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Title: Need to take measures to support sustainance of Public Sector Banks.

**SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU (SRIKAKULAM):**

Thank you Sir for giving me the opportunity to speak in Zero Hour.

Sir, the Central Government is pursuing adverse banking reform policies by privatising public sector banks. The public sector banks are earning good operating profits. So, instead of strengthening them, the Central Government is starving them by not providing required capital, human resources and also proceeding with disinvestment and privatization.

Sir, let me remind the Central Government that privatizing the public sector banks is unjustified and a regressive idea. Sir, the PSBs helped in building the country by supporting infrastructure development, industry advancement, social security, financial empowerment, agricultural growth and many more also. If you see the private banks, the priority is always for corporates whereas for the public sector banks, the priority has always been the common man. We have seen it recently also. They have proved it that when it comes to the point of demonetization, the PSBs led the way in trying to deal with the financial crisis at that point.

Even the most important scheme which the Central Government talks about, Jan Dhan Yojana, that also has been led by the public sector banks and in times like these, the Government has to strengthen the

public sector banks network instead of going after privatization which is not a good idea.

I would like to say that the Government is denying its social responsibility by trying to privatize the PSBs, the stakeholders, trade-unions, banking industry and everyone has opposed this idea but the Central Government is trying to be adamant on this. What needs to be done instead is that India's credit to GDP ratio is less than 60 per cent. Yet, the country's banking system has the highest gross non-performing assets.

It is pertinent to note that taking stringent measures to recover this huge corporate stressed asset would be beneficial for the country, instead of privatisation of the PSBs. So, I would like to request the Central Government to look for infusion of capital, human resource and also statutory framework to recover NPAs. This would be better than privatising the Public Sector Banks.