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Title: Need to provide financial assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh to tide over the problem of shortage of drinking water in Telangana region. – Laid.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (HANAMKONDA): Several villages/mandals in Andhra Pradesh, particularly in Telangana region are experiencing acute shortage of drinking water. Due to consecutive drought for the last seven years, which is unprecedented in the recent history of Andhra Pradesh, water table of tube wells has reached to abysmally low level upto more than four hundred feet causing undue hardship to the people, particularly women folk in drawing water. The traditional wells and other water resource bodies such as water tanks have completely dried up. There is no trace of drinking water in and around the villages within a radius of 4 km. The Central Government in coordination with State Government should immediately intervene in the matter and convene an urgent meeting of all District Collectors so as to assess the ground situation and to know the gravity of the situation prevailing in the Telangana districts. Special grant/funds and liberal financial assistance should be extended to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to enable them to undertake various drinking water schemes and for supply of water through tankers from the water sources which are available in the nearby areas and to tide over the crisis during the current summer season.