

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding opening of spillway shutters of Mullaperiyar Dam during night without any prior intimation.

SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN (KOTTAYAM): Sir, through this submission, I seek the immediate attention of the hon. Prime Minister to give direction to the Government of Tamil Nadu against the opening of spillway shutters of Mullaperiyar Dam during night without any prior intimation.

The opening of spillway shutters of Mullaperiyar Dam during night presents flood threat to lakhs of people living downstream of the Periyar River.

The authorities of Tamil Nadu have opened the spillway shutters during night even yesterday releasing 126000 cusecs of water that has panicked the people. Release of huge quantity of water during late hours of night without sufficient advance warning has caused panic among the people living in this area. The people of this area could not sleep for the last few weeks.

Considering the urgency of the issue, through you, I request the hon. Prime Minister to kindly direct the Tamil Nādu authorities to give intimation well in advance before spilling water into Periyar River. The spillway should not be opened during night time.

I also request the Government to direct the authorities to convene a meeting of the Supervisory Committee urgently. Today in the morning, raising this issue, myself and..... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: No, this cannot be allowed. Shri Tapir Gao may speak now.