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Title: Regarding Mullai Periyar Dam, Tamil Nadu.

*SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID : Mullai Periyar dam in the border of Tamil Nadu and Kerala provides succour to five districts in Tamil Nadu. Kerala Government saw to it that the storage level height of the dam was reduced from 132 ft. from 152 ft. When it was taken to the Supreme Court as a vexing issue for about 20 years and more it was ruled by the apex court that the storage level height may be raised to 148 ft. But still the Government of Kerala is raising objection to it and has not implemented it. Recently a delegation led by Shri.K.S.Rao was sent there that included three Members of Parliament from Kerala. No MP from Tamil Nadu was there in that team. It must be noted that beneficiaries of that dam are from the five adjoining districts in Tamil Nadu. But still no MP from Tamil Nadu was included. That dam has been strengthened now with the widening of the dam by 44 ft. The original width of the dam was 154 ft. and it is now 198 ft. After strengthening the dam and storing water to a height of 136 ft. and releasing it through 13 shutters the waters go on. The water then goes to Kolambavur dam. Then Sirukodi dam and then Idukki dam. Thus there are 3

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

dams beyond that. Idukki dam has got 75 TMC storage capacity. But Periyar dam has got only 11.6 TMC capacity. Only 16 TMC of water can be stored if water level in Mulla Periyar is 152 ft. But only 10.6 TMC of water is stored there now. About 50 lakhs of our Kerala bretheren are living in Tamil Nadu. The release from the dam is mainly used by the public for drinking water purposes. It must be considered in the light of the fact that about 2500 TMC of water from Kerala wastefully flow in to the Arabian sea. Hence the storage level of Mullai periyar be increased in order to provide the much needed drinking water to the adjoining districts in Tamil Nadu.

If it is 152 feet, it is only 16 TMC water. Now, it can store only 10.6 TMC water, that is approximately 11 TMC water. We are very proud that 50 lakh Kerala brothers and sisters are living in Tamil Nadu. ...(*Interruptions*) About 2,500 TMC water is getting wasted. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except Shri Sarbananda Sonowal's remarks.

(*Interruptions*) *â€