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Title: Need to accord permission from NHAI to replace the leaking AC pipe with new higher dimension MS pipe along NH 67 from Irugur Piruru to Pongalur via Palladam in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu to ensure adequate supply of drinking water.

SHRI P. NAGARAJAN (COIMBATORE):Coimbatore City 'Manchester of South India' in Tamilnadu is the second largest city and industrial hub of Tamilnadu. The source of drinking water for people and for irrigation of Coimbatore and its surrounding areas it is totally dependent upon the reservoir which rely upon the rainfall in a year. Now the Meteorological department has predicted that rainfall in Coimbatore district will be less than average this year. Now-a-days the people in my constituency are facing severe drinking water problem due to shortage in supply of drinking water from various sources. To meet the need, there is a proposal to replace the old existing leaky AC pipe with new higher dimension MS Pipe along one side of the NH 67 from Irugur Piruru to Pongalur via Palladam stretching over 30.36 KM for Palladam CWSS under the scheme of Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWMP). RGNDWMP was launched by the Union Government to ensure maximum inflow of scientific and technical input into the rural water supply sector to improve the performance, cost effectiveness of the on-going programmes and ensure adequate supply of safe drinking water. The Ministry of Surface Transport has already granted permission in 2011 to replace the old pipelines, but the National Highways Authority of India is still not giving permission to replace the water pipelines. Around 1.2 million people are totally dependent upon this water scheme and eagerly waiting to complete the on-going project for the last 3 years. The other infrastructural works like feeder main pumps and overhead tanks at the cost of Rs. 30 crores have already been completed.

Hence, I urge the Union Government to take necessary action to issue necessary permission to NHAI to replace the existing faulty/leaky AC pipes with MS pipe on the above mentioned places on NH 67at the earliest.