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Title: Need to declare Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Pranahita-Chevella Sujala Sravanthi Project on river Godavari in Andhra Pradesh as a National Project.

SHRI L. RAJAGOPAL (VIJAYAWADA): I thank you for the opportunity. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that the Andhra Pradesh Government has initiated and started a mammoth project, with an investment of Rs.38,500 crore, called Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Pranayitha Chavela Sujala Sravanthi Project. In fact, this project meets all the eligible criteria of the AIBP. The Central Water Commission also, through its letter, informed the Government that 2036 tmc of water is made available for this project. This project involves some submergence of land in Maharashtra also, to an extent of 5,247 acres. In fact, a joint agreement, for a survey of the entire submerged land and the feasibility as also for compensation has already been submitted to the Government of India.

This is a mammoth project; this passes through Telangana region of seven districts, which will cater to more than 16.5 lakh acres and provides drinking water to 1000 villages including the cities of Secunderabad and Hyderabad. Since this is such a large project, with a meagre means available with the Government of Andhra Pradesh, it is not possible to complete; the project is already started; tenders have been called for and the work is proceeding.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh requested the Central Government to declare this project as the national project. The entire Telangana and Andhra Pradesh recently saw Bundelkhand being given a special package. We are not asking for a special package. We are trying to say that since it is a backward area, it is dry and upland, at least assistance from Central Government as a national project be provided to it so that this large project is fulfilled and the disparities which are existing between delta and upland areas can be removed.

So, I would request the Government, through you, to immediately ensure that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Pranayitha Chavela Sujala Sravanthi project is given a national status and the entire funding is jointly made by the Central Government and the State Government.

सभापति महोदयः श्री वीरेंद्र कश्यप जी और श्री अनुराग ठाकुर जी का एक ही विषय है। इसलिए the name of Shri Virender Kashyap may be associated with Shri Anurag Singh Thakur.