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Title: Need to provide funds under the National Agriculture Development Programme for the maintenance of irrigational tanks in Sivaganga Parliamentary Constituency.

SHRI P.R. SENTHILNATHAN (SIVAGANGA): Sir, irrigational tanks for the rain-fed farm lands also get dried up in the absence of proper maintenance and are found aplenty in Sivaganga Parliamentary Constituency. There are more than 9000 such tanks in Sivaganga constituency highlighting the effective water management system of the bygone era. In contrast, this area is economically backward despite having a vast industrious agricultural community. They are entirely dependent on rains. All these inter-linked tanks if spruced up at one go would benefit greatly our agro economy.

Our Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Amma announced special scheme to interlink the rivers within the State of Tamil Nadu to improve the irrigation and agriculture. Central financial assistance under special scheme like National Agriculture Development Programme must be provided for improving the irrigational tanks in Sivaganga constituency.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to adopt Sivaganga constituency as a model for its chain of traditional tanks and provide funds under the National Agriculture Development Programme to desilt, deepen and maintain them all in an integrated manner.