

>

Title: Need to establish an Airport at Dindigul in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN (PALANI): My Palani Parliamentary Constituency comes under Dindigul District. 'Dindigul' is one of the important industrial centres in Tamil Nadu. It is famous for Textiles, Tannery and Locks. Large number of tourist spots including Kodaikanal and Sirumalai Hills are very near to Dindigul. The famous Palani Hill Temple also comes under this Dindigul District.

Palani Hill Temple is the abode of Lord Karthik. Very often large numbers of devotees are coming to Palani from within the country and from a number of foreign countries. They are reaching Palani either through Madurai or through Coimbatore. Both towns are very far away from Palani.

In and around Dindigul, there are 136 Spinning Mills. All are major units. Buyers from national and international level are reaching Dindigul through Air only. They have to get down at Madurai or Tiruchy to reach Dindigul. All towns are very far away from Dindigul.

Dindigul is the gateway to Kodaikanal, the famous hill resort in the country and Sabarimala, Ayappan Temple. Tourists and devotees are facing lot of difficulties to reach the above places since there is no Air Connectivity to Dindigul.

Oddnchatram is another important town nearer to Dindigul. It is famous for butter, ghee and vegetables. Large quantities of vegetables are exported from here. Throughout the country, vegetable vendors are coming to Oddanchatram to purchase bulk quantity of all kinds of vegetables. Hence, air connectivity is very essential for Dindigul.

Hence, I humbly request the Hon'ble Minister to sanction one such Airport to Dindigul.