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Title : Need to accord approval to the proposal of Brutanga Irrigation Project submitted by Government of Orissa.

SHRI RUDRAMADHAB RAY (KANDHAMAL): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Nayagarh district in Orissa is one of the backward and under developed districts in the State. It has very low irrigation potentiality having 7 per cent irrigation facilities. Since there is no industry in the district, 90 per cent of the population depends on agriculture. Hence, unless irrigation potentiality is enhanced, economical status of the district cannot go up. The major Brutanga Irrigation Project was visualized and survey work was undertaken 15 years ago. This project is proposed to be constructed across a perennial River Brutanga, and it is estimated that more than 25,000 hectares of agricultural land can be irrigated. This project has received approval from the Central Water Commission (CWC). The Government of Orissa has sent proposal to the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India for according forest clearance.

I urge upon the Government to please accord necessary approval for the project.