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Title: Need to set up an airport in Thanjavur Parliamentary Constituency.

*SHRI K. PARASURAMAN (THANJAVUR): Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I wish to raise an important issue in this House. I came to know from the newspapers that the Union government is planning to develop 200 low cost airports in Tier II and Tier III towns across the country in next 20 years. The government has identified 50 districts in the first phase of the Project. An airport should be set up in my Thanjavur constituency. Because of this, even the people of adjoining districts like

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil

Sivagangai, Nagappatinam, Thiruvarur, etc would also be benefitted. I have already written to the Civil Aviation Minister in this regard. There is an airport in Thanjavur under the control of Indian Air Force and this airport should be improved with commercial connectivity. Ittherefore request to setup a low cost airport in Thanjavur.

Moreover, there is heavy traffic between Thanjavur and Nagapattinam in National highway (NH-67). The demand for widening and strengthening of this National highway in the Thanjavur-Nagapattinam stretch has gained momentum. People in large number go on pilgrimage to Velankanni temple and NagoorDargah. I have also written to Minister for Highways and Road Transport in this regard. I, therefore, urge to speed up the expansion and up-gradation work in this National Highway (NH 67).