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Title: Regarding setting up of water aerodrome in Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh

SHRI MARGANI BHARAT (RAJAHMUNDRI): Sir, today I would like to speak about the tourism potential in my place and the need to set up a water aerodrome in Rajahmundry.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has planned for water aerodromes near the locations of tourist and religious importance with the twin objectives of promoting tourism and also providing air connectivity under the UDAN scheme. I welcome this, as this also helps to achieve the third objective of generating more and more employment opportunities and also promoting tourism.

I also welcome the move of the Government of India which has identified some routes for this purpose in some States. In my constituency near Papikondalu, there is a scenic river with stunning views of surrounding hills with lush green vegetation and also wildlife. We have a cruise service offered here by the Government of Andhra Pradesh under the leadership of our hon. Chief Minister, Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy Ji. Kadiyapulanka is an absolute bliss of one's visual sense. It is a flourishing hub of horticulture and floriculture. A 120-year old Havelock Bridge is one of the earliest three bridges constructed in the country. The Railways decommissioned this bridge and we are turning it as one of the finest heritage monuments. The River Godavari has its own beauty from the tourists' point of view and also it is a river of religious importance from the point of view of devotees.

Looking at all these and the other important destinations in Rajahmundry, it is perfect to start water aerodrome in River Godavari. I appeal to the hon. Tourism and Culture Minister and also to the Civil Aviation Minister to start the aerodrome in the following routes; - Rajahmundry to Prakasam Barrage and Rajahmundry to Nagarjuna Sagar of Hyderabad. Thank you so much.