

## **RAJYA SABHA**

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### **\*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE**

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**(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)**

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**Tuesday, July 24, 2018 / Shravana 2, 1940 (Saka)**

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### **MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF CHAIR**

#### **1. Concern over Widespread Use of Pet Coke Damaging the Environment**

**SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN:** Pet coke has become an attractive raw material to fuel power and cement plants. It's Consumption has increased manifold. It is imported from the US and Saudi Arabia where itself it has been banned. Pet Coke is a fuel which has disastrous impact on the environment. Supreme Court has recently banned the use of pet coke in Delhi and the States around Delhi. Considering that several cities today are facing a major challenge of pollution, I urge the Government to ban Pet Coke in India.

#### **2. Menace of Monkeys in Delhi**

**SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP:** Menace of monkeys is troubling Delhites a lot. They are feeling insecure due to monkey menace. Monkeys damage household items and horticulture. I request the Government to secure the citizen from monkey menace.

### **3. Reservation for Marathas under the Existing Arrangements**

**\*SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:** (Spoke in Marathi)

### **4. Need for Proper Storage of Agro Products to Protect them from Rains and Seasonal Changes**

**DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:** With the co-operation of farmers and Modiji's Government, the country has become self-reliant for food grains. But I am concerned about the protection of agro product. It is in the interest of farmers and consumers that proper arrangements are made for storage of the food grains and perishable product in order to avoid its damage so that we could achieve the target of the policy of Government for doubling the farmer's income by the year 2022.

### **5. Non-Funding of Ghatal Master Plan under Flood Management Programme by Ministry of Water Resources**

**SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA:** In our State, in the districts of Paschim and Purba Medinipur perpetual catastrophic and dangerous type of flood is causing unthinkable misery every year to more than ten lakh people in our district. The State Government submitted DPR in 2014-15 and it got the techno-economic viability certificate from the Department, but due to unknown reasons, the sufferings of the people are not getting the remedial measures because this Master Project did not get approval financially and technically. Kindly give direction to the hon. Minister of Water Resources to get clearance to ease the sufferings of the people of West Bengal.

*(Shri Ahamed Hassan, Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray and Shri Ritabrata Banerjee associated.)*

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\* Synopsis of speech delivered by hon'ble Member in Marathi will be published separately as supplement.

## **6. Need to Enact Anti-Lynching Law**

**SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI:** Once again there was the cow vigilantes' strike in Alwar. This unabated killing has been going on ever since this Government came into power. Supreme Court has advised the Government to enact anti-lynching law. I want to know the stand of the Government in this regard.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

## **7. Fast unto Death by Shri G. D. Agrawal for Cleanliness of Ganga**

**SHRI SANJAY SINGH:** Ganga is considered too pious in Hindu religion. This Government has declared Ganga as national river. Time to time Government has expressed its concern about its cleanliness. Thousand of crores rupees have been allocated for this purpose. I am very sorry to apprise the Government that 86 years old Prof. G.D. Agrawal alias Swami Sanand has been sitting on fast unto death since 32 days. He is only demanding the cleanliness of Ganga. No representative from Government has met him so far. I request Government to have dialogue with him regarding his demand and save his life.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

## **8. Concern over Difficulties in the Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana**

**SHRI SANJAY SETH:** The Value of money provided by Government under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and Sulab Sauchalaya Yojana is reduced considerably due to escalation in the prices of construction material. I request Government to reassess the cost and check cement and steel producer to form the cartel.

*(Shri Surendra Singh Nagar, Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad, Shri Ravi Prakash Verma and Shri Neeraj Shekhar associated.)*

### **9. Need to Shift Indian Navy's Flight Operations from Vizag Airport to Vijaynagaram Air Strip**

**SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:** Visakhapatnam is the only city in the Andhra Pradesh where there is an International Airport. Any restriction on the movement of commercial flights, particularly to Visakhapatnam will definitely retard the growth of Visakhapatnam. Recently Indian Navy has decided to have dedicated military slots of five hour per day for five days in a week. Navy has proposed to have a mixed flying of civilian and military flights between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. It said that the military flights would be given priority and directed that no new flights could be introduced during these hours. Decision of Indian Navy on this issue has really created some confusion. So I request the Hon. Defence Minister to direct Navy that it can utilise the air strip being developed in Badangi and also construct a new air strip at Rambilli where Navy has an alternative operating base for its training requirements.

### **10. Alleged Violation of Environmental Norms by Projects, at Thoothukudi District in Tamil Nadu on 22nd May, 2018**

**SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI:** On 22nd May, 2018, thirteen people were killed in Thoothukudi. These people were shot dead by the police. Till today normalcy has not returned in Thoothukudi. A senior leader, like Nallakannu, in Tamil Nadu was stopped on the way by the Police and they asked him if he had the permission to go to the venue of the meeting.

*(Shri D. Raja, Shri Tiruchi Siva, Shri R.S. Bharathi and Shri T.K.S. Elangovan associated.)*

### **11. Crisis in the Banking Sector of the Country**

**SHRI HARIVANSH:** Today banks are under crisis. This is affecting whole economy of the country. Recently, 11 banks facing the poor financial condition, have been kept for Prompt Corrective Action by RBI. Out of 216 branches abroad, Indian Banks have closed about 70 branches. As the bad debts of the banks are increasing, senior bank officers are getting arrested. Government is

taking effective steps to save banks from getting worse. Who is responsible for this situation. How the Chairman and Senior Officers, having their vested interest not the bank's could be appointed. Prime Minister made a statement about NPA during No Confidence Motion but that has not been highlighted in media. I request Government to enquire about the person responsible for this condition of NPA and also endangering banks which is adversely affecting the indian economy.

*(Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, Shri Mahesh Poddar, and Shri Narayan Lal Panchariya associated.)*

## **12. Ongoing Agitation in Manipur**

**SHRI D. RAJA:** I would like to raise the issues related to the North East. The situation in Manipur is very tense. The people and the students of Manipur are agitating. They are worried about Citizenship Rights Bill which is under discussion. They are also worried about the so-called newly-framed Naga Agreement which has not come to the public domain in full details and they are agitating on the appointment of a Vice Chancellor in the Central University.

**SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH:** The State Government is already taking action in this regard. A three-member Committee has been constituted to look into this issue.

*(Shri Binoy Viswam, Shri Santiuse Kujur, Shri Neeraj Shekhar associated.)*

## **13. Non-confirmation of Wait-listed Railway Tickets on Recommendation of Members of Parliament**

**SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQE KARIM:** In spite of hon'ble member's recommendation for railway reservation, railway do not provide reservation to sick, needy persons and party workers. This is a major issue.

## **14. Deplorable Condition of Mumbai-Goa Highway**

**SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:** I come from Chiplun, Ratnagiri district and I always use this road. I carried out Satyagrah three-four

times to get this road repaired. Construction for four lane road has just been started but this work is not being done in a satisfactory manner. There are three bridges on that road and one bridge was collapsed, in that accident some people died. Nothing was done in that case. They made a new bridge. I want to bring in your notice that the bridges of Malegaon, Mahad, Khed and Chiplun are in dilapidated condition. It takes almost 2 hours to cover one to two kilometres. This should be taken care of and new technique should be used. This requires to be done at the earliest.

*(Shri Amar Shankar Sable associated.)*

### **15. Concern over Flood and Drought Situation in Uttar Pradesh and Other States**

**SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH:** Some states are facing flood problem whereas some are facing the drought. The losses being caused by flood, should be controlled. It happens every year. Flood caused a number of diseases to in the country. The Central Government should send its team in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and such other states, which are facing drought situation and should assess the loss. Farmers are not being paid payments under insurance scheme introduced by the government to compensate the losses of the farmers. Direction should be given by the government in this regard.

*(Shri Neeraj Shekhar associated.)*

### **16. Molestation of Forty Girls in Girl's Hostel run by NGO in Muzaffarpur**

**PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA:** I want to raise a matter regarding an incident of molestation of forty girls which took place in the girl shelter home in Muzaffarpur. Someone else was operating the shelter home whereas contract was given to some body else. Our daughters are even not safe in the shelter homes. If this is being done under a system, then what type of country we are building. That place is being dug up as murder of some girls is suspected.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

## **17. Plight of Students who have taken Education Loans from Public Sector Banks**

**SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:** Higher education is getting costlier in the country. Poor students have no the choice but to take education loan. It is not easy for them to get employment immediately after study. So loan repayment is not easy for many of these students. Government should take the responsibility. Before repayment schedule starts, the interest should be borne by the Government or the banks should waived it. If such students fail to repay the loan they come under CIBIL and they can not get any loan in future. This matter should be taken care of.

*(Shrimati Vijila, Sathyananth, Shri N. Gokulakrishnan, and Shri A. K. Selvaraj associated.)*

## **18. Collapse of Buildings in Greater Noida and Ghaziabad**

**SHRI P.L. PUNIA:** Two buildings in Greater Noida collapsed which claimed four deaths and more are feared to be trapped under debris. One another building in Ghaziabad collapsed. These incidents took place as builders did not follow the official standards and used substandard material. Guilty builders should be prosecuted and sent to jail. Apart from this, kin of deceased should be paid proper compensation.

*(Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap, and Shri Surendra Singh Nagar associated)*

## **19. Situation arising out of Continuous Rains in State of Kerala**

**SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM:** Kerala is experiencing heavy rains during the Monsoon, leading to catastrophic loss of life and property in 965 villages. Crops in huge area have been damaged. National Disaster Response Force is currently deployed in the districts. A meagre amount has been allotted so far. You are requested to provide substantial financial assistance.

*(Shri Binoy Viswam, and Shri K. Somaprasad associated)*

## **20. Problems being faced by Indian Fishermen Lodged in Pakistani Jails**

**SHRI CHUNIBHAI KANJIBHAI GOHEL:** An Indian, Arjun Bhai Chouhan, was died in Pakistan's jail and they didn't bother to send the body here. His wife requested Sushma ji then only dead body was sent to India. Pakistan government may be asked to inform the death of imprisoned Indian immediately.

*(Shri Amar Shankar Sable, Shri Mahesh Poddar, Shri Husain Dalwai, Shri Sanjay Singh, and Shri Neeraj Shekhar associated)*

## **21. Promotion in Central Secretariat Service**

**SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN:** I want to draw the attention of the government towards large number of vacancies in various posts in Central Secretariat Service. The re-constitution of third Cadre of Central Secretariat has been given green signal. After a lapse of one year, these posts have not been created. Apart from this vacant posts are still to be filled. This is causing anger and depression among the officers. These posts may be filled as early as possible and direction to UPSE may be given to reorganise the discontinued departmental examination.

## **22. Uranium Contamination in Ground Water**

**SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS:** States along the Ganga and Brahmaputra basin are known to have high levels of arsenic contamination in groundwater. However, a recent study has revealed that there is uranium contamination in four States, namely, parts of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana and Punjab where uranium is being found. This calls for a public health emergency since prolonged exposure to uranium can lead to kidney problems. We need to set up monitoring systems to identify high-risk areas and also to explore new ways to prevent and treat uranium contamination and provide access to safe and clean drinking water to the affected population.

### **23. Need to Restore Functional Autonomy of North East Council (NEC)**

**SHRI RIPUN BORA:** North Eastern Council was constituted by the Parliament Act of 1971. The Act gave some functional autonomy to the North Eastern Council. The Chief Ministers of the entire eight States of North Eastern Council are the members of it. The Union Cabinet, without consulting the Plenary Council has taken away the autonomy of the North Eastern Council this year and the functional autonomy of all the Departments has been taken away. The functional autonomy of the North Eastern Council may be restored.

*(Shri Santiuse Kujur, Shri Husain Dalwai associated)*

### **24. Shortage of Drugs for Treatment of Drug Resistant T.B.**

**DR. SANTANU SEN:** India has huge number of new Tuberculosis cases every year. Of this, a number of people do not respond to the most used TB drugs. The drug Delamanid comes as a relief for such people. It is the only drug that has been approved by WHO for drug resistant patients. Government is planning to purchase 400 doses of Delamanid which will go to the patients in seven States only. Mumbai with the highest incidence of drug resistant TB patients, is not included in this list. India's ambitious target to reduce TB by 2025 cannot be met if timely access to these essential drugs is not available to most of the TB affected population.

**SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:** It should be time bound and should not come after six months.

*(Several hon'ble Members associated.)*

## **SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION**

### **NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF PROVISIONS OF ANDHRA PRADESH RE-ORGANISATION ACT, 2014**

**SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY, initiating the discussion, said:** I would like to place on record the gratitude of five crore people of the State of Andhra Pradesh for enabling a detailed discussion on the agony which they undergo even after four years of bifurcation of undivided Andhra Pradesh. The future of the people of Andhra Pradesh is in dark mainly on account of the following nine reasons. One, violations by this Government of various provisions of the Constitution of India. Two, neglect of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act passed by the supreme Legislature of our country. Three, wilful burial of the decision of the Union Cabinet in respect of Special Category Status for Andhra Pradesh. Four, non-compliance with the assurances made by the hon. Prime Minister of our country on the floor of this august House Pradesh, at the time of creation of the present State. Five, publicly proclaimed political philosophy of the ruling party that politics is all for power. Sixth, mis-information campaign against the State of Andhra Pradesh with regard to the Special Category Status and Central assistance being given under the so-called special package. Seventh, huge dichotomy between the words and deeds of Prime Minister and Finance Minister. Eighth, violation of the spirit of cooperative federalism. Ninth, failure on the part of the Government of India in implementing the Act passed by both the Houses. I would like to present our case in the perspective of the guarantees available to the people of Andhra Pradesh within the Constitution of India and the basic principles of our Parliamentary Democracy and the mindset of this Government. I do hope to get support from this august House, from every Member and every party. Let me now briefly elaborate on the nine reasons that I gave for seeking this important debate. Article 4 of our Constitution clearly stipulates that if any State is bifurcated under Article 3, then supplemental, incidental and consequential measures can be taken by the Parliament. Andhra Pradesh is a fit case for such intervention, but what is happening? The Government has refused to meet our demand

of amending the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act to address the vagueness of language contained therein regarding the development of Andhra Pradesh and assisting in the same. This Government has ignored the Cabinet decision of 1st March, 2014 conferring Special Category Status to our State. On the floor of this very august House, the then Prime Minister, on 20th February, 2014, gave six assurances, including granting of Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh. But, all these assurances are being violated. The Prime Minister also assured that AP would be given special category status for ten years.

The Government does not have trust in the leadership of States. Bridging the revenue deficit for the ten-month period from the date of the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh coming into being till March, 2015, is a major case in point. Andhra Pradesh Government, while under Presidential Rule, projected this deficit as Rs.16,078 crore. But the Prime Minister's Office reduced it drastically to Rs.4,117 crore without explaining any reasons. Is the PMO meant to examine the expenditure reports of States and decide on them? This Government has been misleading this country that the Fourteenth Finance Commission has said that no more Special Category Status will be granted to any State. On the contrary, the then Minister of Planning, Shri Rao Inderjit Singh, in reply to the Unstarred Question No.2360, on 15th March, 2018, informed that the Fourteenth Finance Commission has not made any specific reference not to confer Special Category Status to any State. How can the Government of the day say something contrary to what the Rajya Sabha was told in writing? This House has a right to reprimand the Government for this. This clearly shows the lack of will and coordination between the Departments. I would like to ask this august House whether playing divisive politics with the future of five crore people of Andhra Pradesh is in the interest of the country. I would like to assert in this House that we are only demanding what is due to the people of Andhra Pradesh as a matter of right as per the Act. The Chief Minister, myself and my colleagues were forced to go around to many offices begging for what was due to us as a matter of right over the last four years. The Government of the State of Andhra Pradesh estimated a total resource requirement of about Rs. 1.54 lakh crores for development of the

State. all that we have received so far is just Rs. 13,708 crores during the past four years from the Central Government. At this rate, it would take 44 years for the Central Government to aid the State Government to stand on its own. Backward districts of Andhra Pradesh were to get special assistance at par with similarly placed districts. The fact is that we got only Rs. 428 per capita while KBK districts get Rs. 4,115 per head. Is this not discrimination ? The other day hon. Prime Minister said that the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister has taken a U-Turn on our ties with the BJP. What was the option left to us after having patiently waited for four years? To give one example the mindset of this Government I would like to refer to the issue of Railway Zone for Andhra Pradesh. Does it take four long years to decide and tell us whether it is possible or not? I would like to assure this august House that during the last four years, we have been on the steady and right course based on the principles of friendship, political morality, constitutionalism and cooperative federalism. Can I ask this Government as to why have they failed to implement, at least, the Package announced on 8th September, 2016 by the hon. Finance Minister for the last two years? The Government had constituted a sub-group of Chief Ministers to study rationality of Centrally-sponsored schemes for Special Category States. Based on the recommendations, the NITI Aayog issued an office memorandum on 17th August, 2016, addressing the special category issues of various States. We are unable to understand what made the Government not include Andhra Pradesh along with those States. Many States of our country have got single digit representation in Parliament. But, we have to respect the Member not the number. This debate is to make an appeal to the Government to come to the rescue to the people of Andhra Pradesh. Let A.P. be saved, let A.P. progress. Honour the decision of the Union Cabinet conferring Special Category Status on Andhra Pradesh. Implement all the points in true letter and spirit of the Act along with the assurances given on the floor of the House by the Prime Minister.

**THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):** If you want to sympathize with the people of Andhra, you have to know the history of Andhra Pradesh. I am lucky to be

associated politically with Andhra Pradesh since 1977. In 1947, the coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema were part of the Madras Presidency as a province of British India, but Telangana was a separate State as Hyderabad. The second stage was when the first General Elections took place after independence in 1952. The coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema region had separate elections, while Hyderabad State had separate elections. What happened in 1952? Shri P. Sriramulu went on indefinite hunger strike for separate Andhra State for the Telugu people. On 15th December, he died in a fasting camp. What followed after his death and demand? Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru inaugurated the new State of Andhra with 11 districts which included Coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema on 1st October 1953 with Kurnool as its capital. The next stage was formation of Andhra Pradesh based on the Sayyid Fazal Ali Report the Chairman of the States Reorganisation Commission, the Hyderabad State was split into three States. One was Hyderabad. Some part of Hyderabad went to Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra. Thus, the State of Andhra Pradesh was born in October 1956 with Coastal Andhra, Rayalaseema and the leftover two divisions of Telangana. So in this background of the history, they deserve full sympathy of the entire nation. They had not been allowed maximum time to resettle and make their own assets. Having divided that State into two, the present States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, we have to see and ensure that both the States progress and develop. If the present Andhra Pradesh does not have the same advantages which the Telangana State has, it is for the Government of India, to support this Government of Andhra Pradesh. New born State requires same nourishment and same feed which a new born child requires. While bifurcating the State in 2014, the then Prime Minister promised to accord a special status to the successor State for a period of five years. The present Leader of the House and many leaders of the then Opposition party had said that five years was not enough and they wanted to make it ten years. Today that political party, which wanted to give special status to the State of Andhra Pradesh for ten years, has not initiated it. So, that promise has to be fulfilled. In respect of the special status, this present Government has said on a number of occasions that they have given a special package

to the State of Andhra Pradesh in place of special status. The Government of India had given an amount of 400 crores as against Rs.16,447 crore, promised. Steel plants at Kadapa and Vishakhapatnam have not been fulfilled. The Government of India has just sanctioned Rs.150 crores for the development of seven backward districts. For the development of Amravati, the State Capital, an amount of just Rs.1,500 crore is given against Rs.10,000 promised. It is totally inadequate. Government promised to develop a major port at Duggirajupatnam. There is no progress whatsoever. The affidavit filed by the Centre in the Supreme Court claims that all commitments under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 had been addressed and that it is unable to give the SCS to Andhra Pradesh. So many things were said. Nothing has been implemented. You are deceiving the nation and the people of Andhra Pradesh. I take strong plea on behalf of the Opposition that the promises made by the previous Government and promises made by the present Government should be fulfilled forthwith.

**SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO making his maiden speech, said:** This is a subject that concerns my home State of Andhra Pradesh. As a proud son of Andhra Pradesh I feel grieved about the propaganda being unleashed. A young State like Andhra Pradesh requires a progressive approach. I am proud to say that this Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modiji has given special focus to this State as no other Government has ever done. All the assurances given on the floor of this House by the former Prime Minister were a result of the initiative by the current Chairman of Rajya Sabha and the current Leader of the House, Shri Arun Jaitley. The then Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh said Special Category Status will be extended to the successor State of Andhra Pradesh comprising 13 districts, including the four districts of Rayalaseema and the three districts of north coastal Andhra for a period of five years. This will put the State's Finance on a firmer footing while everyone outside claims that, this is to do with hundred per cent tax exemption. I think the ruling party and the opposition party together in Andhra Pradesh are provoking people. I am really shocked. How can responsible political parties make such fraudulent

claims? This was the Central Financial Assistance that was promised and this was given by way of a package, a Special Assistance Measure for Andhra Pradesh by way of special dispensation. The Benefit that the Special Category States were receiving until 2014, 2015 was extended to Andhra Pradesh by way of repayment of loans and interests on Externally-Aided Projects. The Chief Minister on the floor of the Legislative Council of Andhra Pradesh has said, by way of this special assistance, the Central Government has given us all the benefits that would have accrued to the State had the Special Category Status been awarded and he has thanked the Hon. Prime Minister. I am only placing the facts based on documents and the facts are inconvenient to them. I am now quoting from the resolution of the Telugu Desam Party, 'There is no difference between States having Special Category Status and not having Special Category Status as far as industrial incentives are concerned.' In the same resolution of the Party said that State will get benefit to the tune of only Rs. 3,500 crore per year if we are given special category status. It says that the State Government computed the amount the State might have received in the ratio of 90:10 and arrived at Rs. 16,447 crores for five years. This is estimated by the hon. Chief Minister, not by me, or the Central Government. And he is asking that money to be released which has already been approved in the form of a package. On March 16, the Hon. Chief Minister thanked the Prime Minister, and in May, in a Party Convention, they passed a resolution saying it is a great benefit. It is equal to Special Category Status. There are several externally-aided projects six of those projects to the tune of about Rs. 12,000 crores are already being implemented and the repayment of loans has been accepted by the central government. In addition, many projects are in the pipeline.

The only conclusion that one can get from the documents that I discussed is that there was a special assistance measure or package given by the Central Government which was welcomed by the State Government. That package is still in operation. The value of that package has been calculated by the Chief Minister himself and the package is on! So, where is the need for a Special Category Status? The second assurance the then Prime Minister gave refers to

tax incentives to industrial units in backward districts of both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. The Central Board of Direct Taxes had issued a notification on 30th September, 2016. This notification says that seven districts of Andhra Pradesh can avail tax incentives under the Income Tax Act. This was the assurance given on the floor of the House. This has been fulfilled way back in 2016. All Special Category Status States don't necessarily have income-tax incentives. This is known. Special Category Status States of Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh did not have the hundred per cent income-tax exemption for the corporate sector. On February 20, 2014, if a new industry were to be set up on that day or after, neither Jammu and Kashmir nor Himachal nor Uttarakhand could get Excise exemption. Or, they could not get Income Tax exemption. This was not promised to Andhra, but still I am clarifying because some people are trying to mislead the people of my State. For the State of Andhra Pradesh, the 14th Finance Commission had given Rs.2,44,271 crores. This is coming by way of devolution from the Centre. This is up from Rs.1,17,967 crores. So, from Rs. 1,17,000 crores, it has gone up by Rs. 2,44,000 crores. There are four new industrial corridors that the Government has announced. On the Chennai-Bangaluru Industrial Corridor, we have Krishnapatnam as a new industrial city that is being developed. There, the State Government has to acquire 12,000 acres of land. But they have, so far, not even acquired 2,000 acres. That is delaying the project. This will create 6 lakh jobs in the Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh. But, the State Government has really not pushed adequately on this. There is yet another Vizag-Chennai Industrial Corridor, which is a part of East Coast Economic Corridor. This will increase the industrial output by ten times. This will increase the economy of these districts by ten times. This will create 1,10,00,000 jobs by 2045. Then, there is a National Investment and Manufacturing Zone. It was approved for Prakasam and Chittoor districts. So, two districts in Andhra Pradesh have got National Investment and Manufacturing Zones. Andhra Pradesh will have five industrial cities. The Central Government informed the State Government on 27th July, 2017 that Dugarajapatnam port is not viable or not feasible, but we are committed to develop another major port

city. There is one project, namely, Polavaram project. It is a national project. From 2014, the Central Government has given Rs.6,700/- crores. Under the Sagarmala Project, which is a flagship programme of the present Government, the numbers are staggering. About 14 projects have been completed under Sagarmala Project in Andhra Pradesh. The total value of the projects sanctioned or identified for implementation is Rs.1,63,537 crores. Under the Prime Minister Awas Yojana, Andhra Pradesh has received 7.42 lakh houses, the highest in the country. No other State has got even 5 lakh. These houses are meant for the poor people of Andhra Pradesh but the contractors who are building these houses in partnership are charging three thousand rupees per square feet. Three thousand rupees per square feet! Unheard of. So, the benefit given to the people of Andhra Pradesh is not going to the poor citizens. It is going to the contractors. Andhra Pradesh has received the highest focus. We have not given the title-special focus. But we have given you special focus. We are interested in people of Andhra Pradesh. So, this is more than double of what State was getting by way of devolution earlier. This is number one. Second one is, this also includes Rs. 22,133 crores being given as revenue deficit grant. This is coming to the State because the 14th Finance Commission has ended the distinction between General Category and Special Category States. The State is receiving, through the 14th Finance Commission, nearly Rs. 1.27 lakh crores by way of devolution and grants. In addition to this, we have given Special Package to the tune of Rs. 17,000 crores.

**PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:** We should learn from history whenever we take some new step but we did not learn anything from bifurcation of States. When the talks for bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh were going on, our party had then also maintained that it should not be bifurcated. Andhra Pradesh is not getting its due share with regard to revenue and in future a dispute will also arise between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh regarding sharing of water of Krishna and Godavari rivers. To say that smaller States progress faster after bifurcation is wrong as it has been witnessed that many new States like Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand became hub of Naxalism after bifurcation. My request to the Government is that for the unity

and integrity of the country, the big States which act as cementing force should not be disturbed, otherwise many problems will arise. We will not be able to divide electricity also. We will have to take steps to avoid such problems. Andhra Pradesh used to be a very prosperous State and unless we provide it the required assistance, it will not reach that stage again. Our Honourable Prime Minister had said in a public meeting at Amravati that Government of India will implement all provisions under Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act in letter and spirit. I want the Government to fulfil that promise by giving special status and package to the State. I am totally against the bifurcation of States.

**SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN:** With regard to the demands made by Andhra Pradesh, I hope the Central Government would examine them objectively and will do the needful. I am saying this because discrimination is definitely against the spirit of Article 14. Tamil Nadu has witnessed a huge downturn in the Grants-in-Aid received from the Union Government in 2017-18 for the implementation of various Centrally-sponsored schemes. In the Fourteenth Finance Commission also, injustice has been rendered to the State of Tamil Nadu. It must be set right by the Central Government. The Central Government is withholding the amount which has to be released to the urban and local bodies. I urge the Central Government to release this fund and post-matric scholarship fund to the State.

**SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN:** I am trying to focus on the word, 'implementation'. Today the Shiv Sena and TDP are also not with BJP on the way the Andhra Pradesh Act has been implemented. What has this Government done regarding the devolution of funds? The Centre has not cleared 10,000 crore of rupees to Bengal. Many promises were made to the Tea Garden workers also in Bengal. But they were not fulfilled. The issue is about the difference between making a promise and implementing the same. I challenge the BJP to tell me how they will double the farmers' income by 2022. As far as the States are concerned, we want to see action.

**SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA:** We can understand the plight of the people of Andhra Pradesh and their allegation of discrimination and step-motherly attitude by the Central Government. The assurance for granting special status to Andhra Pradesh was given by two Prime Ministers and the same is now being fulfilled. Development of backward States like Odisha and many others at par with other States is essential for development of this country. We meet all the conditions to qualify for the Special Category Status. I hope that the assurances given in this temple of democracy will be fulfilled.

**SHRI RAM CHANDRA PRASAD SINGH:** All the commitments, especially granting special status, made in the Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act, 2014 should be fulfilled. I would like to put forth only three or four facts. Bihar should also be granted special category status as its per capita income stands at Rs.38,000 and national average at Rs.1 lakh ten thousand and it faces the brunt of floods every year.

**DR. K. KESHAVA RAO:** We are asking the Government to fulfill the promises made on the floor of this very House. Otherwise it is nothing but making a mockery of the Act. Article 4 has nothing to do with all the amendments which you are seeking. We were dead against such bifurcation. There are few issues which have to be sorted out under Tenth Schedule. We are suffering in respect of 117 institutions and also river management. We were never against the project but were concerned about the adverse effects of the project on the tribals and on the Sileru project which belonged to us. Only 1,600 MW power out of the promised 4,000 MW is given to Telangana as promised in the 12th Schedule. We had to purchase power from Chattisgarh. We are devoid of Krishna water and seven mandals like Khammam mandalas, Warangal mandalas as they have gone to Telangana. We were promised Kadapa steel plant and Bayyaram steel plant. This Bill had been passed by this very House with majority by taking everyone into confidence and by taking consensus. Consensus meetings with all political parties were organized with regard to Andhra and Telangana. Our struggle was for sixty years. The onus of

implementation lies on the Government. So, we want that the assurances given should be honoured.

**SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN:** It is a very important discussion and not connected to a state only. The Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act should be implemented in toto. Promises and assurances made to the people of Andhra should be fulfilled. Telugu pride is important to us.

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\*\*\*\*Supplement covering rest of the proceedings is being issued separately.