

Title: Need for construction of embankment on Diviseema Island.

PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESHWARLU (TENALI): Diviseema in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh is an island on the coast of Bay of Bengal and at the mouth where Krishna river joins the sea. This island is often subjected to the fury of cyclones, tidal waves, hurricanes, floods and all such other natural calamities resulting in huge loss of property, human and cattle lives. In 1977, as many as 10,000 people had died in tidal waves.

To save Diviseema and minimise the losses due to floods etc., the State Government of Andhra Pradesh have spent about Rs. 20 crore to strengthen the banks of Krishna river on two sides of the island. But on the other side, that is, towards the coast of Bay of Bengal, it is still open and vulnerable to the onslaught of tidal waves which is a potential and perennial threat to the island. Thus, there is an imminent need to strengthen the tidal bank called 'Kona Tidal Bank'.

This bank is spread between Polati-Tippa and Malakayalanka villages over a distance of 18.550 kilometre. On this tidal bank line itself, there are about 10 more villages besides several others inside, nearer to the coast. During the 1990-91 cyclone, the nominal tidal bank available was washed away. Though some temporary repairs were taken up in 1991, it deserves a permanent solution by constructing a concrete cement wall. The sea waters are often flowing into the villages. During every rainy season, the inhabitants are under constant grip of panic.

To safeguard the interests of the human and cattle lives and other properties, I urge upon the Government to strengthen the 'Kona Tidal Bank' with a bund reinforced by concrete cement wall all along the coast as a permanent measure.