

an>

Title : Need to Develop Vellore Airport and make it Operational.

PROF. K.M. KADER MOHIDEEN (VELLORE): Sir, in my Vellore Constituency of Tamil Nadu, Abdullahpuram Airport still remains to be developed. Members of Parliament from Tamil Nadu have made representation to the hon. Civil Aviation Minister that Vellore District Airport should be developed and the long-standing demand of the people of the region should be conceded at the earliest. I am sorry to bring to the notice of the Government that the Vellore Airport still remains a forgotten project. Vellore is a historic place where the Secular Fort is adorning the city. The region stands out as the first spot from where the Freedom Movement was begun by the Sepoys in 1806. The fort finds a place in the tourism map of the country and it needs to be included in the world map of tourism.

Internationally reputed CMC Hospital and the Medical College and the Vellore Institute of Technology attract thousands of passengers from all over the country and from abroad. It is from Vellore the leather industry is fetching more than six thousand crores of foreign exchange for our country. The airport is also situated in the centrally located place between Bangalore and Chittoor. Development and expansion of the airport is the immediate necessity. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to open the airport with all developed facilities.