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Title: Need to divert surplus water of river Thamirabarani to the tanks in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu under Central Scheme.

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (TIRUNELVELI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a very important issue of the agriculturists in my constituency. There is a long-standing demand from various sections of people for diverting surplus water of the Thamirabarani River into the big Manur Tank, Pallamadai Tank and other surrounding tanks. ...(*Interruptions*) It is needed for the purpose of agricultural development in this area, which is in a very sorry state due to shortage of water there. ...(*Interruptions*)

Manur Tank is elevated and situated certain feet above sea-level. It remains dry most of the year, and its resources cannot be utilized properly, with the result, people residing in nearby areas are facing lot of difficulties for agricultural purposes as well as drinking water requirements. ...(*Interruptions*) To mitigate water shortage in the region, big pipes can be laid in the Thamairabarani River and excess water of the river can be taken and filled in Manur and other neighbouring tanks during rainy season. For this purpose, there is no necessity to dig big channels by spending crores of money, and this proposal will not affect any section of people. Actually, it will benefit the areas in and around this area. ...(*Interruptions*)

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to allocate necessary funds from any of the Centrally-sponsored schemes for the project in order to bring the excess water of Thamirabarani River into Manur big Tank, Pallamadai Tank and other surrounding tanks. ...(*Interruptions*) It will help to improve the ground-water level, and it will facilitate the farmers in that area. Thank you very much, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next is Shri Nikhil Kumar Choudhary.

...(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Nikhil Kumar Choudhary, please be attentive.

...(*Interruptions*)

14.29 hrs

*At this stage, Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad Singh came
and stood on the floor near the Table.*