

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Are you assuring us?...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Minister, have you any objection for tomorrow for seeking clarifications? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: I have no problem. ...*(Interruptions)*... At 2.30 p.m....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Kanimozhiji, this is very important...*(Interruptions)*... Personally, I also want it. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, tomorrow, we will have it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Others also will get time tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: At 2.30 tomorrow, I can give any clarification ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Tomorrow's time will be intimated to you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will ensure that it is taken up tomorrow ...*(Interruptions)*... I will ensure that ...*(Interruptions)*... I am also one with you in this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Can I begin, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, please.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Status of implementation of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 and the assurances given by the then Government to the House on the 20th February, 2014

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, we all know that this Short Duration Discussion has come as a result of a belated recognition by the Leader of the House that a Private Members' Bill moved by my colleague Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao on the implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act is a Money Bill, a position that he took on the 22nd of July, 2016, after the President had given his assent and the Private Members' Bill was introduced on the 7th of August, 2015. Be that as it may, the agreement was that pending a final decision on whether the Private Members' Bill is indeed a Money Bill or not, a Short Duration Discussion will take place. That is why this discussion is taking place. This Short Duration Discussion has two aspects. The first aspect is the status of implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 and the second is the implementation of the assurances given by the then Government, by the Prime Minister himself, on the floor of the House on 20th of February, 2014. Sir, I would

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like to ask the Government five specific questions on the implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. The first question relates to Section 93. I want to know from the Leader of the House the status of implementation on Section 93, which says, 'The Central Government shall take all necessary measures for projects in the enumerated Thirteenth Schedule for the progress and sustainable development of the successor States within a period of ten years from the appointed day', and the Thirteenth Schedule lists a large number of development projects for the successor State of Andhra Pradesh, and according to Section 93, the Central Government has the full responsibility. I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister what the status of this is. Secondly, I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister what the status of implementation of Section 94 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act is. Section 94(1) says, 'The Central Government shall take appropriate fiscal measures including offer of tax incentives to the successor States to promote industrialization and economic growth of both the States.'

And, Section 94(2) specifically says, "The Central Government shall provide special financial support for the creation of essential facilities in the new capital of the successor State of Andhra Pradesh including the Raj Bhawan, High Court, Government Secretariat, Legislative Assembly, Legislative Council, and other such essential infrastructure." So, my second question is: what is the status of implementation of Section 94(1) and 94(2)?

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL) *in the Chair*]

Sir, my third question relates to Section 84 and Section 85, which are elaborate Sections, and I will not quote them, but these deal with the management and development of water resources, particularly the creation of two Boards - the Krishna River Management Board and the Godavari River Management Board. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister what the status of implementation of this provision is.

Sir, the fourth question, I have, relates to Section 90 of the Act, and this Section deals with the Polavaram Project. Section 90(4) specifically says, "The Central Government shall execute the project and obtain all requisite clearances including environmental, forests, and rehabilitation and resettlement norms." I would like to know what the status of implementation of Section 90 is.

Finally, Sir, in so far as the Act is concerned, I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister about the status of implementation of Section 46. Section 46(2) says, "Notwithstanding anything in sub-section (1), the Central Government may, having regard to the resources available to the successor State of Andhra Pradesh,

make appropriate grants and also ensure that adequate benefits and incentives in the form of special development package are given to the backward areas of the State." Section 46(3) says, "The Central Government shall — 'shall' and not 'may' — while considering the special development package for the successor State of Andhra Pradesh, provide adequate incentives, in particular for Rayalaseema and North Coastal regions of that State."

So, my five questions on the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act are regarding Section 93; Section 94(1) and 94(2); Sections 84 and 85; Section 90(4); and, Section 46(2) and 46(3). What is the status of implementation of these provisions?

Sir, the second part of the Short Duration Discussion is on the assurances given by the then Government on the floor of the House on 20th of February, 2014. Sir, on the 20th of February, 2014, the then Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, made six assurances with the full knowledge of the then Leader of the Opposition and the then senior leader of the BJP who was seated in the front row, who, unfortunately, is not present here now, Mr. Venkaiah Naidu. This Statement, which I am about to read, had been drafted and cleared with both the then Leader of the Opposition, who is now the Leader of the House, and the senior leader of the BJP, who is now the Minister of Urban Development and Information and Broadcasting. And, Sir, I would like to read what Dr. Manmohan Singh had said. It is a very brief Statement. "Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have listened very carefully to the views expressed by the Leader of the Opposition and all the other Members who have spoken, especially those from Andhra Pradesh. The Home Minister has already mentioned the specific steps our Government will take to address the concerns of all regions of the State, particularly of Seemandhra", which later became the successor State of Andhra Pradesh, "I would like to make a few further announcements in this regard". And I would like to draw the hon. Finance Minister's attention to these six announcements. "First, for purposes of Central assistance, Special Category Status will be extended to the successor State of Andhra Pradesh comprising 13 districts, including the four districts of Rayalaseema and the three districts of North-Coastal Andhra for a period of five years. This will put the State's finances on a firmer footing." Sir, when the Prime Minister made this announcement, Mr. Venkaiah Naidu got up — I have the record of proceedings of the 20th of February — and said, "Not five years, ten years." ...*(Time-bell rings)*... This is Mr. Venkaiah Naidu on record. When Dr. Manmohan Singh said, "Five Years", Mr. Venkaiah Naidu said, "If we come to power, we will give it for ten years."

I further quote, "Second, the Bill already stipulates that the Central Government shall take appropriate fiscal measures, including offer of tax incentives to the successor

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States in order to promote industrialization and economic growth in both the States. These incentives will be along the lines extended to some other States. Third, the Bill already provides for a special development package for the backward regions of the successor State of Andhra Pradesh, in particular for the districts of Rayalaseema and North Coastal Andhra Pradesh. This development package will be on the lines of the K-B-K (Koraput-Bolangir-Kalahandi) Special Plan in Odisha and the Bundelkhand special package in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. Fourth, I would like to reassure hon. Members that if any further amendments are needed to facilitate smooth and full rehabilitation and resettlement for the Polavaram Project, they will be given effect to at the earliest. Our Government will execute the Polavaram Project - let there be no doubt about it." This stands implemented because one of the first acts that the new Government did was to re-promulgate the Ordinance and convert the Ordinance into a law for the transfer of submerged territories from Telangana to the successor State of Andhra Pradesh.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Jairamji, please conclude.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: So, the fourth assurance stands implemented.

"Fifth, the appointed day for the formation of the new State will be so fixed in relation to the notified date." This also stands implemented. "Sixth, the resource gap that may arise in the successor State of Andhra Pradesh in the very first year, especially during the period between the appointed day and the acceptance of the 14th Finance Commission recommendations by the Government of India, will be compensated in the regular Union Budget."

Sir, out of the six assurances given by the then Prime Minister, two stand implemented. On the rest four, I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister to shed some light, particularly the assurance that the successor State of Andhra Pradesh will get Special Category Status for five years to which Mr. Venkaiah Naidu had said, "Not five years, but ten years." Thank you, Sir.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं भी उस समय हाउस में था, अरुण जी उधर बैठे हुए थे, ये उधर बैठे हुए थे। बहुत दिनों तक सदन में agitation चला और जिन सदस्यों ने चलाया, उन्होंने बड़ी मेहनत की। उसमें दोनों पक्ष थे। एक कहता था कि तेलंगाना बने और दूसरा कहता था कि आंध्र प्रदेश एक रहे। उस समय समाजवादी पार्टी यह कहती थी कि हम राज्यों के बंटवारे के विरोध में हैं, लेकिन बंटवारा हुआ और इसी सदन में assurance दिया गया। यह ठीक है अभी जयराम रमेश जी बतला रहे थे कि वेंकैया जी ने यह कहा। वेंकैया जी, प्रधान मंत्री नहीं हैं जो पूरा करेंगे, लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री की बात कहे हुए, क्योंकि प्रधान मंत्री ने कहा था, यहां व्यक्ति का सवाल नहीं है कि प्रधान मंत्री श्री मनमोहन सिंह जी ने कहा था या

प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदी जी ने कहा था, चूंकि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा था, तो मैं उस पक्ष में हूँ कि जो एश्योरेंस दिए गए थे, उन एश्योरेंसेज को लागू होना चाहिए। यह गलत परम्परा पड़ेगी कि सदन में भी एश्योरेंस देने के बाद ये एश्योरेंस पूरे नहीं हुए।

अब मैं दो बातें और कहना चाहता हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार सब ने स्पेशल कैटेगरी की मांग की थी। हम आपसे पूछना चाहते हैं कि प्लानिंग कमीशन के मानक क्या-क्या हैं कि कौन मानक पूरा होने पर स्पेशल कैटेगरी का स्टेट माना जाएगा। मैंने हरदम कहा कि मानकों में कुछ बदलाव होने चाहिए। श्रीमन, मानकों में देखना चाहिए कि एरिया उस स्टेट का क्या है, पॉपुलेशन क्या है, पर-कैपिटा इन्कम क्या है और स्टेट के डेवलपमेंट की स्थिति क्या है? अगर ये चार प्वाइंट आपने नहीं देखे..., आपने नीति आयोग बना दिया, प्लानिंग कमीशन खत्म कर दिया। चलिए, मैं उसका स्वागत करता हूँ। लेकिन अगर नीति आयोग बना तो नीति आयोग को भी तो सोचना पड़ेगा कि आखिर हम कैसे परिवर्तन करें। श्रीमन, आज क्या हालत है उत्तर भारत के राज्यों की! उत्तर भारत के राज्यों की हालत तो उन राज्यों से बहुत खराब है जिन राज्यों को आपने स्पेशल कैटेगरी में ले रखा है। मैंने जो मानक कहे, अगर आप इन मानकों को देख लें, इन मानकों के हिसाब से चलें तो यहां रवि जी बैठे हुए हैं, ये भी बिहार से मांग करते थे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I have a point of order. In the Short Duration Discussion Motion, a number of names have been given. These are the Members who have moved the Short Duration Discussion. Shouldn't they be given an opportunity? ...**(Interruptions)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Yes, they will be given an opportunity. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: His name is not there. ...**(Interruptions)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): No, no. ...**(Interruptions)**... They will be given an opportunity. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: यह आपको नहीं मालूम है, हर पार्टी वाला बोलता है। You are not the speaker. ...**(Interruptions)**... सब पार्टीवाइज़ बोलते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): जयराम जी, पार्टीवाइज़ डिस्कशन होता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: मैं कल नहीं था, वरना समय भी नहीं मिलता। यह गलतफहमी निकाल दीजिए, मैं नहीं था। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मुझे टोकोगे तो मैं भी बहुत टोकने में एक्सपर्ट हूँ, इतना ध्यान रखना। ...**(व्यवधान)**... परम्परा पता होनी चाहिए। शॉर्ट ड्यूरेशन डिस्कशन में हर पार्टी को समय मिलता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): नरेश जी, बोलिए।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: मैं कह रहा था कि आपने नीति आयोग जब बना लिया तो हम लोगों ने जो मांग रखी है उस मांग को नीति आयोग के सामने क्यों नहीं रखते। आखिर हम लोग भी

[श्री नरेश अग्रवाल]

तो जान सकें कि जो राज्य वाकई में गरीब है, जिस राज्य में प्रति व्यक्ति आय बहुत कम है, ओडिशा को ले लीजिए। यहां तिर्की भाई बैठे हुए हैं, ओडिशा वाले सब बैठे हुए हैं। ओडिशा की भी हालत बहुत खराब है? हम तो कह सकते हैं कि ओडिशा की हालत उत्तर प्रदेश से भी ज्यादा खराब हो। आखिर बिहार का मैंने खुद कहा, मैंने रवि शंकर जी से कहा, मैं कहता हूँ कि आप पुनर्विचार क्यों नहीं करते? आप पुनर्विचार करके, अगर आपको देश को डेवलप करना है तो खाली प्रधान मंत्री के नारों से देश डेवलप नहीं हो जाएगा। आप नारा दे दें, प्रधान मंत्री जन धन योजना, प्रधान मंत्री चिकित्सा योजना, प्रधान मंत्री स्वच्छ योजना, आप सब प्रधान मंत्री जी के नाम कर दीजिए। लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री जी की योजना क्या खाली सदन में लागू हो जाएगी। लागू तो राज्यों में होंगी और राज्यों में लागू करेंगी राज्यों की सरकारें। आप तो राज्यों की सरकारों को सिर्फ योजना बता सकते हो, योजना के नाम पर धन दे सकते हो। तो आखिर आप जब उस राज्य का रिव्यू नहीं करेंगे, आप उस राज्य के बारे में नहीं सोचोगे तो देश कैसे डेवलप करेगा और आपकी सोच कैसी होगी? मुझे खुशी है कि प्रधान मंत्री जी उत्तर प्रदेश से हैं। मैं दुर्भाग्य मानता हूँ कि देश में सबसे ज्यादा प्रधान मंत्री उत्तर प्रदेश से हुए हैं। यह दुर्भाग्य भी है, सौभाग्य है तो दुर्भाग्य भी है। मैं दोनों मानूंगा। सबसे ज्यादा अगर प्रधान मंत्री हुए हैं तो उत्तर प्रदेश से हुए हैं। और सबसे ज्यादा दुर्भाग्य है कि उत्तर प्रदेश की स्थिति सबसे खराब है। यह तो वैसे हुआ "चिराग तले अंधेरा वाली" कहावत कि हमें इस बात पर खुशी है कि हम राजनीतिक रूप से बहुत डेवलपड हैं। राजनीतिक रूप से उत्तर प्रदेश बहुत आगे है। दिल्ली की सरकार बिना उत्तर प्रदेश के नहीं बनती, क्योंकि 80 एम.पीज. एक स्टेट से आते हैं, शायद कोई स्टेट इतना बड़ा इस देश में नहीं हुआ जिस स्टेट से इतने एम.पीज. आते हैं। उत्तराखंड अलग नहीं करते तो 85 एम.पीज. आते थे और उस समय लगता था उस समय उत्तर प्रदेश का मुख्य मंत्री जब दिल्ली आता था तो दिल्ली ऐसी हिल जाती थी कि आज क्या बात है, उत्तर प्रदेश का मुख्य मंत्री दिल्ली आया है? लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश का उतना विकास न होना उतना ही दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है और उसके लिए कहीं न कहीं हम लोग भी चिन्हित किए जाते हैं। यह कहा जाता है कि एमपीज इतने पहुँच गए, अगर एमपीज चाहते तो राज्य की यह दुर्दशा न होती, राज्य विकसित हो गया होता। श्रीमन्, एमपीज तो चाहते हैं, हम लोग तो आज भी सदन में कह रहे हैं। सारे एमपीज चाहते हैं कि सारा देश डेवलप हो, साथ में उत्तर प्रदेश भी डेवलप हो, लेकिन उसके न डेवलप होने के कारण हम सबको तकलीफ है। मैं सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ ...**(व्यवधान)**... I had supported you earlier. मैं end में भी आपको सपोर्ट करूँगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ऐसा नहीं है, मुझे तिरुपति बालाजी जाना है और मैं वहां जाऊँगा। मैं भी भगवान में विश्वास करता हूँ।

अंत में, मैं कहूँगा कि सी. एम. रमेश जी बहुत लड़े। चौधरी जी अकेले मिनिस्टर बन गए, दोनों को बन जाना चाहिए, हम आज रिकमंड कर रहे हैं। ये सहयोगी दल हैं और मुझे ताज्जुब हो रहा है कि सहयोगी दल होने के बाद भी अगर इनको अपनी सरकार में इतनी मेहनत करनी पड़ रही है कि ये उस समय की सरकार के वादों को पूरा नहीं करा पा रहे हैं, तो कहीं न कहीं सहयोगी दल अपने को कमजोर समझ रहा है। हमने जब उत्तर प्रदेश में कल्याण सिंह जी के साथ लोकतांत्रिक कांग्रेस की सरकार बनाई थी, तब मैं तो सरकार को रिमोट पर रखता था। मैं जो चाहता था, वह कराता था और वही सरकार करती थी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं सहयोगी दल था, लेकिन सहयोगी दल के नाते मैं पूरा दबाव बनाकर रखता था। अब हम इन्हें क्या कहें,

चंद्रबाबू नायडू तो बहुत क्राबिल हैं। उनके बारे में तो कहा जाता है कि वे विकास पुरुष हैं, उन्होंने जितना चाहा आंध्र प्रदेश को डेवलप कर दिया। उस समय यही कहा जाता था कि मॉडर्न इंडिया में अगर कोई सबसे ज्यादा तेज चीफ मिनिस्टर है, तो वे चंद्रबाबू नायडू हैं। मैं एक बार उनसे जाकर मिला भी था।

मैं यह चाहूँगा कि आंध्र प्रदेश के संबंध में सरकार ने जो वायदे किए थे, उनको पूरा किया जाए। वेंकैया जी, उस समय खास तौर से जब आप यहां बैठे हुए थे तो आप सबसे ज्यादा बोल रहे थे और हम लोग समझ रहे थे कि आप दक्षिण भारत से हैं इसलिए ज्यादा बोल रहे हैं। आप आज भी उतना ही ज्यादा बोल दीजिए और इन लोगों से जो वायदे किए थे, उन वायदों को पूरा करने की घोषणा कर दीजिए। साथ ही साथ, हमने उत्तर प्रदेश के संबंध में जो बातें कही हैं, उन्हें आप प्रधान मंत्री जी से कह दीजिएगा। उत्तर प्रदेश से आप आए हैं, उत्तर प्रदेश का ख्याल रखेंगे तो बहुत दिनों तक उत्तर प्रदेश आपका एहसान मानेगा और अगर उसका ख्याल नहीं रखेंगे, तो उत्तर प्रदेश बदला लेने में भी कभी कमजोर दिखाई नहीं दिया है। बस, इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

श्री सुखेन्दु शोखर राय (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : सर, मुझे याद आ रहा है कि जब Re-organisation Bill पर चर्चा हो रही थी, तो उस समय चुनाव होने वाले थे और शायद इसीलिए उस समय कांग्रेस और बीजेपी के सदस्य हर रोज ज्यादा शोर मचाते थे। उस समय कुछ लोग विभाजन मांग रहे थे, कुछ लोग उसके खिलाफ बोल रहे थे और हमारे सी. एम. रमेश साहब और वार्ड. एस. चौधरी साहब भी वेल में चले जाते थे। हमको अभी भी याद है कि जब वर्ष 2014 में हमें नियम 255 के तहत निकाल दिया गया था, तो उस समय इन दोनों को भी निकाल दिया गया था। लेकिन वास्तविकता यह है कि कुछ भी हो, उस समय के प्रधान मंत्री डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी ने assurance दिया था, इसमें कोई शक नहीं है। हम माँग करते हैं कि जो assurance on the floor of the House दिया गया, उसको मर्यादा दी जाए, उसको in letter and spirit, implement किया जाए। There should not be two opinions.

सर, नरेश जी ने अभी जो बातें उठाईं, मैं उनसे सहमत हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश, जो कि इतना बड़ा राज्य है, उसकी तरह बहुत सारे ऐसे राज्य हैं, जिनकी आर्थिक स्थिति ठीक नहीं है। उन्हें विरासत में जो debt burden मिला है, उसके ऊपर भी थोड़ा ध्यान रखना चाहिए। सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार को आरबीआई का एक आँकड़ा बताना चाहता हूँ। रिज़र्व बैंक ने मार्च, 2016 के आँकड़े रिलीज़ किए हैं, जिनसे पता चलता है कि नम्बर वन पर महाराष्ट्र है, जिसका debt burden 3,79,000 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा है। उत्तर प्रदेश का debt burden 3,27,000 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा है। उनको भी यह विरासत में मिला है, हमको भी मिला है और महाराष्ट्र को भी मिला है। वेस्ट बंगाल के पास 3,08,800 करोड़ रुपये का debt burden है। आंध्र प्रदेश - 2,62,850 करोड़, गुजरात - 2,29,280 करोड़, तमिलनाडु - 2,35,260 करोड़, उन्हें भी यह विरासत में मिला है। इस तरह से दस राज्य हैं, जिनमें तमिलनाडु है, कर्णाटक है, मध्य प्रदेश है और केरल भी है। इन दस राज्यों की हालत बहुत ही खराब है, जिनका debt burden 1,60,000 से 3,80,000 करोड़ तक है - इतना debt burden है। हमारा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से निवेदन है कि इन दस राज्यों के चीफ मिनिस्टर्स को बुलाएं और एक रास्ता निकाला जाए। जैसे आंध्र प्रदेश को मदद दी जा रही है, हम उसके समर्थन में हैं। We are supporting the demands of Andhra Pradesh as assured

[श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय]

by the then Prime Minister, but, at the same time, the Chief Ministers of these ten States should also be called and their views should be taken by the Government to solve the problem of debt burden. How to get rid of this debt burden? Some way should be evolved; otherwise, there will be a serious financial crisis.

महोदय, जो experts हैं, वे लोग बोलते हैं कि 2016-17 में अगर debt burden की समस्या को हल नहीं किया गया तो इन दस राज्यों की हालत ऐसी जगह पर पहुंच जाएगी कि वे सरकारी कर्मचारियों को तनखाह भी दे पाएंगे या नहीं, यह भी नहीं मालूम - इतनी खराब आर्थिक स्थिति उनकी हो जाएगी। मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से निवेदन है कि इस पर भी विचार करें। ये दस बड़े राज्य हैं। इनमें प्रधान मंत्री जी का राज्य भी है, हमारा राज्य भी है, उत्तर प्रदेश भी है, तमिलनाडु भी है, केरल भी है, राजस्थान भी है। इतने सारे राज्य हैं।

दूसरी बात यह है कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने अभी 39 major schemes को बंद कर दिया है। इसके अलावा सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट की जो 58 important schemes हैं, उनमें भी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट का जो शेयर था, उसे इतना reduce कर दिया कि अभी उनकी सारी responsibility राज्यों के ऊपर आ गयी है। सारे राज्यों को उन्हें जारी रखने के लिए ज्यादा पैसा देना पड़ता है। यह हालत पैदा हो गयी है। इसके ऊपर भी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को ध्यान रखना चाहिए।

तीसरी बात यह है कि जो सबसे पिछड़े राज्य हैं, उनमें मेरे राज्य में Central Sales Tax का जो हमारा 6,500 करोड़ का arrear due है, वह 6,500 करोड़ रुपया सन् 2011 से आज तक सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने नहीं दिया है। यह जो Central Sales Tax का arrear है, उसको रिलीज किया जाए, वह तो हमारा due है। ऐसा नहीं है कि सरकार हम पर कृपा करेगी, यह हमारा due है, यह मिलना हमारी constitutional propriety है, लेकिन मुझे यह कहते हुए अफसोस हो रहा है कि सरकार न जाने किस कारण से हमारी सरकार के खिलाफ यह कार्यवाही कर रही है और क्यों पैसा रिलीज नहीं कर रही है? मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से निवेदन करूंगा कि यह जो 6,500 करोड़ रुपए का Central Sales Tax का revenue loss हमें हो रहा है, इसके ऊपर भी ध्यान दिया जाए।

अंत में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि अभी Central Pay Commission की रिपोर्ट आयी है। हर राज्य में भी Pay Commission बनाया जाता है। उसकी recommendations कुछ राज्यों में आ गयी हैं और कुछ राज्यों में आने वाली हैं। उसके लिए हमें बहुत सी राशि का जुगाड़ करना पड़ता है। अगर हमें थोड़ी-बहुत मदद नहीं मिलेगी, तो काम नहीं चलेगा। सेंटर तो अपने नोट छापता है, currency छापता है और दे देता है, राज्यों के पास तो नोट छापने की कोई मशीन है नहीं।

एक माननीय सदस्य: कोलकाता में है।

श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय: कोलकाता में नहीं है, आपके चेन्नई में भी नहीं है, आपके आंध्र प्रदेश में भी नहीं है, महाराष्ट्र में भी नहीं है, कहीं भी नहीं है। यह अरुण जेटली जी के डिपार्टमेंट के पास है, और किसी के पास नहीं है।

वित्त मंत्री और कॉरपोरेट कार्य मंत्री (श्री अरुण जेटली): नासिक में है।

श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय: महाराष्ट्र में नासिक में है, हमारे बंगाल में एक बार बनायी गयी थी, वह बंद हो गयी। मेरे home district में बनायी गयी थी, वह बंद हो गयी है। सर, यह हंसी-मजाक की बात नहीं है, serious बात है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करूंगा कि यह जो मुद्दा मैंने आपके माध्यम से उठाया है, मैं सरकार से निवेदन करूंगा कि इसको हल करने के लिए serious thought होनी चाहिए। मैंने दस राज्यों के नाम लिए, इन दस राज्यों की आर्थिक हालत इस जगह पर पहुंच गयी है कि अगर इस वित्तीय वर्ष में इस समस्या का हल नहीं किया जाएगा तो बहुत ही बुरी हालत हो जाएगी और यह देश के हित में नहीं होगा, देश के हित के खिलाफ होगा। आंध्र प्रदेश की जो डिमांड है, मैं उसका अंतःकरण से समर्थन करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय सदस्य श्री जयराम रमेश जी ने इस बहस को initiate किया है और पूरी तफसील से इन्होंने बताया है कि उस समय की सरकार के क्या कमिटमेंट्स थे। अब उसको दोहराने की जरूरत नहीं है। हम अपनी तरफ से, अपनी पार्टी की तरफ से, जनता दल (यूनाइटेड) की तरफ से इनकी बात का, इनकी मांग का पूरी तरह से समर्थन करते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक नीति है कि हर इंसान को अपनी कौल का पक्का होना चाहिए और वक्त का पाबंद होना चाहिए। यह तो किसी इंडिविजुअल की बात नहीं है। यह तो एक सरकार की बात है, एक प्रधान मंत्री की बात है। एक कंटेन्युअस प्रोसेस में सरकार होती है। कोई दूसरा प्रधान मंत्री आ जाए, तो भी इनको ईमानदारी से इस काम को करना चाहिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, उस समय मैं भी इस हाउस में था, जब दो राज्यों का पुनर्गठन हुआ और जो विवाद रोज-रोज चल रहा था, उसमें एक तरफ नायडु साहब भी थे और इधर से भी लोग थे, दोनों तरफ से एक कम्पटिशन था कि कौन ज्यादा इनकी मांग का समर्थन करता है, हम पांच साल में इसको सुलझा देंगे, हम दस साल में इसको सुलझा देंगे। नायडु साहब, यहां पर बैठे हैं। हमने ये सब बातें सुनी हैं, लेकिन सत्ता में आने के बाद इनको अपना पुराना वायदा याद रखना चाहिए। सिर्फ यह चुनाव के लिए और वोट के लिए नहीं होना चाहिए। वहां तो दो राज्यों का पुनर्गठन हुआ, लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार का भी बंटवारा हुआ है। बिहार भी पिछड़ा हुआ है और बिहार में एक लम्बी लड़ाई विशेष राज्य के दर्जे के लिए हुए और लम्बे समय तक हुई। रवि बाबू हैं, उस समय हम लोग एक साथ सरकार में थे, हम सब लोग मिलकर बिहार राज्य को विशेष सुविधा देने की लड़ाई लड़ रहे थे। हमारे नेता श्री नीतीश कुमार न सिर्फ बिहार राज्य की बात कर रहे थे, बल्कि हम लोग कह रहे थे कि जो भी पिछड़े राज्य हैं, जो पिछड़ेपन के पुराने तरीके तय किए गए थे, उनमें बदलाव किया जाए। हमारा पड़ोसी बंगाल पिछड़ा राज्य है, झारखंड भी पिछड़ा हुआ है, ओडिशा भी पिछड़ा हुआ है, उत्तर प्रदेश भी पिछड़ा हुआ है, जो भी राज्य पिछड़े हैं, उनके लिए एक नीति बनाकर सभी को सहायता दी जाए। हम लोग बिहार के लिए भी मांग कर रहे थे। हजारों नहीं, लाखों नहीं, करोड़ों की संख्या में लोगों से हस्ताक्षर कराकर ट्रक में लादकर यहां लाकर उस समय की सरकार के हवाले किया गया। जब चुनाव आया, तो मौजूदा प्रधान मंत्री जी बिहार में गए और उन्होंने यह वायदा किया कि हम बिहार को विशेष सुविधा देंगे, उन्होंने मुजफ्फरपुर की सभा में कहा कि अगर हम सरकार में आएंगे, तो हम बिहार को विशेष राज्य का दर्जा देंगे। ये सारी बातें कही गयीं, बीजेपी के लोग भी कहते थे, लेकिन वे सारी बातें हवा-हवाई साबित हुईं।

[श्री अली अनवर अंसारी]

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम कहना चाहते हैं कि जो रघुराजन कमेटी की रिपोर्ट है, वे अभी भी रिजर्व बैंक के गवर्नर हैं, उनकी अध्यक्षता में एक कमेटी बनी थी, उस कमेटी ने एक सिफारिश दी थी, आप बताइए कि उस सिफारिश को लागू करने की दिशा में आपने कौन-सा कदम आगे बढ़ाया है? हमारा बिहार एक land locked State है, हमारा कोई समुद्री किनारा नहीं है। हमारी आबादी बहुत घनी है, हमारी प्रति व्यक्ति आय बहुत कम है, उस आधार पर हमें सहायता मिलनी चाहिए। ब्रिटिश पीरियड से लेकर आज़ादी के बाद भी हर मामले में, हमारे राज्य को नजरअंदाज़ किया गया। हम लोग आंदोलन कर रहे हैं, लेकिन हम लोगों ने शांतिपूर्ण ढंग से आंदोलन किया है।

महोदय, मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या शांतिपूर्ण ढंग से आंदोलन करने वालों की बात नहीं मानी जाएगी? जहां तोड़-फोड़ होगी, जहां हिंसा होगी, उनकी बात को आप मानेंगे। जहां शांतिपूर्ण ढंग से सिग्नेचर कैम्पेन करवाकर, इसी रामलीला मैदान में ऐतिहासिक रैली हुई और उसमें बिहार से लाखों लोग आए और दूसरे लोगों ने भी उसका समर्थन किया, लेकिन ढाक के वही तीन पाता। उस समय भी बात नहीं सुनी गई, आप हमारे साथ नारा लगा रहे थे, हमारी बात कर रहे थे और अभी आप सत्ता में हैं। आपको बिहार से भी समर्थन मिला, उत्तर प्रदेश से भी समर्थन मिला, लेकिन आपने तमाम बातों को नजरअंदाज़ कर दिया।

महोदय, इसीलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपने जो वचन दिया है, आप उस वचन पर आइए। आप मर्यादा पुरुषोत्तम राम का नाम बहुत लेते हैं, नकली ही सही, लेकिन इधर तो असली राम, दो-दो सीताराम भी हैं। मैं नायडु जी से कहूंगा, जेटली साहब से भी कहूंगा कि आप राम का नाम बहुत लेते हैं, लेकिन 'प्राण जाए पर वचन न जाए,' तभी वह मर्यादा पुरुषोत्तम है, तभी वह भगवान राम हैं। एक राजा राम, भगवान राम कैसे बनते हैं, उनके वचन की कीमत है।

आपने चुनाव के समय जो वायदा किया, जो झांसा दिया, आपको सीखना चाहिए। जनता ने आपको...

श्री जयराम रमेश: वहां वकील भी बैठे हुए हैं।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी: जनता ने आपको चुनाव में सबक भी सिखाया है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, ठीक है, आप समाप्त करिए।

श्री अली अनवर अंसारी: उससे भी चेतना चाहिए कि बिहार के बाद हम इतने भी खुदगर्ज नहीं हैं, हम इतने भी संकीर्ण दिमाग के नहीं हैं, हमारे नेता नहीं हैं अगर हम मांग कर रहे हैं, तो हम ओडिशा के लिए भी कर रहे हैं, हम बंगाल के लिए भी कर रहे हैं, हम उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए भी कर रहे हैं और हम आंध्र प्रदेश की बात का भी समर्थन कर रहे हैं।

मैं आखिरी बात कहता हूँ कि इंसान को काम का पक्का और वक्त का पाबंद होना चाहिए, यह बात याद दिलाते हुए और जनता की चेतावनी को याद दिलाते हुए, मैं इनकी मांग का समर्थन करता हूँ कि हूबहू जो भी आंध्र प्रदेश के साथ या तेलंगाना के साथ कमिटमेंट किया गया है, सरकार को उसे पूरा करना चाहिए, बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया।

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY (West Bengal): *Sir, I rise here today to demand the implementation of the assurances given on the floor of the House on that day.

विधि और न्याय मंत्री; तथा इलेक्ट्रानिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री (श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद): मैं इस हाउस में येचुरी साहब को पहली बार तेलुगू में सुन रहा हूँ, उनका अभिनन्दना।

श्री सीताराम येचुरी: शुक्रिया और पहली बार मुझे समझ में आ रहा है कि रवि शंकर साहब तेलुगू भी समझते हैं।

**On that particular day while participating in the debate, ours is the only party *i.e.* Marxist Party, which had opposed the bifurcation of the State. In order to oppose the bifurcation, on the basis of our principles our party decided to stand against the move and we also walked out of the House. Before walking out of the House, while participating in the debate I mentioned that the Government, which is sitting in the opposition now, was in a hurry.

I remember saying this. The Prime Minister and the Home Minister were sitting here and I had said it in English then. I said, "You are trying to walk on two stools. You will end up falling between both the stools." And that is what happened when the next elections came. But that is a separate matter. That is not what we are discussing today. That day during the discussion, you might remember, I quoted Shri Gurajada Apparao "Country doesn't mean land. Country means people". What you are doing now is for the development of the people. Will this benefit the people or not? On that very day itself, with strong conviction I said that this was not going to benefit the people and asked you what promises you were making and what assurances you were giving Will you implement them? Till date, we have been observing your attitude and on the basis of that observation it is evident that you are not going to implement any of your assurances. What were the promises made on that day? We will see to it that both the areas will not be affected because of this bifurcation. We will provide financial help for the backward areas in Telangana and the Central Government is bound to do it. And on the other hand, promises were made to Andhra Pradesh, which was referred as Seemandhra earlier, because the State would have a revenue shortfall and it would be compensated. But, at that point of time I did warn that, there were issues of distribution of electricity, water and many more. So please do not take this step without conducting an in-depth study. But you assured that you would make an in-depth study and take necessary decisions.

I still remember, Hon'ble Member Shri Venkaiah Naidu then sitting on the opposition side proclaiming that, instead of five years offered by the Government they would give for ten years. Two years have passed since then, what happened in these two years Sir?

* The Hon. Member Spoke in Telugu.

** English Translation of the Original Speech delivered in Telugu.

[श्री सीताराम येचुरी]

Promises were made that the revenue shortfall of Andhra Pradesh will be compensated, but even having passed two budgets since then no compensation has been given to the State till date. So what we ask today is this; will you fulfill the promises made by you? There is a need to fulfill the promises. And today there is a necessity for the Government to give an assurance in this House that all the promises made by them will be fulfilled. If the announcement is not made today, it is my personal opinion as well as my party opinion that there is every chance for people of the two States to protest against the Government. This will be a blow to the integrity of the nation. The problem of revenue deficit for the State will not be solved. In future there is every chance for the developing area, what we refer to as the IT capital, Cyberabad and also as one of the rapidly developing places to lose its development. So today, I ask and also pressurize the Government that two years have been wasted since you made your promises. So now it is time for you to announce in the Parliament how you are going to fulfil the assurances made by you. Lastly, I want to tell that,

सर, यहां पर बहुत से साथियों ने बाकी प्रांतों — उत्तर प्रदेश, पश्चिमी बंगाल, केरल, बिहार और तमिलनाडु की भी बातें कीं। इस के बारे में भी सोचने और विचार करने की जरूरत है, लेकिन यहां पर सवाल यह है कि जहां तक आंध्र प्रदेश का सवाल है और आंध्र प्रदेश और तेलंगाना का जब bifurcation हुआ, तो सवाल यह था कि जो आश्वासन इस सदन में दिए गए, उन्हें पूरा किया जाए। सर, सरकारें बदलती रहती हैं, आज इधर हैं, कल उधर हैं और दोनों ने मिलकर जो किया वह किया, लेकिन आज जो भी सरकार है, उसे उस आश्वासन को लागू करना जरूरी है। बाकी सवालों पर भी विचार करिएगा, ये भी जरूरी हैं।

Therefore, finally, Sir, with your permission, if you don't mind, there is only one thing to which I will try to draw the attention of the Leader of the House. This discussion is taking place because the Private Members' Bill, it was considered, was a Money Bill. I would like to point out to a publication brought out by the Rajya Sabha Secretariat in September, 2013 on the Private Members' Legislation, and I think, it is necessary for us also to remember this. It is a very short passage. It says, "It is concerning the Private Members' Bill which may be outside the legislative competence of the House, and therefore, may be considered as *ultra vires*." The issue came up first in 1953, soon after I was born. At that time, the Deputy Chairman ruled that such matters cannot be discussed in the House because they may be *ultra vires* of the House. The matter was subsequently settled by Dr. Zakir Hussain, seated in the Chair as the Chairman, in 1963, and when such an instance comes up, I quote what is the observation he made as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. "*Prima facie*, I think we can go on with the discussion but I do not wish to give any ruling because the usual practice has been to leave the matter

for the decision of the House.” Then, he says, “ The main reason for the adoption of this course is that a question relating to the legislative competence of the House or the constitutionality of the proposed legislation often involves much difficulty and complexity and it is the function of the court and ultimately of the Supreme Court to decide on such a question. The Presiding Officer should not arrogate to himself the functions of the court, specially, as he does not have the facilities, etc., etc. If the House accepts the Bill, the party aggrieved will still have the remedy in the courts and ultimately, the Supreme Court. The question came up before the Central legislature on various occasions and the accepted practice has been stated by me.” This was the observation of Dr. Zakir Husain.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): समाप्त कीजिए।

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY : So, the objection to the Private Member’s Bill saying that it is a Money Bill, was not a valid objection. I still do not think that it was a valid objection. The discussion should have gone on. We should have decided on the matter.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, ठीक है।

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: And, if there is any dispute the court will decide it ultimately. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASWARAJ PATIL): Now, Shri Anubhav Mohanty. Not there. Shri Veer Singh.

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं आंध्र प्रदेश राज्य के संबंध में दिए गए आश्वासन पर हो रही अल्पकालिक चर्चा में अपनी पार्टी की तरफ से बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। सर, "आंध्र प्रदेश राज्य पुनर्गठन अधिनियम, 2014" लागू हुए लगभग दो वर्ष बीत चुके हैं, परंतु सरकार द्वारा आंध्र प्रदेश के उत्तरवर्ती राज्यों में औद्योगिकीकरण एवं आर्थिक प्रगति को बढ़ावा देने हेतु, राज्य के पिछड़े क्षेत्रों, विशेषकर रायलसीमा में उत्तर तटीय आंध्र प्रदेश के जिलों के लिए विशेष पैकेज की कोई समुचित व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है। कानून पर चर्चा के दौरान यह घोषणा की गई थी कि राज्य के वित्तीय मामलों को मजबूत बनाने के लिए आंध्र प्रदेश के उत्तरवर्ती राज्यों को पांच वर्षों के लिए एक विशेष श्रेणी के दर्जे सहित मदद दी जाएगी। राज्य के सभी क्षेत्रों के लिए, विशेषकर सीमांध्र की चिंताओं को दूर करने की घोषणा भी की गई थी। सरकार दावा करती है कि उसने विगत दो वर्षों में 34,000 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की आर्थिक सहायता प्रदान की है, परंतु जमीनी हकीकत इससे परे है। अभी सीमांध्र क्षेत्र विकास की मुख्य धारा से बहुत पीछे है और उसे विशेष आर्थिक सहायता की आवश्यकता है।

महोदय, सीमांध्र में राज्य की साठ फीसदी जनसंख्या रहती है। वहां से चालीस फीसदी राजस्व मिलता है। इस वजह से राज्य को लगभग 15,000 करोड़ रुपये का घाटा हो रहा है। इस घाटे के चलते कर्मचारियों की तनखाह देनी भी मुश्किल हो रही है। हमारी बहुजन समाज पार्टी

[श्री वीर सिंह]

भी छोटे राज्यों की पक्षधर रही है और हमारा मानना है कि छोटे राज्यों से ही विकास को गति मिल सकती है। हमारी पार्टी अध्यक्ष, बहिन कुमारी मायावती द्वारा भी भारत सरकार को उत्तर प्रदेश को चार भागों, बुंदेलखंड, पूर्वांचल, मध्यांचल एवं पश्चिमांचल में बांटने हेतु भारत सरकार को एक संकल्प भेजा गया था, परंतु उस पर आज तक कोई निर्णय नहीं हुआ है।

महोदय, आज विकास का मुद्दा हर एक की जबान पर है, परंतु मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि विकास के लिए संसाधनों की जरूरत होती है और संसाधनों के लिए धन की आवश्यकता होती है। सीमांध्र के साथ यह हो रहा है कि वहां निधियों की कमी और संसाधनों की हानि हुई है। सरकार को इस दिशा में कार्य करना चाहिए और पूर्वोत्तर परिषद की तर्ज पर आंध्र प्रदेश-तेलंगाना परिषद का गठन करना चाहिए। यह परिषद दोनों राज्यों से संबद्ध मामलों का निपटारा कर सकेगी।

महोदय, आंध्र प्रदेश को विशेष राज्य का दर्जा देने की अवधि पांच वर्षों की बजाय दस वर्ष होनी चाहिए, जिससे राज्य की वित्तीय स्थिति में सुधार हो सके। आंध्र प्रदेश के पिछड़े क्षेत्रों, विशेषकर रायलसीमा के चार जिलों और उत्तर तटीय आंध्र प्रदेश के तीन जिलों के विकास के लिए आवश्यक राज्य सहायता प्रदान की जानी चाहिए। राज्य में नई राजधानी के विकास के लिए भी केंद्रीय सहायता की आवश्यकता है। पोलावरम परियोजना को घोषणानुसार राष्ट्रीय परियोजना के रूप में नियत समय पर पूरा किया जाना चाहिए और जरूरत हो तो इसका आवंटन भी बढ़ाना चाहिए। महोदय, राज्य में पिछड़े इलाके, रायलसीमा एवं उत्तरवर्ती आंध्र प्रदेश, में उद्योगों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए विशेष स्कीम लागू करनी चाहिए, जिससे दलित एवं पिछड़े वर्ग को रोजगार व रोजी-रोटी के साधन उपलब्ध हो सकें और वे स्वयं का उद्योग स्थापित कर सकें। यदि उद्योगों को लगाने में भारत सरकार ने कोई पाबंदी रखी हो, तो उसे भी हटा लेना चाहिए। साथ ही, सरकार को tax incentive एवं tax holiday की भी घोषणा करनी चाहिए।

महोदय, राज्य में शैक्षणिक वातावरण सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सभी सरकारी, निजी, सहायता प्राप्त और उच्च तकनीकी व चिकित्सा शिक्षा संस्थानों में मौजूदा आरक्षण व्यवस्था जारी रखने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। सरकार द्वारा बनाए जा रहे जनजातीय विश्वविद्यालय; आईआईटी, तिरुपति; एनआईटी, आईआईएम, विशाखापट्टनम; पेट्रोलियम विश्वविद्यालय, एआईआईएमएस, गुंटूर; आईआईएसईआर, तिरुपति जैसे राष्ट्रीय महत्व के संस्थानों की स्थापना के कार्य में भारत सरकार द्वारा रिव्यू करने की आवश्यकता है, जिससे ये संस्थान शीघ्रतिशीघ्र शुरू हो सकें और छात्र इनमें पढ़ाई कर सकें।

महोदय, इसके साथ ही, राज्य में सामाजिक, भौगोलिक एवं औद्योगिक अवसंरचना के विकास हेतु विभिन्न परियोजनाएँ, जैसे नया महापत्तन, इस्पात संयंत्र, तेल शोधशाला, औद्योगिक गलियारा, रेल जोन, मेट्रो रेल सुविधा, विमानपत्तन, अमरावती के लिए रेल एवं सड़क सम्पर्क आदि विकसित करने की आवश्यकता है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): वीर सिंह जी, आपका समय खत्म हो गया है, अब आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री वीर सिंह: महोदय, मुझे खेद के साथ कहना पड़ रहा है कि तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री जी की घोषणा व आश्वासन के बावजूद राज्य अपने वजूद के लिए लड़ रहा है।

7.00 P.M.

मैं सरकार से मांग करूँगा कि वह आंध्र प्रदेश राज्य को समुचित आर्थिक पैकेज उपलब्ध कराए, जिससे राज्य को राजस्व घाटा कम करने, औद्योगिक प्रोत्साहन प्रदान करने, पिछड़े क्षेत्रों व दलितों के विकास आदि पर समुचित कार्य किया जा सके और महत्वपूर्ण संसाधन जुटाए जा सकें। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ, मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

SHRI C. M. RAMESH (Telangana): Sir, first of all, I would like to thank all the political parties in this House. They have all supported this issue, and it shows how much concerned they are for the State of Andhra Pradesh. Sir, this is an important issue for Andhra Pradesh, so I would like to speak in Telugu.

*Hon'ble Vice Chairman Sir, We all are witness to the bifurcation of the State of Andhra Pradesh that took place earlier in both the Houses of Parliament with the passing of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Bill, 2014. When the State of Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated, Bharatiya Janata Party was in opposition and Indian National Congress was in power. Almost all the political parties and eighty per cent of the Hon'ble Members who were present in this House during the time of bifurcation of the State are present now also.

For the past six months I have been repeatedly saying in this august House, that the bifurcation of the State of Andhra Pradesh was carried out in haste, it was done with a political perspective and the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Bill, 2014 was not properly drafted. I also requested the then Congress Government to convene a meeting of all political parties and party leaders. I also informed the then Government that they were taking up this Bill in a hurry. All this was done with an eye on elections. If you have no trust in political parties, please call the NGO's and ensure that justice be delivered to both the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. I also pointed out that many mistakes were made while drafting the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Bill, 2014.

Sir, when the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Bill, 2014 was passed in Lok Sabha, it was passed in a hurry. The bill was passed in closed doors and neither was there any telecast of the proceedings nor was a proper debate conducted. Later, the Bill was placed in the Rajya Sabha. During that point of time, I brought to the notice of the then Government that Andhra Pradesh was being subjected to injustice because forty two per cent of the State's population was in Telangana and fifty eight per cent in Andhra Pradesh. But the income generated from Telangana is fifty five per cent and whereas the income from Andhra Pradesh is forty five per cent only.

During the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, I also Stated that Andhra Pradesh would incur loss to its revenue. Then Hon'ble Members Shri Arun Jaitley and

* English Translation of the Original Speech delivered in Telugu.

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Shri Venkaiah Naidu met the then Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh and discussed the issue with him and they reached a consensus. The consensus was that Andhra Pradesh would face financial problems because the population of Andhra Pradesh in comparison to Telangana was more whereas the revenue generation was less. Therefore Andhra Pradesh would have a deficit budget of sixteen thousand and two hundred crores in its first budget after bifurcation. This deficit in budget would be compensated by the Central Government. In addition to this, it was also decided that Special Category Status will be granted to the State of Andhra Pradesh. Sir, I want to remind you that during that point of time the State of Andhra Pradesh was under President's Rule.

In recent times, Special Category Status has become a hot topic of debate. How did this topic of Special Category Status for the State arise? Hon'ble Vice- Chairman, Sir, during the bifurcation of the State, Hon'ble Members Shri Arun Jaitley and Shri Venkaiah Naidu understood the fact that people of Andhra Pradesh would face many problems if no proper compensation was allotted to the State. In this regard, they have met the then Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh and informed him that Bharatiya Janata Party will support the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Bill, 2014 only if he agrees to grant Special Category Status to the State. Otherwise, Bharatiya Janata Party is not ready to do injustice to the people of Andhra Pradesh. Later, when the Bill came for discussion in this House, the then Government has proposed to give Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh for a period of five years but Hon'ble Member Shri Venkaiah Naidu demanded that, it should be granted for a period of ten years. This was the demand made by Hon'ble Member Shri Venkaiah Naidu and was it a mistake sir? Now, every political party and every individual is accusing him that during the process of bifurcation he was demanding the Special Category Status to the State for ten years but now despite being a Minister in the Central Government he is not interested in granting Special category status to the State. Had Hon'ble Members Shri Arun Jaitley and Shri Venkaiah Naidu avoided meeting the then Hon'ble Prime Minister and discussing the topic with him, this discussion would not have taken place today in this House.

Sir, the present Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, the then opposition leader, Shri Chandrababu Naidu, was concerned about the development of the State. Keeping the development of the State in mind he thought it would be better if Bharatiya Janata Party forms the Government in the country. Sir, I have requested Members of the Bharatiya Janata Party and they have agreed to allow me to speak in their allotted time. This discussion is very important for our State of Andhra Pradesh. So please do not restrict me on time limit.

Sir, the State of Andhra Pradesh was due for Elections then and Telugu Desam Party was seriously concerned about the development of the State. Then Telugu Desam Party kept its trust in Bharatiya Janata Party that it would come to power and our party decided to contest the elections in alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party. Sir, during elections, everyone had faith in Shri Narendra Modi and Telugu Desam Party also thought that the State of Andhra Pradesh would reach new heights in development if the two leaders, Shri Chandrababu Naidu and Shri Narendra Modi, worked together to solve the problems of the State caused by bifurcation. During election campaign Shri Narendra Modi, made a promise at Tirupati, as Andhra Pradesh did not have a Capital, its Capital would be built with world class standards and all the points mentioned in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Bill, 2014 would be implemented. As both Shri Narendra Modi and Shri Chandrababu Naidu are visionaries, people of Andhra Pradesh thought the State would be developed rapidly if they both came to power.

In 2014 Elections, Bharatiya Janata Party won with tremendous majority in the country and Telugu Desam Party also came into power in Andhra Pradesh. On the very next day of Hon'ble Prime Minister's Oath taking ceremony, Shri Chandrababu Naidu addressed the issue of the seven mandals because the appointed day of the State was fast approaching and he expressed his condition that he would not be able to face the people of Andhra Pradesh if the problem of these mandals was not solved. He also mentioned that he could not take oath as Chief Minister before the issue got resolved. On that very day the concerned file was submitted to Hon'ble Ministers Shri Arun Jaitley, Shri Venkaiah Naidu and Shri Rajnath Singh and was included in the Cabinet meeting which was supposed to be held the next day morning. Hon'ble Minister Shri Venkaiah Naidu had personally submitted the file to the Hon'ble President of India for his consent and approval. Shri Chandrababu Naidu took oath as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh only when the file was signed by the Hon'ble President of India. Sir, now the urban population of the State is very low. The State of Andhra Pradesh has only twenty one per cent of urban population whereas the situation is different in its neighboring States. Tamil Nadu has forty per cent, Karnataka has thirty seven per cent and Telangana has thirty per cent of urban population out of the total population of the State. Sir, through you, I would like to inform this august House that income resource of the State will increase only if urban population is more. The residuary State of Andhra Pradesh is having only twenty one per cent of urban population because the State has lost its Capital, Hyderabad, where all its urban population is concentrated. As a consequence, the State lost its income resources too. In the same way, if we consider per capita income, the per capita income of Kerala is nearly one lakh and thirty thousand rupees, in

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Tamil Nadu it is nearly one lakh and fifty thousand rupees, in Karnataka it is one lakh and thirty thousand rupees and in Telangana it is around one lakh and twenty thousand rupees whereas the per capita income of Andhra Pradesh is too low.

Sir, the people of Andhra Pradesh are questioning Shri Chandrababu Naidu, why he is not demanding the Central Government for granting the Special Category Status to the State. Many political parties and political leaders are commenting on Shri Chandrababu Naidu that he is not making a strong demand, in this regard before the Central Government. Sir, as matter of fact, he has visited Hon'ble Prime Minister and his Cabinet Ministers more than any other Chief Minister and requested them on various issues regarding the development of the State. He requested the Central Government to give the assistance just once and assured them that after ten years Andhra Pradesh would be number one State in the country and would also return the funds. Sir, the issue of Special Category Status has spread among the people of the Andhra Pradesh as a virus. They are under the impression that if Special Category Status is given, there will be a huge rush of industries to the State and consequently, employment will be increased and income resources will be increased remarkably. I request the Central Government and all the leaders of various political parties that Andhra Pradesh is in deep financial problems. Please assist the State. I once again request each and every Member of this august House to assist the State of Andhra Pradesh in every possible way and I sincerely thank the Chair for giving me the opportunity to speak.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to express my gratitude to my revered young Leader, Shri Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddygaru for the opportunity that he has given to me, to represent the party in this august House, to represent the people of this country and, more particularly, the people of Andhra Pradesh. I am profusely thankful to you for the opportunity you have given to me to speak on the issue relating the five crore people of Andhra Pradesh who have been given a raw deal while the State was divided and these people of Andhra Pradesh are helplessly and desperately waiting for justice from the Government of India. Sir, though I am a single Member from the YSR Congress Party, the YSR Congress Party has got 44.4 per cent of the votes that have been polled to the party in the last elections that was held in 2014. It is the main principal opposition party and is the only opposition party in Andhra Pradesh. Therefore, the voice of mine would be very important, at least, so far as this issue is concerned. Hence, I earnestly request you to permit me to speak, at least, for about 20 minutes instead of 15 minutes.

Division of united Andhra Pradesh is a reality. But, the fact that injustice has been done to the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh is also a reality now.

I thought of raising some important legal issues as far as this issue is concerned and I was under the impression that the hon. Finance Minister who is also an eminent lawyer and also the hon. Minister of Law would be present in the House. But, it is unfortunate that they are not here.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): He has just gone out. We are taking notes. He will come back.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Anyhow, thank you very much, Madam.

The hon. Finance Minister, two days back, in this august House, has expressed an opinion that this particular Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill is not maintainable in this House for the simple reason that it is a Money Bill. Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention when the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Bill was passed in 2014, it was passed by invoking Articles 3 and 4 of the Constitution of India. Then, even though a Constitutional Amendment was required, without amending the Constitution, the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Bill was passed. Most of the hon. Members are aware of it. Further, when you say that this Bill is a Money Bill – it is the Speaker who has to certify and the decision of the Speaker is final and is not even subject to judicial review – under article 109, I have a question. And, my question is: When the original enactment has not been treated as Money Bill, how an amendment to the original Act can be treated as Money Bill? This is the question I wish to ask the hon. Finance Minister.

Sir, there might be some exigencies, political compulsions and also due to technical reasons, the Treasury Benches would like to treat this as Money Bill. However, from the legal point of view, nobody can say that it is a Money Bill, because the original enactment has been done by invoking Articles 3 and 4 of the Constitution of India. Even certain amendments are required to be made, there is an enabling provision under Article 4 of the Constitution and any incidental issues that are to be dealt along with the original Act can be done by invoking Article 4 of the Constitution. If this Bill is to be treated as Money Bill then, of course, I am of the sincere opinion that a larger debate is required under Article 110(3) because it will have farreaching consequences. Every Bill or majority of the Bills, or, at least, 70 per cent to 75 per cent of Bills that are coming to this House will have some element of money implications. If the Treasury Benches and the Government of India is going to take a stand that all these Bills are Money Bills and are not maintainable in the

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Rajya Sabha then, probably, the very efficacy of bicameral Parliamentary system would be at stake. I am repeating it, Sir. The very efficacy of bicameral Parliamentary system would be at stake. Therefore, I earnestly request the Government of India not to treat this as a Money Bill, and allow this Bill to be — anyhow, this Bill has been placed — voted in this august House. This is my request, Sir.

Sir, my next point is this. On 18th February, 2014, we are all aware that Lok Sabha passed the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Bill. On 20th February, 2014, it was taken up in Rajya Sabha. There was a debate that took place in Rajya Sabha and it had been approved by the Rajya Sabha. Even though there was no debate in Lok Sabha, there was an extensive debate that took place in Rajya Sabha. None other than the Prime Minister himself had given an assurance in this august House that six issues would be addressed in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Bill, which our hon. Member, Shri Jairam Ramesh, has already explained. So, I don't want to repeat the same. However, one of the assurances that the Prime Minister had given was Special Status to Andhra Pradesh. There, one paragraph, which he has inadvertently omitted to read, I would like to read that. What Prime Minister stated on that particular day, the last para says, is, "Sir, I hope these additional announcements will demonstrate our steadfast commitment to not just the creation of Telangana but also to the continued prosperity and welfare of Seemandhra." This is what the hon. Prime Minister had stated in the august House. Sir, my point now is this. When the Prime Minister has stated that the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh should be given a Special Status for a period of five years, the present hon. Minister for Urban Development had categorically stated that it should not be five years' time. He said, "Five years are not adequate. For any entrepreneur to start an industry, it will take three years' time, and, then, only the remaining two years will be there for the entrepreneurs to enjoy the incentives that will be conferred upon by virtue of this Bill. Therefore, fiveyear period is not adequate. It should be 10 years." This is what the hon. Minister had stated.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

Sir, my contention is, when the Prime Minister himself gave a Statement on the floor of this House, an enactment has been made, and the Bill has become a law, usually, whenever there is a dispute, the courts interpret the provisions of the Act. It is the Minister's Statement which will be read along with the provisions of the relevant Act. What I am trying to say is that though the Minister's Statement and the Prime Minister's Statement would not be a part of the law, it will be read together while interpreting the provisions of law. Therefore, whatever assurances had

been given by the Prime Minister have to be adhered to.

Thirdly, Sir, the hon. Finance Minister of the day, two days back, clearly stated that the Government is a continuous identity. Yes, the Government is a continuous identity. Parties may come to power and parties may go out of the power, but Government will be continuous. The Government of that day, none other than the Prime Minister, had given an assurance on the floor of the House. If the Government is a continuous identity, unless and until the decision taken by the then Government is not reversed, how can it be possible that the decision taken by the then Government is implemented in its letter and spirit? Therefore, it is obligatory on the part of the Government now to implement the assurances given by the then Prime Minister in letter and spirit. Sir, in case the assurances that have been given by the then hon. Prime Minister are not implemented in letter and spirit, I am afraid, it could even tantamount to a breach of privilege. I really don't know whether that would tantamount to a breach of privilege or not.

Sir, when it comes to giving Special Status to the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh, the BJP and also the Telugu Desam Party, in their manifesto had categorically stated that if they came to power, they would give special status for a period of 10 years and 15 years to the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh. That was the assurance they had given in their election manifesto. Further, in the election rallies that were conducted, which the present hon. Prime Minister had attended, on 29th April, 2014 at Tirupati and on 01.05.2014 at Visakhapatnam, he had himself stated that the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh would be granted special status, as promised, for a period of ten years.

Sir, the present Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has taken a paradigm shift insofar as granting special status to Andhra Pradesh is concerned and now, he says that the special status is not a *sanjeevani*. There can... *...(Interruptions)...*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY): Sir, this is not allowed. When the person concerned is not present in the House... *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I am not yielding. *...(Interruptions)...* I am not referring to any name. I am only saying, 'the present Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister'. *...(Interruptions)...* I have not referred to any name. *...(Interruptions)...* Sir, let me reiterate, the present Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has made a paradigm shift in his stand. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, listen, Mr. Reddy. The position is, you cannot criticize a person who cannot come here and defend himself. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I am not referring to any... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. You cannot criticize the present Chief Minister here, because he cannot defend it here. That is the problem. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, don't criticize, but... ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): But he has not criticized. ...*(Interruptions)*... He spoke four times when... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: I have not criticized anybody. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, that is a statement that he has made. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, I am not criticizing... ...*(Interruptions)*... Does it tantamount to criticism? ...*(Interruptions)*... No, Sir. It is not criticism. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am only saying that... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I am only reiterating the statement that he has made. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Sir, it surely is a *sanjeevani* and a lifeline for the people of Andhra Pradesh. Special status should be granted to the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh whatever be the cost and whatever be the consequences. And it is for this reason that I would like to state one more fact. A decision has been taken. As I stated earlier, a decision has been taken by the then Government, headed by the Congress Party, to divide the state of Andhra Pradesh and it has become a reality now. Whatever has been done, has been done. But the promises that have been made should be fulfilled at any cost.

श्री उपसभापति: पंद्रह मिनट हो गए। For a maiden speech, it is only 15 minutes.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Another two minutes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Another two minutes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. That I can't... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: The YSR Congress Party, headed by our Leader, has been in the forefront in fighting for this special status for the last two years, since 2014, and we would continue to fight for this special status. We would continue to fight till the special status is granted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao, you take maximum five minutes. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Telangana): Sir, it is because of me that this discussion is taking place. How can you restrict me to five minutes? ...(*Interruptions*)... This is only because of me that this House is discussing this. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Sir, the other day, Jairam Rameshji had said that the Central Hall was abuzz with the rumours that it would be turned into a Finance Bill, and, Sir, it became true. Now, the Central Hall is abuzz with rumours that I am going to withdraw this Bill. Sir, I want to make it very clear that I am not going to withdraw my Private Members' Bill under any circumstances. Sir, I want the Chair to let me know when my Private Members' Bill is coming for discussion. Is it on tomorrow, the 29th July or on ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will tell you. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will tell you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: This I want to know because ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The moment you finish, I will tell you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Once you finish, I will tell you. ...(*Interruptions*)..

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, let me say that I had great respect and very high opinion about our present Finance Minister and the Leader of the House till a few days back. Sir, I submitted a Private Members' Bill more than a year back; it came back with President's Assent and it was debated twice and the hon. Minister replied to that. But it was stalled because the House was adjourned. Now, after one year, after wasting all the time of Rajya Sabha, after wasting hours, now he says that it is a Finance Bill. Sir, if this is allowed, all those Bills, which are going to come to Rajya Sabha, are going to be termed as Finance Bills. And also, there is a ruling that if any Finance Bill comes, any Member has got a chance to counter it and turn it down. So, Sir, please see the danger; it may affect the entire system of Rajya Sabha and democracy. Sir, "धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः!" *Dharma* protects those who protect *dharma*. This is the most ancient foundation of our culture, custom and character. Unless you protect the constitutional law, constitutional law will not protect us. I demand to implement all that is there in the Act, and what the then Prime Minister has assured and what was repeatedly supported by the then Opposition, that is, BJP. I demand only those points which were proposed by the then Government and which were vehemently supported by the then Opposition, which is now the present

[Dr. K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao]

Government, in the same House, on 20th February, 2014, when the Reorganisation Bill was declared passed. Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, let me be clear that not one Member of Seemandhra, irrespective of his political party whether from Rajya Sabha or from Lok Sabha, supported the bifurcation Bill. But the Bill was passed because of the support of the BJP at that time. Every word that BJP said on that day, here in the House, is still very fresh in my memory and is resounding in my ears. Why should they be ...*(Interruptions)*... When they were speaking, I never objected. Now, they should listen. You are a Minister now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't be emotional. ...*(Interruptions)*... You address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*... You continue to speak. Ignore the Interruptions and continue to speak.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, those speeches must be fresh in your mind and memory because you were in the Chair on that day. Now, the then ruling alliance, UPA, has become the Opposition and the then Opposition, NDA, has become the ruling party, and this is quite a natural phenomenon in our democracy and we all abide by that. But, the most unnatural thing happening is totally throwing the Act and the assurances made by the then Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, into dustbin. Sir, if an assurance given by the Prime Minister and supported by the Opposition on the floor of the House is not binding on the successive Government, what is going to happen to this great nation and its Parliamentary system of governance? Sir, let us not give an impression to the people of this great country as if the debates in this Parliament, passing of Bills, making enactments, rules and procedures are all bogus.

There is no second opinion that in the bargain of the division of Andhra Pradesh, Seemandhra region had lost heavily. I am not asking anything more; I am just asking you to give us what you promised. 'You' means the BJP, which was in the Opposition on that day and, now, the ruling party. They should just give us what they promised. They should just give us what the then Prime Minister promised, and, in the process, was repeatedly interrupted by them. Sir, they had said, "What Dr. Manmohan Singh is promising is not enough and we will double it after a few months, after the elections and after coming into power." Elections are over. They have come to power and more than two years have passed. If they ignore their promises, there is no doubt that the State of Andhra Pradesh will have to suffer. But the bigger danger is that the people of this country will doubt the propriety of the elected democratic Government in the coming days. The very foundation of the Constitution itself will be in danger. We are 'elders' and this House is supposed to

be the highest legislative body under the Constitution. Don't look for loopholes and excuses. Don't try to find out technicalities and legalities.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Your time is over now. Please conclude.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Special Status for ten years was promised. All the promises made by Dr. Manmohan Singh on the floor of this House are being subverted by this Government. The entire Act and its provisions are equally owned by this Government, apart from the UPA. This Bill is so... *...(Time bell rings)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: The promise of special status and all other promises made by Dr. Manmohan Singh and all the provisions incorporated in the Act... *...(Time bell rings)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I will take half-a-minute. Sir, my humble appeal to the Government, through you, is: please rise to the occasion. Give us what you promised. Give us what we are entitled to constitutionally, legally, morally and ethically to safeguard the interests and the propriety of our great Parliament and our great Constitution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Rao, I want to make it clear that your Private Member Bill will be taken up on the day when the Private Members' Bills will be taken up next time. That is, perhaps, on 5th August. It will be disposed of as per the Constitution and the rules of this House.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Why are you saying that it will be disposed of?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: How can I say that it will be passed? *...(Interruptions)...* I said that the Bill would be taken up and disposed of as per the Constitution and the rules of this House. I cannot say more than that. I don't know whether the Bill will be passed or not. I cannot predict anything. But I can assure you one thing — the Bill will be taken up on August, 5th. That I can assure you.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: And furthermore, the Bill can be withdrawn, with the consent of the House only. It is already a property of the House. So, there should not be any doubt on that, I can tell you. But I would repeat, as per the provisions of the Constitution and the rules, the Bill will be disposed of.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, *...(Interruptions)...* One minute, Sir. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री उपसभापति: हो गया।

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, for your ready reference the debate of the 20th and the Gazette ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I was in the Chair, I know. ...(*Interruptions*)... I was in the Chair. ..(*Interruptions*)..

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: And the special status given by the Cabinet ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, the Bhartiya Janta Party manifesto ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. D. Raja. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. D. Raja. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: The manifesto of the Bhartiya Janta Party ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know all this. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now, Mr. D. Raja. Rajaji, you have only five minutes.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Sir. My party, the CPI supported the bifurcation of the State, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please proceed. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I just want a clarification. ...(*Interruptions*)... Did he say something about the Cabinet meeting minutes? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): Sir, I have a point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Point of order? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I hope he did not say 'Cabinet meeting minutes'. ..(*Interruptions*).. How did he get the copy of the minutes, if he wants to show it? He said something like that. Can he please give us a clarification? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: How did he get hold of that? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: How did he get hold of that?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Which minutes?

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I heard it as Cabinet meeting minutes. ...(*Interruptions*)... Can he please explain? ...(*Interruptions*)... Will you please explain? How did he get hold of that? ...(*Interruptions*)... I am sure something is wrong.

...(Interruptions)... Please take it out.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: This is not about Congress or BJP. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I heard him saying Cabinet meeting minutes. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: It was CWC minutes. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What did you say? ..(Interruptions)... I did not hear that. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh): He said 'CWC minutes'. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him say.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: I said 'CWC minutes'. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is Congress Working Committee minutes. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: No, Sir. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is what he said. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: He also showed the papers. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In any case, ...(Interruptions)... Yes, Mr. Raja. ...(Interruptions)... Please speak, Mr. Raja. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया (राजस्थान): सर, यह बहुत गंभीर मामला है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण: सर, यह गंभीर मामला है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है। All right. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, there is no order in the House. ..(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, please. ...(Interruptions)... Yes, yes, please. ...(Interruptions)... If it is ...(Interruptions)... No, I will tell you. ...(Interruptions)... If it is a secret document, ...(Interruptions)... No, please. ...(Interruptions)... Minister, please. ...(Interruptions)... Don't get angry. ...(Interruptions)... If it is a secret document, he can only quote from it, with the prior permission of the Chair, which I have not given. So, he cannot quote from that. Even if it is a ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: He has not quoted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then there is no problem. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri D. Raja. Your time starts now.

SHRI D. RAJA: Thank you, Sir. When the bifurcation of the then Andhra Pradesh took place, our party supported the bifurcation. That way our commitment is to both the States, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Sir, when the bifurcation took place, Members were so agitated. We could see the anger of our hon. colleagues Dr. Ramachandra Rao from this side, our colleagues Mr. Ramesh and Mr. Chowdary. They were all agitating. We witnessed all these things. Sir, when I supported the bifurcation, I said both the States should separate as brothers, set up their own houses and both the States should prosper in their own ways. This is what I spoke. Now, the issue is, we are discussing the status of implementation of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. It is meant not only for one State, but for both the States, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Now, I first come to Andhra Pradesh. Sir, when the bifurcation was decided by the Parliament, there were promises and assurances given by the then Prime Minister. Parties may change. Mr. Venkaiah Naidu was sitting on this side. I could see him getting up and speaking. So, parties may change. One party may be in power today. Tomorrow, some other party may be in power. But, Government is a continuing one. The point is, whether the Government as an institution, the Government as our Government, will honour the assurances given by the then Prime Minister and the previous Government. That is the issue. The Leader of the House, Mr. Arun Jaitley, should answer this question exactly. When Government is a continuing one, is the Government going to honour the assurances and promises given by the previous Government and the then Prime Minister? That is the issue which they will have to answer. Why I am asking this question is because there are ambiguous statements coming from Government sources. The Government sources are making repeated statements saying that after the Fourteenth Finance Commission, no special status can be given to any State. What is the position of the Government? I would like to know that from the Government. The Leader of the House is not here. Senior Minister, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, is sitting there. I am asking: What is the stand of the Government? Are you sticking to your position and will the special category status to Andhra Pradesh be given or not? You are making ambiguous Statements that after Fourteenth Finance Commission, it cannot be done. ...*(Time-bell rings)*... Sir, I will conclude. What is the position of the Government? If you ask me, you will have to honour the assurances and promises given by Dr. Manmohan Singh, the then Prime Minister. You will have to fulfil that commitment given by the Government to the people of Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Time bell rings)*... Having said that, for Telangana, a promise for tax incentives was made. What happened to that promise of giving tax incentives to the State of Telangana? Sir, both Andhra and

Telangana are our States. India is one nation. BJP believes in one nation more than anybody else and if that is so, how do you treat Andhra Pradesh and how do you treat Telangana? Do you stand by the commitment made by the Government itself? That is what I am asking.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, you please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, he is saying that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Honour the commitment.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Government will stand up. You please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Digvijaya Singh. You have five minutes.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Thank you very much, Sir. I have a few questions to the hon. Leader of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I go by the rule. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is an order to be taken. What do I do? ...*(Interruptions)*... I can only go by the order. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me tell you, if that is your position, TDP had four minutes, which is already over. Don't bring up these things. Be careful. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not violating any rule. ...*(Interruptions)*... You should know these things. The point is, you don't understand. After Shri D. Raja, it is the Congress to start. ...*(Interruptions)*... Then, followed by other parties, it will go on. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is what I am saying. ...*(Interruptions)*... If I adhere to rules, TDP will have no time. So, don't raise such things unnecessarily. Now, Mr. Digvijaya Singh, you start.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, I have a few questions to the hon. Leader of the House, maybe, in his absence. Venkaiah Naiduji is also not here. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay. I can and I will. My question to the Government is this. I would refer to the assurances made by the then Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singhji, on 20th February, 2014 about which my colleague, Shri Jairam Ramesh, has already mentioned. Is the assurance made by the then Prime Minister, hon. Dr. Manmohan Singh, not binding on the present Government, particularly, of the special status, as he mentioned as point No.1? This is my first question.

My second question is....*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, there is no Cabinet Minister there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): He is coming. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please get your Cabinet Minister or otherwise Naqviji should be elevated to the Cabinet rank. One of these should be done. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, do not be partial. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not possible? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: There are people from Andhra Pradesh here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, if the Government does not elevate him, let the House do it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, we can. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have no ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, the Minister has come. He does not want Naqviji to be elevated. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Mr. Naqvi lost the opportunity. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT; THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION; AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Sir, I told the Minister that I had to go to washroom. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He said that. ...*(Interruptions)*... No problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, you must tell Venkaiah Naidu *gaaru*, the conspiracy we were all weaving. ...*(Interruptions)*... In your absence, we thought we would elevate Mr. Naqvi as Cabinet Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: No problem. We have no problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you are not doing, we were trying to do it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: We have already given him independent charge. He has got a bright future. We encourage such people. Though none of you people have given ticket to, – of 57 MPs, not even one minority – we have brought two people from minority to the Rajya Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, now, Shri Digvijaya Singh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, my second question to the Government is whether it is a fact that on the 1st March, 2014, the Cabinet also took a decision to this effect. Now, hon. Venkaiah Naidu is here. I am just reminding him. Although we know, Sir, the whole BJP is on *jumla* politics. ...*(Interruptions)*... You should ask Mr. Amit Shah, what he means by *jumla*. I would say, the Prime Ministerial candidate of BJP, in his speech in Andhra Pradesh, also made a statement saying,

“I will give you more than what you have asked for and a special category status not for five years but for ten years. And, special tax incentives will be given by the Government which I am going to lead.” Hon. Venkaiah Naiduji also, – I would like to sort of put it on record what he said – said that he wanted the special category status for ten years. I would like to ask Venkaiah Naiduji to please respond to this as to whether he really meant it. Will he stand by it or will he be pressurized by the Prime Minister to give away the assurances that he had made to the House? Sir, I would also like to point it to the Government, let them not equate the special status for Andhra Pradesh with other States. Let them not hide under the pretext that it has to be comparative. There is a special case for Andhra Pradesh. Because of historical reasons, most of the developments took place in Hyderabad and around and, therefore, there is a fiscal imbalance in the bifurcation of the States, due to which special attention has to be given to the State of Andhra Pradesh through special category Status and through tax incentives, which were promised by the then Prime Minister. Therefore, Sir, I would request and urge upon the Government that they should be serious about these commitments made by the then Prime Minister. They should be serious about implementation of the provisions of the Act, as mentioned by Mr. Jairam Ramesh. It is an emotional issue. We have got the greatest regard for the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. But I do not know why he is feeling shy to fight for the cause of State of Andhra Pradesh. Why is he not pressurizing? Why is he not pressurizing the Prime Minister? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: One minute, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him complete. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will allow you. ...(*Interruptions*)... You speak. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: So, why is he not pressurizing the Prime Minister to implement the provisions of the Act itself? Why is he not pressurizing the Prime Minister to fulfil the commitment made by the then Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. Are there any other reasons or is it political convenience? These are the issues which I would like to raise, Sir. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Anubhav Mohanty. Your time is five minutes. Please conclude in five minutes. Everybody's time is five minutes only.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY (Odisha): Sir, please consider a few more minutes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. You have to speak in five minutes.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Sir, I will try my best. The first linguistic State, which was formed in India, was in 1936 and it was Odisha that was carved out of Bihar and, Sindh that was carved out of Punjab. This was pre-Independence India.

[Shri Anubhav Mohanty]

After Independence, linguistic States were also formed. Gujarat and Karnataka came into existence. Maharashtra took all the Marathi speaking people together, taking erstwhile Bombay province, Vidarbha and part of erstwhile Hyderabad State. The Telugu-speaking people, after a lot of struggle, lot of sacrifices, got Andhra Pradesh. It is not that linguistic States have not divided themselves after that, as it happened in the case of Andhra Pradesh. Uttarakhand was carved out of Uttar Pradesh; Jharkhand from Bihar; Chhattisgarh from Madhya Pradesh; all these came into existence without much strife. But, Sir, in case of Andhra Pradesh division, I don't know why, but, it was handled very, very shabbily by the previous Government. Even today, judges are coming on the streets, on a demand to divide the High Court of Andhra Pradesh and setting up a separate High Court for Telangana. Sir, this was never heard of earlier, and this shows the gravity of the situation. Similarly, in the case of Andhra Pradesh, they need to construct a new Capital; they are short of revenue and are not in a position to meet the aspirations of their people. I and my party, Biju Janata Dal, have full sympathy with the people of Andhra Pradesh; of course, with Telangana too. They are sturdy, energetic. They both are sturdy, energetic and with God's grace, they both will also tide over this prevalent situation. But, there are many other States in our country which suffer from similar situations, similar problems. So, the Government must support those States of India also. The NITI Aayog is supposed to provide a formula by which support can be extended to all economically weaker States.

Sir, as far as my knowledge goes, the four criteria that the State needs to clarify to get special status are — please correct me if I am wrong anywhere — (i) if the per capita income of the State, in comparison to the per capita income of the nation is lower; (ii) if ST and SC population is higher in the State; (iii) if large portion of the State is of hilly terrain; and (iv) if the border of the State connects to any international border. Keeping these four criteria in mind, the North-Eastern States, three Himalayans States and Jammu and Kashmir, were provided with a special status which has been done away with after the Fourteenth Finance Commission's recommendations being accepted by this Government, which had stated that it had outlived its utility. Therefore, a number of packages are now being suggested by NITI Aayog, and accordingly, packages are being announced for Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and even UP. A small support package has also gone to West Bengal. But, I wonder, when I see the Indian geographical map, between West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh, how the Government can ignore Odisha. We come in-between West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh. We have been clearly ignored; it is quite clear. Sir, the per capita income of my State Odisha is lesser than the per capita income of the nation.

The percentage of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is very high in Odisha. Sir, large parts of it are of hilly terrain and inaccessible areas. The only criteria that Odisha doesn't fulfill is that we don't connect to any international border, and, so is Andhra Pradesh. If we find out the per capita income in comparison to the national per capita income, it needs to be checked out because I do not know about it very clearly. Sir, SC/ST population is certainly not 40 per cent in Andhra Pradesh. Yet, the previous Government in moving the Bill relating to the Andhra Pradesh Reconstruction mentioned about providing special status to Andhra Pradesh.

Now, I am referring to the report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce, headed by Shri Shanta Kumar, veteran BJP leader, "The Committee recommends that special status be extended to the industrially backward States like Bihar, Odisha and Jharkhand." I went through this report deliberately, I do not know why I couldn't find the name of Andhra Pradesh. But still I am happy and we support that Andhra Pradesh should be given special status.

Finally, Sir, Odisha Government, under the leadership of our most favourite Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik, for many years, has been fighting and demanding for our rights to get a special status for Odisha because geographically Odisha is the only State in India which faces natural calamities every alternative year. This hampers and kills the State's financial condition. That is why we have been demanding for special category status since many years. सर, इस सरकार ने तो कभी हमारी बात नहीं सुनी, इसलिए आज ओडिशा में उनका roots वगैरह कुछ भी नहीं है। They have been thrown out from the hearts of the Odisha people.

सर, 2014 में बीजेपी ने अपने Election Manifesto में ओडिशा के लोगों से promise किया था कि अगर ये सरकार में आ जाएँगे, तो ये ओडिशा को Special Category Status देंगे, लेकिन इन दो सालों में ...**(व्यवधान)**... सरकार केंद्र में आई है, यह ओडिशा में तब तक नहीं आएगी, जब तक ये ओडिशा को honour नहीं करेंगे। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... सर, ऐसे ही दो साल हो गए, पर दो साल में हमारी मांग को दो-दो बार नीति आयोग से टुकराया गया, reject किया गया। ...**(Time-bell rings)**... I will end. I will not continue much.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, conclude.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: I will take one more minute, because it is connected to Odisha emotionally. Odisha is a part of the country.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, conclude.

श्री अनुभव मोहंती: सर, कुछ दिन पहले, जब we were talking about...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Make your demand.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: I will make my demand. I am not aware of the Private Member's Bill कि किस तरह से क्या सब होता है, but still Section 108, clause (g) they have given.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Don't go into that Bill.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Polavaram Project has been taken forward..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, you can speak at that time.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Okay, Sir, I will finish.

सर, आदरणीया उमा भारती जी ने कुछ दिन पहले संसद में कहा था कि ओडिशा से प्यार करने के लिए ओडिशा में पैदा होने की जरूरत नहीं है।

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है, आप बैठिए।

श्री अनुभव मोहंती: भारत में पैदा होना ही काफी है। ...(समय की घंटी)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. All right. No, no. That is enough. That is enough. Okay. Now, sit down.

श्री अनुभव मोहंती: वे ओडिशा से बहुत प्यार करती हैं, वे ओडिशा की बहुत चिन्ता करती हैं, वे ओडिशा के साथ बिल्कुल अन्याय नहीं होने देंगी, ओडिशा जगन्नाथ जी का राज्य है, ओडिशा जगत के नाथ का राज्य है। ...(समय की घंटी)... I demand of this Government to kindly honour Odisha ..(Interruptions)..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sit down, sit down. ..(Interruptions)..

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: We request you that this is our demand. We are not begging. We are not seeking your mercy. It is our demand. Please fulfill it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Anubhav Mohanty, please sit down. I will also support your demand.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Thank you so much.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sit down.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Sir, I love you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, thank you, because I support your demand. I support every good demand.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Even if you have not said this, I would have said, I love you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, thank you.

8.00 P.M.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: May I clarify one point? Coming up over and over and over again, special category status to Andhra Pradesh is only for five years. Special Category status for other eleven States is in perpetuation. There is a difference between the two.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Jairamji, there is no time. Jairamji let the Minister explain. Now, you are not the Minister.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Please try to understand.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Please, Sir. You clarify this. What we are discussing is the assurances given to Andhra Pradesh at the time of the debate. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is the issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I agree. That is the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the issue; I agree. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: 'Special Category' is a separate discussion. Let us have a separate discussion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is not the issue; I agree. ...*(Interruptions)*... I only said it is for the Minister to say.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: It is only the assurances given in the House, to Andhra and Telangana, both the States, that should be discussed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes; it is about the assurances given at that time when the Bill was discussed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, listen. Please listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Ramesh, please listen. From TDP, there are three more names. ...*(Interruptions)*... But they do not have even a single minute left with them. Therefore, I will allow five minutes each for all the three, that means, 15 minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, there is no time. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is what I am saying. No maiden speech today! If they want to make a maiden speech, they should speak later. Not now. ...*(Interruptions)*... Well, first, we have already reached 8.00 p.m. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, listen. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. That is not my fault. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Ramesh, sit down. I have to also manage the House. I have to be aware of the time-constraints also. If a Party doesn't have even a single minute, how can a Member of that Party say it is his maiden speech? That is not possible. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me complete. If there is no time left for the Party, the Chair can very well not call a Member. Yet, the subject being important and you being from Andhra Pradesh, I am ready to call all the three, but no maiden speech; five minutes only. That is my point. This is also applicable to all other Members who will speak; not more than five minutes. This is for everybody.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, who is responding from the Government?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: From the Government, the Minister will respond.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Who?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That they will decide. It is a joint responsibility. Don't worry. ...*(Interruptions)*... You are responding as if you are the Minister! You are responding already! If you can respond, why not they? Now, Shri T.G. Venkatesh. Only five minutes, please.

SHRI T. G. VENKATESH (Andhra Pradesh): Respected Deputy Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to convey my profound thanks to the hon. Chair for giving me the opportunity to express my opinion on the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

Andhra Pradesh was divided in an unscientific manner, giving the MPs of Andhra Pradesh no chance to raise their voice. The then Government had left no scope for discussion in the House. All the efforts of Andhra MPs had gone waste and the State was divided.

The discussion on the AP Reorganization Bill took place in Rajya Sabha only. While speaking on the AP Reorganization Bill, the then hon. Prime Minister had assured on the floor of the House that once the State was bifurcated, the residual State of Andhra Pradesh would be accorded the 'Special Category' status for five years. Venkaiah Naiduji, the hon. Minister of Urban Development, who was in the Opposition at that time, had extended his support to the Bill, and had demanded the 'Special Category' status for Andhra Pradesh for 10 years, instead of 5 years, as well as a Special Package for the State. He had also promised that the 'Special Category' status to Andhra Pradesh would be extended up to 10 years, if they came to power.

According to the National Development Council, the criteria for according Special Category status are economic backwardness, lack of proper infrastructure and the non-viable nature of finances. The State of Andhra Pradesh is, in fact, suffering from all the three factors.

First and foremost, economically, it has fallen into a backward position as there are no sufficient funds for taking up any major development-related activity. Secondly, there is no infrastructure, because the industrially and commercially developed State Capital of Hyderabad has gone to Telangana. And the residual Andhra Pradesh has been left with no Capital of its own. It has to first look for a Capital city for which there are no sufficient finances. Thirdly, the non-viable nature of finances is also an important problem before the Government.

The 14th Finance Commission in its Report had stated that Andhra Pradesh would be the only State, other than the Special Category States, which would suffer from revenue deficit at the end of the 14th Finance Commission period *i.e.*, 2019-20, at a time when States of Bihar, Odisha, Rajasthan and similar other backward States, would be thriving with revenue surplus. Please note this, Sir. This means that Andhra Pradesh would continue to be, fiscally, the most disadvantaged State in the country. In fact, this financial imbalance can only be corrected by giving impetus for a rapid industrial and commercial development in Andhra Pradesh and also help in tiding over its gaping budgetary shortfall of over ₹ 12,000 crores or more annually. In these circumstances, granting the 'Special Category' status and a Special Package is the only hope for Andhra Pradesh. This will entail the flow of a large amount of fund to the State by way of grants for its economic development. The industrial incentives and tax exemptions which would come through special status and special package, would give solace to Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, 2014 has seen the BJP coming to power. Yet, whenever the question of Special Category status to Andhra Pradesh has come up in either of the Houses, the Government has made it clear that due to some technical problems in the Act which has already been passed, granting of Special Category status to Andhra Pradesh is not possible. Further, they have sent the message that instead of Special Category Status, Special Package would be given.

A simple reading of the Act will show that a Special Developmental Package has already been promised to 7 backward districts of Andhra Pradesh, which includes the 4 districts of Rayalaseema and 3 districts of Uttarandhra. Is the Special Package which this Government is offering, different from what was already promised to Andhra Pradesh under this Act?

The Rayalaseema Rights United Forum has been demanding a Special Development Package for the 4 backward districts of Rayalaseema for more than a decade. These demands were submitted at the last moment to the Centre by the TDP and the BJP, which in turn, were accepted by the then ruling Congress/UPA.

The need for such a Package is highlighted in the fact that the 4 districts of Rayalaseema show developmental and economic indicators that mirror special category States. These areas, in addition to being geographical landlocked, are also severely drought-prone. At present, these districts lack economic growth engines and have substantially poor infrastructure, and therefore, are unable to attract investments and kick start their own virtuous cycle of development.

So far, the Government of India has provided ₹ 100 crore per district over the last 2 years, but this amount is inadequate for the developmental needs of even a

[Shri T. G. Venkatesh]

single district, much less the entire region. The demands of the Rayalaseema people are for a package that is similar to the generous one, extended by the Government, to other developmentally backward States, such as, Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal etc., in the form of tax exemptions, industrial incentives etc.

There was a consensus between the major national parties on Special Status and Special Package for Andhra Pradesh. However, the same has been neglected since. The major national parties, that is, the BJP and the Congress have taken the lead in both bifurcating the State and in making promises. The first part, they have undertaken much to the anguish of the people of Andhra Pradesh. The second part regarding benefits to the State of Andhra Pradesh, have been put on the backburner. There is impatience brewing in the minds of the people of Andhra Pradesh on account of these unmet promises. People are of the view that they have been duped by both the Governments of UPA and NDA.

These two major parties, each holding sway in a particular House, are at leisure to fulfill promises to the people of Andhra Pradesh, but I am unable to know what prevents them from coming together to make these promises a reality.

The hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modiji, during the election campaign in 2014 had promised to give special status and special package to Andhra Pradesh. Not only that, it was also included in the Manifesto of the BJP. He has to keep his word. After all, justice delayed is justice denied.

In his every meeting with the hon. Prime Minister and other Ministers, our Chief Minister, Shri Chandrababu Naidu garu, has been stressing on granting of special status and special package to Andhra Pradesh and other promises made in the AP Reorganization Act, such as, Special Railway Zone, Completion of Polavaram Dam, Establishment of Central Government offices and institutions in the State etc. as early as possible.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Kindly conclude.

SHRI T. G. VENKATESH : In view of the facts mentioned above, I humbly request all the parties to come together to meet the aspirations of the people of Andhra Pradesh by granting Special Status and Special Package to it, thereby putting an end to all such confusions.

So, I once again request all the Members of both august Houses to understand the plight of the people of Andhra Pradesh, and evolve a way to grant Special Status and Special Package to Andhra Pradesh as it was mentioned in the AP Reorganization Act, without any further delay. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. K. Keshava Rao. Dr. Rao, you know the time constraint. So, please take five minutes only.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: No, Sir. The subject of discussion is the status of the implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Act of 2014. What does it mean? Did any single Member of this House refer to Telangana except Shri D. Raja? No. They would refer to Andhra Pradesh only.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This Bill refers to Andhra Pradesh only. I asked for the rule. If you see the rule, I can say that it is not allowed for Telangana. It is specifically Andhra Pradesh. It is not allowed. But I am not doing that. This is specifically Andhra Pradesh.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: What is the status of the Bill? It speaks about Andhra Pradesh; it speaks about Telangana...*(Interruptions)*... I know the heart of Mr. Sitaram Yechury who * the Telangana Government. I am not getting into it...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, this is a wrong allegation. He probably does not understand Telugu any more. When I spoke in Telugu, I spoke about Telangana, I spoke about the backwardness in Telangana. Sir, you will have to remove this allegation. This is a wrong allegation....*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This allegation can be expunged. Don't make any allegation....*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: It is very nice of Jairam Rameshji who had brought the entire Bill. He read it out. That is what we are trying to discuss here today. He raised four or five questions; I say this would not solve the problem. It is true. I am totally supporting the Andhra friends in what they want. Let there be no doubt about it. Anything that has been said in the past or anything that has been promised on the floor of the House like this cannot be just wished away. However loud or vocal its defence may be, it will have to be honoured. One thing comes to my mind. Now, one thing comes to my mind. I will not use this word. I will use it with your permission, Sir. The culprit of the entire Bill is Shri Jairam Ramesh. It is he who drafted this Bill and brought it and now finding fault. He had interviewed me two times on this. It is he who did not mention the special status in this Bill. Some Member talked about four mistakes in the Bill. Somebody from there said that this is not there and that is not there in the Bill. If all that is not there, it is because Shri Jairam Ramesh has not brought it. Now, I come to another thing. Now, he is championing the cause...

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH : Sir, I need your protection.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is no allegation; so, I cannot protect you.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Since I am supporting the Bill, supporting the arguments...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO : He is doing *prayaschit* for it.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Yes, *prayaschit*. Good. Now, Sir, there are two things that come to my mind. When they are talking about special status — I have not read in the Constitution the word 'Special Status'; I have not read in any Central Act about Special Status — when they are referring to the word 'Special Status', I was wondering as to what Special Status should be unless it is defined somewhere. See, I can understand, Shri Venkaiah Naidu asking on that day and he had pressed for it. If he had agreed, then, today, he must get up and say, "A Bill be passed as to what Special Status should be." You codify that and ask for that thing. And, even if it is not mentioned there, Andhra Pradesh still deserves to get those things also. I don't want to repeat it but just want Shri Jairam Ramesh to know because he has done it. Sir, I don't want to repeat the issues, because all people have repeated it. Sir, what are they trying to say when they are talking about the Special Status? Section 77 is regarding Division of State Government Employees. Is it done? It is not done. Who is suffering? We, the people of Telangana, are suffering. Did anybody refer to it? Sir, Section 53 and Section 68(2) stipulate about Schedule IX-about the Corporations. Is it done? It is not done. What Mr. Jairam Ramesh who authored the Bill wanted in the Act is, if this is not done, the administrative power will be with the Andhra Government, and they enjoy it. The Corporations are still existing but who is administrating them? It is the Andhra Government that is administrating it. Where are they located? They are there in Telangana? Who are the employees? Telangana employees are there. Let him know about that. Now, you take Schedule X. Sir, we must understand what is there in Section 75. Mr. Jairam Ramesh, in that Section, what you wrote is that if it is not bifurcated, then the entire thing will be in the hands of the State in which it is established. But, today, you have gone to the court; you raised a litigation and said that they should go to you. This is one issue which the Central Government must look into. सर, सब बड़े आदमी पावरफुल होने की वजह से आपके पास आ जाएँगे। लोग सेक्शन 94(2) के बारे में बहुत बात कर रहे हैं। सेक्शन 94(2) तेलंगाना के लिए लिखा गया था। जयराम रमेश जी खुद जानते हैं। बैकवर्ड डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स की बात करके, प्लानिंग कमिशन का दावा देकर, आपने हमें कहा कि आपको उतने पैसे मिलने हैं। आज आप लोग उसके लिए बात ही नहीं करते हैं। आंध्र प्रदेश को दो मर्तबा दिए हैं। इस रूल में, सेक्शन 94(2) के अन्दर इनको दो मर्तबा दिए हैं, लेकिन हमें एक ही मर्तबा दिए हैं।

आपने 432 करोड़ ही हमें दिए, इस पर कोई पूछने वाला नहीं है। हम यहां क्यों बैठे हुए हैं? हम 70 साल से धक्के खा रहे थे, तो 'ठीक है, चलने दो' यह हमारी हालत थी। Now, Section 94(1) regarding the tax incentives, did you give to us? He has not given it to us.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is not a Minister now. How can he give that?

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: No, no; he should have championed my cause. No, no; although he poses to be a Minister and he talks like a Minister and he is championing like a Minister, now he should have taken up my case also because he has used the words, 'Status of A.P. Reorganization Bill.' Now, then, regarding Section 94, Mr. Jairam has raised only six issues. I am raising nine issues. There are nine Sections.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No; Keshava Raoji, I told you if it is to speak about Telangana; you can give another motion.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, I have given a motion about A.P. Reorganization Act. The A. P. Reorganization Bill is about Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. First of all, I don't want this discussion. They have been talking about this. They don't...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, ...(Time Bell rings)... Time over.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, I am just concluding. Just one minute. The Members here must know जो bifurcation हुआ है, उसे आपने खुद देखा है। जिस तरीके से हम लोग suffer हुए हैं, सबने देखा है। 60 साल से हम क्यों अलग होने को कह रहे थे, आपने खुद देखा है। आज मैं जो देख रहा हूँ, अलग होने के बाद भी, रियलिटी में भी ...(समय की घंटी)... आपको भी इसका पश्चाताप होगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, please. Keshava Raoji, please. ...(Time Bell rings)...

डा. के. केशव राव: सर, मुझे एक ही सेंटेंस कहना है। क्योंकि हमारे सबसे ज्यादा रेस्पेक्टेबल दिग्विजय सिंह जी हैं। दिग्विजय सिंह साहब ने बहुत अच्छी बात कही कि इसका क्वेश्चन क्या है, उसका क्वेश्चन क्या है। उसमें मेरी भी बात कह देनी थी। शायद वे पहले से तैयारी करके नहीं आए थे, इसीलिए शायद वे तेलंगाना को भूल गए। ...(समय की घंटी)... तो यह चीज हर आदमी की होती है। तो मेरी यह कंडीशन है। हमें जो भी मिलना है, नहीं मिल रहा है, लेकिन we can go on... सर, एक problem हर वक्त होती है। ...(समय की घंटी)... तेलंगाना separate होने का real issue was about legal litigations, in the courts. रवि शंकर जी, आप जानते हैं कि यह क्यों हुआ है? ...(समय की घंटी)... आज हाई कोर्ट के लिए, the Constitution, I know, Sir,...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Keshava Raoji, please. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, Section 31 says that there shall be a separate High Court. Are they giving? The President can do it. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, I am asking the Leader of the House, please don't be partial. Mr. Digvijaya Singh can be partial, Mr. Ramesh can be partial; but you can't be partial.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Keshava Rao, please sit down.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: When you are taking up Andhra issues, I am supporting. ...(*Interruptions*)... Whatever requirements they have, whatever finances they want, they must get it. Along with it, please see to it that Telangana is more serious and important for us. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. See, the understanding is, everybody will speak for five minutes. If you take more time, then, what do I do?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I would not repeat, but since I have given the notice, I must speak.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, you please speak. Don't waste time.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, I would like to say that when the Bill was passed in this House, the BJP leaders — Sir, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Leader of the House — were very happy. Sir, on 20th February, 2014, at 3.30 p.m. or 4.00 p.m., how was the Bill passed in this House? The Bill was passed unanimously and in a democratic way. Before the Bill was passed, the then, Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, committed the special status along with three more things. When he had committed special status, the BJP leaders felt very happy. I need not repeat what the BJP leaders said immediately after the Bill was passed. They said that they wanted the special status for ten years, and it is a known fact.

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Leader of the House, Shri Arun Jaitley, perhaps, that day, the Bill would not have been passed unanimously by the House, if the Prime Minister had not announced the special status. So, I want to legally link it actually with that day. The Bill was passed because the special status was committed for Andhra. The BJP leaders, Shri Arun Jaitleyji and Shri Venkaiah Naiduji were saying that they also pleaded for the special status and other things, and were very happy that Dr. Manmohan Singhji agreed to that. So, that means, the BJP leaders wanted it; Dr. Manmohan Singhji wanted it; the House wanted it; and it was unanimously passed. And, today, you are saying that every State is asking for the special status. Sir, Andhra Pradesh, one of the biggest States, with its five crore people, was divided because both the brothers wanted separation and it was separated under special circumstances. The Hyderabad City, the biggest Capital, had to go to Telangana, and the remaining area has totally fallen down on Andhra Pradesh.

This was the feeling of the BJP and also the UPA Government. Therefore, they came forward with various packages to compensate the people of Andhra Pradesh that day. But today the Government is not giving it. What is the idea, actually? On the one side, you are saying that every State is asking for it. You cannot compare Andhra with 'every State'. I fully support that other States also have got every right to ask for the special status. But the circumstances under which Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated were totally different. That is why, that day, when they committed the special status... *...(Interruptions)*... I am in Parliament for 20 years, and I know the rules. Don't teach me the rules. What I would like to say is that the BJP fully supported the bifurcation. In Lok Sabha, Sushmaji said, "Yes, I am giving gift to the Telangana people." I appreciated it, and felt very happy about it. The bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh was impossible without the support of the BJP. So, you supported that, and five crore people suffered financial loss. To overcome that loss, there is some remedy. The then Government wanted to give some remedy for that. On the one side, they say that they have to give the money for the new Capital. Then, Shri Arun Jaitleyji says, "No, no; you send proposal for your Secretariat and High Court, I will give money." This is not the way. You provide in the Budget the money for the new Capital and other things. Sir, the hon. Prime Minister announced in the Tirupati town, Lord Balaji's town, that he will give a wonderful Capital to Andhra Pradesh. I want to remind you. Every day, the Prime Minister says 'Swachh Bharat', 'clean city' and so many other slogans. अंध्र प्रदेश ने क्या पाप किया है? What sin have the Telugu people committed? Why is he not sympathetic about Andhra Pradesh? I want to question him on this occasion. I am saying that we are all one. No doubt, you may think it to be sensitive because every other State may ask for it if you give it to Andhra Pradesh. It is totally different. Andhra Pradesh situation has been explained already. You have to give special status to Andhra Pradesh.

The second and the most important point is, as per Section 46(3), of the Reorganization Act the Central Government shall have to provide adequate incentives particularly for the Rayalaseema and three districts in the Northern Coastal area on the basis of Koraput-Bolangir-Kalahandi. Why has it not been implemented for the past two years? I would like to know. They are saying that giving special status is not a part of the Act. Then, why is this not being implemented? I would like to know. वे बार-बार बोलते हैं हमने बहुत दिया है। What is our necessity? We are all one. We love each other. This is not at all necessary. I know, दुख हो रहा है, क्यों सता रहे हैं तेलुगू वालों को? Their hearts want to give but they are unable to give. That is the problem. Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I understand that in the Andhra Pradesh election manifesto too, the BJP announced that it would fulfill all its Parliamentary commitments. That is what they have committed. They are also sincere. They are very

[Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy]

nice people. But, there is something wrong somewhere. I am unable to understand where it is wrong.

You are very nice people, you are committed, you love the Telugu people and you would like to do this. If Odisha wants it, Bihar wants it, please examine. You give them too afterwards. It is a different issue. You can't leave this. Planning Commission we wanted, but in the Act also, it is not there. Shri K. V. P. Ramachandra Rao introduced the Bill. For the first time in the Indian history, every political party came forward to support this Bill yesterday. In the history of Private Members' Bill, I don't think such a thing ever happened. I am here in Parliament, in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, for the past twenty years, it has not happened. *...(Time-bell rings)...*

Please allow me two more minutes. All political parties stood by us like a solid rock and said that they would pass the Private Member's Bill. डर गया, डर के *...(व्यवधान)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Allow me two minutes. डर गया डर के he said, 'It is a Money Bill'. वे एक साल से सो. *...(Interruptions)...*

Similarly, on Telangana also, I am part of both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. I belong to both of them. Both are important for me. For me, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are two eyes. So, on Telangana also they have not committed. They have not done on that also. What Mr. Keshava Rao said is also important.

Lastly, I want to invoke the divine power of Lord Hanuman. The Hanuman shakti must come. "ओम् नमो भगवते हनुमते मान सर्वकार्येषु ज्वल-ज्वल, प्रज्वल-प्रज्वल असाध्यम् साध्यम्-साध्यम् मा हुं फट स्वाहा।

His true powers must make the BJP Government, the NDA Government, to do justice to the people of Andhra Pradesh. Thank you all.

SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO (Telangana):* Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Sir, a few minutes back, senior Member from Indian National Congress Shri Digvijaya Singh commented on my party leader and the present Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Chandrababu Naidu, why he is feeling shy in demanding the Central Government on implementing the Special Category Status to the State? Sir, Shri Digvijaya Singh is a very senior and respected member. He served as Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and is also the in-charge of Andhra Pradesh from All India Congress Committee. In my personal opinion, it is unwelcoming for a person

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Telugu.

of such high stature to comment on the present Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. In 2014, Telugu Desam Party and Bharatiya Janata Party contested the elections in alliance. Both parties contested elections in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana with a sense of brethren. Now we suspect that Indian National Congress Party has plans to split us both. Even if they have such idea, I assure both the parties will stand united and contest the next elections in alliance. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Shri Chandrababu Naidu will fight with the Central Government until all the points mentioned in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014 are implemented. I also want to remind all the Hon'ble Members of this House that, Shri Chandrababu Naidu is a visionary and always works for development of the State. *...(Interruptions)...* Because they have mentioned earlier, I am telling this. There are no lapses in our efforts.

Today, all the Telugu speaking people in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, other State of this country and from all parts of the world are all glued to their televisions to see the proceedings of this House. Hon'ble Member Shri K. Keshava Rao expressed his opinion that problems of the State of Telangana should also be discussed along with the problems of the State of Andhra Pradesh. Andhra Pradesh is asking for implementation of Special Category Status as the State is facing many financial problems, on the other hand Telangana is also confronting many issues. People of both the States are dissatisfied and in this regard Telugu Desam Party leader and present Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Shri Chandrababu Naidu requested the Central Government several times for help to both the States. Shri Chandrababu Naidu after taking oath as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh on June 8, 2014 visited Delhi for twenty nine times to explain the Central Cabinet Members the plight of the State and request the Government for help and support. I was a witness to a couple of occasions when he addressed the problems of Telangana people to the Central Government.

Hon'ble Ministers Shri Arun Jaitley, Shri Venkaiah Naidu and Hon'ble Member Shri Sitaram Yechury are present here now. For the last two-and a half hours this House discussed that more than two years have passed since bifurcation of the State but promises are not fulfilled. Sir, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, are they not part of India? Are the States a separate country? Why are you looking down on the people of these States? Are you taking revenge on the people of both the States? What mistake did the Telugu speaking people commit? I request all the Ministers in the Central Government to think in a broad perspective. Today, people from both the States are eagerly watching the proceedings of this House to know what help the Central Government is going to offer for the States.

[Shri Garikapati Mohan Rao]

Sir, I personally feel that no one from Telugu speaking States might have expected that, even after two years of bifurcation of the State there will be a need to discuss the problems of the State in Parliament. I request the Central Government to please inform what it is planning to offer to the State of Andhra Pradesh. If so, when will it give? It is not fair on part of the Government to postpone the issue for months and years together.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What do I do?

SHRI GARIKAPATI MOHAN RAO:* Finally I just want to say only one thing. Hon'ble Minister Shri Arun Jaitley has come with bulky books. Sir, I am requesting you. You please help the people of both the States. I once again request the Central Government that they should resolve the problems of the State immediately and ensure that there will not be any further need for discussions to be held in this august House in regard to the problems of either Andhra Pradesh or Telugu speaking people. During election campaign, Shri Narendra Modi made promises in Tirupati, Guntur, Bhimavaram and Vizag that he will help and support the State of Andhra Pradesh in every possible way. Shri Narendra Modi and Shri Shri Chandrababu Naidu shared the dais on many occasions and Shri Narendra Modi made many promises for the State then. People of Andhra Pradesh kept their trust in him and believed in his assurances. Mutual support was shared between Telugu Desam Party and Bharatiya Janata Party Members contesting the elections and people of the State also supported us. Lastly, I once again request the Central Government to help the State and deliver justice to the State. Thank you Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jairamji, what I told you was only a joke. I will get it expunged. I am expunging it. It was only a joke. Sorry. But, I would like you to be a Minister.

Now, Renukaji. You have five minutes.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, sometimes, your jokes are very dangerous.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Suppose, if my joke becomes a reality, then you will be happy. Isn't it?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I don't think that he objected to your joke. He did not object to your joke. Mr. Jairam Ramesh did not object to your joke.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. But, it is my duty to expunge it even if he did not object.

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Telugu.

Now, we have Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury. Then, Minister wants to intervene. Then, we have Shrimati Thota Seetharama Lakshmi. Mr. Rapolu is also there. Mr. Rapolu, you have only two minutes since your party has only two minutes. And, then, Mr. Naresh Gujral. You can take two or three minutes.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Sir, Venkaiahji also wants to speak.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Oh! Venkaiahji, you also want to speak?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, so far, 16 Members have taken my name.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have no problem.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, then, you continue it tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We can sit up to 9.00 p.m. By 9 o' clock, the discussion will be over. I am telling you.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: No, Sir. The hon. Leader of the House has come with all these books to reply to the debate ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. What do you say? ...*(Interruptions)*... Should we have the reply today? ...*(Interruptions)*... Anand Sharmaji, do you want reply today? ...*(Interruptions)*... We will discuss it up to 9.00 p.m.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): We don't want it today ...*(Interruptions)*...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, reply can be tomorrow ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, reply can be tomorrow ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, yes. Reply can be tomorrow. ...*(Interruptions)*... We will discuss it up to 9.00 p.m.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Reply can be tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, you all agree...*(Interruptions)*... It is a suggestion from my side. Do you agree? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Yes. We agree.

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी: सर, इसमें कोई समस्या नहीं है, कल कर लीजिए।

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: May I supplement to Anand Sharmaji? I would agree. I am only saying that now let us end and continue discussion tomorrow...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Let us finish the discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Tomorrow arguments will also be fresh.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, if the reply is tomorrow and the discussion is going to be concluded today, before you adjourn, I would like to speak for one minute.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yechuryji, tomorrow is the Private Members' day. If we start reply from 2.30 pm to 3.00 pm, then we have to extend the Private Members' Business. And, being Friday, you cannot extent beyond a certain limit. Therefore, let us sit up to 9.00 p.m. and conclude the discussion.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: No, no. Sir, what I am saying is our sister, Renukaji, will be in her better spirits tomorrow morning.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): I am ready.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Renukaji, will always have better spirits – even now. There is no problem.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I don't mind speaking tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Renukaji, please start.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I am in a unique position today where the State was divided into two and my political Constituency is represented in Telangana and, by lottery, I am allotted to Andhra Pradesh and my heart belongs to both, because these Telugu-speaking States are my home and these people are my brothers and sisters. *School going children from the entire State of Andhra Pradesh, wake up in the morning and sing the official song of the State "Ma telugu talliki mallepudanda", which translates to "Jasmine garland to our Mother Telugu" ...(*Interruptions*)...

Sir, the State of Telangana does not have Mother Telangana. As I belong to Telangana, I am speaking as Mother Telangana. Sir, school going children sings this song regularly in Andhra Pradesh. We have a saying, "Even if God blesses, priest will not be merciful", this is the present situation in the State. During Elections Bharatiya Janata Party made promises, gave assurances and convinced the voters of giving them the impossible. But today their behaviour is totally opposite to the system of democracy and is also in contrary to the Parliament and its procedures? Why did the discussion arise on this topic? What is the reason for not implementing the decisions made by the then Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Manmohan Singh which also got its consent by the Cabinet? I am forced to ask if there is any value for the word of Prime Minister of this country. If not, what is the need for Parliament

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Telugu.

and discussion being held here? If we have to repeat the process again and again and look into the history time and again... What is the meaning, the decorum and the value of a Prime Minister's and the Cabinet's decisions that have been taken? Is it something that we are begging for? Is it that the five crore people of Andhra Pradesh will have to beg for special considerations.

It is wrong. Hon. Finance Minister is here. He said that this is a Money Bill. Even one rupee that goes from the Consolidated Fund can become a Money Bill. Every Bill that comes to Parliament can be a Money Bill. And, this has been challenged in the court. This is, actually, *sub judice* today. My hon. colleague, Shri Jairam Ramesh, has taken it to the court. By August, we should be able to get a hearing. So, let us not use these excuses. So what if you are taking shelter behind it by saying that it is a Money Bill. Why can't you find a reason for doing this? You said about the Fourteenth Finance Commission. These are signs of administrative weaknesses that, as a ruling Government, you are unable to do what was set for you before you took over. Sir, I am concluding.

So, what has happened? I don't think you can hide behind that fig leaf of calling it a Money Bill and do this to politically subvert the people of Andhra. Be aware that the Congress Party, Rahul Gandhi and Mrs. Sonia Gandhi, will continue to fight for the welfare of the people of Andhra, for the people of that State, for the children and the daughters of Andhra Pradesh, to ensure that justice is done, not just to Andhra but to Telangana as well, because we are the two eyes of the South, and unless you have the two eyes, you can't have a vision. We wish that both these conjoined twins of Andhra and Telangana get the right to flourish as much as any other State in this country. This is discriminatory. It shows that you actually have less regard for the Telugu people of Andhra and Telangana.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. That is all.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: And I expect justice will be done. Sir, I am appealing to the Prime Minister, to Arun Jaitleyji and Venkaiah Naidugaru * "Can anyone get such a chance to serve like this?" Please see to it that you take this opportunity and ensure that to Andhra Pradesh, the Special Status is allocated.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Now, the hon. LoP.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I am just concluding. Kukkuruv, Velerupadu, V.R. Puram, Buragampadu, Rural Chintur, Vajedu and Kunavaram – what happens to these people? They are on a no-man's land. They don't belong to either State. My district, Khammam, borders Andhra. These are the tribal people who are

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Telugu.

[Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury]

living there, who are not getting benefits from both, because each one disowns the other. Kindly set that right. Please see it for the human misery that they are going through and ensure that the people of Andhra Pradesh get their right, which has been given to them in the words enshrined in the Constitution through, 'We, the people...'

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Hon. LoP to intervene.

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): माननीय डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, तेलुगू भाषा में हमारे बहुत सारे MPs बोले हैं कि तेलंगाना में उर्दू भाषा बहुत जमाने तक बोली जाती थी। अब सदन में आंध्र प्रदेश और तेलंगाना के बारे में चर्चा हो रही है। यदि चर्चा हो रही है, तो मैं कुछ उर्दू के शब्द भी बोलूंगा। 40-42 सालों से मेरी ...(व्यवधान)...

डा. के. केशव राव: तेलंगाना या आंध्र के बारे में सोचकर बोलिए।

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: आप फिक्र मत करिए। मैं आपकी भाषा ही बोल रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान).... मेरी एसोसिएशन तेलंगाना और आंध्र प्रदेश से यूथ कांग्रेस के वक्त से ही थी, तब मैं चार दफा कांग्रेस के जनरल सैक्रेटरी के रूप में तीन साल तक इंचार्ज रहा। मेरी तेलंगाना और आंध्र प्रदेश के लोगों के साथ इमोशनल एसोसिएशन है।

सर, आज मुझे भाषण नहीं करना है। आज हमारे साथी जो आंध्र प्रदेश और तेलंगाना के हैं, उन्होंने अपने भाषण किए और हमने अपनी पार्टी की तरफ से बोलने का मौका भी उन्हीं को दिया है। मुझे दो-तीन चीजें बतानी हैं। हमने दो साल तक इंतजार किया कि यह सरकार वे वायदे पूरे करेगी, जो पिछली यूपीए सरकार ने किए थे, लेकिन उसमें ज्यादा प्रगति नहीं हुई। यही कारण है कि हमारी कांग्रेस पार्टी के एमपी रामचंद्र राव ने एक प्राइवेट मेम्बर की शक्ल में सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करने का प्रयास किया। इस पर चर्चा हुई और सदन के दूसरे मेम्बर्स ने भी इस पर चर्चा में भाग लिया। यह चर्चा बहुत अच्छे वातावरण में हुई। ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर का reply भी हो गया और इसकी वोटिंग दूसरे फ्राइडे के लिए पोस्टपोन की गई, तब हमारे नोटिस में लाया गया कि यह मनी बिल है। मैं इसमें जाना नहीं चाहता हूँ कि यह मनी बिल है या नहीं है, लेकिन रूल 186 (7) पढ़िए, तो ठीक है और हमने मान लिया। माननीय चेयरमैन और डिप्टी चेयरमैन ने उस पर अपना फैसला सुना दिया कि यह मनी बिल है। इसलिए मैं चेयर का, माननीय चेयरमैन साहब और डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब का आभार प्रकट करता हूँ कि आपने कांग्रेस और हमारे दूसरे विपक्ष के साथियों की मांग को पूरा किया, इस special discussion की अनुमति दी और सरकार ने भी कहा कि हमें इस पर कोई आपत्ति नहीं होगी।

सर, हमें सिर्फ दो, तीन सवाल पूछने हैं और दिग्विजय जी ने वे पूछ भी लिए हैं। मैं यहां सिर्फ आंध्र प्रदेश की बात नहीं करूंगा, मैं तेलंगाना की बात भी करूंगा। इसको बिहार, बंगाल, उत्तर प्रदेश या किसी अन्य राज्य से compare नहीं किया जा सकता है। मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश को स्पेशल स्टेटस दिया जाए, बिहार को दिया जाए, बंगाल को दिया जाए या किसी दूसरे राज्य को ऐसा स्टेटस दिया जाए, हमें इस पर कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। हम भी चाहते हैं कि उनका विकास हो, उनका development हो, लेकिन उस के साथ-साथ मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूँ कि आंध्र प्रदेश और तेलंगाना को compare नहीं किया जा सकता है। जब माननीय अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी प्रधान मंत्री थे, तब यू. पी. का विभाजन हुआ था। उस समय लखनऊ

capital یو. پی. کے پاس رہی تھی، جب بیہار کے دو حصے کیے گئے، تب capital بیہار کے پاس تھی۔ پشچیمی بنگال اور اوڈیسا کا تو ابھی حال میں کوئی ویباजन نہیں ہوا ہے، لیکن یہاں تو capital ہی چلی گئی اور وہ capital چلی گئی، جس میں پچھلے بیس سالوں میں، विशेष रूप سے، جب آئی. ٹی. آئی، تب جو سب سے زیادہ development ہوئی، وہ ایک شہر میں ہوئی۔ وہ development capital city میں ہوئی جو پैसेا تھا، وہ سب اس شہر سے آتا ہے۔ جیسے महाराष्ट्र का मुंबई से आता है, पूरी स्टेट उस पर चलती है। इसी तरह यहां पर वह तेलंगाना साइड चला गया।

महोदय, तेलंगाना के लिए भी कुछ कंसेशंस हैं, वे भी पूरे होने चाहिए, लेकिन आंध्र प्रदेश के पास कुछ भी नहीं है। यहां तक कि उन्हें हैदराबाद को capital के तौर पर इस्तेमाल करना पड़ता है। उनको दस साल तक तेलंगाना की capital इस्तेमाल करनी है। उनको, जिनके पास घर ही नहीं हैं, वे बेघर ही सरकार चला रहे हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में वह आंध्र प्रदेश क्या करे? यह दूसरी बात है कि उन्होंने हमें वोट दिया या नहीं दिया, लेकिन हम यह चाहते हैं कि previous गवर्नमेंट ने, पुरानी गवर्नमेंट ने एक वादा किया, कानून बनाया, कैबिनेट दी। उस वक्त के प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने यहां हाउस में — जैसे जयराम रमेश जी ने तमाम, 1 से लेकर 6 प्वाइंट्स तक गिनाए, उस संदर्भ में मेरे सवाल हैं, जो दिग्विजय जी ने भी पूछे हैं कि क्या अपने जवाब में माननीय फ़ाइनेंस मिनिस्टर, जो जवाब देने के लिए पूरी तरह से सक्षम हैं और मुझे पूरी आशा है कि वे दोनों राज्यों, तेलंगाना और आंध्र प्रदेश की जनता की जो आशाएँ हैं, आज उनको पूरा करेंगे।

मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह गवर्नमेंट, इसके जो पुराने वादे थे, पुरानी सरकार में कैबिनेट का जो फैसला था, उन वादों और कैबिनेट के फैसले को पूरा करेगी या नहीं करेगी? अगर पूरा करेगी, तो क्या उसकी कोई समय सीमा है या नहीं है? मुझे यही दो सवाल पूछने हैं। मैं माननीय लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस और फ़ाइनेंस मिनिस्टर से पूरी आशा करता हूँ कि आप अभी जो निराशा दोनों रीजन में है, और विशेष रूप से आंध्र प्रदेश रीजन में है, उस निराशा को आशा में बदल देंगे। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

آقائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد): مائے ڈپٹی چیئرمین سر، تیلگو بهاشا میں ہمارے بہت سارے ایم-پیز بولے ہیں، کہ تلنگانہ میں اردو بهاشا بہت زمانے تک بولی جاتی تھی۔ اب سدن میں آندھرا پردیش اور تلنگانہ کے بارے میں چرچا ہو رہی ہے۔ اگر چرچا ہو رہی ہے، تو میں کچھ اردو کے شبد بھی بولوں گا۔ چالیس - بیالیس سالوں سے میری --- (مداخلت) ---

ڈاکٹر کے۔ کیشو راؤ: تلنگانہ یا آندھرا کے بارے میں سوچ کر بولئے۔

جناب غلام نبی آزاد: آپ فکر مت کرئیے۔ میں آپ کی بهاشا ہی بول رہا ہوں۔ --- (مداخلت) --- میری ایسوسی ایشن تلنگانہ اور آندھرا پردیش سے یوتھ کانگریس کے وقت سے ہی تھی، تب میں چار دفعہ کانگریس کے جنرل سکریٹری کے روپ میں تین سال تک انچارج رہا۔ میری تلنگانہ اور آندھرا پردیش کے لوگوں کے ساتھ اموشنل ایسوسی ایشن ہے۔

سر، آج مجھے بھاشن نہیں کرنا ہے۔ آج ہمارے ساتھی جو آندھراپردیش اور تلنگانہ کے ہیں، انہوں نے اپنے بھاشن کیے اور ہم نے اپنی پارٹی کی طرف سے بولنے کا موقع بھی انہیں کو دیا ہے۔ مجھے دو تین چیزیں بتانی ہیں۔ ہم نے دو سال تک انتظار کیا کہ یہ سرکار وہ وعدے پورے کریگی، جو پچھلی یوپی اے سرکار نے کیے تھے، لیکن اس میں زیادہ پرگتی نہیں ہوئی۔ یہی وجہ ہے کہ ہماری کانگریس پارٹی کے ایم۔پی۔ رام چندر راؤ نے ایک پرائیویٹ ممبر کی شکل میں سرکار کا دھیان اکرشت کرنے کا پریاس کیا۔ اس پر چرچا ہوئی اور سدن کے دوسرے ممبرس نے بھی اس پر، چرچا میں حصہ لیا۔ یہ چرچا بہت اچھے ماحول میں ہوئی۔ انریبل منسٹر کا رپلانی بھی ہو گیا اور اس کی ووٹنگ دوسرے فرانی ڈے کے لئے پوسٹپون ہو گئی، تب ہمارے نوٹس میں لایا گیا کہ یہ 'منی بل' ہے۔ میں اس میں جانا نہیں چاہتا ہوں کہ یہ منی بل ہے یا نہیں ہے، لیکن رول (7) 186 پڑھئے، تو ٹھیک ہے اور ہم نے مان لیا۔ ماننے چینرمین اور ڈپٹی چینرمین نے اس پر اپنا فیصلہ سنا دیا کہ یہ منی بل ہے۔ اس لئے میں چینر کا، ماننے چینرمین صاحب اور ڈپٹی چینرمین صاحب کا ابھار پرکٹ کرتا ہوں کہ آپ نے کانگریس اور ہمارے دوسرے وپکش کے ساتھیوں کی مانگ کو پورا کیا، اس اسپیشل ڈسکشن کی اجازت دی اور سرکار نے بھی کہا کہ ہمیں اس پر کوئی آپٹی نہیں ہوگی۔

سر، ہمیں صرف دو، تین سوال پوچھنے ہیں اور دگوجے سنگھ جی نے وہ پوچھ بھی لئے ہیں۔ میں یہاں صرف آندھرا پردیش کی بات نہیں کروں گا، میں تلنگانہ کی بات بھی کروں گا۔ اس کو بہار، بنگال، اثر پردیش یا کسی دیگر راجیہ سے compare نہیں کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ میں یہ بھی بتانا چاہتا ہوں کہ اثر پردیش کو اسپیشل اسٹیٹس دیا جائے، بہار کو دیا جائے، بنگال کو دیا جائے یا کسی دوسرے راجیہ کو ایسا اسٹیٹس دیا جائے، ہمیں اس پر کوئی آپٹی نہیں ہے۔ ہم بھی چاہتے ہیں کہ ان کا وکاس ہو، ان کا ڈیولپمنٹ ہو، لیکن اس کے ساتھ ساتھ میں یہ بھی بتانا چاہتا ہوں کہ آندھرا پردیش اور تلنگانہ کو compare نہیں کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ جب ماننے اتل بہاری واجپنی جی پردھان منتری تھے، تب یوپی۔ کا وبھاجن ہوا تھا۔ اس وقت لکھنؤ کینٹل یوپی۔ کے پاس رہی تھی، جب بہار کے دو حصے کئے گئے تھے، تب کینٹل بہار کے پاس تھی۔ مغربی بنگال اور اوڈیشہ کا تو ابھی حال میں کوئی وبھاجن نہیں ہوا ہے، لیکن

یہاں تو کپیتل ہی چلی گئی اور وہ کپیتل چلی گئی، جس میں پچھلے بیس سالوں میں، خاص طور سے، جب آئی ٹی۔ آئی ٹی تو سب سے زیادہ ڈیولپمنٹ ہوئی، وہ ایک شہر میں ہوئی۔ وہ ڈیولپمنٹ کپیتل سٹی میں ہوئی۔ جو پیسہ تھا، وہ سب اس شہر سے آتا ہے۔ جیسے مہاراشٹر کا ممبئی سے آتا ہے، پوری اسٹیٹ اس پر پلتی ہے۔ اسی طرح یہاں پر وہ تلنگانہ سائڈ چلا گیا۔

مہودے، تلنگانہ کے لئے بھی کچھ کنسیشنس ہیں، وہ بھی پورے ہونے چاہئے، لیکن آندھرا پردیش کے پاس بھی کچھ نہیں ہے۔ یہاں تک کہ انہیں حیدرآباد کو کپیتل کے طور پر استعمال کرنا پڑتا ہے۔ ان کو دس سال تک تلنگانہ کی کپیتل استعمال کرنی ہے۔ ان کو، جن کے پاس گھر ہی نہیں ہیں، وہ بے گھر ہی سرکار چلا رہے ہیں۔ ایسی حالت میں وہ آندھرا پردیش کیا کرے؟ یہ دوسری بات ہے کہ انہوں نے ہمیں ووٹ دیا یا نہیں دیا، لیکن ہم یہ چاہتے ہیں کہ پچھلی گورنمنٹ نے، پرانی گورنمنٹ نے ایک وعدہ کیا، قانون بنایا، کینیٹ دی۔ اس وقت کے پرائم منسٹر نے یہاں ہاؤس میں – جیسے جے رام رمیش جی نے تمام، ایک سے چھ ہوائنٹس تک گنانے، اس سندربھہ میں میرے سوال ہیں، جو دگوجے سنگھ جی نے بھی پوچھے ہیں کہ کیا اپنے جواب میں مائنٹے فائننس منسٹر، جو جواب دینے کے لئے پوری طرح سے سکشم ہیں اور مجھے پوری امید ہے کہ وہ دونوں راجیوں، تلنگانہ، اور آندھرا پردیش کی جنتا کی جو امیدیں ہیں، آج ان کو پورا کریں گے۔

میں پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا یہ گورنمنٹ، اس کے جو پرائے وعدے تھے، پرانی سرکار میں کینیٹ کا جو فیصلہ تھا، وہ وعدوں اور کینیٹ کے فیصلے کو پورا کرے گی یا نہیں کرے گی؟ اگر پورا کرے گی، تو کیا اس کی کوئی سمے-سیما ہے یا نہیں ہے؟ مجھے یہی دو سوال پوچھنے ہیں۔ میں مائنٹے لیڈر آف دی ہاؤس اور فائننس منسٹر سے پوری امید کرتا ہوں کہ آپ، ابھی جو نامیدی دونوں ریجن میں ہے، اور خاص طور سے آندھرا پردیش ریجن میں ہے، اس نراشا کو آسا میں بدل دیں گے۔ آپ کا بہت بہت دھنیواد۔

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would not have intervened in the debate, but for the fact that many of my friends have taken my name as if I have committed some sin, I rise to intervene in this. The hon. Minister of Finance, who is the Leader of the House also, will respond to the debate and main points. As the debate went on, what I could see is, Members asked what happened to this promise or that promise. Asking to that extent is fine; there is nothing wrong in it. The duty of parliamentarians of any side is to raise the issue and remind the Government from time to time, but casting aspersion or finding fault with the Government that they have not done anything and that they have forgotten everything is not fair. First of all, I will explain as to why I had intervened on that day. I remember, Sir, the amount of mental torture I had gone through during those three days because BJP, and even I, right from my student days, was for the division of the State. My friend, Shri Sitaram Yechury, is right. He has put it on record that CPI(M) is against bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, but, at the end — being a Telugu man may be the reason — he said,* “If you offer how can we deny it?”

"But from our side, we will not support this". He has put this on record also. Otherwise, all political parties had given letters and then extended their support. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: The YSRCP had opposed it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... You were not here at that time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, YSR himself had said it on the floor of the House. I would like to tell Mr. Vijayasai Reddy to let us recall what YSR himself had said earlier. He was the Chief Minister of the State.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: He was the Chief Minister of the State from the Congress Party. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Okay, if you are trying to differentiate between Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy, the Congress Party and the YSRCP, I don't want to get into that now. You do not have any right to do it also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, on 28th of December, 2012, YSR Congress Party had sent a letter to Mr. Sushil Kumar Shinde in support of the bifurcation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: It is not correct. Let him read the letter. We have never said that we are supporting the division of the State. ...*(Interruptions)*...

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Telugu.

In fact, we had opposed it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, this is a letter from YSR Congress Party's leaders to the then Home Minister, Shri Sushil Kumar Shinde, on the 28th of December, 2012, and this was just before the all-Party meeting. Sir, I don't want to take time of the House. Basically, it was signed by Mr. M.V. Mysura Reddy and Mr. K. Mohinder Reddy, and this is a letter asking for a quick decision on the bifurcation. It is true that barring CPI(M), all political parties gave, in writing, that they wanted bifurcation.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I am not here to...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, let him read the paragraph where we seemed to have stated that we are supporting the division of the State. He is not reading it. There is nothing. ...(*Interruptions*)... In fact, we have not supported the division. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, it is a matter of fact now and of the past also. I am recalling that day because my Party said, "Bifurcate the State". I also went to Andhra towns, like Anantpur, Tenali, Guntur and Vishakhapatnam and said that the State had to be bifurcated. At the height of the movement, where Andhra sentiment was against the bifurcation at that time, because the Party had decided, I was also convinced. I went around and said that the State had to be bifurcated. I used the word,* "Rather than indulging in infighting, it is better to be separated and support each other." Its meaning is, 'Instead of quarreling and being together, better get separated and work together'. That's a saying in Telugu. So, we kept that in mind. But an issue came up. There were emotions running on both sides. In Telangana, some hundreds of people had already lost their lives. So, they were all agitated. Then, on the other side also, the tempers were going high. Keeping that in mind, my Party had decided, in principle, that after all, we had given a word, "If you have the political will, bring the Bill."

That was the word coined by me at that time. So, the Congress Party, for whatever reasons, from 2004 to 2014, did not bring the Bill. They brought the Bill at the eleventh hour. Let us put it on record also because my friend, Mr. Jairam Ramesh, is very intelligent. The problem is that he is over-intelligent sometimes, as Dr. Keshava Rao was also saying. You can see his intelligence in the drafting of the Bill also. Sir, I don't make personal allegations.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: I hope it is 'Jairam', not 'Sitaram'.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Yes, I talked about 'Jairam'.

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Telugu.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is 'Sitaram'.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sitaramji is also an intellectual. There is no doubt about it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is both 'Sita' and 'Ram' together.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, then, the Lok Sabha passed it. I don't want to make a comment on what had happened in Lok Sabha. Lok Sabha passed it, in whatever way it was. Then, we realized that without taking into consideration the effects it was going to have in Andhra Pradesh, if you concede to the main demand and leave the fate of Telugu people in Andhra to themselves, there would be problems. Keeping that in mind, I had raised my voice. Keeping that in mind, I conveyed to the leadership of the Congress Party also. Keeping that in mind, the Congress leadership asked some people, including some people who spoke here, who are not there now, to talk to me, and then we told them, "Please take care of the interest of Andhra. We will support the Bill without any problem." But one, two, three, four, five, six, as they could not fully understand all the dimensions, the then Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, deputed Shri Jairam Ramesh. Shri Jairam Ramesh and myself worked on that. We discussed and I brought certain aspects to his notice. And then some of them were included in the Bill, some of them were not included in the Bill. Sir, there comes my role. The then Leader of the Opposition, Jaitleyji, was there, and I am not a representative from Andhra Pradesh; I am not elected from Andhra Pradesh. I have spent most of my time in politics in present-day Telangana. I have covered each district of Andhra and Telangana maybe thirty times or forty times, maybe more than many of these people. I went up to tehsils also. Having spent the time, I thought it was a crucial time where we had to take steps; one, to fulfil the aspirations of the people of Telangana; secondly, also to take care of the interest of the future generations of Andhra Pradesh. So, that was the concern with which I spoke in the House. What we suggested is not a part of the Bill. Some of the suggestions have been incorporated. If what we suggested had been a part of the Bill, this situation would not have been there now. This situation would not have happened to the Congress Party also. I am not trying to score political points, Jairam.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I just want to bring to your notice one point because repeatedly this argument is being made and asked whether what we had suggested has been a part of the Bill. In November, 2000, it was during your Government — the Leader of the House was a part of your Government headed by Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee — when the bifurcation of Uttar Pradesh took place and

9.00 P.M.

UP and Uttarakhand were formed. Special Category Status was given to Uttarakhand in 2002 by a decision of the Union Cabinet. The Special Category Status was not a part of the UP Reorganisation Act. So, please let us keep this in mind. I am not trying to score any political point. But that is history.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: History is history. History cannot be rewritten also. It can be re-printed, I do agree. But the point is, Sir, I have some experience, may not be as much experience as my friend has. I have some forty years' experience in public life. I know each inch of public life also with my humble hard work all these years. I know when such an emotional issue is being discussed, when you are going to have a legislation passed, if you had added that, that would have become a reality and there would not have been any scope for concern. I know, the next day — I have no hesitation in admitting it — my colleague, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad from the BJP and friends from Bengal, friends from Odisha, friends from Assam, friends from other parts, after the Bill was passed, they all asked, "What about this State; what about that State?" They all asked that. They rose in the House. And the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister at that time also wrote a letter. Now, I have the proceedings of the other House which I cannot quote here — I don't want to quote also — wherein the leader from our State said — till yesterday, I was a Member from Karnataka State — "If you do this, what will happen to the neighbouring States, immediately after this?" So, I had envisaged that all these things are going to happen. Keeping that in mind, I demanded, I requested you, I requested the Prime Minister and I also requested the friends who had met me, "Please include this also in the Bill." The answer which you gave, and which I have to share with the House now, was, "We do agree with you, but we cannot put it in the Bill now because the Bill is already passed by the Lok Sabha. If we add this to the Bill now, then it has to go back to Lok Sabha. You know what has happened in Lok Sabha, how Lok Sabha functioned at that time."

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: That was the last day also.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Yes, Keshav. And you further said, "How the Lok Sabha acted and there will be again chaos and all that." So, to be fair, to some extent — I don't say fully — the Prime Minister was a little positive. But my friend, Kamal Nath, and others said, "Venkaiahji, you don't know what will happen in Lok Sabha. You cannot do it again, please." And then, in the meanwhile, they started sending rumours that Venkaiah Naidu is stalling the Bill and then some effigies were burnt in Hyderabad. Let us understand the reality. Effigies were burnt

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in Hyderabad by a handful of people. But, Sir, at the same time, from there itself, I spoke to Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, the Leader of the Opposition there and told her that this was coming to you. She said, “You send it. We will get it done in minutes and send it back.” But, you people could not, for whatever reasons, take that decision. You said that some assurance would be given on the floor of the House and all. That was the background in which I had suggested this. I thought that giving some special status will meet the deficiencies. Institutions are situated in Hyderabad. Most of the industries are also on this side only. Revenue is coming mostly from Hyderabad city. That area is agriculture-based, predominantly agricultural area. It will lose heavily. There may be heart-burning among the people. That is why we insisted on this. For that, the response was ...*(Interruptions)*... Liabilities and all were there. That is why we were requesting them to discuss all these aspects thoroughly. So, you should have taken a little more interest and spent some time, 3 months or 6 months, and engaged with others. What you are saying is right. You wrote to parties asking whether they were in support of it or not. Mr. Rosaiah was your Chief Minister. He also held an all-Party Meeting and most of the parties, except the CPM, gave letters also to the then Home Minister. That is also a matter of fact, which cannot be disputed. But, at the same time, the needed homework of the implications was not done. Some of our friends are saying this has not happened and that has not happened. My learned friend, Dr. Keshava Rao, is also raising certain aspects. And, even today, after two years, some of these issues could not be settled. The language that was used, the phraseology that was used, is now being interpreted in a different manner.

Sir, with your permission, I would like to share with this House that the day when this Government came, from the first day onwards – though I am not a Member from Andhra Pradesh; not elected from there but I have no complaints – I thought, as a citizen of the country and having born as a Telugu man, that some injustice has been done and we must set right that injustice. Keeping that in mind, the first thing we did was that. I can also ask questions from Rameshji. If you are keen on Polavaram, why have you not added those Mandals? You have not done that in the Act. I agree with you that we discussed it. Then, on my suggestion, the Prime Minister agreed and then those Mandals were supposed to be included in this, but that also did not happen. Then, you people told me that we will go for an Ordinance. You were in power. After this, after February 20th, you still were in power for some more time. You could not do it. It is this Government under this Prime Minister which took the initiative to fulfil this thing. Our friends from Odisha also are misunderstanding our

position. We thought that Polavaram cannot be a reality without resettling these areas which are going to be submerged. Keeping that in mind, the Ordinance was passed and keeping that in mind, I personally went to Rashtrapati. I briefed Rashtrapati also. For that, even your Congress President of Telangana – I don't want to take his name – has been saying that we will not allow Venkaiah Naidu to come into Telangana because he has taken away these seven Mandals to Andhra Pradesh. That sort of campaign was there. That is on record. I have nothing to score with him because he is also my friend, but it is a political issue. If you take politics to that level, then how do you function effectively? Polavaram was passed. Then, every Minister was spoken with. People in Andhra are aware of what is happening. In Telangana, people are aware of what is happening. Some of the people in Delhi don't know whether Hyderabad is in Telangana or Andhra. That is the position and reality also. Mr. Raja, I am not joking. It is a fact. It is about Hyderabad. I have just gone to Andhra Pradesh. Now, Andhra Pradesh is divided and Hyderabad is in Telangana. We have to tell the people. That's the reality. Do I know interiors of Uttar Pradesh? Maybe yes, because I was Party President or General Secretary. Maybe, myself, Shri Sitaram Yechury and some other senior Members also, even without getting any power or not, will be familiar with most parts of the country. But, the point is, at that time, I took interest and talked to every Minister, one after another. Lots of things are being done. Without consent of the Prime Minister and without cooperation of the Ministers, this would not have been possible. Sir, because we took it up, the institutions and the projects, which were mentioned, were all sanctioned in no time. They were not only sanctioned – we know that sanctioning an institute, then approval of the Cabinet, then estimates, etc. will take some time – but, this Government also took interest and saw to it that all these IITs, IIITs, IISERs or the Indian Institute of Management, NITs, even at Tadepalligudem and all these are started in, at least, rental premises. Courses have started. Students are admitted. This is the speed with which this Government is working. This is the speed with which the Prime Minister is bracing the State of Andhra Pradesh. I will come to the other issues also. I am not trying to strike off any issue or avoid any issue. Sir, I can cite examples of IIM, Vizag; IISER, Tirupati; IIIT, Chittoor; NIT, Tadepalligudem; National Institute of Ocean Technology, Nellore; All India Medical Institute, Guntur, which has been kept at Mangalgi; Agriculture University, Guntur; Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology (CIPET), all these with the help of my friend Shri Ananth Kumar and with the help of Shri Harsh Vardhan and Mr. Chowdary. Then, Sir, Central Board of Excise and Customs; – normally, Customs and Central Excise people will be happy to go to a good place where they can have a comfortable living and all – courtesy Finance Minister, keeping in

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view the backwardness of Rayalaseema region, is established in Anantapur District. The building and all that, you can go there and see for yourself. Those officers were taken aback, but there are no alternatives left to them because we had made our decision. Then, the Bharat Electronics Limited has sanctioned a unit of ₹ 500 crores for the district of Andhra Pradesh. Another defence project is coming up in Chittoor and Kurnool. Also, with regard to upgradation of airports of Vizag, Tirupati and Vijayawada, the upgradation of the Tirupati Airport is completed and was also inaugurated by the Prime Minister. The upgradation of Vijayawada airport is in full progress. Vishakhapatnam Airport has now been upgraded for international flights. I also have some attachment with Visakhapatnam because I studied at Visakhapatnam. Now, flights are going to some South East Asian countries from Visakhapatnam. All these things would not have been possible without these steps. Also, about Polavaram, – my friend, Mr. Jairam was not in politics at that time; he went there and said: “It is all our nation’s” – shall I tell you one thing? The foundation for this Polavaram Project was laid by late Shri T. Anjaiah. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: In 1983.

SHRI M. VENKAIHAH NAIDU: Not in 1983. By that time, Shri N.T.R. came. It was before that. I was an MLA at that time. Between 1982 or 1983 and 2014, around 30 years have gone by – a new generation born and children also born to them – you had not completed that. Now, within two years, here, you are asking what has happened to Polavaram, why we have not completed it etc. Is it possible to complete such a big project within this time?

Sir, there is a film in which Shri N. T. Rama Rao acted. He was, no doubt, a great actor – I am not talking of politician N. T. Rama Rao – the House should know this. Fortunately, we are having a good debate today. There was a cinema called *Devanthakudu*. The story goes that he is taken to *narakloka*, hell and, then, Chitragupta was called and he was asking one person after another as to what is the crime committed by this person or that person and all. Before N. T. Rama Rao, one lady was produced. Then, Chitragupta was asked by Yama as to what sin she committed. He replied that, she did not commit any major sin but on a fasting day she wanted to eat guava fruit. She had taken the fruit up to the mouth, she touched it and later she realised it. But, because mentally she has committed that sin, so, she must be given punishment for, at least, one day in this hell. So, Yama said yes. Even that *mens rea* was very much there; so we have to give punishment and all. By that time, it was evening and the court was closed. Then, again N. T. Rama

Rao was brought back. He was given his turn the next day. So, he was going there. While going, he remembered that incident. Then, he was saying, that I am going to Markapur, it is a very backward area. It would be good if we had a good *choultry* here. Like that, he goes on to another place and says, it is such a good area, there should be some big thing here. Like that, he goes on speaking to himself. Both the security guards, who were there, were hearing it all. Then, he was taken there. Then, Lord Dharamraja asked Chitragupta about his account. Chitragupta replied that he has not done anything good for the people. He has to be put in hell. N. T. Rama Rao says: "No, no I wanted to establish a *choultry* there." ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Is it the same thing? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; please. Let him complete please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Dr. please. It is not the same thing. I am also a little committed. You may be more committed. That day while your party was saying something, you were there in the Well at that time. It shows your sincerity, I do agree. But your party has taken a decision. You have not left the party, though people have left it.

So, when he was taken there, he said, 'no, I wanted a *choultry* there; I wanted a college there; I wanted a university there; I wanted this and that. So all these thoughts came in to me these many days, so for these many days, you put me in *Swarga* and then, later, you can bring me here.' So, *Yamaraj* said, 'no, no; you only thought. You never did it.' Then he said, 'Sir, that women also did not eat the fruit fully. She only took it up to the mouth. For that you gave her one day's punishment. So, for these many number of good pious things I thought of, that many days of *Swarga* should be given to me.' So, like that, you are saying that you had the intention. Your intention was not brought in the legislation or even with regard to Polavaram.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, how many times have you seen that movie?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: N.T. Rama Rao is very popular. You might have seen the movies of Sivaji and others. I used to watch NTR and ANR films since those days. Nowadays, of course, going to cinema, rather than pleasure, gives more headache. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Devanthakudu. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Yes; Devanthakudu. Shri Sitaram Yechury also might have seen.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Sir, nowadays, good movies are coming. Not all give headache. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It is good. Thank you. Now, I am the I&B Minister, I will try to see some of the movies.

SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Sir, the movies will develop to ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. ...*(Interruptions)*... Okay; please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Right, Madam. You are right. I also discussed it with Shri Jairam Ramesh earlier. There are two-three villages, and reaching those villages is very difficult. There is a practical difficulty and Mr. KCR also spoke to me. Some of the Telangana MPs, particularly, Bhadrachalam MP also came to me. I have taken up the matter with Shri Chandrababu Naidu, hon. Chief Minister of Andhra. We are trying to work out some solution to that.

Sir, coming to Polavaram, the Government has given good amount of money in the first and second year. You were not given money as asked by Andhra Pradesh; I agree. Andhra being a State, it is natural that they will ask for more. जितना आटा, उतनी रोटी। हमारे पास capacity क्या है, Minister of Finance के पास financial flexibility कितनी है, उसी हिसाब से पैसा दे रहे हैं। That is number one. ₹ 65,000 crores worth of National Highway projects were announced by Shri Nitin Gadkari. We are also taking up water transport project on Buckingham Canal. ...*(Interruptions)*... I took my friend, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, along and met the Chief Minister. We also had an incubation centre, which has been established. Sir, I don't want to take much of your time. There are a lot of initiatives which could not be taken up for years together, but, I don't want to take time by mentioning all of them. I can read all this. Mr. Jairam, I once again tell you that I am not trying to score points.

Energy and Power for All – in Andhra Pradesh there is no shortage of power. Within these two years ...*(Interruptions)*... Within these two years ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, please address other two issues also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Vijayasai Reddy, please ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we have the Anantapur Solar Power Park and Kurnool Solar Power Park. And then, there is the Andhra Green Transmission Corridor, Rural Electrification Projects, Airports Expansion, Vizag Steel Plant expansion for which money has to be given.

The Kadapa Airport has also been made operational. The railways have taken up a lot of new schemes for the State of Andhra Pradesh because connectivity is needed there from Bengaluru, from Anantapur, from the State Capital of Andhra Pradesh. Then, we have also agreed for a circular rail around the Capital and Guntur. Fortunately, we have also given the Railway Ministry to Andhra Pradesh... *...(Interruptions)...* Then there is National Academy of Customs, Excise and Narcotics with a cost of ₹ 600 crores, National Kamadhenu Breeding Centre. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: My friend, Shri Vijayasai Reddy, you are a new Member. This is not the way to disturb the seniors when they are talking. If you have a point, you can seek the permission of the Chair. If the Chair gives you the permission, I have no problem. I have no problem; I am ready to patiently sit and listen. For Andhra Pradesh, there is a separate Doordarshan Kendra and All India Radio. I have named it after Pingali Venkayya, the great man who also designed our National Flag. I am taking personal interest. There is a Regional Passport Office at Vijayawada. The Urban Development Ministry, at the first instance itself, that is, before 31st March, gave ₹ 1,000 crores for Vijayawada-Guntur CRDF Project. I am not talking about the regular schemes. We have the 'Smart Cities'; everybody has got it, and Andhra also has got it. I am not counting those 'Smart Cities'. Housing is also a major issue. A lot of people from Hyderabad want to come back to their respective places. So, 1,93,000 houses were sanctioned. Initially, my friends from Telangana mistook it, saying as if I am giving everything to Andhra. I told them to send a proposal. The Chief Minister of Telangana sent the proposal. Whatever proposal he had sent, I have sanctioned also.

So, whatever is possible from the Centre, the Central Government is trying to do and, sometimes, going a little out of the way because of the background of the State being denied certain facilities, and then also taking care with regard to the medical seats initially also, establishment of medical colleges, then, establishment of Rajiv Gandhi Petroleum Technology Institute at Rajahmundry, then, HPCL, Vizag. I have a big list. I am not going into the details. But the question is about two more issues. One is about the revenue deficit. Regarding the revenue deficit something has been promised. The revenue deficit figures of the Centre and the State are not matching. The Finance Minister is working on that. He will be able to explain it in a better way and what exactly the position is, etc.

Then, Sir, whatever we do for a particular State, if you count the liability of that particular State about the programme they have taken up, the other States also

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will naturally ask for more, हमारा भी deficit हो गया, we have waived these loans, we have done this, we have given this; so, our deficit is also more.

The second question is of special status.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Is it an intervention or a reply?

SHRI M. VENKAIHAH NAIDU: It is intervention.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I am really confused.

SHRI M. VENKAIHAH NAIDU: Your confusion will be diffused. Don't worry on that. That diffusion will take place after my completion. The Finance Minister will be able to do it effectively.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, ultimately you are confusing and diffusing. The Finance Minister is having three books. ...(*Interruptions*)... So, I am only beseeching you, Mr. Deputy Chairman.

SHRI M. VENKAIHAH NAIDU: I want to politely tell her. I am not refusing anything. I am neither confusing nor diffusing. I am not refusing anything.

Then, Sir, issues with regard to the Assembly seats, Reorganisation of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh also. I sat with friends from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana States, discussed the matter with the Home Minister and Law Minister. There were two opinions. Our friend from the Congress Party also should guide me in future. I will be one with you. But one aspect they say, you have to amend the Constitution. You can't amend Section 26 and then go ahead because it has been created through Constitutional Amendment. The other argument is because this promise or this Act came through the Constitutional amendment there is no necessity to have a Constitutional amendment. This is the other argument. As there is some confusion, we have referred the matter to the Attorney General of India. Once the opinion comes from him, it will be studied and a final view will be taken.

As far as the assurances that are given in the Act are concerned, I can assure you, the Finance Minister is also going to reply, all assurances made in the Act to the extent possible will be taken care of. Mr. Jairam Ramesh was very wise. The Government will study the feasibility of the steel plant at Bayyaram, steel plant at Kadapa. You appoint a committee, the committee goes there and comes back and says that they are not feasible. Then, you blame us. These are the practical difficulties. I am not denying that also. I told the Steel Minister please appoint a Task Force.

Let us study other aspects. The State Government can give some concessions. The Central Government can give some concessions. Can we make it viable? Can we revive the project? It was earlier started by a person during the earlier regime. The land is also lying vacant. All these things are being explored. But I will quote one thing here. The urgency with which this Government is working..

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: You were selective in your quotation. In the 13th Schedule, I read “It has examined the feasibility and taken an expeditious decision thereafter.” “Expeditious decision thereafter” means that you will take a decision ..(*Interruptions*).. You don’t need expeditious ...(Interruptions)... Please be a little fair.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Expeditious decision can be both ways. If we had won, you would have said, “feasibility is not there, and it is not possible.” We have won, and now you are saying, Mr. Jairam Ramesh, how can it be so? You are also knowledgeable. You are a good draftsman; and also a craftsman.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: How is it possible?

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, now he has quoted Section 93, which reads, “The Central Government shall take all necessary measures as enumerated in the 13th Schedule” — this is your draft — “for the progress and sustainable development of the successor States within a period of ten years from the appointed day.” He has kept that much... ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: But now he is saying that Shri Chandrababu Naidu... ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Now, if I ask him, he would say, “No, no. Not me, but my other wise friend, Mr. Chidambaram, has drafted it. If you ask him, then he would say it is the other wise man, and all that. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I don’t shirk the responsibility. I drafted it. I have no problem in extending it. But if you want, I will give you the reasons why it was done that way. But this is not the debate. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Okay, thank you. This is definitely a debate. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. Don’t bring in arguments. ...(Interruptions)... Don’t give arguments. Let us Conclude it. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Every issue is a central issue. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Why have you not granted 'Special Category' status? You wanted it for ten years and you could not give it even for two years. ...*(Interruptions)*... You evaded the central issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Every issue is a Central issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, for him it may be just one issue. For me, IIT is important. IIIT is important. ISRI is also important. 'Special Category' status is also important. Railway Zone is also important. ...*(Interruptions)*... Industries in Rayalseema are also important. Development of the State of Andhra Pradesh is important. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. Do not have arguments. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, I am saying that now that he is arguing, as the R.D. Minister, I have dealt with a number of States, which were... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. Do not argue like this.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: 'Special Category' status is important. That will not solve all the problems automatically. That will help the State but, at the same time, it will not solve all the problems. I am aware of what the position is in Uttarakhand, Himachal and other States. I am the Urban Development Minister now. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. It is not fair. You had your free... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, he has given an exhaustive reply. He has exhausted all of us. But he has not addressed the main issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why don't you address those issues? Why has the 'Special Category' status not... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Why did you not put it in the Act? ...*(Interruptions)*... Let him answer that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. Don't argue like this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let us not argue like this. You conclude now.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: The point is that you are trying to score brownie political points.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No point in trying to score brownie points. You conclude, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Whatever has been promised... ...*(Interruptions)*... we will fulfil them. Whatever has been promised in the Act, we will fulfill that *in toto*, in record time. That we have done. No Government so far has done this much

to Andhra Pradesh in the history of Andhra Pradesh so far. I can put everything on record. If they think all other things are useless and only one grand thing, the special status, is going to solve all the problems, then, I am sorry, I am not going to agree with that. Then, they say I have argued. Yes, I have argued because I am not sure about your... *...(Interruptions)...* The next day, what I smelled the previous day, had happened. Now also, you have seen, during the debate, everybody is saying, "No problem. Give it to Andhra Pradesh, but give it to us also." I am not taking that excuse. These are the repercussions that are likely to come. So, at the heat of the moment, at that time itself during the debate, I wanted that to be a part of the Bill so that the issue could have been clinched and it was binding on everybody. Sir, you were a *saakshi*; you know how much of pain I had taken on some of these people. They went into the Well of the House. They did not allow me to speak properly at that time also but because the welfare of the people was uppermost in my mind, I have taken that initiative. I don't regret at all the initiatives I have taken. I stand by what I have said. And we are also discussing it really again as to how to proceed after the 14th Finance Commission recommendations, after certain States writing letters, after certain leaders speaking in different tones in the other House, we are discussing the issue. The hon. Finance Minister would be responding to that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. Now, I want to take the sense of the House. *...(Interruptions)...* I want to take the sense of the House. Sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* Sit down. I want to take the sense of the House. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, in the list, I have four names. Shri Rapolu, three minutes. Shrimati Thota Seetharama, five minutes. Shri Naresh Gujral, three minutes. Shri Y. S. Chowdary, the Minister, will have his intervention. These are the remaining names. Even if Shri Chowdary is taking five minutes, it would come to 15 minutes. Now, should we do it today?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: No, Sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, Sir. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: These are the names. No other name will be taken up today or tomorrow.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I was not allowed to speak. I was cut short...*(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me complete. Everybody was given three or five minutes only...*(Interruptions)*. That means the remaining discussion will be taken up tomorrow and the reply will also be given tomorrow.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Tomorrow at 11 a.m.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If it is to be taken up tomorrow at 11 a.m., then I have to take the permission of the hon. Chairman... (*Interruptions*). The hon. Chairman is the final authority to decide...(*Interruptions*)... My suggestion is like this. This intervention of five may be for 15 minutes, maximum 20 minutes. Reply may take 30 minutes. So, at 2.30 p.m. we start and the reply would be over by 3.30 p.m. or 3.40 p.m. Then the Private Members' Bill will be taken up from 3.45 p.m. to 5.45 p.m.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: It should be taken up in the morning ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You see, I have no objection to take it up in the morning. But for morning, I cannot decide because I have to take the permission of the Chairman. Listen. There will be Zero Hour notice from the Members; the hon. Chairman will clear that...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: The House is supreme..(*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Why do you want to deny Zero Hour to our hon. Members?

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Sir, I am only saying that the logic you have used for the question of Zero Hour and the Question Hour, the same logic will apply to the Private Members' Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. There is only one hour extension.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: If you are not giving extension for others, this will have to be taken up after 5 o' clock. The same logic applies.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In the morning meeting with the hon. Chairman, it will be decided whether it will be taken up either at 11.00 o' clock or 5 o' clock.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, I have a Question Hour in the Lok Sabha at 11.00 o'clock.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, at 11 am, you cannot come in any case. The Finance Minister has Question Hour in the Lok Sabha at 11.00 a.m. So, he cannot come at 11.00 a.m. That means, at 11.00 a.m. it is not possible. Tomorrow, in the presence of the hon. Chairman in the morning meeting, we will decide when to take it up... (*Interruptions*)... Now, Special Mentions...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Ahmed Patel - not present. Shri Shantaram Naik.
