

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Issue regarding withdrawal of stake of Ministry of Railways from Kerala Rail Development Corporation.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Thank you, Chairman Sir. I am very happy, hon. Railway Minister is here. I am raising a very important issue regarding the Silver Line project.

The Kerala Rail Development Corporation is a joint venture organization jointly established by the Government of Kerala and the Ministry of Railways, Government of India with 49 per cent equity. Am I correct, hon. Minister? Indian Railways has 49 per cent equity. I would urge the Ministry of Railways, Government of India, which holds 49 per cent equity, to withdraw and cancel its equity and stake from K-Rail, Kerala Rail Development Corporation on absolute ethical grounds as the Kerala Rail Development Corporation is nothing but an instrument of political agenda, a vehicle of vendetta against people, and a violator of the rights of people.

The K-Rail Limited unethically uproots people from their homes and properties in the name of establishing Silver Line. The Ministry of Railways must revoke and cancel all and all permissions sanctioned to the K-Rail including the Railway Board letter No. 2018, J CELL/GEN/SPV-POLICY for land acquisition. The In-Principle Approval (IPA) that was granted by the Government of India for taking up pre-investment activities, including payment of land acquisition, detailed project report, construction of boundary wall, access roads, site office temporary construction must be revoked. ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, it is a very important point. The hon. Minister is here. I want a reply from the hon. Minister.

I demand that the Finance Ministry must revoke and cancel any approval given by it to the Kerala Government to obtain external or bilateral loan. In Kerala, on the K-Rail issue, the BJP party is also agitating but the Ministry of Railways, Government of India has given in-principle approval. The Ministry of Finance has also given approval for discussion with various international agencies for getting loan. On the one side, you are agitating, from your party, hon. MoS, V. Muraleedharan is leading the agitation in Kerala, but here, what is your stand. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, let me complete. The hon. Railway Minister is here. I am raising a very important issue. It is a very burning issue.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The issue has been raised.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Sir, we cannot go to our constituency because the Silver Lir project is entering into all the properties, all the houses. They are putting the stones there. .
(*Interruptions*) I am concluding. Chairman Sir, at least you have to be sympathetic with us pleas
... (*Interruptions*)

What I am saying is this. I want to know from the Government that on the one side B] party is agitating against this project in Kerala... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You are not concluding.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Sir, I am concluding.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: So, conclude then.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You are a very senior Member.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Sir, I am a very disciplined Member in this House.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Okay, now please conclude.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Whatever Chair advises, I always agree to it. But in n constituency, thousands of people are being thrown away because of this project. That is why I a very sentimentally and emotionally raising this issue. You must understand my feeling. The ho Minister is here. The Government should clarify this. I am asking the hon. Minister, through yo
... (*Interruptions*)