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Title: Need to provide forest clearance for construction of a new capital for Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): The dreams of people of AP and sacrifices of farmers, who have given their land, culminated into a sacred mission to construct new capital Amaravathi for AP. It is modern, world-class, smart, green, blue and people's capital. There is no doubt that the land pooled so far is not sufficient to go ahead with the envisaged plan. So in pursuance to Section 94(4) of AP Reorganisation Act, Government of AP has requested for diversion of some forest land and the State environment and forest authorities have cleared the proposal. The State Environment Impact Assessment Authority has also approved the proposal. And, the proposal has been sent to the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India for its clearance.

I am given to understand that the Forest Advisory Committee sought some clarifications from the State and the State has submitted the same. Hon. Union Environment Minister is on record saying and I quote,

*"Whatever be the procedural issues, we would grant all environmental and forest-related clearances for the new capital in a month."*

In view of the above, I request Government of India and the Environment Ministry to give forest clearance early so that construction work on the ground can be commenced.