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Title: Need to develop Hogenakkal Falls in Dharmapuri district of Tamil Nadu as world class tourist destination.

SHRI R. THAMARAISELVAN (DHARMAPURI): Hogenakkal Falls is located in Dharmapuri district which comes under my Parliamentary Constituency. It is referred to as the Niagara water fall of India. With its fame for medicinal baths and boat rides, it is a major site of tourist attraction. Carbonate rocks in this site are considered to be the oldest of its kind in South Asia and one of the oldest in the world.

Hogenakkal waterfalls is a beautiful picnic spot with its water supposed to be having curative powers. Hogenakkal is set in thick, green woods and is considered both a sacred bathing place and a spa-like health resort. The boating at Hogenakkal is also considered to be one of the tourist attractions. The area is surrounded by hills and offers lovely panoramic view.

Although, this tourist spot is referred to as Niagara of India, yet it requires further development of infrastructure to make it truly a nationally and internationally important tourist destination. I am given to understand that the Government has identified and is identifying tourist destinations to undertake development of tourist destinations to world standard.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to include Hogenakkal under this scheme and make Hogenakkal as a world class tourist destination and add Hogenakkal in all the tourism publicity campaign, so that the economic condition of this industrially backward district can also be improved.