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Title: Need to accord special category status to Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI) (ANAKAPALLI): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to raise this issue which is of great importance to five crore Telugu people of Andhra Pradesh.

It is very unfortunate that the NDA Government has not yet taken a decision on granting special category status to Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, as you are aware, I would like to bring to your kind notice that the Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, 2014 has done a very serious injustice to the residual Andhra Pradesh State. It distributed assets based on location while apportioning liabilities on the basis of population ratio. Considering that virtually all the major assets are located in and around Hyderabad city, which has since become an integral part of Telangana State. Notwithstanding it being the common Capital, Andhra Pradesh has forfeited all major economic assets and inherited huge liability without having the wherewithal to service the debts.

Further, Andhra Pradesh, by virtue of its location, is vulnerable to serious natural calamities. Therefore, unless the Government of India creates a level playing field through a pro-active policy framework and substantial financial package, apart from creating an ecosystem for investment and sustainable economic growth, Andhra Pradesh State is likely to plunge into financial crisis with adverse consequences for its citizens, especially the poor and vulnerable.

While participating in the debate in the other House on the Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, at that time, the Congress Government, the UPA Government did a lot of ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He has already spoken what he wanted to speak. He wants a special status. That is his demand.

...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI): They would give the special status if they come to the power ...(*Interruptions*) for ten years. Unfortunately, the UPA Government did not introduce the Bill. That is why, they are delaying it.

Now, I request both the parties, the Congress and the BJP. They are responsible for making Andhra Pradesh and Telangana the separate States. For the past one year, our hon. Chief Minister, Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu, has been making a strong request. ...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri M. Udhayakumar.

...(*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Shri Thota Narasimham,

Dr. Ravindra Babu,

Shri M. Murali Mohan and

Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Muthamsetti Srinivasa Rao.