

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can read the subject only.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I would read one para and remaining I would lay it on the table.

Demand for Funds for Godavari-Krishna rivers interlinking project

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the irony of this year's monsoon is that in spite of 'very healthy' rainfall in the entire Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema, Nellore and Prakasam districts are facing drought conditions. It is not new "to this region, but it is new and shocking that in spite of 'very healthy' monsoon, this region is still suffering drought conditions. So, the Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister found only one solution to this recurring problem and it is to link Godavari and Krishna Rivers.

Inflow to Srisailem reservoir in the last 52 years came down from 1,230 TMC to 456 TMC. Secondly, about 2,780 TMC water from Godavari is going waste into Bay of Bengal every year. This has resulted in severe water crisis in Krishna delta, Rayalaseema region, Prakasam and Nellore districts.

Looking at this annual chronic problem, our visionary Chief Minister has decided that the only solution to this problem is to link Godavari and Krishna Rivers. So, he made a plan to take Godavari waters to Nagarjunasagar and Srisailem reservoirs to stabilize Krishna delta and provide water for irrigation and drinking purposes to Rayalaseema, Prakasam and Nellore districts.

Our Chief Minister met the Prime Minister last month and submitted a memorandum requesting to help Andhra Pradesh financially for interlinking of Godavari and Krishna.

In view of this, I request the Prime Minister to kindly consider request of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister and grant sufficient funds to Andhra Pradesh for Godavari-Krishna Rivers Interlinking Project.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Sasmit Patra. You can read the title and lay it, if you want.

Demand to enhance the present rate of royalty on coal from 14% to 20%

SHRI SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, there have been repeated demands for enhancement of rates of royalty and sharing of clean energy cess by Odisha. The

[Shri Sasmit Patra]

royalty on coal was last revised more than seven years ago, on 10th May, 2012. The Odisha Government led by hon. Chief Minister have been demanding enhancement of the present rate of royalty from fourteen per cent to twenty per cent. However, because of non-revision due since May, 2015, the Odisha Government has lost about Rs. 2,900 crores towards royalty and another over Rs. 700 crores towards DMF contribution up to March, 2019. Further, since the introduction of clean energy cess levied on coal from 2010-11, the Central Government has received about Rs. 23,000 crores, but Odisha has not received a single penny. Odisha's demand for sharing of at least sixty per cent clean energy cess to deal with negative externalities of coal mining has not yet been considered. Due to coal mining in Odisha, the resultant pollution of air, water and soil is being faced by the people of Odisha. The people of Odisha are suffering and to meet the environmental challenges and pollution and to redress the situation, funds are required. The Centre has funds derived from the people of Odisha through coal mining. I demand that the Central Government may enhance the present rate of royalty from fourteen per cent to twenty per cent and "provide at least sixty per cent of the clean energy cess collected by it to Odisha for the development and meeting the environmental challenges faced by it due to coal mining.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri P.L. Punia, not present. Shrimati Shanta Chhetri. Just read the heading and you can lay it.

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Sir, please allow me to read it.

**Need for steps to be taken by the Government to preserve
the ethnic identity of Darjeeling hill tribes**

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Sir, it is observed that the majority of the (Gorkha) people living in Darjeeling Hill were considered as "Hill Tribes" in British India and in the early Independent India, Government of India had granted number of Government facilities like "Darjeeling Government College" and other institutions in the above context.

Further, few sub-clans of the Hill Tribes like Limbu, Tamang, Sherpa, Yelmo, etc., have been given Scheduled Tribe status.

But, similar sub-clans like Rai (Kirat), Gurung, Magar, Khas, Newar, Yakha Dewan,