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Title: Need to take steps to complete the work on Integrated Drinking Water Project at Hogenekal in Tamil Nadu.

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM (KRISHNAGIRI): Sir, there is an acute drinking water shortage in my Krishnagiri constituency. There has been no rain in my constituency for the last many years. The ground water level has come down considerably. Moreover, drinking water in the area contains fluorides which are harmful for the bones and teeth. Due to this the health of the people has been greatly affected. In this connection, I wish to mention that in the year 1998, an Integrated Drinking Water Project was started in Hogenekal with Japanese assistance at a cost of Rs. 1,000 crore. The work went on full swing. However, the successor Government did not proceed with the work and it was disbanded. About fifty lakh people from two districts namely, Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri are affected by acute drinking water shortage and they would be benefited if the Hogenekal Project is materialized.

I urge upon the Government of India to direct the Tamil Nadu Government to take up this project, if necessary, with World Bank assistance and complete the same on a war footing so as to solve the long pending drinking water problem in Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri district.