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Title : Regarding setting up of village secretariats in Andhra Pradesh.

**SHRI LAVU SRIKRISHNA DEVARAYALU (NARASARAOPET):** Mahatma Gandhi firmly believed that the country would perish if development eludes villages. And, taking cue from this, AP CM has opened a new chapter in public administration by starting village secretariats on 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of MahatmaGandhi.

By bringing governance and nearly 500 service delivery mechanism closer to the doorsteps of villagers, Village Secretariat works as bridge between Government and the people. One Secretariat has been set up in every village having population of 2,000 or more and in Wards having a population of 5,000 or more. It is expected to create around 5.6 lakh new jobs. Secondly, it strengthens the Panchayati Raj system and strengthens the decentralized federal system. It gives people the chance to directly participate in the development of their villages and therefore enhances participative democracy. Thirdly, the Village Secretariats will also wipe out corruption for getting ration card or pension or to avail any welfare scheme.