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Title: Issue regarding 'Yettinahole' drinking water project of the Government of Karnataka.

***SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL (DAKSHINA KANNADA)** : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the controversial 'Yettinahole' drinking water project of the Government of Karnataka. Madam, the proposed Yettinahole drinking water project of the Karnataka Government would be disastrous to the environment of the region. It would have adverse impact on agriculture of the area. The river Netravati is the life line of Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka. The project if implemented would badly affect the Western Ghats which is recognized as world heritage site. Western Ghats is the home of numerous flora and fauna. They are already facing threats from industries and urbanization. It is the need of the hour to preserve and conserve the Western Ghats. There are protests against this proposed drinking water project not only from the people of Dakshina Kannada district but also from the environmentalists. In the beginning the name of the drinking water project was "Scheme for diversion of flood water from Sakaleshpur (West) to Kolar/Chikkaballapura (East)," the Government of Karnataka has renamed it as Yettinahole drinking water project in order to convince the Union Environment Ministry to get the clearance for the project.

I would like to point out that the State Government has not taken the consent of the farmers to acquire the land for the project. This is a clear violation of Section 11 of the Land Acquisition Act, 2013. Further, the Government of Karnataka has not conducted any study to analyse the pros and cons of the project. It has taken unilateral decision to spend Rs.13,000 crores on the controversial water project. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to seek immediate explanation from the Government of Karnataka and also issue a direction to stop the project without any delay.