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Title : Need to set up a panel to study the feasibility of taking water of Himalayan rivers to central and southern parts of India.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN (DINDIGUL): Our country has a very grave water problem. There is alarming scarcity of water across the country. To bring the surplus flood water of Himalayan range down south through canals is definitely an alternative to river linking project. To harvest water from Himalayan rivers at higher altitude and bring them to a meeting point at Nahan in Himachal Pradesh (Alt 820 m AMSL) and run them through open canals over embankments wherever needed to maintain the height with slope of 1:20000 so that it crosses over easily the central and Deccan Plateau by gravitation which is the only feasible solution. It is not a river linking proposal. But getting water from the Himalayan rivers at an altitude before reach the plains and bringing them through man made open canals.

As a valuable corollary benefit the flood control, navigation, water supply, fisheries, pollution control, recreation facilities, employment generation, infrastructure and socio-economic developments would change the face of the country's economy.

I urge upon the Government to set up a panel urgently to study and submit a feasible report to proceed further.