

Regarding establishment of a second campus of the National Institute of Water Sports in Konaseema district, Andhra Pradesh- Laid

SHRI G. M. HARISH BALAYOGI (AMALAPURAM): Konaseema district in Andhra Pradesh is one of the most ecologically diverse and naturally endowed aquatic regions in the country, yet its immense potential for tourism and water sports remains largely untapped. The district is home to over 107 kilometers of calm, navigable backwaters, a unique tidal confluence at Antarvedi, and the Coringa mangrove forests. Together, these water bodies create an aquatic landscape that is both scenically captivating and uniquely suited for water-based tourism, adventure sports, and ecological exploration. Konaseema also features island creeks, traditional boat races, and centuries-old artisanal boat-building practices, offering deep-rooted cultural value and community engagement. The region's backwaters are active throughout the year, making them ideal for consistent training and recreational activities. Despite these extraordinary assets, Konaseema remains underdeveloped in terms of tourism infrastructure, skill development, and institutional support. Therefore, I would request the Government to consider the establishment of a second campus of the National Institute of Water Sports in Konaseema district. The campus can serve as a centre of excellence for water sports training, eco-tourism capacity building, traditional skill preservation, and environmental research thereby empowering local youth through skill development and expanding livelihood opportunities in a sustainable, water-based tourism economy.