

## **Regarding need to expedite completion of doubling of Ernakulam-Ambalappuzha Rail Corridor and other railway projects in Kerala-Laid**

**SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA):** I wish to seek Government's urgent attention to a long-standing and critical infrastructure bottleneck in Kerala—the incomplete doubling of the Ernakulam Ambalappuzha rail corridor. This single-line stretch has remained a major choke point for over a decade, causing severe detentions, slow train movements, and disruptions to both passenger and express services. It is also to be noted that this is the only railway portion in the state of Kerala pending track doubling. Despite repeated promises and the inclusion in the 56th Network Planning Group meeting under the PM Gati Shakti initiative, no progress has been made. Currently, to facilitate execution, the project is divided into three sections, yet faces inexcusable delays: The Alappuzha-Ambalappuzha section estimate is prepared and sent to the preliminary examination committee, but final approval is pending. The Mararikulam-Thuravur section has its estimate prepared, yet awaits approval. The Alappuzha-Mararikulam section has not even begun process. Even earlier sanctioned Thuravoor-Kumbalam section has seen only a half progress on land acquisition. These varied but persistent obstacles have kept the work incomplete for years, denying Kerala the efficient rail network it desperately needs. I urge Hon'ble Minister to intervene personally, accord this project top priority and ensure completion without further delay.