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Title: Need to commence the work of setting up of DRDO Research Centre in Dharmapuri Parliamentary Constituency in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN (DHARMAPURI): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government that an initiative was taken by the Defence Research and Development Organization to set up a Defence Research Centre in my Parliamentary Constituency, Dharmapuri. For this purpose, the land has been identified admeasuring 817.56 acres of Government land and 11.76 acres of private land at Nekkunthi Village, Dharmapuri Taluk and District. A team of officials from the DRDO had also inspected the said site at Dharmapuri on 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2010.

Sir, the DRDO has been provided with all the details required by it for setting up of a DRDO Research Centre in my Constituency.

I was informed by the hon. Minister of Defence *vide* his letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2012 communicating therein that the Government sanction for the land acquisition has been accorded.

Dharmapuri industrially is the most backward area in the State of Tamil Nadu. This initiative was given a golden opportunity to get employment for nearly 20,000 people of this backward District.

I would, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister of Defence to direct the DRDO to forthwith commence the work towards the setting up of this much awaited DRDO Research Centre at Dharmapuri without any delay so that the people of this industrially backward District can get employment and turn this backward District into a progressing District in Tamil Nadu.