

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Need to increase in the share of Central Government for the proposed Second phase of Kochi Metro.

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): Sir, the Kochi Metro Rail started its journey in 2011. The detailed project report for the first and second phases was filed in 2011. The in-principle approval for both the phases was given in 2011. ... (Interruptions)

12.13 hrs

At this stage, Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, Shri T.R. Baalu,

Dr. Farooq Abdullah and some other hon. Members left the House.

The first phase is being completed successfully and it is ongoing. The Government of Kerala and the Government of India had equal share of Rs. 753.73 crore. The land acquisition was done by the then State Government for Rs. 672 crore. There was an external loan from a French agency called the AFD which has 43.88 per cent, which comes up to Rs. 2,170 crore. ... (Interruptions)

Then, there was an unpardonable delay from the Central Government, the Government of India, in sanctioning the second phase of Kochi Metro Rail, due to which the cost for the second phase had gone up.

Unfortunately, the French agency is not willing to give the loan which comes to around Rs. 1,016 crore. The second phase is very important for the development of Kochi because the maximum number of people would be travelling on this line from Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium to Infopark in Kakkanad. ... (Interruptions)

Around 50,000 passengers, including IT employees and women would be travelling on this particular line. ... (Interruptions) A large number of passengers would be travelling on the second phase of Kochi Metro Rail line from Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium to Infopark in Kakkanad. IT employees and women would also be travelling on this line.

It is the Central Government which caused the unpardonable delay. We need the agencies to fund the loan. The PIB clearance and the Central Cabinet clearance took a long time. So, I urge the Central Government to sanction the additional amount for the second phase of the Kochi Metro Rail.