

Regarding setting up of a Defence Industrial Corridor at Salem-laid

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI (SALEM): The then Hon?ble Finance Minister in his Budget speech for the year 2018-19 had announced setting up of two Defence Industrial Corridors in the Country. One is earmarked for the State of Tamil Nadu, and Salem was one of the locations identified for this purpose in the State by the Centre. It is the Tamil Nadu Government's vision to make Tamil Nadu Defence Industrial Corridors a global defence manufacturing destination to invest, innovate and create products and services catering to the aerospace and defence industry. In this regard, I wish to say that Salem is an ideal place for setting up a Defence Industrial Corridor as it has all the infrastructure needed for the same. Electricity, water, road network, skilled labour force, air-connectivity are all available in Salem. Apart from that, SAIL's one of the biggest steel plants is at Salem. Salem is also one of the Divisions of Southern Railway. The land required for the same is also available at Salem as Salem Steel Plant has excess and unused land of 3,000 acres. Therefore, Salem is the most suitable place for the same. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to put up a Defence Industrial Corridor at Salem as announced.