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Title : Need to celebrate second centenary of Vellore Freedom Struggle on 10 July, 2006.

PROF. K.M. KADER MOHIDEEN (VELLORE): Sir, I rise to raise an important issue with regard to my constituency, Vellore.

Vellore Fort is famous for its construction. It is more than 500 years old. It is the only fort that is built of stone in this country. This Fort is known for its beauty and grandeur. It is not only that, but in this the First War of Independence took place on the 10th July, 1806. Tipu Sultan's heirs and his family members were jailed in this Fort. They raised the flag of freedom against the Britishers. More than 500 people were killed. They sacrificed their lives for the sake of our country. Though we say that the First War of Independence took place in 1857, actually the First War of Independence took place at Vellore in 1806. Therefore, in the coming year, that is, on the 10th July of 2006, the second centenary of that great historic event is to come. I urge upon the Government to celebrate that day as the second centenary of the First War of Independence [\[bru72\]](#).

In that connection, Sir, the Vellore Fort should be beautified. It has a very beautiful moat also. It is full of water. The waterway to that moat should be desilted and rubbish and other things should be removed. Around the fort there is a park. That park is in a dilapidated condition. That park should be beautified. The Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Culture and the Archaeological Survey of India should take all sorts of efforts to beautify that park. This Fort, where the First War of Independence took place in 1806, is described as one of the best secular forts in this country. It is because in that Fort, there is a temple, Jalagandeshwarar Temple, a church and a mosque. Nowhere in this country, from Kanyakumari to Kashmir, will you find such a fort. Therefore, that secular Fort should be beautified and the park should also be beautified. The second century of the First War of Independence should be celebrated in a befitting manner. That is my request to the Government of India.