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Title: Need to declare Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh as a backward district - laid

SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY (ONGOLE):

Today, I want to raise the voice of people of my constituency, i.e., Ongole in Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh. I have been demanding to declare Prakasam District as a Backward District since long.

The Prakasam means one which gives bright light. But even after 50 years of its formation. Prakasam district has brightness only in its name and not in development. This district was formed in the year 1970 by drawing all backward areas from Kurnool, Guntur and Nellore districts. Since its inception, the district is backward in most of the development parameters.

It is not having any irrigation schemes. Industries and required infrastructural facilities like health, education, transport connectivity, etc. are not properly developed. The residents of this district are also facing drinking water problem as water in this area is having high fluoride content, which is creating serious health problems. The agriculturists are small and marginal farmers depend on rain-fed crops.

There is no Government University for students, not a single railway junction, stadium or sports complex for sports persons in the entire district. Availability of safe drinking water is far below than National and State average. The children in fluoride affected areas suffer severely from Anemia. Prakasam

district was equal or worse in respect of other districts which were selected for special development package in 2014.

I request the Government to declare Prakasam district as a backward district and provide the facilities and financial assistance for the development of the said district.