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Title: Need to look after the interests of residents and general public in land acquisition process for expansion of Coimbatore Airport, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI P.R. NATARAJAN (COMBATORE): The expansion of infrastructure facilities in Coimbatore Airport is in progress with the recently started land acquisition process of 6.12 acres . A new integrated Terminal Building complex would emerge on the east side of the existing runway. The survey work has been reported to have been completed by the Revenue Department team and the process of verifying ownership details is reported to be in progress :-

In this connection, it is to be noted that representations from the general public of Chinnampalayam, Neelambur and Irugur complaining of more areas of lands proposed for acquisition, if the new Air Port alignment is to be taken up in its present form are pouring in.

Increasing the length of the Airport runway will disturb the vital link road connecting Chinnampalayam in Avanashi Road (NH-47) with the result that thousands of public residing in unacquired lands would find it difficult to find ways for their movement. The feasibility of reconstructing the Irugur road within the acquired land has to be explored without going on for more acquisitions avoiding public unrest.

The new approach road proposed to be formed for new Airport terminal on Southern side of the existing runway is receiving lot of protests from residents of unacquired land. A four lane road with a service lane on both sides would be an ideal way to tackle the problem and also to ensure smooth flow of traffic to Airport.

In forming a new access road it is learnt that lot of residential land is proposed to be acquired. An alternative proposal by preferring to have other than residential land may be thought of. In the initial times when more than 612 acres were announced for land acquisition, there were lot of hue and cry from general public. Lot of persuasive efforts were taken by political parties and the officials of the state Government. Therefore, It is requested that the above genuine grievance of the public needs reconsideration and a gesture of goodwill would go a long way to assuage the feelings of the residents in the locality.