

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding construction of bridge over Mahendrataneya River between Kaguwada Ramadala Villages in pathapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU (SRIKAKULAM): Thank you, hon. Speaker Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

In my Constituency, Srikakulam, because of the flow of river Mahendratanaya, around 20,000 population in 20 villages in Pathapatnam mandal are affected by an eternal problem of commuting from one side to another. Their constant demand has been for the construction of a bridge between Kaguwada and Romadala villages.

Sir, students, farmers, employees and other people in Romadala, Romprivalasa, Jagannadhapuram, Baidulapuram, Sunnapuram, RL Puram, Chakipalli and 15 other hamlet villages have to travel 20 kms. to visit their mandal headquarters in Pathapatnam and also have to take a road through Odisha as these villages are near the border of the State. If the bridge is constructed, the travel is going to come down by 20 kms.

Farmers from Kaguvada and Korasavada have farms upto 400 acres on the other side of the bridge. It is extremely difficult for them to cultivate these lands and to transport farm equipment and farm produce. As a temporary solution, the locals have been operating boats. But this has resulted in many deaths over the years.

Keeping this in mind, the then State Government of Andhra Pradesh has put up the construction of this bridge under RCPLWE Programme initiated by the Central Government in December, 2016, which envisages improvement of road connectivity in Left Wing Extremism affected areas. My constituency of Srikakulam, which has been a constant victim of Left Wing Extremism, has been covered under this Programme and this Programme has been granted approval by the Ministry of Rural Development of the Government of India. Then, the previous State Government of Andhra Pradesh has issued administrative sanction for these works in March, 2019. A 120-metre long bridge was designed with an approximate budget of Rs. 7 crore. The soil testing has already been done. But then the 2019 elections happened and the construction could not take off. Since then substantial delay is being observed in starting the work. Even now the tenders have not been finalised and there are discussions on reworking the initial plan.

On behalf of the distressed villagers, I request the Central Government, through you, to ensure that the construction of this bridge starts without any further delay and the funds required for this project is also released on time.

माननीय अध्यक्ष : श्री कुलदीप राय शर्मा को श्री राम मोहन नायडू किंजरापु द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ संबद्ध करने की अनुमति प्रदान की जाती है ।