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Title: Need for establishment of exhibition centre at Nagpur, Maharashtra on the pattern of Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (NAGPUR): In today's world mutual cooperation between different countries and various industrial units to show their various inventions as exhibition at central places has become very significant. Trade fairs are very important in today's global economy and play a role in the growth of modern international cities. Such centres are very beneficial in boosting the trade not only within the country but also with other countries. Therefore, in order to derive maximum benefits from such mutual contacts, various countries like Germany, China, Japan etc are holding regular international exhibitions at four or five different prominent places in their respective countries.

In India there is only one international exhibition centre at New Delhi where different national/international exhibitions are held. The international exhibition having participation by many countries is held for a very short period of 14 days in a year. But exhibitions by companies, associations etc. are held regularly throughout the year thereby resulting in overcrowding, traffic jams, pollution and particularly inconvenience to the people of Delhi where such exhibitions are held frequently. Therefore, there has been a consistent demand for setting up of more international exhibition centres in other centrally located places of the country on the pattern of Pragati Maidan. This will not only reduce the pressure on Pragati Maidan but also provide opportunities to the people of different regions to have a glimpse of the economic and industrial developments taking place in India and other parts of the world.

It is felt that due to its central location, economic and industrial development as well as very good road connectivity to all the places of the country, Nagpur qualifies to be a suitable place for establishment of a new international exhibition centre. Such a state-of-the-art modern facility in Nagpur would have tremendous impact on economy, transport, entertainment and cultural activities, hotels and resorts and tourism in Vidarbha region. Several ancillary services would also get established which would be huge revenue earners for the region. The development of Nagpur International Airport and setting up of Special Economic Zone would further boost the economic, trade and industrial activity in this region. This can be established even on Public, Private Partnership (PPP) mode.

Nagpur has plenty of land available to the extent of 500 acres for the establishment of Rajiv Gandhi International Exhibition Centre on the pattern of Pragati Maidan.

I would urge upon the Government to kindly to give serious consideration to this proposal and to grant the necessary approval for the establishment of Rajiv Gandhi International Exhibition Centre at Nagpur on the pattern of Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.