GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5101 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025

AGREEMENT FOR ANGAMALI-SABARI RAILWAY PROJECT

5101. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE:

ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of Kerala has communicated to the Railway its readiness to bear 50 percent of the cost of the Angamali-Sabari railway line project, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government of Kerala has informed the Railways that unconditional tripartite agreement for Angamali-Sabari railway line with Railways and Reserve Bank is not acceptable for the State, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of Kerala has requested Railways that the debt incurred by the Kerala Investment Infrastructure Fund Board (KIIFB) for Sabari railway project may be exempted from the State's borrowing limit;
- (d) if so, whether the Railways has apprised the Ministry of Finance about Kerala's request for exemption of this debt from the State borrowing limit; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Railways to defreeze the project, distribution of land price and restart the construction of the project?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): Angamali - Sabarimala via Erumeli new line project was

sanctioned in 1997-98. Work on Angamali-Kaladi (7 Km) and long lead works on Kaladi-Perumbavoor (10 Km) was taken up. 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.

The estimated cost of the project has been updated at ₹3801 crore and submitted to Government of Kerala in December, 2023 for the acceptance of the estimate and willingness to share cost of the project.

In August 2024, the Government of Kerala has communicated their conditional consent.

Government of Kerala has been requested by Railway to submit unconditional consent for sharing the Cost. The Government of Kerala has also been requested to enter into tripartite MoU among State Government of Kerala, Ministry of Railways and RBI for the Project but no communication has been received from Government of Kerala regarding the same.
