

an>

Title: Need to grant permission as well as financial assistance for replenishing ground water in arid zones of Coimbatore, Erode and Tiruppur in Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA (TIRUPPUR):The ground water level in the arid zones of Coimbatore, Erode and Tiruppur has gone to an alarming depth of 1000 to 1500 feet. If this situation continues, there may be a need to notify them as desert areas. Paucity of drinking water has not only affected the human population in these areas but also flora and fauna.

The Public Works Department of Tamil Nadu has come out with a novel proposal to recharge ground water in 75 lakes, 438 small ponds at a proposed cost of Rs. 1862 crore by supplying 2 Tmc of excess water collected in Bhavani Dam through the Athikadavu-Avanashi water distribution system.

The application for permission as well as financial allocation for the above scheme was prepared by our Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and submitted to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 3 June 2014. Technical flaws and difficulties in this scheme are being seriously reviewed by PWD officials and very soon the details of the scheme will be handed over to the Government of Tamil Nadu for implementation.

To fulfill the long standing demands of 35 lakh people of four Parliamentary constituencies of Tiruppur, Erode, Coimbatore and Nilgiris and 13 Assembly constituencies, I would request our Hon'ble Prime Minister to grant permission as well as financial assistance for successful completion of this project at the earliest.