

Title: Requested not to shift the Sidha Research Institute from Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu to Bangalore.

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is very disheartening to note that the Government of India is planning to shift the Sidha Research Institute from Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu to Bangalore. The Sidha Wing is a good old institution providing cure to chronic diseases like tuberculosis and even AIDS.

The research is now going on at Dr. MGR Medical University and at Palayamkottai Sidha Research wing regarding cancer. At this juncture, the move made by the Government of India to shift that Institute to Bangalore, is highly condemnable. Recently the Government of India has taken steps to establish a research wing in Sidha for AIDS control programme at Tambaram. At Palayamkottai herbal plants are being cultivated. All the infrastructural facilities are created at Palayamkottai A lot of money has been spent. I request the hon. Minister to react to this and retain this Institute in Palayamkottai itself. This is the feeling of not only my Party, AIADMK, but also the people of Tamil Nadu.