

***hNeed to set up an Automobile Technology Park and Research Centre in Namakkal district,Tamil Nadu**

SHRI MATHESWARAN V. S. (NAMAKKAL): Hon. Madam Chairperson, Vanakkam. Even though we say agriculture is the backbone of our country, India, we should also admit the importance of the Transport Systems that support our agriculture in a big way. Namakkal district in Tamil Nadu is known for such Transportation network and facilities. There are lakhs and lakhs of lorries and trucks operated from areas like Namakkal, Tiruchengode, Sangagiri and Salem in Tamil Nadu. Particularly Trailers which carry heavy material and LPG Lorries are being operated in large numbers in Namakkal district. Whenever there is a need for body/spare parts for lorries and trucks, it is a sorry state of affairs in this Namakkal district to get such spare parts from several other neighbouring States of the country. This causes inordinate delay in procuring these spare parts and their prices also fall on the higher side while purchasing such spare parts. In order to address this issue, I urge upon the Union Government to set up a new Automobile Park in Namakkal district of Tamilnadu for facilitating availability of spare parts within Tamil Nadu and at reasonable prices. Borewell Lorries are in large numbers in Tiruchengode of Namakkal district. It is a great distinction for Tiruchengode in the entire world in this field. Keeping in view of these points, I urge upon the Hon. Minister for Road Transport that a new Automobile Park should be set up in Namakkal area. DDG guidelines in the tendering process of LPG bulk transportation for the years 2025-2030 are not favourable for lorry owners.

Even for the small mistakes they are made to pay fines up to Rs. 20000. Even after a price hike of diesel today, they were forced to mention or quote the same freight cost/ prices that was quoted in the tender during the year 2018. .LPG lorries of this area could not be operated due to this issue. Therefore, the Union Minister of Petroleum, in consultation with the General Managers of PSUs concerned, should find ways to relax the terms and conditions of the tender without affecting the interest of the LPG lorry operators. At the same time, LPG lorry owners have called for indefinite strike in the southern States like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Puducherry. This strike may result in shortage in supply of LPG cylinders. Keeping in view of these points, I urge upon the Union Government to

consider and fulfill the demands of the LPG lorry operators of the country. Thank you