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Title: Need to give Andhra Pradesh its due share of water from river Krishna-Laid.

SHRI ANANTHA VENKATARAMI REDDY (ANANTAPUR): The Government of Karnataka is constructing as many as 55 bridge-cum-barrages on the river Krishna. Through these barrages Karnataka is estimated to use 100 tmc of excess water for its purpose. The water from Krishna flows from Karnataka to lower riparian state of Andhra Pradesh and this water flows into the Tungabhadra Dam and other dams which are constructed mainly to irrigate the drought-prone area of Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh and to provide drinking water. This water is the main source and lifeline to irrigate lakhs of hectares of land in the four districts of Rayalaseema region and also to provide drinking water to the people of these areas, especially Anantapur district which receives the lowest rate of rainfall after Jaisalmer in Rajasthan in the entire country.

The Government of Karnataka is constructing barrages on large scale on main Krishna river and on Malaprabha (10 barrages), Ghataprabha (20 barrages) and Bheema (18 barrages) which are the tributaries of Krishna. Andhra Pradesh is deprived of its due share of water. The people of Rayalaseema region will not be able to get even drinking water if such construction of bridge-cum-barrages is continued.

This is not the first time that the Government of Karnataka has resorted to construction of Almatti dam which has already affected the farmers of Rayalaseema region in a great way. The construction of the above bridge-cum-barrages would simply lead the farmers to utter bankruptcy and there would be famine condition in the region which is already suffering a lot due to the failure of monsoon.

I would request the Hon'ble Minister of Water Resources to immediately intervene and instruct the Government of Karnataka to stop the construction of these bridge-cum-barrages and implement the inter-State river water awards of the Government of India and allow the water to flow to Andhra Pradesh to which it is entitled.