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Title: Need to release 100% financial assistance to the Government of Tamil Nadu for the implementation of underground sewage scheme in Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation - Laid.

SHRI P.H. PANDIAN (TIRUNELVELI) : On 07.05.2002, I submitted a representation signed by the Leaders of different political parties with a request for 100% financial assistance from the Central Government for implementation of Underground Sewage Scheme in Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation. Simultaneously, I raised this issue in the Lok Sabha but so far adequate action has not been taken by the Government. Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation, Tamil Nadu was formed by amalgamating three Municipalities. One Township and 15 Village Panchayats in the year 1994. The total population of this corporation is 4,25,000. The main revenue source is only house tax. Now a scheme is formulated to have underground sewage system in this Corporation to prevent the pollution in Tamiravaruni river which is main drinking water source for Tirunelveli and Tuticorin. The total estimated cost for this scheme is Rs.66 crores. But with the present financial status of Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation, it is not in a position to spend such huge amount for the implementation of this Underground Sewage Scheme. After a lapse of more than a year, there is a confusion with the Government that whether it belongs to Ministry of Urban Development or Ministry of Environment and Forest. I request the Government to take a final decision in this matter and to direct the concerned Ministry to release 100% financial assistance for implementation of Underground Sewage Scheme in Tirunelveli Municipal Corporation.