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Title: Need to expedite the Darjeeling Drinking Water Project of Balasan in West Bengal.

SHRI D. NARBULA (DARJEELING): The U.P.A. Government sanctioning 50 crores of rupees has helped to solve the hundred years old drinking water problem of Darjeeling. In December 2005 a sum of Rs. 10 crores was released to start the Darjeeling Drinking Water Project of Balasan.

On 19th February 2006 the Chief Minister of West Bengal laid the foundation of this project. This project is a time bound project of two years. Almost a year has been passed but no concrete work has been started yet. Ramky Infrastructure Ltd. with its head office in Hyderabad has taken up this project but it is regretted that the main work of this project has not been started yet.

The said company has simply started to construct the road but it is also not satisfactory. The company should start the work of the main project immediately otherwise the cost will go up and the amount sanctioned would not be sufficient to complete the project and the people of Darjeeling will suffer. The Ramky Infrastructure Ltd. should come to the site and start the main project immediately. In the meantime in order to provide Drinking Water to the people of Darjeeling the existing conduit lines and the springs from where water is being brought to the lakes should be repaired and old pipe lines which carry water from the Lakes to Darjeeling through the Filter House at Jorebunglow should be repaired. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to sanction an additional sum of rupees five crores for these repair works.