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Title: Need to accord approval for night-landing facilities at Tuticorin Airport in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI J.J.T. NATTERJEE (THOOTHUKUDI): Tuticorin Airport has been waiting for night landing facility for Aircraft since long. The infrastructure for landing of flights during night is available but approval to operate the facility is yet to be made.

The airport is deprived of the facility even after years of its inauguration. Once this facility is available, aircraft operators would be approached to introduce one more flight service during night hours on a daily basis. At present, two smaller flights are being operated from the Tuticorin airport daily. As per AAI report lighting equipment is available at the airport but it has not been installed, since the approval to operate the facility has not been accorded.

AAI had conducted a survey and made the necessary arrangements to provide the basic requirement. It is said that 1086 feet high Vallanadu Hills might be causing some obstruction to navigation, so that the matter was taken up with the Department of forests.

I, therefore, urge upon the union government to take necessary steps to expedite installation of this facility for Aircraft to land during night at Tuticorin Airport. After Installation and operation of this facility, no doubt, this route would generate more revenue.