

**Seventeenth Loksabha**

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**Title: Regarding completion of the Upper Lanth Irrigation Project in Bolangir, Odisha**

**SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR):** Sir, the erstwhile Planning Commission (now *NITI Aayog*) had cleared three irrigation projects in my Parliamentary constituency during 1998. One of them being the Upper Lanth Irrigation Project under Belpada Block of Balangir District. It was to be taken up in the 13th Five-year Plan and completed within five years. It was proposed as one of the poverty alleviation measures of old KBK districts of Odisha supported by Special Central Funding.

This project would irrigate 6170 hectares resulting in 24,699 tonnes of crop production annually, thereby ensuring food security. It would also provide drinking water for about 10,000 families. The generated Micro Hydro Power would help in generating domestic power supply to small scale industries.

The Stage-I forest clearance was given by the Government of India in 2018-19. Subsequently, the Odisha Government has identified and mutated 341.23 hectare of land for compensatory afforestation and deposited the money into the CAMPA account. Compliance to Stage I was submitted to the Government of India in February 2020. Hence, I would request the hon. Minister of Jal Shakti to review the status of the project in order to expedite the completion of the Upper Lanth Irrigation Project in Bolangir, Odisha.