

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding development of tourism in Kanniyakumari District-Laid.

SHRI VIJAYKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH (KANYAKUMARI): Kanniyakumari district, which falls in my parliamentary Constituency is one of the most beautiful areas gifted by mother nature. Lush greenery surrounded by mountains on one side and sea on the other, has lot of destinations which attracts lakhs of tourists every year. But, I would like to admit that still there are lot of untapped potential for tourism. If developed, Kanniyakumari district will turn out to be a top tourist destination in the world map.

Lack of transport for the people visiting the southern tip of India is a matter of concern. An airport at Kanniyakumari will bring in more tourists who want to visit Kanniyakumari. The trains to my Constituency are minimal and hence people find it tiresome to reach destination. I request the concerned ministries to pay special attention towards Kanniyakumari district in this regard.

Further, Kanniyakumari has lot of temples, churches and mosques. There needs to be a holistic development of the surrounding areas which would attract more pilgrimes tourists to this district.

During the Maha Sivaratri, devotees from all over the State visit all the 12 Shiva shrines in Kaninyakumari district. Pilgrims who visit our district make a point to visit these temples. These temples need to be well connected for people to be able to go from one temple to another. I request the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism to include this project under the PRASAD scheme for better connectivity and development of areas surrounding the temple.

We have beautiful beaches, if maintained, can be turned into world class destinations. With water falls and dams, it's a perfect picturesque location which would generate lot of revenue for the Government as well as promote local employment. It's a perfect spot for adventure tourism. Hence, I urge upon the Government to allot special funds under various tourism promotion schemes to develop Kanniyakumari district into a world class tourist destination.

I request the Government to build a statue of our ex CM Shri Kamarajar in the similar lines of Sardar Patel Statue of Unity and this also would add to the tourist attraction.

Hence, I request the Government to do all it can to develop anniyakumari district in terms of tourism.