**Title:** Requested for an immediate diversion of 39.322 hectares of forest land in Warangal, Andhra Pradesh for implementation of Sriramsagar Project Canal.

SHRI B. VENKATESHWARLU (WARANGAL): Sir, thank you very much for this opportunity. A proposal of the Andhra Pradesh Government for diversion of about 53 hectares of forest land in Warangal District of Andhra Pradesh for carrying out excavation work at Sriramsagar Project Canal, DBM 48, was sent for clearance of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. Pursuant to the suggestion made by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, the requirement of forest area has now been reduced from 53 hectares to 39.322 hectares by reducing the width of the canal. The possibility of realigning the canal has also been examined and found to be technically not feasible, and the Ministry of Environment and Forests have been informed accordingly by our Chief Minister on 10.06.2000.

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In these circumstances, I request the Union Government to permit the diversion of the said 39.322 hectares of forest land at the earliest to achieve the planned irrigation potential covering 80,000 hectares in the extremist-affected and backward district of Warangal in Andhra Pradesh. Thank you.

<sup>\*</sup>Expunged as ordered by the chair

<sup>\*\*</sup> Not Recorded.