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Title: Need to develop an International Airport at Madurai.

SHRI P. MOHAN (MADURAI): Sir, expansion of Madurai Aerodrome has become imperative in as much as the passenger and cargo traffic has considerably increased. Tourists are coming in large numbers. Besides, Madurai Meenakshi Temple is likely to be elevated to one of the wonders of the world. Further, Madurai is getting a new facelift. Gradually it is developing into an industrial hub and more so as a tourism corridor.

Many business houses living in the adjoining countries are trying their best to establish link with their Indian counterparts in the South.

In the medical field three super-speciality hospitals, namely, Apollo Speciality Hospitals, Meenakshi Mission Hospital and Research Centre and Vadamalayan Hospitals have signed an MoU with Sri Lanka, Singapore, Maldives and Kuala Lumpur by which patients from these countries could fly over straight to Madurai for treatment and return.

Rameshwaram, Kodaikanal, Alagercoil, Suruli Falls, Thekkadi, Vaigai Dam, etc., are tourist spots to which Madurai provides easy accessibility.

Another notable event is the opening of the Madras High Court Bench at Madurai.

I, therefore, request the Government to develop an International Airport at Madurai with all infrastructural facilities to be provided at the earliest.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I would like to bring to the notice of hon. Members that only the text which has already been given to the Notice Office and approved by the hon. Speaker will go on record [\[k19\]](#).