

**Need for restoration and rejuvenation of river
Cauvery and its tributaries**

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami, had announced the ambitious Nadanthai Vaazhi Cauvery Project to restore Cauvery and its tributaries on the lines of the Ganga Restoration and Rejuvenation Project. The rejuvenation plan is very comprehensive and on a broader concept. The programmes in the basin could be successful only if the river is rejuvenated and restored.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has set up a 16-member multi-disciplinary committee and held preliminary talks with the National Mission for Clean Ganga to kick start the multi-crore rupee programme. The new committee is likely to entrust the work for preparing a detailed project report shortly to Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) of the Union Jal Shakti Ministry. The agenda is to have a multi-departmental approach for biodiversity conservation, afforestation, cleaning of river surface, setting up Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), river front development and rejuvenation of the river and its main tributaries - Bhavani, Amaravathi and Noyyal. The Government of Tamil Nadu has prepared Feasibility Report for rejuvenation of river Cauvery at a rough cost estimate of ₹ 9, 927 crores....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. You are reading. Muthukaruppanji, you should look at me and then speak.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Sir, it is because every year as far as the State of Tamil Nadu is concerned, we have the scarcity of water. So, the State Government of Tamil Nadu has prepared this Report. We are seeking permission from the Central Government and we need the financial assistance of ₹ 9, 927 crores. Sir, the same was included in the President's Address to the Joint Session of the Parliament.

Therefore, Sir, I urge the Government of India to sanction the amount of ₹ 9, 927 crores. Thank you so much, Sir.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): The Minister of Jal Shakti is here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; no. If anybody wants to associate, they can send their names.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.