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Title: Regarding drinking water problem in Araku Parliamentary Constituency of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA (ARAKU): I wish to bring to the notice of the House the fact that Araku constituency of Andhra Pradesh is second largest constituency in the country which is spread across four districts, viz. Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, East Godavari and Srikakulam. It consists of 38 mandals and 1142 gram panchayats. This is entirely a tribal area mostly located in forest and hilly terrain and people live in remote habitations. Even after 70 years of independence, the rural population have been suffering due to scarcity of drinking water. There are instances where people have to walk for 4 to 5 Kilometers to fetch water for their daily needs and are subject to endless suffering. Providing safe drinking water to the citizens of the country is the prerogative and responsibility of the government. Hence, I request the Ministry of Rural Development as well as Ministry of Water Resources to take a humanitarian view of the problem and provide for adequate budgetary support to provide for bore wells in the habitations.