

Title: Requested the Minister of Surface Transport to execute the Badagar-Mahe and Mahe-Vallipallam navigational canal projects in Kerala at the earliest.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA): Sir, the Government of Kerala has forwarded two projects to the Inland Water Transport Authority of India, under the Ministry of Surface Transport, namely, Badagara-Mahe and Mahe-Vallipallam navigational canal projects....(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Prof. Premajam says.

*(Interruptions)**

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA): Sir, the canal, when executed, will cover a distance of approximately 130 kms. The estimated cost of the project which is under 50 per cent Centrally sponsored scheme, is Rs.167 crore. Be it in the field of transport, railways or any other field, the Kerala State is being treated in a step-motherly manner by the Government of India. This project is lying with the Government for quite some time and the Government of India, especially the Minister of Surface Transport has not done anything in this regard. When executed, this will generate employment and also encourage backwater tourism in a big way. So, I appeal to the Government of India, especially to the hon. Minister of Surface Transport, to execute this project at the earliest.