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Title : Need to set up Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) in Madurai, Tamil Nadu -laid.

**SHRI S. VENKATESAN (MADURAI):** Tamil Nadu is the tenth largest Indian State by area and sixth largest by population. Tamil Nadu has the sixth highest ranking among Indian States in Human Development Index. It was ranked as one of the top seven developed states in India based on “Multidimensional Development Index” in a 2013 report published by the Reserve Bank of India. The economy of Tamil Nadu is one of the largest state economies in India. Tamil Nadu has emerged as the leader in the country in terms of Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education. The All India Survey on higher education report (2016-17) released by the Minister of HRD, saw Tamil Nadu lead with a GER of 46.9%. Out of the 95 Institutes of National Importance, only a very few institutes are located in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu deserves to get a new IISER.

Madurai is administered by the Municipal Corporation since 1971. It has a population of more than 15 lakh. Madurai has important educational institutions such as Madurai Medical College, Madurai Law College, Agricultural College and Research Institute. It has a bench of the Madras High Court. Madurai has an International Airport. It is also well connected by both road and railways.

Locating IISER in Madurai which has a long intellectual tradition, will provide varied experience and exposure to the students of IISER who would be admitted to the institution on an all India basis.

Hence, I request the Government to establish a new IISER in Madurai.