

**Request for naming the National Institute of Rural Development
in Andhra Pradesh after Late Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao**

SHRI K. RAMAMOHANARAO (Andhra Pradesh): A proud Telugu Bidda Son, the father of reforms, a polyglot, a scholar, a sagacious leader and, more importantly, a Prime Minister who staved off India's economic collapse, passed away on 23.12.2004. There is no doubt that when the story of India's economic reforms will be written, history would record that the invisible hand that guided the reform process was none other than this proud son from Karimnagar of Andhra Pradesh. Not only this, when he was the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in 1971, he had brought Land Reforms Act in Andhra Pradesh and surrendered 790 acres of his own land to the Government. This shows that he was not only a reformist but also *Dana Karna*. He worked tirelessly for the development of rural areas. He had also taken immense interest in promoting the Telugu language. Today, if India is flourishing or has become a major power in the world, Shri Narasimha Rao is behind this. But, have we paid a real homage to this statesman? No. We have done nothing in recognition of his services to India. So, I request the Prime Minister to issue instructions to the officials concerned to name NIRD at Hyderabad as P.V. Narasimha Rao Institute of Rural Development. The official residence of Shri Narasimha Rao be converted into his memorial. I also request for the release of a postal stamp. I also demand for the introduction of a Chapter in school textbooks depicting his achievements, I am confident that the Government will positively consider these requests. Sir, I hope that the entire House is in agreement with this. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DATTA MEGHE (Maharashtra): Sir...(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You only associate. Nothing than this. (*Interruptions*). You only associate.

SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Rama Mohana Rao.

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VANGAGEETHA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with it.

SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with it.

[19 March, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Karnataka): Sir, I associate with the special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. M.S. GILL (Punjab): Sir, I associate myself with it.

Concern over the Closure of Lone Project of Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI (Chhattisgarh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, in Chhattisgarh's Indravati National Park Tiger Reserve, no forest guard has entered for the last three years. Fifty-six revenue villages are surviving, virtually, outside the Government in a jungle where the People's War Group claims to run its own Government. Their presence has severely affected protection and conservation of wildlife. Not surprisingly, more than half of its tigers have been killed over the past five years. And the best timber in Baster is fast being converted into cash by the heavily armed timber mafia.

The naxalite threat, notwithstanding, tiger census reports are filed every year. There are claims that 31 tigers were counted in the 2005 Census, the highest since the Park came under Project Tiger in 1984 with 38 tigers. Villagers are unanimous that they have not seen any forest staff inside the Park for years. The staff is afraid to tour and undertake protection works. Moreover, out of the sanctioned strength of 147, 35 posts are lying vacant for a long time now.

Wild buffaloes, chitals, barking deer, nilgais and gaurs can be seen grazing in these areas while the Park has a sizeable population of tigers, leopards, striped hyenas, wolves and wild dogs. In view of such rare biodiversity, around 2,800 sq. kms. area of Indravati National Park was declared as Tiger Reserve in 1984. The Naxalites have reportedly set almost all the wireless stations on fire. Besides, they instigate the tribal population to encroach, cut timber illegally and poach.

Now the Union Ministry has reportedly decided, in principle, to close it down. I request the Government to save this Tiger Reserve and intervene in the matter by providing protection.

Demand for Proper Disposal of Electronic Waste in the Country

DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the House to a serious problem of electronic waste that is being generated by the various electronic goods