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Title: Regarding modernization of Nagapattinam Port - Laid

SHRI M. SELVARAJ (NAGAPATTINAM): Nagapattinam Port was used by Britishers' East India Company and the nearby Taragampadi Port was used by Dutch government before Independence of India. These two ports were main connection to many countries like Singapore Malasia, Indonesia for export and imports of onion, cement etc. Lakhs of passengers used to travel from these ports. Because of these ports, a railway line between Nagore and Tiruchirapalli was constructed for better connectivity.

After storms and many other natural calamities, the Nagapattinam Port was partially damaged and no step was taken to de-silt the sea and to renovate the port. Now, only palm oil is being imported. The passenger ship service was stopped in 1978. If the port is renovated after de-silting the sand in the sea, it can be a successful port and boost our revenue. We can export salt coconut, paddy and other agricultural products. It can be lucratively operated for passengers travel to many countries like Singapore, Malasia.

I request the Government to take steps to modernise the port and thus boost the economy of our country. The port is now in Small Ports list. It should be brought under Port Trust of India.