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Title: Need to protect and maintain the picnic spot around Manimuthar dam in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu-Laid.*

SHRI S.S. RAMASUBBU (TIRUNELVELI): Sir, Manimuthar Dam in Tamil Nadu is located 47 kms. away from Tirunelveli in my Lok Sabha Constituency. It is an ideal picnic spot blessed with beautiful garden and peaceful atmosphere. It is a prominent tourist spot in southern Tamil Nadu. It is having rare species of flora and fauna, ornamental trees, well-maintained park for children, beautiful fountain which attracts large number of tourists from within the country and abroad.

However, for the past few years, this tourist spot is neglected and adequate funds are not released by the Local Bodies for its upkeep and maintenance and with the result the tourist inflow for the Manimuthar Dam is greatly reduced. Because of lack of maintenance, there is a fear of ecological imbalance in the region. As this place is lying in the Western Ghat, there is no dearth of water and this picnic spot can be well maintained with minimum cost. To save the ecology and to protect the glory of this region, the Union Government should come forward to protect this tourist spot at any cost.

I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism to kindly release adequate funds to protect the picnic spot/park around the Manimuthar Dam in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu.