

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to expedite the implementation of Upper Bhadra Project in Karnataka under Jaldhara Yojana.

SHRI A. NARAYANA SWAMY (CHITRADURGA): Thank you, Speaker, Sir that you have permitted me to speak about my constituency. The people in my constituency are facing so many problems. The major problem is water problem due to low rainfall. It is a drought area. There is no rainfall at all. Ground water has reached below the 1000 feet level.

The Government of Karnataka is to seek clearance from the Central Water Commission for Upper Bhadra project in Karnataka under Jaldhara Yojana for irrigation and drinking water to prevent and control fluorosis in Chitradurga and Tumkur districts.

I would like to bring to your kind notice that the above-stated prestigious project benefits four districts of the central part of Karnataka, that is, Chitradurga, Tumkur, Davanagere and Chikkmagaluru. The project proposes to irrigate 2,25,000 hectares of land of these drought-prone districts by drip irrigation and meet the need of water.

The size of this project is more than two lakh hectares and is qualified for consideration to be declared as a national project. It is also eligible for Central assistance. It is in the final state of getting clearance. The total cost of this project is Rs.12,340 crore out of which Rs.2,835 crore has already been spent. This project is specially meant for 'Per Drop More Crop'.

Sir, the public health of this area is heavily affected by excess intake of fluoride through drinking water, food products etc. for a long period.

It results in major health disorders like dental fluorosis, skeletal fluorosis, non-skeletal fluorosis etc. Children are with discoloured and disfigured teeth. It may be chalky white and it may have yellow, black spots or streaks on the enamel surface. Discoloration is there in the gums. It also affects bones and joints of the human body.

The successive Governments of the past have given very less importance to develop my constituency due to which people have lost the hope. But now, Sir, people firmly believe that you are their only hope. They are looking at you to end the miseries of their lives.

Therefore, Sir, I kindly request the Central Government, through you, to look into the problems which I have outlined before you and issue all necessary directions to the concerned Ministry to carry out the necessary work in the interests of the people of my constituency. I have promised them that our beloved Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji will bring the smiles back on their face.

Thank you for giving me the permission.