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Title: Need to take immediate steps for release of funds from 13th Finance Commission for local bodies in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI M. VENUGOPALA REDDY (NARASARAOPET): I would like to draw the attention of the Government regarding the stagnation of the developmental activities in rural and urban areas in Andhra Pradesh due to non-release of funds from 13th Finance Commission.

In Andhra Pradesh, the term of elected local bodies expired on 22-08-2011 and conduct of elections is overdue since more than one and a half years. As a result, funds from 13th Finance Commission to the tune of thousands of crores from Central Government to Andhra Pradesh have not been released and as a result the development activity in rural and urban areas has been stalled which has ultimately affected the people. Moreover, the local bodies, in place of elected bodies, are continuing under the control of special officers, therefore, no attention is being paid to the developmental activities. Thus, the development of Andhra Pradesh in respect of rural as well as urban areas is at standstill.

In view of the prevailing situation, I request the Hon'ble Prime Minister, through the Chair, to intervene in the matter, and to issue suitable instructions to Central and State Governments of Andhra Pradesh wherever necessary to take immediate steps for the release of funds from 13th Finance Commission on a war-footing basis to facilitate developmental activities in Andhra Pradesh by bringing a proper legislation which will enable developmental activities in case the local body elections are not held in time.

MADAM SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item Nos. 21 and 22 together. Dr. Bhola Singh.

...(Interruptions)

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (KARUR): Madam, I want to know what is the assurance of the Government with regard to the US Resolution on Sri Lanka. ... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): I just repeat what I said earlier in the day. The Government views with serious concern the happenings in Sri Lanka and we are sensitive to it. We are open for a discussion in the House on the subject. The BAC may fix a time and date for the discussion..... (Interruptions)

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : Today is the last day..... (Interruptions)

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Let me answer. I have just talked to the Foreign Minister. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record. Let the Minister speak. ਸਤ੍ਰਿ ਜੀ, ਗੋਲ ਰਹੇ ਹੈਂ, ਪੇ ਕੁਛ ਕਤਾ ਰਹੇ ਹੈਂ। ਆਪ ਤਨਕੀ ਕਾਤ ਸੁਣ ਲੀਜਿ�।

(Interruptions) â€‘ *

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Madam, I just talked to the Foreign Minister. There is no last day. This apprehension was expressed outside also that today or tomorrow is the last day. There is no last date for India. India can always take a position till the date of the voting. We are in discussion amongst ourselves. We are open for a discussion in the House on this matter. You may choose to fix a time and date.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI : We are not satisfied with the Minister's statement. We are walking out of the House.

14.03 hrs

At this stage, Dr. M. Thambidurai and some other

hon. Members left the House.

...(Interruptions)

14.03 1/4 hrs

At this stage, Shri T.K.S. Elangovan and some other hon. Members left the House.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Bhola Singh may continue.