

## **Regarding Kochi Metro Rail**

**SHRI BENNY BEHANAN (CHALAKUDY):** I wish to bring the attention of the august House to a matter of urgent public interest regarding the need for extending the Kochi metro rail network to Cochin International Airport and to Angamaly.

Currently, Kochi Metro operates within the city limits and does not provide direct connectivity to the international airport. The Cochin International Airport is one of the busiest airports in India, serving millions of passengers annually, including a large number of international travellers and NRIs from Kerala. The proposed metro extension from Aluva to Angamaly via CIAL will not only enhance last-mile connectivity for air travellers but also decongest existing roads and reduce traffic bottlenecks on the NH-544 corridor. Angamaly is also a strategic junction on the railway network, and linking it with the metro system would provide multi-modal integration, benefiting both residents and visitors. Recently, the Railway Minister and the Railway Board in-principle agreed to have a railway station near Nedumbassery airport and the work will start soon. I thank the hon. Minister for this.

I urge the Government of India and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to take immediate steps to conduct a feasibility study and initiate the process for extending Kochi Metro to Cochin International Airport via Angamaly.