

Title: Regarding work on Babli Irrigation Project initiated by Maharashtra Government on Godavari river affecting water supply to Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (SRIKAKULAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring a very important matter to the notice of the Ministry of Water Resources. The Government of Maharashtra is planning to construct 12 irrigation projects. In the month of January they started the construction of Babli irrigation project. This is built by the Government of Maharashtra across the Godavari river which is detrimental to the interests of the State of Andhra Pradesh. They have already got 250 TMC of water under the Godavari Tribunal Award and they have utilised that. Now, without the permission of the Central Water Commission they are constructing all these projects. If all these projects are completed, the State of Andhra Pradesh will lose around 50 to 60 TMC of water according to the official sources. It will severely affect the water flow into the Sri Ram Sagar Project and it will affect Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Warangal, Khammam and Nalgonda districts of Andhra Pradesh. We have to stop the construction of the Babli irrigation project. Otherwise, in future they are planning to construct another 11 small irrigation projects in the upper stream of Godavari river. Now, the people of Andhra Pradesh, particularly in the Telengana region, are suffering a lot. So, the Government of India should ask the Central Water Commission to stop the construction of the Babli irrigation project. This is my humble request, through you, to the Ministry of Water Resources.

Sir, I would request you to kindly request the Water Resources Minister to respond to this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot compel anybody.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, this is a very important matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay, but I cannot compel any Minister to respond.

SHRI N. JANARDHANA REDDY (VISAKHAPATNAM): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Yerrannaidu.

SHRI K.S. RAO (ELURU): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to associate myself with this matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Your names will be associated.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, this matter appeared in the newspapers about a week ago. ... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Yerrannaidu, you know that I cannot compel anybody. Your matter is important. That is why I have allowed it to be raised.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is present here. I am sure he has heard you. But I cannot compel any Minister to respond then and there.

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, the Water Resources Minister is a dynamic Minister. I would appeal to him, through you, to respond to this matter.

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is our general policy in the Ministry now that if a complaint from anywhere reaches us that any project or any programme is being carried out without the concurrence of the Central Water Commission, we immediately step in, examine and find out the merits of the matter from both the States and then take a decision.

**13.00 hrs.**

Since it is brought to our notice, I will look into it.