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Title : Need to direct the Government of Andhra Pradesh to stop construction of Polavaram Irrigation Project which is affecting the interests of the States of Orissa and Chhattisgarh.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on a very important subject. We have arrangement in our Constitution that whenever any inter-State irrigation projects are being undertaken by one State, the consent of the neighbouring States is very much required. But this provision is being violated now. I am sorry to state this much that recently the State of Andhra Pradesh have started irrigation projects which will harm the interests of the other State...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Since you have asked for it, I have allowed. But what is the Central Government's role in it?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI Sir, the arrangement is that whenever any inter-State project is being undertaken by any particular Government, that particular State has to take the consent of the neighbouring States. Recently, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh have undertaken Polavaram Project. They have already executed and implemented the Vamsadhara Project which will submerge a vast track of area in the State of Orissa, specially Koraput and Malkangiri districts of Orissa where a large number of tribal people live in. I do not object of undertaking this particular project. But they have to take the consent of the neighbouring States specially Chhattisgarh and also Orissa. Our Chief Minister has written a letter to the hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh but no response has been received...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What can the Central Government do in it?

SHRI ARJUN SETHI : I request you to please direct the hon. Minister of Water Resources that he should make a statement on this particular subject because this very much concerns our State of Orissa. Earlier also, when my esteemed friend, Shri Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi was the Minister of Water Resources, we have already approached him and we met him in a delegation. But nothing has been achieved. He assured that there will be a meeting of Members of Parliament of these two States but nothing has happened. I request you to please direct the Minister concerned to make a statement on the floor of the House so that the Constitutional provision should not be violated. The consent of the neighbouring States should be undertaken before taking up any particular project which will harm the interest of any neighbouring State. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER Let there be no mutual recrimination. If an hon. Member from one State feels aggrieved, let us do it; try to resolve the matter in a proper way. If the Central Government has any role, I am sure they will look into it. Let us not fight amongst ourselves [\[23\]](#).

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER Let us not fight amongst ourselves.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Giridhari Lal Bhargava to speak now.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : He is an ideal Member. I always give him a chance.