

## Need to complete the Storm Water Drainage Project in Vijayawada-Laid

**SHRI KESINENI SRINIVAS (VIJAYAWADA):** The Union Government has sanctioned Rs. 461 crores in 2016 for the Storm Water Drainage Project in Vijayawada, only about 60% of the project has been completed, and in many places, the works have been abandoned in midway. As monsoons come and go, the people of Vijayawada face the fury of floods at this time every year. With heavy rains lashing the city in the last few days, residential colonies and main roads were waterlogged creating inconvenience for motorists and pedestrians. A stormwater management system is necessary for collecting and draining excess rainwater in public places that would otherwise remain stagnant, putting the health and well-being of citizens at risk. Part of the project is also to cover all the open drains in the city. As this problem persists, we can expect more fatalities due to accidental drowning which could have been avoided with concerted action on the project. I urge upon the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to conduct a comprehensive review of the utilization of allocated funds and take the necessary steps to support the Vijayawada Municipal Corporation in resolving any administrative, technical, or contractual issues hindering the project.