

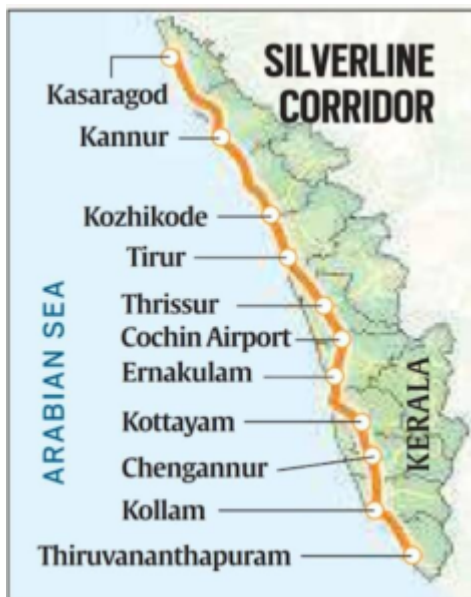
Kerala's SilverLine project

December 24, 2021

In news- Due to its environmental impact, protests are taking place in Kerala against SilverLine, a semi high-speed railway project.

About SilverLine project-

- The 529.45 km SilverLine corridor **connects Kasaragod in the north and Thiruvananthapuram in the south, with an operating speed of 200kmph.**
- It also covers 11 districts through 11 stations. The intermediate stations include Kollam, Chengannur, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Kochi Airport, Thrissur, Tirur, Kozhikode and Kannur.



- Of the 11 stations, three will be elevated (Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Thrissur), one underground (Kozhikode) and the rest at grade.
- At every 500 metres, there will be under-passages with service roads.
- The project, **estimated to cost Rs 63,940 crore, is billed as one of the biggest infrastructure plans being pushed by the state government.**
- **The deadline for the project, being executed by the**

Kerala Rail Development Corporation Limited (KRDCL), is 2025.

- **KRDCL, or K-Rail, is a joint venture between the Kerala government and the Union Ministry of Railways** created to execute big railway projects.
- The project **will have trains of electric multiple unit (EMU) type**, each with preferably nine cars expandable to 12.
- A nine-car rake can seat a maximum of 675 passengers in business and standard class settings.
- **The trains can run at a maximum speed of 220 km/hr** on a standard gauge track, completing journeys in either direction in under four hours.