 SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways intends to approve the Sabari rail project;
- (b) if not, the reasons for the same and how Railways intend to provide rail connectivity to the town of Nedumangad;
- (c) if so, the reasons for the delay in the approval of the Sabari rail project by the Central Government despite the allocation of Rs 2000 crores by the Government of Kerala; and
- (d) the funds allocated by the Central Government for the project since approval to date?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1256 BY SHRI BINOY VISWAM ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 16.12.2022 REGARDING APPROVAL OF SABARI RAIL PROJECT**

(a) to (d): Angamali-Sabarimala new line (116 Km) was sanctioned in 1997-98 at a cost of ₹ 550 crore. Work on Angamali-Kaladi (7 Km) and long lead works on Kaladi-Perumbavoor (10 Km) have been taken up. Expenditure of ₹ 269 crore has been incurred till date. However, further works on this project could not be taken forward due to protests by local people against land acquisition and fixing of alignment of the line, court cases filed against the project and inadequate support from the State Government of Kerala.

After long persuasion, Government of Kerala vide letter dated 07.01.2021 has conveyed their decision to share 50% of the total project cost (₹ 2815 crore) of Angamali - Sabarimala Railway project through Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB), subject to the condition that operation and maintenance of the track shall be done by Ministry of Railways while the stations along the route will be developed by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) (through public private partnership route) and the net revenue realized by the SPV will be shared on a 50:50 basis between State Government and Ministry of Railways, after offsetting the cost of Operation & Maintenance (O&M) as agreed to by Railways. M/s Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL) has been advised on 20.07.2021 to complete Final Location Survey and to update the project cost.

Accordingly, M/s KRDCL completed the Final Location Survey (FLS) and has prepared the Detailed Estimate of the full project.

At present, there is no such proposal for rail connectivity to Nedumangad. However, Nedumangad is located at about 15 Km from Thiruvananthapuram Railway station.

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