CONSTRUCTION OF NILAMBUR-NANJANGUD RAIL LINE

4080. SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal was given to the Government in 2017 for construction of Nilambur-Nanjangud railway line without disturbing the wild life in the Bandipur Wildlife reserve;

(b) if so, the 11 km underground stretch passing through the Bandipur Wildlife sanctuary can be constructed with the use of tunnel boring machines which would cause minimum impact to surrounding areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation was entrusted by the Kerala Government to prepare a detailed project report and if so, the progress, if any, in this regard;

(d) the reduced distance between Bangalore and Trivandrum after completion of the said rail line; and

(e) the present status of this proposal and the action taken by the Government to expedite its construction?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(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 (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4080 BY SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 17.07.2019 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF NILAMBUR-NANJANGUD RAIL LINE

(a): No, Sir. Construction of Nilambur-Nanjangud new line was included in Capital Investment Programme 2016-17.

(b) & (c): Detailed Project Report (DPR) for construction of tunnels or other works on Nilambur-Nanjangud new line and assessing the reduction in distance between Bangalore-Trivandrum is under preparation through Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, the consultant, appointed by Government of Kerala.

(d) & (e): Meanwhile, Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL), a State Joint Venture Company of Government of Kerala and Ministry of Railways has identified this project for undertaking Feasibility Studies Report. Government of Kerala have entrusted KRDCL to prepare the DPR of proposed project.