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Title: Need to open a branch of State Bank of India at Vikkaravandi in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI M. ANANDAN (VILUPPURAM): Madam, in Tamil Nadu, Vikkaravandi is in my Parliamentary Constituency Viluppuram. Vikkaravandi is a special grade town Panchayat. It is one among the three special grade town Panchayats in Viluppuram District. The total population of Vikkaravandi alone is 15,000. It is surrounded by 59 villages, which are fully depending on Vikkaravandi to serve their purposes. There are 21 modern rice mills, engineering college, polytechnic, ITI, Government offices, etc. Vikkaravandi is a growing industrial town. It is situated nearby four-track National Highway.

Now, there is only one nationalized bank, which is not sufficient to serve the people of this town. Moreover, the agriculturists of this town and the surrounding ...(*Interruptions*)

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon Member, you have made me a request that you would speak in Tamil. Hence, I have arranged for an interpreter. Now, you have chosen to speak in English. It is your choice, but it is very beautiful to hear you speak in Tamil.

SHRI M. ANANDAN : Yes, Madam, I can speak in Tamil.

* Vikravandi is in my constituency. It is one of the three special town Panchayaths in our constituency. There are so many engineering and technological colleges. Many small scale industries, lorry construction companies, iron ore industries, modern rice mills and many industrial houses are located in Vikravandi. It is a growing industrial town. More than 15,000 people are residing in Vikravandi. It is surrounded by fifty nine villages. The villagers have to depend on Vikravandi for their livelihood and for their other necessities. At present, only Indian bank is functioning at Vikravandi. It is not sufficient for people's needs. A branch of nationalized State bank of India needs to be established at Vikravandi. If such an establishment is facilitated, it will benefit not only the people of Vikravandi but also the surrounding villagers. State Bank of India has excelled in providing assistance to farmers, to self-help groups and have enhanced rural development. Establishment of a branch of State Bank of India at Vikravandi will enhance the upliftment of the livelihood of the people of Vikravandi and of the surrounding villages. Earlier, Rotary Clubs have taken some initiative with regard to this issue.

I request that this issue may please be considered. Madam, I had already given a letter to the Minister of Finance for establishment of branches of State Bank of India at Elavanasur kottai at Ulundhurpet taluk in my constituency and at Athiyur Thrice in Viluppuram. I request that those requests may also be considered. With these words, I conclude my speech.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Yashwant Sinha.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Madam, I have given notice on this issue only.