

Title: Need to lay railway line between Nilambur and Nanjangud in Kerala.- Laid.

*SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (CALICUT): Sir, I would like to raise the matter regarding railway development of northern part of Kerala. Not a single new railway line has been laid in this area since Independence. The demand for linking Nilambur Road Terminal to Nanjangud Town deserves immediate attention. This proposed link via Wayanad is possible by linking Nilambur to the proposed Nanjangud Sullthan Bathery-Kalpetta-Vythiri-Poozhithode-Badagara line whose survey has already been over. The survey to link this line with Nilambur is yet to be taken up. The Nilambur-Manjeri-Feroke railway line survey is also over. The proposed link from Nilambur to Wayanad via Mundari, covering a distance of just 50 kms. will link Kanyakumari-Trivandrum-Bangalore and Konkan Line. This line will boost the economic development and will also be the shortest rail line between the two industrial cities of Bangalore and Cochin. The district of Wayanad will be linked to the State Capital of Trivandrum by rail. This line will benefit the Sabarimala Pilgrims from Andhra and Karnataka to reach the Sabarimala shrine in the shortest time. This line has immense tourist potential as it would link Bangalore-Srirangapatnam, Mysore, Wayanad, Cochin, Trivandrum and Kanyakumari. The most important point is that this line can serve as an effective by-pass line to the Konkan Line. I sincerely hope that Ministry of Railways would highlight the importance of this vital link between Nilambur and Nanjangud in the broader interest of the nation, as this can cut short the distance between Kashmir and Kanyakumari.

*(Laid on the Table of the House)