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Title: Need to grant special status to Andhra Pradesh and to provide separate Railway Zone in Andhra Pradesh.

*SHRI THOTA NARASIMHAM (KAKINADA) : Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir, in Andhra Pradesh we have an issue that needs to be resolved. People are serious about special status to Andhra Pradesh. Previous Government bifurcated Andhra Pradesh through unscientific method and as a result people are on streets demanding special status to Andhra Pradesh. They are also pressing for implementation of various provisions under Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Bill. We demand Central Government on behalf of our State Government to fulfill all provisions as mentioned in the Bill.

I also question the Congress members to justify their protests and demands as it was Congress led UPA Government which is responsible for present situation in Andhra Pradesh. People of Andhra Pradesh are agitated and are on the roads. In support of this protest, a person named Muni Koti committed suicide, in Tirupati yesterday. There was no mention of special status in Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Bill, and without that provision, Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated. The then Prime Minister referred to special status verbally, and it was not part of Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Bill. In this background, how Congress members can justify their protest?

Similarly, Members from YSR Congress party are also protesting, but they were the ones who suggested that the State can be bifurcated under article 3. They all are indulging in cheap politics and misleading the people of our State. We have faith in Central Government under leadership of Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Under the able leadership of our Chief Minister Shri Nara Chandra Babu Naidu our State is heading towards progress.

We re-iterate our request to the Government to implement Schedules 9,10 and Section 8 of Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Bill. On behalf of the people of Andhra Pradesh and Telugu Desam Party, we also request the Central Government to grant special status to Andhra Pradesh and to provide separate Railway Zone in Andhra Pradesh.