

Title: Issue regarding overflowing of Mullai Periyar Dam in Kerala.

DR. C. KRISHNAN (POLLACHI): Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the House a very important issue relating to both Kerala State and Tamil Nadu State.

Mullai Periyar Dam is over-flowing with water due to plenty of rainfall in the catchment area. The water is flowing towards Idukki hydel project of Kerala, which is very useful for Kerala. At the same time, people of Tamil Nadu are utilising the water for their irrigation purposes.

The water level in Mullai Periyar Dam is 136 feet which is allowed. When it was built during 1885 with the co-operation of the then King His Highness of Thiruvancore, the dam height was 152 feet. Due to a fear of disruption in the wall of the dam, thinking that disruption may occur, the height of the water allowed was reduced to 136 feet. Now, the level of water is 136 feet. Even though the Expert Committee headed by Shri S.S. Brar and Shri T.K. Mittal have said that the water level can be kept at 145 feet, water level is still maintained at 136 feet.

I urge upon the Central Government to make it 145 feet as the wall has been reinforced as certified by the experts. That is why, Shri S.S. Brar and Shri T.K. Mittal have recommended to the Central Government through the Central Water Board. As this is the case, I urge upon the Government of India on behalf of my Party, Marumalarchi Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam headed by Shri Vaiko, leader of the Tamilians, to raise water level up to 145 feet as recommended by the Central Water Board and as per experts opinion.