

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding new rail coach factory in Palakkad, Kerala.

SHRI M.B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): A new Rail Coach Factory project was announced in Rail budget, 2008 and a foundation stone was laid for the same in 2012. A request for qualification (RFQ) was floated in September 2013 but no responsive bids were received. Since then, though it was decided that the business model will be made more conducive to investment and a fresh RFQ will be floated, it has not happened. Further, the Steel Authority of India (SAIL) had shown interest in the joint venture for Coach Factory. I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to bring this project under 'Make in India' and to float a fresh RFQ to explore the possibility of Joint venture with any other public sector including SAIL to get it operational in a time-bound manner.