

>

Title: Regarding upgradation and expansion of Warangal Airport in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI RAJAJIAH SIRICILLA (WARANGAL): Mr. Chairman, Sir thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

I rise today to bring to the notice of this august House regarding establishment and upgradation of airport at Warangal in Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, not only me but the entire august House will appreciate that the air traffic is increasing day-by-day. Time has become an important component of the day. The management has become compulsory and it has become important to manage the time. This is because of growth in business, industries and other IT areas.

I also appreciate the UPA Government under the dynamic leadership of the UPA Chairperson Shrimati Sonia Gandhi for looking to the establishment of new airports in the country.

In this connection, I would like to say that Warangal is the fourth biggest town in Andhra Pradesh and the second biggest town in the Telangana Region of Andhra Pradesh. Warangal district is the headquarters of the Kakatiya dynasty. It has several tourist destinations, temples, lakes, forts and wildlife sanctuaries. It has become the business hub of Telangana. Several educational institutions are there. They are giving admissions not only to Indians but also to the NRIs.

Previously, there was an Airport in Warangal. The Vayudoot services were in operation in the year 1977. Later, it was closed.

There is 775 acres of land in addition to certain infrastructure facility which is available at Warangal. In addition to this, the Government is now asking us to acquire another 420 acres of land. My point is that there was an airport at Begumpet. It was an International Airport. It got only 750 acres of land to cater to the needs of the international airport. In Warangal, when there is 775 acres of land, why are they insisting further acquisition of land? The responsibility of acquiring land lies with the State Government. The State Government is suffering from paucity of funds.

Therefore, I would request the august House as also the Ministry of Civil Aviation to re-examine the issue and initiate steps for the establishment of an airport at Warangal so that the longstanding need, which is pending for a long time, of Warangal is fulfilled.