

[Shri S. Muthuaruppan]

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[RAJYA SABHA]

*Mentions*

[Shri S. Muthuaruppan]

I urge the Union Government to accord priority to the scheme of Modernisation of Grand Anicut Canal System of Tamil Nadu for financial assistance under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana - Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme, or any other external funding for sanction of funds.

#### **Concern over man-elephant conflict in Assam**

SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA (Assam): Sir, the conflict between man and elephant is one of the major threats to the people of Assam. As we know, the conflict between people and wildlife is one of the common incidents all over the world. Now, in Assam, man and elephant conflict increases day by day in such a manner that it creates threats to the life of the people as well as the livelihood of the people. Elephants come to the villages frequently and at the same time to the crop field also. They generally used to come in night, but, nowadays, elephants come to village in day time also. More than hundreds of lives are taken by elephants in the recent days. The crop field, especially paddy field is damaged by the elephants. It is a great loss to the framers, as it is not covered by any compensation. Sir, Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Sivasagar, Golaghat, Kaliabor, Dhemaji and other districts are also facing same problem from elephants. It now creates conflict with the man. As there is decrease of habitats and food for elephants, they are facing a lot of problem. Though, there are daily conflicts, no fruitful action is taken by the Government, because they have got limitations. So, I request the Ministry of Environment and Forest to look into the matter very seriously. This man-elephant conflict needs a very serious thought. There should be a short-term and long-term policy to control the man-elephant conflict. As you know, Sir, there are more than 5,700 elephants in five National Parks and 20 wildlife sanctuaries, but now the number is decreasing due to encroachments. So, they come out of the forest for food and movement. It is a very serious issue. So, I urge the Government to take suitable steps in this regard.

#### **Demand for funds for research work in higher technical institutions**

श्री कैलाश सोनी (मध्य प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मानव संसाधन विभाग के तकनीकी शिक्षा के संबंध में ध्यान आकृष्ट कराना चाहता हूँ।

भारत में प्रथम श्रेणी की तकनीकी शिक्षा का स्तर दुनिया के तकनीकी संस्थानों के स्तर से नीचे है। आज दुनिया की 200 बेहतरीन यूनिवर्सिटीज़ में भारत का एक भी स्थान नहीं है। अमेरिका में पढ़ने वाले कुल छात्रों में भारत के छात्रों का स्थान चीन के बाद दूसरा