

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Tiruchi Siva.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Tiruchi Siva.

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Tiruchi Siva.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Tiruchi Siva.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Tiruchi Siva.

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Tiruchi Siva.

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Tiruchi Siva.

Need for viability gap funding for petrochemical complex in Andhra Pradesh

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Telangana): Hon. Chairman, Sir, as you are very much aware, this is another tragic saga in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act. This is regarding the viability gap funding for petrochemical complex at Andhra Pradesh. Sir, the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act proposes for establishment of cracker and petrochemical complex at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. Accordingly, the Government of Andhra Pradesh, HPCL, GAIL India have signed a MoU and conducted a feasibility

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

study and decided to establish the petrochemical complex with an estimated cost of Rs. 32,901 crores at Kakinada. However, the public sector undertakings have opined that a viability gap funding is necessary to make the project viable. The Ministry of Petroleum conveyed to the State that as the proposed project is a capital-intensive project requiring huge investments, the Government of Andhra Pradesh shall bear this viability gap funding from its own resources. Sir, as lot of us are aware, Andhra Pradesh has lost its financial base and became a revenue deficit State due to bifurcation. To compensate the financial loss occurred to the State of Andhra Pradesh, the Central Government has assured several infrastructure projects apart from 'Special Category Status' to the State for five years to keep Andhra Pradesh in a level-playing field with other States. But, unfortunately, the Special Category Status was denied to the State and since last five years, the State is facing severe fund crunch for developmental works. Now, it will be difficult for the State to provide this viability gap funding for proposed petrochemical complex. But, the petrochemical complex is very much required for the economic stability of the State and for the progress of the country. I, therefore, urge the Government, to provide the viability gap funding required for establishment of Petrochemical complex at Kakinada as a grant or at least direct the oil PSUs to provide these funds as a loan to State which can be recovered from the State after an initial moratorium of ten years of commissioning of the Petrochemical complex.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I need not say it every time. I am saying it again and again just to make you aware and get into the system. Please send the slips of association.

Changing of the name of the State of West Bengal to Bengal

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, my Zero Hour submission is regarding