282. **SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in July 2020, Iran proceeded with the construction of the Chabahar-Zahedan Rail Link independently, citing delays in the proposed funding from India and Iran issued a statement, clarifying that while the funding of the rail link by IRCON had come up in negotiations, it had not been agreed upon between India and Iran;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any further development in this project; and

(d) if so the details thereof.

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) to (d) During the visit of the Prime Minister to Iran in May 2016, a MoU was signed between Indian Railways’ IRCON and Iranian Railways’ CDTIC (Construction & Development of Transportation Infrastructures Company) for construction of the Chabahar-Zahedan Railway Project.

India and Iran remain engaged on the modalities of implementation of Chabahar-Zahedan railway project, and other development projects in Iran.

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