

Seventeenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Issue regarding full funding of the Polavaram project by Central Government as per Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

**SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA (AMALAPURAM):** The Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014 declared the Polavaram project as a national project with the Central Government being made responsible for the execution of the project. Owing to the delays in the project execution and significantly higher compensation for land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement in the light of the applicability of the provisions of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013, there has been a significant cost overrun on this account. Various Central committees such as Technical Advisory Committee and Revised Cost Committee have accorded approvals for the enhanced project cost. What remained a cause of concern for the people of the State is the stand taken by the Central Government in limiting their responsibility to the extent of the project expenditure at the 2013-14 price level indicating that the State should mobilize the remaining funds from its own sources.

Further, the Central Government also seems to be absolving itself of the responsibility for the project execution to the extent of the drinking water component, despite the fact that the drinking water component is usually clubbed with the irrigation component in any National Project. These unfortunate occurrences have the potential to jeopardize the future of a project that is regarded as the lifeline of the State, and a long-cherished dream of the people of Andhra Pradesh. Hence, it is requested that full funding be provided and the completion

of the project by the Government of India be ensured in line with the letter and spirit of the provisions of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014.