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Title: Laid an explanatory statement showing reasons for immediate legislation by promulgation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2014 (No. 4 of 2014).

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by promulgation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2014 (No. 4 of 2014).

The Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014 (6 of 2014) was enacted on 1st March, 2014 to provide for reorganization of the State of Andhra Pradesh into the State of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

With a view to enable the successor State Government of Andhra Pradesh to have flexibility in the identification of areas for implementing the rehabilitation and resettlement aspect of the Polavaram Multi-purpose National Irrigation Project, as well as to ensure contiguity in the areas that forms part of the Andhra Pradesh and for administrative convenience, entire Mandals (administrative unit) in the Khammam district in which some Revenue Villages would get submerged or be needed for rehabilitation and resettlement purpose were required to be transferred to the successor State of Andhra Pradesh by amending section 3 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014. This transfer of areas excludes the Bhadrachalam Town and the 12 Revenue villages in the Burghampadu Mandal of the Khammam district through which the NH-221 passes as this highway is the only available road access to the Bhadrachalam town from the rest of Telangana.

Prior to 1959, the entire Bhadrachalam Revenue Division was a part of the East Godavari District. It was transferred to the Khammam district for administrative reasons. Now, only a part of the Bhadrachalam Revenue Division is being transferred to Andhra Pradesh to address the rehabilitation and resettlement needs of the Polavaram project.

The Government was of the view that immediate action was necessary to revise the territories of the two successor states before the appointed day, i.e. 2nd June, 2014 on which day the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014 would come into force. In the absence of adjustment of territories there was a possibility of the execution of the National Project getting delayed further. Therefore, an expeditious decision was required regarding transfer of the areas likely to get submerged, to the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh so that the rehabilitation and resettlement issues could be dealt with appropriately by that state. The Andhra Pradesh Reorganization (Amendment) Ordinance, 2014 (Ord. 4 of 2014) was, therefore, promulgated on 29th May, 2014.

By promulgation of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization (Amendment) Ordinance, 2014, section 3 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014 has been amended. Now, it is proposed to introduce a replacement Bill, namely, the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization (Amendment) Bill, 2014 to maintain the continuity of the amendments carried out in section 3 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014.