

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**Need for Central Government support to develop Vizag /Vishakhapatnam
as a major IT Destination**

SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO (Uttar Pradesh): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for the opportunity. My Zero Hour submission is about developing the city of Vizag as a major IT destination in the country, and the need for the Central and State Governments' support in this regard.

First of all, I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of IT for giving a huge impetus to the digital revolution in the country. Sir, certainly, we have made rapid strides. The united Andhra Pradesh developed largely on account of the IT sector growth and Vishakhapatnam as a cosmopolitan city, as the city with the ninth highest GDP in the country, has the potential to emerge as a major IT destination. Our Central Government has already sanctioned certain major IT institutions for the State of Andhra Pradesh and particularly Vishakhapatnam, but somehow, the implementation of this is lacking. Expansion of the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) campus in Vishakhapatnam is getting delayed because of lack of land allotment by the State Government and Andhra University. In the meanwhile, I request that a 30,000 square feet of space be hired to set up the STPI centre as quickly as possible because this will offer incubation services and start-ups can make major leap of growth in this area. The Central Government has also sanctioned a Centre of Excellence in RINL, Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant. I would urge the Ministry of Heavy Industries also to sanction a Common Engineering Facility Centre (CEFC) which will give a huge impetus to the activities of CoE which can emerge as a major smart manufacturing facility in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

I would also request establishment of fabrication laboratory in Vishakhapatnam and urge both, the Central and the State Governments, to work in unity to ensure that all these institutions take shape as early as possible. Then, I would also request for Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) in Vishakhapatnam. I urge upon the hon. Minister in this regard. I have already met our hon. Minister, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, and I am making this public appeal so as to give a very special focus to Vishakhapatnam and the State of Andhra Pradesh because it can give a huge impetus to our software development and software exports. Finally, I also urge the hon. Minister to extend the BPO, that is, promotion of BPO scheme, for entities

which have already availed this scheme because this can create huge employment opportunities. Thank you, Sir.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**Need to establish an Indian Institute of Science and Education
Research (IISER) in Pudukottai District, Tamil Nadu**

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER) were announced in the year 2006, and were further declared as the Institutes of National Importance in 2012 to promote them as leading institutes in the country for science education and research. As of date, the IISERs have been established at only seven locations in the country which is not enough for the promotion of science education and technology. No such Central institution has been set up in Pudukottai District of Tamil Nadu, which is one of the centrally-located districts of Tamil Nadu. Hence, it should be given an IISER to promote the region. The Union government has enough land for establishing the same. Establishment of IISER in Pudukottai District will augment the existing NID in Tiruchirappalli, which has saturated over the years. Sir, close coordination of IISER, Pudukottai and NID, Tiruchirappalli can rapidly advance the research and development work in science sector for the benefit and development of the country. Hence, I call upon the Central Government to open an IISER in Pudukottai District at the earliest.

Sir, we are the very first princely State which joined India but till now, we have not got even a small benefit from the Union Government. You should take care of us, Sir. This request is being made after 75 years. Thank you.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.