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Title: Regarding construction of dam on the Pambar River – a tributary of Amaravathi river at Pattissery of Kanthalpur Panchayat in Idukki district, Kerala.

SHRI C. MAHENDRAN (POLLACHI): I bow in the direction of Hon'ble *Puratchithalaivi* Amma before beginning my speech.

Madam, this is a very important issue in my Pollachi Constituency. In my constituency, agriculture is a main source of income and occupation and around 60,000 acres of agricultural land totally depends on the Pambar River for irrigation. It merges with Chinnar River and Kottar River which is also known as Amaravathi in Tamil Nadu and enters into Udumalpet Taluka. Pambar is a tributary of River Amaravathi which in turn was a tributary of River Cauvery.

Recently the Chief Minister of Kerala Government has laid the foundation stone for construction of a new dam with a storage capacity of about 2 TMC across the River Pambar at Pattisserry, Kandhalur Village in Kerala at an estimated cost of Rs. 26 crore. I would like to know whether the Union Government has given its consent for environmental clearance for the proposed project. If the Kerala Government goes ahead with the dam construction, cultivation in my constituency will be totally affected. Many farmers have also lost their cultivation and there is no income and no agricultural production. Further, whatever yield that comes from that place include rice, pulses, vegetables, fruits, milk etc., is exported to Kerala only. Pollachai is situated in the border of Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

Madam, we require only 12 TMC of water for irrigation and drinking purposes. Kerala Government has already created a lot of problems in the case of Mullaperiyar dam and now comes the Pambar river dam. *â€*; (*Interruptions*) Hence I urge upon the Union Government to take necessary steps to prevent Kerala Government from constructing the dam at Pattisserry in Kandalur in Idukki District on Pambar river to save hundreds of farmers in Tamil Nadu. Thank you.

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: On this? This is not a discussion. You can raise it. It is okay.

...(*Interruptions*)