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Title: Regarding Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project-laid.

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH (JHALAWAR-BARAN): My state Rajasthan covers about 10.4% of geographical area, 5.5% population, 19% livestock and 14% cultivable land, whereas it holds only 1.16% of country's surface water and 1.72% of ground water. Regarding ground water status, there are 295 blocks, out of this only 50 blocks are safe, 38 semi critical, 10 critical and 194 over exploited. Hence, development of multi-purpose irrigation & drinking water project is crucial for development of the region. Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) is planned to harvest surplus yield available in the Southern Rajasthan Rivers and transfer the deficit basins in South Eastern Rajasthan. This scheme is planned to meet the drinking-irrigation and industrial water needs of 13 districts of Southern & South-Eastern Rajasthan. Diversion of 5068 MCM water available from Rajasthan's own catchment area is proposed in this project. The project covers 23.67% area and 41.13% population of Rajasthan. I request the Hon'ble Minister to please evaluate ERCP according to "Guidelines For Implementation of National Project" and accord National Status to the Project.