

Sixteenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Need to set up a Rail Coach Factory at Palakkad in Kerala.

SHRI M. B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the project of Coach Factory at Palakkad announced in the rail budget of 2008. The Raebareli Coach factory which was also announced in the same budget became operational very soon. A foundation stone for the Palakkad Factory was laid in 2012. However, Ministry of Railways is going ahead with new coach factory projects in various other states. Though the Palakkad Coach Factory was envisaged as a PPP project, railway has not found a private partner. However PSUs like SAIL and BEML have expressed their willingness for a Joint Venture with Railways to set up this coach factory. Ministry of Railways have not responded to these proposals for JV. Hence, along with new proposals for coach factories in other parts of the country, I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to set up Coach Factory at Palakkad for which foundation stone was laid six years ago in 2012.