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Title: Demand to cancel the proposed petroleum storage terminal project by BPCL and HPCL at Payyanur, Kerala as it will affect the environment and livelihood of people.

SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN (KASARAGOD): Hon Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to a very serious issue of my Constituency Kasargod.

Sir, the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited have jointly submitted a plan to the Government of Kerala for setting up of a mammoth petroleum storage terminal at Payyanur in Kasargod Parliamentary Constituency in Kerala.

The State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority has denied approval to the project based on the ambiguity on ground vibration and the geological features of the location. The location earmarked, 85 acres of land, is an ecologically fragile area having mangrove forests, paddy fields, waterbodies, rivers and backwaters. The livelihood of thousands of people who rely upon agriculture and fishing would be badly affected. The Indian Naval Academy is only two kilometres away from the proposed petroleum storage terminal. In the backdrop of the drone attack on oil storage facilities in Saudi Arabia recently, such a plant will jeopardise national security.

The State Government has expressed its disinterest to acquire land for the project as the Union Government is planning to disinvest its stake in the BPCL. Furthermore, the Union Government is targeting to switch over from fuel-based vehicles to e-vehicles within next 10 years.

All these factors nullify the grounds for such a big petroleum storage terminal at Payyanur in Kannur. The local people are agitating against the proposed project. So, I request the Government to cancel the petroleum storage terminal project at Payyanur immediately.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री राम कृपाल यादव उपस्थित नहीं ।