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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

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Shri Shwait Malik
Shri Sanjay Seth
Shri Amar Singh
Shri Md. Nadimul Haque
Shri T. G. Venkatesh

LOK SABHA

Shrimati Ranjanben Bhatt
Shri Birendra Kumar Choudhary
Shri S. P. Muddahanume Gowda
Shri Asrarul Haque Mohammad
Shri G. Hari
Shrimati Darshana Vikram Jardosh
Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena
Shrimati Poonamben Hematbhai Maadam
Shri Bidyut Baran Mahato
Shri Baijayant ' Jay' Panda
Shri Tapas Paul
Shri Mutthamsetti Srinivasa Rao
Shri Ramsinh Rathwa
Shri Konda Vishweshwar Reddy
Shri Raj Kumar Saini
Shri Rajveer Singh (Raju Bhaiya)

[18 July, 2018]

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Shri Rameshwar Teli
Shrimati Savitri Thakur
Shrimati Dev Varma
Shri Rajan Vichare

Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice

Shri Bhupender Yadav —*Chairman*

RAJYA SABHA

Shri Swapan Dasgupta
Shri Prabhat Jha
Shri Majeed Memon
Shri D. Raja
Dr. K. Keshava Rao
Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray
Shri Vivek K. Tankha
Dr. Subramanian Swamy

LOK SABHA

Shri Tariq Anwar
Dr. Sanjeev Balyan
Shri Kalyan Banerjee
Shri Sharadkumar Maruti Bansode
Shri A.H. Khan Choudhury
Adv. Joice George
Shri Radadiya Vithalbhai Hansrajbhai
Shri Pralhad Joshi
Shri Mehboob Ali Kaiser
Adv. M. Udhaya Kumar
Shrimati Meenakashi Lekhi
Shri Bhagwant Mann
Shri B.V. Naik
Shri Vincent H. Pala
Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy
Dr. A. Sampath
Shri Ram Prasad Sarmah
Shri V. Panner Selvam
Adv. Anshul Verma

Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests

Shri Anand Sharma —*Chairman*

RAJYA SABHA

Shri Prasanna Acharya

Shri S.R. Balasubramoniyam

Shri Rajkumar Dhoot

Shri Parimal Nathwani

Shri Sharad Pawar

Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy

Shri Anil Baluni

Shri Hishey Lachungpa

LOK SABHA

Maulana Badruddin Ajmal

Shri Muzaffar Hussain Baig

Shri E.T. Mohammed Basheer

Shri Pankaj Chowdhary

Shri P.P. Chauhan

Kumari Sushmita Dev

Shri Ninong Ering

Shri Laxman Giluwa

Dr. K. Gopal

Shrimati Vasanthi M.

Shri Daddan Mishra

Shri Prabhubhai Nagarbhai Vasava

Shri Chirag Paswan

Shri Shivaji A. Patil

Shri Harinarayan Rajbhar

Shrimati Sandhya Roy

Shri Kirti Vardhan Singh

Shri Nagendra Singh

Shri Vikram Usendi

Dr. Raghu Sharma

Shri Sunil Kumar Jakhar

Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture

Shri Derek O' Brien —*Chairman*

RAJYA SABHA

Shri Ritabrata Banerjee

Dr. Prabhakar Kore

Shri Praful Patel

Kumari Selja

Shri Rewati Raman Singh

Shri Narendra Kumar Swain

Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar

Shri Sambhaji Chhatrapati

Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah

LOK SABHA

Shri Subrata Bakshi

Shri Ramcharan Bohra

Shri Vinod Chavda

Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai Chudasama

Ms. Arpita Ghosh

Shri Rahul Kaswan

Shri Nimmala Kristappa

Shri P. Kumar

Shri Harish Chandra Meena

Shri Ram Charitra Nishad

Shri Rajesh Pandey

Shri Rajesh Ranjan

Shri Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy

Shri Ram Kumar Sharma

Shri Prathap Simha

Shri Dushyant Singh

Shri Kunwar Haribansh Singh

Shri Rakesh Singh

Shri Shatrughan Sinha

Shri Manoj Tiwari

Shri K. C. Venugopal

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**CABINET MINISTERS**

Shri Narendra Modi	The Prime Minister and also <i>in-charge</i> of the following Ministries/Departments:- The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; The Department of Atomic Energy; The Department of Space; All important policy issues; and All other portfolios not allocated to any Minister.
Shri Rajnath Singh	The Minister of Home Affairs.
Shrimati Sushma Swaraj	The Minister of External Affairs.
Shri Arun Jaitley	The Minister without Portfolio.
Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari	The Minister of Road Transport and Highways; The Minister of Shipping; and The Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
Shri Suresh Prabhu	The Minister of Commerce and Industry; and The Minister of Civil Aviation.
Shri D.V. Sadananda Gowda	The Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
Sushri Uma Bharati	The Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
Shri Ramvilas Paswan	The Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
Shrimati Maneka Sanjay Gandhi	The Minister of Women and Child Development.
Shri Ananthkumar	The Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers; and The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.
Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad	The Minister of Law and Justice; and The Minister of Electronics and Information Technology.
Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda	The Minister of Health and Family Welfare.

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Shri Anant Geete	The Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.
Shrimati Harsimrat Kaur Badal	The Minister of Food Processing Industries.
Shri Narendra Singh Tomar	The Minister of Rural Development; The Minister of Panchayati Raj; and The Minister of Mines.
Shri Chaudhary Birender Singh	The Minister of Steel.
Shri Jual Oram	The Minister of Tribal Affairs.
Shri Radha Mohan Singh	The Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot	The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment.
Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani	The Minister of Textiles.
Dr. Harsh Vardhan	The Minister of Science and Technology; The Minister of Earth Sciences; and The Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
Shri Prakash Javadekar	The Minister of Human Resource Development.
Shri Dharmendra Pradhan	The Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas; and The Minister of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
Shri Piyush Goyal	The Minister of Railways; The Minister of Coal; The Minister of Finance; and The Minister of Corporate Affairs.
Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman	The Minister of Defence.
Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi	The Minister of Minority Affairs.

THE MINISTERS OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

Rao Inderjit Singh	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Planning; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.
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Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
Shri Shripad Yesso Naik	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH).
Dr. Jitendra Singh	<p>The Minister of State of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region;</p> <p>The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office;</p> <p>The Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions;</p> <p>The Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy; and</p> <p>The Minister of State in the Department of Space.</p>
Dr. Mahesh Sharma	<p>The Minister of State of the Ministry of Culture; and</p> <p>The Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.</p>
Shri Giriraj Singh	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
Shri Manoj Sinha	<p>The Minister of State of the Ministry of Communications; and</p> <p>The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways.</p>
Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore	<p>The Minister of State of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; and</p> <p>The Minister of State of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.</p>
Shri Raj Kumar Singh	<p>The Minister of State of the Ministry of Power; and</p> <p>The Minister of State of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.</p>
Shri Hardeep Singh Puri	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
Shri K.J. Alphons	The Minister of State of the Ministry of Tourism.

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THE MINISTERS OF STATE

Shri Vijay Goel	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
Shri Radhakrishnan P.	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping.
Shri S.S. Ahluwalia	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
Shri Ramesh Chandappa Jigajinagi	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.
Shri Ramdas Athawale	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
Shri Vishnu Deo Sai	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel.
Shri Ram Kripal Yadav	The Minister of State in Ministry of Rural Development.
Shri Hansraj Gangaram Ahir	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
Shri Haribhai Parthibhai Chaudhary	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Mines; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Coal.
Shri Rajen Gohain	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways
General (Retd.) V.K.Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs.
Shri Parshottam Rupala	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
Shri Krishan Pal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
Shri Jaswantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance.

Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
Shri Sudarshan Bhagat	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
Shri Upendra Kushwaha	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
Shri Kiren Rijiju	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs.
Dr. Virendra Kumar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Women and Child Development; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Minority Affairs.
Shri Anantkumar Hegde	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.
Shri M.J. Akbar	The Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs.
Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
Shri Jayant Sinha	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Civil Aviation.
Shri Babul Supriyo	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.
Shri Vijay Sampla	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
Shri Ajay Tamta	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Textiles.
Shrimati Krishna Raj	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
Shri Mansukh Mandaviya	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways; The Minister of State in the Ministry of Shipping; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

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Shrimati Anupriya Patel	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
Shri C.R. Chaudhary	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
Shri P.P. Chaudhary	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law and Justice; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
Dr. Subhash Ramrao Bhamre	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence.
Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
Dr. Satya Pal Singh	The Minister of State in the Ministry of Human Resource Development; and The Minister of State in the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

OFFICIAL REPORT

in the Two Hundred and Forty-Sixth Session of the Rajya Sabha
commencing on the 18th July, 2018/27th Ashadha, 1940 (Saka)

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 18th July, 2018/27th Ashadha, 1940 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

(The National Anthem, 'Jana Gana Mana', was played.)

MEMBER'S SWORN

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, now the oath/affirmation.

Secretary-General.

Shri Elamaram Kareem (Kerala)

Shri Jose K. Mani (Kerala)

Shri Binoy Viswam (Kerala)

Dr. Sonal Mansingh (Nominated)

Shri Raghunath Mohapatra (Nominated)

Shri Ram Shakal (Nominated)

Shri Rakesh Sinha (Nominated)

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of **Shri Vishwasrao Ramrao Patil, Shri Mohammed Amin, Shri Ashok Mitra, Shri Balkavi Bairagi, Shri Kameshwar Paswan, Shri Shantaram Naik, Shri Surinder Kumar Singla and Shri M.M. Jacob**, former Members of this House during the inter-Session period since the last Budget Session.

Shri Vishwasrao Ramrao Patil, passed away on the 15th of June, 2017, at the age of 83 years.

Born in July, 1934 in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra, **Shri Vishwasrao Ramrao Patil** had his education at the Gokhale and Rajaram Colleges and the Shahaji Law College, Kolhapur.

An agriculturist, **Shri Patil** served as the President of the Maharashtra Rajya Dudh Utpadak Sangh Kruti Samiti and was also actively associated with various social and welfare organizations.

Shri Vishwasrao Ramrao Patil represented the State of Maharashtra in this House from April, 1988 to May, 1993.

In the passing away of **Shri Vishwasrao Ramrao Patil**, the country has lost an able Parliamentarian and a dedicated social worker.

Shri Mohammed Amin passed away on the 12th of February, 2018, at the age of 89 years. **Shri Mohammed Amin** was born in April, 1928, in Kolkata, West Bengal. A trade unionist, **Shri Amin** was actively involved in Trade Union Work. He was the National Secretary of the Centre for Indian Trade Unions (CITU) in 1987 and also its General Secretary in 2007.

Shri Mohammed Amin started his legislative career as a Member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly and remained its Member for five terms, from 1969 to 1970, in 1971, from 1977 to 1982, from 1996 to 2001, and again from 2001 to 2006. **Shri Amin** served as a Minister in the Government of West Bengal holding different portfolios. Shri Amin had a few books and poems in Hindi, Bengali and Urdu to his credit.

Shri Mohammed Amin represented the State of West Bengal in this House for two terms, from April, 1988 to April, 1994, and again from May, 2007 to August, 2011.

In the passing away of **Shri Mohammed Amin**, the country has lost a veteran trade union leader, a distinguished parliamentarian and an able administrator.

Shri Ashok Mitra, passed away on the 1st of May, 2018, at the age of 90 years.

Born in April, 1928, at Dacca (now in Bangladesh), **Shri Ashok Mitra** was educated at the University of Dacca, the Banaras Hindu University and the Netherlands School of Economics.

An educationist and an economist, **Shri Mitra** was an Economic Affairs Officer at the United Nations from 1955 to 1956 and was also a Member of Faculty at the Economic Development Institute in Washington, D.C. during the early 1960s. He was the Chairman of the Agricultural Prices Commission from 1966 to 1970 and was Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India from 1970 to 1972. He was also the Chairman of the West Bengal and Kerala Education Commissions.

Shri Mitra started his legislative career as a Member of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly from 1977 to 1982 and again from 1983 to 1986. **Shri Mitra** served as the Minister of Finance and Planning in the Government of West Bengal from 1977 to 1982, and again from 1983 to 1986.

A prolific writer, **Shri Mitra** had several books, essays, short stories and articles on literary, political and economic themes to his credit. He was also a recipient of the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Award.

Shri Ashok Mitra represented the State of West Bengal in this House, from August, 1993 to August, 1999. He also served as the Chairman of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry from 1994 to 1998 and of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce from 1998 to 1999.

In the passing away of **Shri Ashok Mitra**, the country has lost an eminent economist, an able administrator and a distinguished parliamentarian.

Shri Balkavi Bairagi, passed away on the 13th of May, 2018, at the age of 87 years.

Born in February, 1931, in Rampura village of Neemuch district of Madhya Pradesh, **Shri Balkavi Bairagi** had his education at the Vikram University of Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh.

A writer and poet, **Shri Bairagi** had several books, popular Hindi poems, articles and memoirs to his credit. His classic childhood poems earned him the name “Balkavi”. He also wrote lyrics for several Hindi films.

Shri Balkavi Bairagi started his legislative career as a Member of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly, from 1967 to 1972 and again from 1980 to 1984. **Shri Bairagi** served as the Minister of State in the Government of Madhya Pradesh holding various portfolios. Shri Balkavi Bairagi was also a Member of the Eighth Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1989.

Shri Balkavi Bairagi represented the State of Madhya Pradesh in this House from June, 1998, to June, 2004.

In the passing away of **Shri Balkavi Bairagi**, the country has lost an eminent poet, a distinguished parliamentarian and an able administrator. We all got really enriched by his contributions in this House. He used to lively participate in the debates also.

Shri Kameshwar Paswan passed away on the 28th of May, 2018, at the age of 77 years.

Born in January, 1941 in Zafarabad village of District Patna, Bihar, **Shri Paswan** had his education at the Ram Dayalu Singh Mahavidyalaya and the Langet Singh Mahavidyalaya, Bihar University, Muzaffarpur.

A teacher and a social worker, **Shri Kameshwar Paswan** worked for the upliftment of the weaker and downtrodden sections of society.

Shri Kameshwar Paswan started his legislative career as a Member of Bihar Legislative Assembly from 1972 to 1974 and again from 1977 to 1979. He served as the Minister of Welfare in the Government of Bihar from 1977 to 1979. He was also a Member of the Eleventh Lok Sabha.

Shri Kameshwar Paswan represented the State of Bihar in this House, from April, 1990 to April, 1996.

In the passing away of **Shri Kameshwar Paswan**, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian and an able administrator.

Shri Shantaram Naik passed away on the 9th of June, 2018, at the age of 72 years.

Born in April, 1946, at Cuncolim in South Goa District of Goa, **Shri Naik** was educated at the Shrimati Parvatibai Chowgule College, Margao, the Bombay University and the Siddharth College of Law, Bombay University, Mumbai.

A lawyer by profession, he started practicing Law in 1972. He served as the Secretary of the Advocates' Association of South Goa and played an active role for the creation of a separate judicial district for South Goa. He also served as the Vice-President of the All Goa Advocates' Association and the President of the South Goa Advocates' Association.

A social worker, **Shri Naik** worked assiduously for the upliftment of the weaker and downtrodden sections of society. He was instrumental in pursuing the demands for Statehood to Goa and for inclusion of the Konkani language in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Shri Shantaram Naik started his legislative career as a Member of the Eighth Lok Sabha from 1984 to 1989. Shri Naik represented the State of Goa in this House for two terms from July, 2005 to July, 2011 and again from July, 2011 to July, 2017. He served as the Chairman of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice from May, 2012 to August, 2013.

In the passing away of **Shri Shantaram Naik**, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian and a dedicated social worker.

Shri Surinder Kumar Singla passed away on the 28th of June, 2018, at the age of 73 years.

Born in November, 1944 at Samana-Mandi in Patiala District of Punjab, **Shri Singla** was educated at the Punjabi University and the Delhi University.

A teacher by profession, **Shri Singla** worked assiduously for various social causes like children's education, family planning, etc., and was associated with several organisations involved in welfare of the weaker sections of the society.

Shri Surinder Kumar Singla represented the State of Punjab in this House from April, 1992 to April, 1998.

Later on, **Shri Singla** became a Member of the Punjab Legislative Assembly from 2002 to 2007. He also served as the Minister of Finance in the Government of Punjab from 2004 to 2007.

In the passing away of **Shri Surinder Kumar Singla**, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian, an able administrator and a dedicated social worker.

Shri M.M. Jacob passed away on the 8th of July, 2018, at the age of 89 years.

Born in August, 1928 at Ramapuram in Kottayam District of Kerala, **Shri Jacob** was educated at the University College, Thiruvananthapuram; Sacred Heart College, Thevara, Kochi; Loyola College, Chennai; Lucknow University and the University of Chicago, United States of America.

An advocate and social worker, **Shri Jacob** actively participated in the freedom movement during his student days. He was also associated with Bhoodan Movement, Cooperative Movement, Bharat Sewak Samaj and Red Cross. He represented India in the Sixth World Youth Festival held in Moscow in 1957 and participated in several international programmes and seminars for youth leaders and social workers.

Shri Jacob had a number of articles and booklets published in Malayalam and English to his credit. He was the Managing Director of 'Veekshnam', a Malayalam daily. Shri M.M. Jacob represented the State of Kerala in this House for two terms, from July, 1982 to July, 1988 and again, from July, 1988 to July, 1994. He was the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha for a brief period, from February to October in 1986. He served as the Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, from October, 1986 to December, 1989, as Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Water Resources (Independent Charge) from July to December, 1989 and Minister of State in the Ministries of Home and Parliamentary Affairs from June, 1991 to January, 1993. He also served as the Chairman of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, from 1984 to

1986 and of the Department-related. Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs from 1993 to 1994.

Shri Jacob served as the Governor of Meghalaya from 1995 to 2007 and of Arunachal Pradesh from January to April, 2007.

In the passing away of **Shri M.M. Jacob**, the country has lost a distinguished parliamentarian, an able administrator and a dedicated social worker.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Vishwasrao Ramrao Patil, **Shri Mohammed Amin, Shri Ashok Mitra, Shri Balkavi Bairagi, Shri Kameshwar Paswan, Shri Shantaram Naik, Shri Surinder Kumar Singla and Shri M.M. Jacob.**

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence for one minute as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Secretary-General will convey to the members of the bereaved families our sense of profound sorrow and deep sympathy.

REFERENCES BY THE CHAIR

Victims of suicide bomber attack in Afghanistan, victims of natural calamities in different parts of the country and victims of a bus accident in Pauri district of Uttarakhand

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you might be aware, 20 people, several of them belonging to the Sikh community, were killed and 20 others were injured in a suicide bomb attack in Jalalabad of Afghanistan on the 1st of July, 2018.

The loss of precious lives and injury to hapless people in the heinous, senseless and outrageous acts of violence is deplorable and deserve to be condemned in the strongest terms possible. Such incident only re-affirms our resolve to fight terrorism with determination and to reiterate our call to the global community to unitedly combat and eliminate the scourge of terrorism from the world.

This House joins me in expressing our deep sorrow, sympathy and heartfelt condolences on the losses suffered by the friendly people of Afghanistan and in reiterating India's stand of solidarity with the Government and the people of Afghanistan in their hour of grief.

Hon. Members, as you might also be aware, more than one thousand persons lost their lives, several hundreds were injured, and many others were displaced and rendered homeless in the natural calamities of cloudbursts, landslides, lightning strikes, thunderstorms, dust storms and floods in different parts of the country in the months of May, June and July, 2018. The incessant rains and floods have also caused extensive damage to houses, property and infrastructure and loss of livestock.

Hon. Members, 48 persons were also reportedly killed and 12 were injured when a bus carrying them accidentally fell into a deep gorge in Pauri District of Uttarakhand on the 1st of July, 2018.

The loss of precious lives and injury to people in all these tragic incidents is indeed painful and unfortunate.

The House joins me in expressing our heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the bereaved families and we pray for the speedy recovery of the injured.

I request Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the memory of those who lost their lives in these tragedies.

(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)

**Reference on the occasion of the 100th Birth Anniversary of
Shri Nelson Mandela**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, July 18, 2018 marks the 100th Birth Anniversary of Nelson Mandela.

Nelson Mandela, a non-violence anti-apartheid revolutionary was inspired by Mahatma Gandhi in his long walk and struggle against apartheid. He directed a campaign of peaceful, non-violent defiance against the South African Government and its racist policies. He became South Africa's first black President from 1994 to 1999. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993 for his efforts to dismantle the country's apartheid system.

Nelson Mandela will continue to be a source of inspiration for civil rights activists worldwide.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR**Arrangements for simultaneous interpretation of 22 languages
listed in the Eighth Schedule**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have an announcement to make. You are all aware that under Article 120 of the Constitution, the Chairman is empowered to allow Members to speak in any of the 22 languages listed in Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. It has been my ardent desire, ever since my taking over as Chairman, Rajya Sabha, to facilitate Members speak in their mother tongue. Till now, we had arrangements for simultaneous interpretation in 17 languages only.

I am happy to inform you that the Rajya Sabha Secretariat has now made arrangements for simultaneous Interpretation of the proceedings of the House in the remaining five languages also, namely, Dogri, Kashmiri, Konkani, Santhali and Sindhi. With this, Members can speak in all the 22 languages listed in the Eighth Schedule. I encourage hon. Members to use this facility and speak in their own languages.

आज से हम लोग *aapni Banglay bolte paren; Tame Gujarati ma boli shako cho; Kannadhalli maat/adavadhu; Malayathil samsarikkum; Marathi ta bol shakta; Odiya kotha kathalu epere, Punjabi vich bol sakde hai; Tamil la pesalam; Telugulo kooda maatladaavachu;* but, hon. Members, only one word of caution or precaution. Since this is a new arrangement, it may take some time for those interpreters to get adjusted to the speed, velocity and style, and also understand the actual meaning you want to convey to the House and to the country. So, there will be some shortcomings. I request the hon. Members to bear with the arrangement till they become proficient. But sufficient care has been taken; training has been given and certificates have been awarded to those people who have got this training. I hope that you will be able to really take advantage of the same. We can have our speeches delivered in Dogri, Urdu and all languages, as I have mentioned earlier, of course with a notice in advance because they are not full-time interpreters. Some of them are from Lok Sabha and some of them are part-time because the House meets for a particular period. If you engage them on a permanent basis, you know the financial implications also.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, thank you for your translation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated): Sir, may I make a suggestion?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Sir, it is a very wonderful gesture you have given to this House and the country making this arrangement. But I think there should be encouragement given that their vocabulary should be, to the maximum, based on Sanskrit words so that it unites the whole country. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: ठीक है। It is just a suggestion. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no need to answer it. I am here to take care of it. Why do you worry? This is a suggestion and whoever wants to follow the suggestion they can follow and others can have their own way of expression. मैं हमेशा विश्वास करता हूँ कि भाषा और भावना एक साथ चलती है, इसलिए दूसरी भाषाओं में अपनी भावना व्यक्त करना इतना आसान नहीं है। फिर भी हम लोगों की भाषा अलग-अलग है। भारत की यह विशेषता है। अलग भाषा, अलग वेश, फिर भी अपना एक देश है। विविधता में एकता, भारत की विशेषता। यही हमारी विशेषता है। इसलिए यह जो नया सिस्टम है, इसका समर्थन करने के लिए सब लोग प्रयास करिए।

**Memorandum of Understanding between India and Rwanda to boost
inter-Parliamentary dialogue**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have another information to share with the House. A high level delegation from the Senate of the Republic of Rwanda led by Rt. Hon. Bernard Makuza, President of the Senate visited India from 8th to 13th July, 2018. He was accompanied by two Senators, Ms. Gertrude Kazarwa, Ms. Marguerite Nyagahura and three officials from the Senate. During the visit, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed for promoting co-operation between the Upper Houses of the two countries. For the first time in 66 years of it coming into being, Rajya Sabha entered into an MoU with a foreign counterpart. So far, you know the practice of the Parliamentary groups. Lok Sabha used to take the initiative and there used to be a Joint Committee. For the first time, the Upper House of that country and the Upper House of India have entered into an MoU and we will be having Parliamentary exchanges, visits and also meetings to understand each other's systems better. That is the arrangement that has been made. The MoU seeks to promote inter-Parliamentary dialogue, organisation of conferences and seminars, workshops and exchanges, collaboration in multilateral parliamentary bodies, capacity building of Parliamentary staff and furtherance of bilateral relations and friendship between the two countries.

Another information is that the President of the Senate was earlier Prime Minister for 12 years. This is something that Prime Minister of the country becoming President of

a Senate! That is the information I got. And another happy news from that country is 60 per cent of the Parliamentarians are women.

SHRI RIPUN BORA (Assam): Sir, one reference should be made to ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the Papers laid. ...*(Interruptions)*... After the Papers to be laid. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RIPUN BORA: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, this is not the way. This is not going on record. Why do you waste your energy? You give notice and meet me. I will allow you. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not going on record. Nothing should go on record either on T.V. or in media. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI CM. RAMESH: Sir, I have given notice.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, it is the achievement of an Assamese girl. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: She is an Indian girl. The entire country is happy about it. Even I have tweeted about it. But, it should be sent to us and then there is the most respectable way of the House conveying it, not arguing like this.

PAPERS LAID ON TABLE

Statement showing the Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the Two Hundred and Forty-fifth Session of the Rajya Sabha and assented to by the President

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table, a statement (in English and Hindi) showing the following Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the Two Hundred and Forty-fifth Session of the Rajya Sabha and assented to by the President:-

1. The Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Bill, 2018.
2. The Finance Bill, 2018.
3. The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2018.

*Not recorded.

4. The Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2018.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9783/16/18]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

II. MoUs between the Government of India and various companies

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS; AND THE MINISTER OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Notification No. S.O. 1675 (E), dated the 19th April, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 753 (E), dated the 6th March, 2017, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification, under Section 55 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9277/16/18]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and the Oil India Limited (OIL), for the year 2018-19.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9271/16/18]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), for the year 2018-19.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9274/16/18]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and the Indian Oil Corporation, Limited (IOCL), for the year 2018-19.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9273/16/18]

- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and M/s Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., for the year 2018-19.

[Placed in Library. For (i) to (iv) See No. L.T. 9272/16/18]

Ordinances

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-clause (a) of clause (2) of article 123 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Ordinances:—

- (i) The Fugitive Economic Offenders Ordinance, 2018 (No.1 of 2018), promulgated by the President on the 21st of April, 2018.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9221/16/18]
- (ii) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No.2 of 2018), promulgated by the President on the 21st of April, 2018.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9222/16/18]
- (iii) The Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No.3 of 2018), promulgated by the President on the 3rd of May, 2018.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9223/16/18]
- (iv) The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No. 4 of 2018), promulgated by the President on the 18th of May, 2018.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9224/16/18]
- (v) The National Sports University Ordinance, 2018 (No. 5 of 2018) promulgated by the President on the 31st of May, 2018.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9225/16/18]
- (vi) The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No.6 of 2018), promulgated by the President on the 6th of June, 2018.
[Placed in Library. For (i) to (vi) *See* No. L.T. 9226/16/18]

Report and Accounts (2016-17) of the Land Ports Authority of India, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU) : Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of Section 26 of the Land Ports Authority of India Act, 2010:—

- (a) Fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Land Ports Authority of India, New Delhi for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9334/16/18]

Notification of the Ministry of Civil Aviation

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 43 of the Airports Authority of India Act, 1994, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation Notification No. S.O. 1577 (E), dated the 12th April, 2018, publishing the Airports Authority of India (Conditions of Service of the Chairman and Other Members) Amendment Rules, 2018.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9399/16/18]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry

II. MoUs between the Government of India and various companies

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. (a) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce), under sub-section (3) of Section 49 of the Tea Act, 1953:—

- (1) S.O. 2008 (E), dated the 21st May, 2018, publishing the Tea Warehouses (Licensing) Amendment Order, 2018.
- (2) S.O. 2288 (E), dated the 5th June, 2018, publishing the Tea (Marketing) Control (Amendment) Order, 2018.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 9294/16/18]

- (b) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce), Notification No. Admin-1/Estt/SPEDA/2018, dated the 7th May, 2018, amending Notification No. Admin-1/Estt/

SPEDA/2014, dated the 17th March, 2015, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification, under Section 40 of the Spices Board Act. 1986.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9295/16/18]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry) and the MMTC Limited, for the year 2018-19.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9292/16/18]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry) and the State Trading Corporation of India Limited (STC), for the year 2018-19.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9293/16/18]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry) and the PEC Limited, for the year 2018-19.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 9291/16/18]

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

**Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the
Two Hundred and Fourth Report of the Department-related
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs**

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर): महोदय, मैं "लक्षद्वीप संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासन का प्रशासन और विकास" के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित गृह कार्य संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के दो सौ चारवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों/समुक्तियों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

**REGARDING AN ADVICE GIVEN BY THE CHAIR TO MAINTAIN DIGNITY
AND DECORUM OF THE HOUSE**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, with regard to what has happened just now, I am very upset. I am not happy at all. The Chair has to be respected. Once the Chair says something, a Member has to respect it. You could have met me before; or, otherwise

you could meet me afterwards also. The matter which you want to raise is an important matter. It is the question of not only of a State and a person of Assam region but also of India. That being the case, we should not do it like that. ऐसा करने से हम कोई शोभा नहीं बढ़ाते हैं, इसलिए कृपया मेरा सुझाव यह है कि अगर किसी को कुछ बोलना है या सुझाव देना है, तो कोई प्रॉब्लम नहीं है। आज हम लोग चर्चा कर रहे थे, आज सुबह आनन्द शर्मा जी मुझसे मंडेला जी की 100वीं जयंती के संदर्भ में मिले थे, तो हम लोगों ने आपस में चर्चा करके तय किया। यही पद्धति है, इसलिए कृपया सब लोग इसको ध्यान में रखिए और सदन की शोभा बढ़ाइए। That is my advice to hon. Members.

Then, hon. Members, I have received notices on various issues from Shri C.M. Ramesh, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, Shri Anand Sharma, Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, Shri Ashok Siddharth, Shri D. Raja, Shri T.K. Rangarajan and Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe for suspension of the rules. I have decided not to suspend the rules, but as the matters that are mentioned in these notices are important and relevant also, I have decided to convert them into Zero Hour except the notice given by Shri C.M. Ramesh. The notice given by Shri C.M. Ramesh pertains to an important issue which is agitating a particular State and also the concerned people. That matter had been raised earlier also. But, in spite of that, as the agitation is continuing, I have decided to allow a detailed Short Duration Discussion on this. After consulting the Minister concerned, we will decide the date at the earliest, maybe tomorrow or day after tomorrow.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, this is also an urgent matter. Now, we want the discussion to start immediately. Sir, about four years have passed since the Bill was passed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the House decide. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: In every Session, we have been raising this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How can anybody have it like that? I have no problem. The Minister must be ready. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, we have an important issue on reservation. ...*(Interruptions)*... उन्होंने इस पर नोटिस दिया हुआ है, इसलिए इसको पहले ले लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Sir, this is not a new subject. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Ramachandra Rao, please put down the banner. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Sir, this issue is very important. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, please give a solution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have decided to admit this notice in my discretion. To end this stalemate, I have found a solution. Yesterday, we discussed the issue in the all-party meeting also. In the all-party meeting also, the suggestion was to have a discussion. Then, I had a word with the Leader of the House. And, I myself had suggested that we should have a detailed discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Even the Leader of the Opposition had accepted the same. ...*(Interruptions)*... We cannot have a discussion just like that because the Minister has to be available. Someone has to respond. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Sir, in this House, a Bill was passed which has not been implemented. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chowdary, all other issues are also important. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav's issue, or, Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad's issue about reservation in UGC. ...*(Interruptions)*...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, हमारा नोटिस देश की बहुत बड़ी आबादी से संबंधित है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am coming to that. I am allowing you after this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Sir, we are passing the Bills which are not going to be implemented. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then, I don't have any other way than adjourning the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... if you don't want discussion, then, I leave it to you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Can anybody run the House like this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Can we have a discussion like this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Ramachandra Rao, please, don't show the banner. Anand Sharmaji, please tell him. ...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Ramachandra Rao, I understand your sentiment. You have also expressed concern along with other Members. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Sir, we do not have any new demand. We are only asking to implement the Bill passed by this House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सर, ऐसा है कि हायर एजुकेशन में ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet at 12.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned at thirty-eight minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*

**REGARDING A SMALL ANNOUNCEMENT MADE BY THE CHAIR WITH
REGARD TO THE GUIDELINES ISSUED BY THE UGC FOR
PROMOTION IN THE UNIVERSITIES**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before taking up the Question Hour, I have to make a small announcement regarding the guidelines issued by the UGC for promotion in the universities. I have already conveyed to the Government that we will be discussing this issue tomorrow.

Now, Question Hour; Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I have given notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ramesh, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Sir, I have given notice for suspension of Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have told you that I have not admitted it. I am admitting it as a special case for discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: It has to be admitted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot dictate to me.

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: I am making a request. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is why, I am saying, follow the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*... That will be taken up separately. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, can I say something?

MR. CHAIRMAN: All the matters have been discussed with the Opposition leaders.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Sir, can I say something? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is the first day of the Session. After a long break, the Question Hour is being taken up. Please do not come in the way. Allow the Question Hour to take place and do not deprive the Members of their right.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Sir, can I say something? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Sir, it is related to Andhra Pradesh. It is a burning issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your leader is saying something. Other Members, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Sir, can I request you to. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chowdary, please ask your Members to sit, then only, I will be able to hear you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, प्रश्न संख्या - एक ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute.

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, can I request you to allot sufficient time, at least, four hours, to discuss this subject elaborately and try to get commitment from the Government? We also want the House to function properly.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chowdary, we have the Business Advisory Committee meeting immediately after this, and, we can discuss this issue there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): There is a BAC meeting. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Okay, Sir. At 1 o' clock, in the BAC meeting, we will come and discuss it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am saying. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, supplementary question by Ch. Sukhram Singh Yadav.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

रोजगार वृद्धि-दर में गिरावट

*1. चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव: क्या श्रम और रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या देश में रोजगार वृद्धि-दर में गिरावट दर्ज की जा रही है जिसके कारण शिक्षित लोगों सहित असंगठित क्षेत्रों के श्रमिकों को रोजगार के कम अवसर मिल रहे हैं;

(ख) विगत पांच वर्षों में किन-किन क्षेत्रों में रोजगार के अवसर बढ़े हैं और उक्त अवधि के दौरान किन-किन क्षेत्रों में रोजगार के अवसर घटे हैं; और

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि नवम्बर, 2016 से बेरोजगार लोगों की संख्या में अत्यधिक वृद्धि दर्ज की गयी है?

श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) श्रम ब्यूरो, श्रम और रोजगार मंत्रालय द्वारा रोजगार-बेरोजगारी पर आयोजित किए गए सर्वेक्षणों के नवीनतम उपलब्ध आंकड़ों के अनुसार, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 एवं 2015-16 के दौरान सामान्य स्थिति आधार पर 15 वर्ष एवं उससे अधिक आयु के व्यक्तियों का अनुमानित कामगार जनसंख्या अनुपात क्रमशः 53.6%, 50.0%, 53.7% एवं 50.7% था।

नियोजनीयता में सुधार करते हुए रोजगार सृजन करना सरकार की प्राथमिकता रही है। इसके अतिरिक्त, सरकार ने देश में रोजगार सृजन हेतु विभिन्न उपाय किए हैं - जैसे अर्थव्यवस्था के निजी क्षेत्र को बढ़ावा देना, व्यापक निवेश वाली विभिन्न परियोजनाओं को तीव्रता से निष्पादित करना और प्रधानमंत्री रोजगार सृजन कार्यक्रम (पीएमईजीपी), महात्मा गांधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारन्टी योजना (एमजीएनआरईजीएस), पं. दीन दयाल उपाध्याय ग्रामीण कौशल्य योजना (डीडीयू-जीकेवाई) तथा दीनदयाल अंत्योदय योजना - राष्ट्रीय शहरी आजीविका मिशन (डीएवाई-एनयूएलएम) जैसी योजनाओं पर सार्वजनिक व्यय में वृद्धि करना। प्रधान मंत्री कौशल विकास योजना (पीएमकेवीवाई) कौशल विकास एवं उद्यमशीलता मंत्रालय (एमएसडीई) की एक फ्लैगशिप योजना है। इस कौशल प्रमाणीकरण योजना का उद्देश्य बड़ी संख्या में भारतीय युवाओं को उद्योग-संगत कौशल प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त करने योग्य बनाना है, जो एक बेहतर आजीविका प्राप्त करने में उनकी सहायता करेगा। स्व-रोजगार को सुगम बनाने हेतु सरकार द्वारा मुद्रा एवं स्टार्ट-अप योजनाएं प्रारंभ की गई हैं।

(ख) श्रम ब्यूरो द्वारा आयोजित किए गए रोजगार एवं बेरोजगारी संबंधी सर्वेक्षणों के परिणाम के अनुसार, देश में सामान्य स्थिति आधार पर 15 वर्ष एवं उससे अधिक आयु के नियोजित व्यक्तियों का क्षेत्र-वार वितरण नीचे दिया गया है:

क्षेत्र	नियोजित व्यक्तियों का क्षेत्र-वार वितरण (% में)			
	2011-12 (2रा दौर)	2012-13 (3रा दौर)	2013-14 (4था दौर)	2015-16 (5वां दौर)
प्राथमिक (कृषि और संबद्ध)	53.8	50.8	48.3	47.3
द्वितीयक (विनिर्माणकारी)	19.3	20.8	22.4	21.9
तृतीयक (सेवाएं)	26.9	28.4	29.3	30.8

(ग) नवम्बर, 2016 से बेरोजगार व्यक्तियों के बारे में कोई आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। तथापि, श्रम ब्यूरो चुनिंदा श्रम-गहन और निर्यातान्मुख क्षेत्रों में तिमाही रोजगार सर्वेक्षण भी आयोजित करता रहा है। 2016 के दौरान तिमाही रोजगार सर्वेक्षण के दायरे को और-अधिक उद्योगों/क्षेत्रों तक बढ़ा दिया गया है तथा सर्वेक्षण के परिणामों के अनुसार, देश में आठ चुनिंदा क्षेत्रों में रोजगार में परिवर्तन को नीचे दिया गया है:

आठ चुनिंदा क्षेत्रों में रोजगार में अनुमानित परिवर्तन (लाख में)

क्रम सं. क्षेत्र	1 अक्टूबर 16 की तुलना में 1 जन. 17 को	1 जन. 17 की तुलना 1 अप्रैल, को 17 को	1 अप्रैल 17 की तुलना में 1 जुलाई 17 को	1 जुलाई 17 की तुलना 1 अक्टूबर 17 को	कुल परिवर्तन
1. विनिर्माण	0.83	1.02	-0.87	0.89	1.87
2. निर्माण	-0.01	0.02	0.10	-0.22	-0.11
3. व्यापार	0.07	0.29	0.07	0.14	0.57
4. परिवहन	0.01	0.03	-0.03	0.20	0.21
5. आवास और रेस्तरां	0.00	0.03	0.05	0.02	0.1
6. आईटी/बीपीओ	0.12	0.13	0.02	0.01	0.28
7. शिक्षा	0.18	0.02	0.99	0.21	1.4
8. स्वास्थ्य	0.02	0.31	0.31	0.11	0.75
कुल	1.22	1.85	0.64	1.36	5.07

Decline in employment growth rate

†*1. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a decline is being recorded in the employment growth rate in the country due to which workers of unorganised sectors along with educated people are getting lesser employment opportunities;

(b) the details of different sectors in which employment opportunities have increased during last five years and the sectors in which employment opportunities have decreased during the same period; and

(c) whether it is a fact that substantial increase has been recorded in the number of unemployed people since November, 2016?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) As per the latest available data of the Employment-Unemployment Surveys conducted by the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, the estimated Worker Population Ratio for persons aged 15 years and above on usual status basis was 53.6%, 50.0%, 53.7% and 50.7% during 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2015-16 respectively.

The Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority concern of the Government. Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast-tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendyal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM). Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is the flagship scheme of the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE). The objective of this Skill Certification Scheme is to enable a large number of Indian youth to take up industry-relevant skill training that will help them in securing a better livelihood. MUDRA and Start-Ups schemes are initiated by the Government for facilitating self-employment.

(b) As per the result of surveys on employment and unemployment conducted by Labour Bureau, the sector-wise distribution of employed persons aged 15 years and above on usual status basis in the country is given below:

Sector	Sector-wise distribution of Employed Persons (in %)			
	2011-12 (2nd Round)	2012-13 (3rd Round)	2013-14 (4th Round)	2015-16 (5th Round)
Primary (Agriculture & allied)	53.8	50.8	48.3	47.3
Secondary (Manufacturing)	19.3	20.8	22.4	21.9
Tertiary (Services)	26.9	28.4	29.3	30.8

(c) Data is not available for unemployed persons since November, 2016. However, Labour Bureau has been conducting Quarterly Employment Surveys in the selected labour-intensive and export-oriented sectors. The coverage of the Quarterly Employment Survey has since been enhanced during 2016 with more industries/sectors and as per the results of the Survey, the change in employment in selected eight sectors in the country is given below:

Estimated Change in Employment in eight selected sectors (in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Sector	1st Jan'17 over 1st Oct'16	1st Apr'17 over 1st Jan'17	1st Jul'17 over 1st Apr'17	1st Oct'17 over 1st Jul'17	Total change
1.	Manufacturing	0.83	1.02	-0.87	0.89	1.87
2.	Construction	-0.01	0.02	0.10	-0.22	-0.11
3.	Trade	0.07	0.29	0.07	0.14	0.57
4.	Transport	0.01	0.03	-0.03	0.20	0.21
5.	Accommodation & Restaurant	0.00	0.03	0.05	0.02	0.1
6.	IT/ BPO	0.12	0.13	0.02	0.01	0.28
7.	Education	0.18	0.02	0.99	0.21	1.4
8.	Health	0.02	0.31	0.31	0.11	0.75
TOTAL		1.22	1.85	0.64	1.36	5.07

चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव: माननीय सभापति जी, मैंने जो प्रश्न किया था, उसका उत्तर माननीय मंत्री जी ने गोल-मोल दिया है, साफ उत्तर नहीं दिया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को बताना चाहता हूँ कि जब सरकार बनी, तब सरकार ने कहा कि हम पांच करोड़ लोगों को रोज़गार देंगे। अब जबकि लगभग चार साल होने जा रहे हैं, तो उसके अनुसार अब तक 20 करोड़ लोगों को रोज़गार मिल जाना चाहिए था। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो वादे किए गए थे, उसके मुताबिक क्या 20 करोड़ लोगों को रोज़गार दिया गया? यदि नहीं दिया गया, तो सरकार ने ऐसा पहले क्यों कहा, असत्य क्यों बोला?

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी रोज़गार दिलाने के प्रति पूरी रुचि है और हम उसके हिसाब से काम कर रहे हैं। अपने मैनिफेस्टो में हमने जैसा कहा है, उसके हिसाब से हम अमल कर रहे हैं। अगर आप दुनिया का डाटा देखें, तो पता चलेगा कि दुनिया के डाटा में सबसे कम बेरोज़गारी का आंकड़ा हमारे देश का है, जबकि

बाकी के पड़ोसी देशों का सबसे ज्यादा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं यहां यह बताना चाहूंगा कि विभिन्न सेक्टरों में एम्प्लॉयमेंट बढ़ने-घटने का कोई प्रश्न नहीं है। प्राप्त आंकड़ों के अनुसार, प्राइमरी सेक्टर, जिसे कृषि एवं अन्य क्षेत्र कहते हैं, वहां पर एम्प्लॉयमेंट कम हुआ है। इसके अलावा, सेकेंडरी सेक्टर, जैसे उद्योग धंधे और टर्शियरी सेक्टर, जिसमें सेवा क्षेत्र शामिल हैं, इनमें एम्प्लॉयमेंट बढ़ा है। जितने डिवलपिंग देश हैं, जिनमें भारत भी शामिल है, उनकी अर्थव्यवस्था में जैसे-जैसे देश का विकास होता है, वैसे-वैसे वहां पर प्राइमरी सेक्टर का साइज़ छोटा होता है और सेकेंडरी सेक्टर व टर्शियरी सेक्टर का साइज़ बढ़ता है। हम लोग उसी के हिसाब से काम कर रहे हैं। जहां तक आंकड़े समझ में आते हैं, उनसे लगता है कि रोजगार के अवसर कहीं पर भी कम नहीं हुए हैं। ऐसी कई योजनाएं हैं, जिनको हमारी सरकार ने चालू किया है, जैसे - प्रधान मंत्री रोजगार गारंटी योजना, मनरेगा, दीनदयाल उपाध्याय ग्रामीण कौशल विकास योजना। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: सेकेंड सप्लीमेंटरी। मंत्री जी, संक्षिप्त उत्तर दीजिए।

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: सर, मैं दो-तीन आंकड़े बतलाना चाहता हूं।

श्री सभापति: मंत्री, संक्षेप में बताइए।

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: महोदय, मेरे लिए दो-तीन आंकड़े बताना बहुत आवश्यक है। मनरेगा में पिछले चार वर्षों में, सन् 2014 से 2018 के बीच जो धनराशि उपयोग में लायी गयी, वह 1,73,000 करोड़ रुपए थी और man-days 871 करोड़ दिवस हुए थे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इससे आगे बढ़कर एक दूसरा प्रोग्राम था, "Road Connectivity Project." ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No comments, please. ...**(Interruptions)**... Raise your hands. I will give you an opportunity.

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: जिसमें सड़कों की लम्बाई पिछले चार वर्षों में 28,531 किलोमीटर रही और इस मद में खर्च की गयी धनराशि 2,65,000 करोड़ रुपए थी। यह अपने आप में आज़ादी के बाद एक बड़ा रिकॉर्ड है और इससे बहुत से लोगों को फायदा हुआ है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have placed it on the Table of the House.

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: मैं केवल यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इसके अलावा और आगे बढ़कर "स्वरोजगार" एक ऐसा महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है, जिसमें हम लोगों ने काम किया है। इस स्कीम के अंतर्गत 6 लाख करोड़ का ऋण 13 करोड़ से अधिक खातों में दिया गया है और अब तक 2.2 लाख करोड़ रुपए से अधिक ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay; second supplementary. ...**(Interruptions)**... You have to be brief because they should get an opportunity. Now, second supplementary. ...**(Interruptions)**... I have noticed the names.

चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव: माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने फिर वही जवाब दिया है, शायद आप समझ गए होंगे। आज कोई स्पष्ट सरकारी योजना नहीं रही है। यह सरकार

बराबर यही कहती रही कि हम रोज़गार देंगे। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि वर्ष 2016 से अब तक इस मामले में सरकार ने क्या प्रगति की है और कितने लोगों को नए रोज़गार दिए गए, कितने लोगों को नयी नौकरियां दी गयीं?

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: सभापति महोदय, मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश की व्यवस्था के हिसाब से रोज़गार संबंधी आंकड़ों की जानकारी Employees' Provident Fund में 20 से कम कर्मचारियों की नहीं होती है और ESI में 10 से कम की नहीं होती है। ये जो आंकड़े हैं, इनका अभी तक हमारे पास डेटा नहीं है। हमारी सरकार के आने के बाद हमने इस दिशा में प्रयास किया है और इसकी रिपोर्ट लाने की दिशा में कदम उठाए हैं, जल्दी ही दो महीने में यह रिपोर्ट आ जाएगी। मैं यह जरूर बताना चाहता हूँ कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो योजना चलायी है, उसके हिसाब से अभी की जो नयी स्कीम चलायी है, उसके तहत पिछले 6 महीने में Employees' Provident Fund और ESI को मिलाकर न्यूनतम 41 लाख लोगों को employment मिला है। हमें लगता है कि 31 मार्च तक Employees' Provident Fund और ESI में 1 करोड़ और नए लोगों को रोज़गार मिल जाएगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay; next supplementary, Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, the hon. Minister stated that the data is not available for unemployed persons since November, 2016. My question is: Why is data not available; what are the reasons; and which Ministry or Department is responsible for that?

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: महोदय, मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमने इसमें परिवर्तन किया है और एक नया काम शुरू किया है। अगले दो महीने में विधिवत डेटा जानकारी में आ जाएगा। हमने इसे बंद नहीं किया है, बल्कि उसे नए सिरे से करना शुरू किया है। उसका परिणाम अगले तीन महीने में आ जाएगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय: 2016 से डेटा नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. No commentary while sitting. ..*(interruptions)*..

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, this cannot be the reply. My pointed question was: What are the reasons for non-availability of data since November, 2016 and which Ministry or Department is responsible for that? The Minister has not replied to that.

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इसका सर्वे चल रहा है और जल्दी ही इसकी रिपोर्ट आने वाली है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right, right. Now, Shri Anand Sharma.

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो प्रश्न का उत्तर दिया है, उससे किसी को संतोष नहीं है। इन्होंने अभी सदन में कहा कि "मनरेगा" के लिए पैसा बढ़ा, उसका

सबसे बड़ा कारण है कि शहरों और कस्बों में नौकरियां खत्म हो गयी थीं, रोजगार बंद हुआ। मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करें कि क्या यह सच है या गलत है कि देश में एक तिहाई जो micro, small and medium enterprises हैं, वे नवम्बर, 2016 के बाद से पिछले साल के नवम्बर तक बंद हुए हैं, जिसमें लगभग 4 करोड़ रोजगार टूटे हैं? आपके पास इस चीज़ की जानकारी है या नहीं? दूसरा, जो Employees' Provident Fund का अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि उसमें संख्या बढ़ी है, वे informal sector से formal sector में shift हुए हैं, उस पर काफी चर्चा हो चुकी है। उसके भी आपने आंकड़े नहीं दिए हैं। ये नए रोजगार नहीं हैं। आप मंत्री महोदय का उत्तर देखिए। इस उत्तर में कोई ऐसी जानकारी नहीं दी गयी, जो सदस्यों ने मांगी है और जो सदन का जानने का अधिकार है। आप हर सेक्टर की हमें जानकारी दीजिए, 2016 से आपके पास आंकड़े नहीं हैं। वे आंकड़े क्यों नहीं हैं?

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: सर, हमने बताया कि अभी हम इसका authentic survey करा रहे हैं और अगले दो महीनों में इसका डेटा प्रकाशित हो जाएगा। वह ऐसा डेटा होगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you are not happy with the answer, you know how to take it forward.

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: सर, हम लोगों ने जिस प्रकार से स्वरोजगार की दिशा में काम किया है, उसके परिणाम अब सामने आ रहे हैं। 2015-16 में हमने जो टारगेट रखा था, उससे ज्यादा पैसा दिया है और उसे हर वर्ष बढ़ाने का काम किया है। यह वास्तव में छोटे-छोटे उद्यमियों का आगे बढ़ने की दिशा में कदम है।

श्री सभापति: श्री विनय सहस्रबुद्धे। Third supplementary.

DR. K. KESHA RAO: Sir, we can have half-an-hour discussion on it.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, Short Duration Discussion on unemployment situation in the country.

श्री सभापति: आपका हो गया।

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि देश के बहुत सारे जिलों में employment exchanges चलते हैं और यह हमारे देश में रोजगार विनिमय केंद्रों में बेरोजगारों को दर्ज करने की एक पद्धति थी। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इन employment exchanges में जिनके नाम दर्ज होते हैं, वे अगर नई प्रणाली के अनुसार स्वयं रोजगार की तरफ या उद्यमिता की तरफ बढ़ते हैं तो क्या उसके अनुपात में, उनके संबंध में जो रजिस्ट्रेशन होता है, उसमें कुछ परिवर्तन करने की पद्धति है या वे आंकड़े जैसे के तैसे ही रहते हैं?

श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार: सर, आपकी बात दुरुस्त है। हम इस दिशा में प्रयास कर रहे हैं और इस काम को प्राथमिकता के आधार पर लेने का काम कर रहे हैं। वर्ष 2015 से National Career Service Portal की शुरुआत की थी जिसके अंतर्गत 4.26 करोड़ Job seekers registered हुए थे

और 4.80 लाख employees भी registered हुए थे। 25.2 lakh jobs vacancies भी mobilize की गई थीं। वह वास्तव में एक नया कदम है। विभिन्न राज्यों में हमने जॉब फेयर भी लगाए हैं और इसके अच्छे परिणाम सामने आए हैं और आवश्यक निधि भी जारी की जा रही है। NCS Portal से भी जोड़ा गया है। इस संदर्भ में, जो भी सुझाव होगा, उसको हम ध्यान में रखकर कार्य करेंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Seeing the interest of the Members, I have a suggestion. Let someone give notice for discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have already said that. Let someone give notice for discussion.

विमान कंपनियों द्वारा सीटों को बेचा जाना

***2. श्रीमती छाया वर्मा :** क्या नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या विमान कंपनियां यात्रा टिकटों की बुकिंग होने के उपरांत प्रत्येक सीट बोर्डिंग के समय बेच रही हैं;

(ख) क्या बीच की सीटें जिन्हें असुविधाजनक माना जाता है उन्हें यात्रियों को बिना अतिरिक्त राशि वसूले आबंटित किया जाता है, जबकि सुविधाजनक सीटों को यात्रा के दौरान उनके लिए यात्री उपलब्ध न होने पर भी खाली रखा जाता है; और

(ग) यदि प्रत्येक सीट के लिए बोली लगायी जाए और टिकट धारक यात्री उसे न खरीद सकें, तो ऐसी स्थिति में यात्रियों के पास टिकट होते हुए भी उन्हें बोर्डिंग किस प्रकार से कराई जाएगी और क्या उन्हें सीट बेचने की अंतिम बोली तक बोर्डिंग लाइन में इंतजार करना पड़ेगा?

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जयंत सिन्हा): (क) से (ग) विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) से (ग) अनुसूचित घरेलू एयरलाइनों में सीटों के लिए बोली प्रक्रिया का प्रावधान नहीं होता। तथापि, यात्रियों के पास बुकिंग के समय, या चैक-इन के समय या उड़ान में ऑफ्ट-इन आधार पर प्राथमिकता वाली सीटों के लिए भुगतान करने का विकल्प होता है। जो यात्री हवाई टिकट के साथ-साथ प्राथमिकता वाली सीटें बुक करने के इच्छुक नहीं होते, उन्हें एयरलाइनों द्वारा चेक-इन के समय सीटें आबंटित की जाती हैं।

Selling of seats by airline companies

†*2. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether aviation companies are selling each seat at the time of boarding after booking journey tickets;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether middle seats which are considered as uncomfortable are allotted to passengers without charging extra amount whereas the comfortable seats are kept vacant during journey, if there are no passengers for them; and

(c) if bidding is carried out for each seat and ticket holders are not able to buy it, in such condition, the manner in which passengers would be allowed boarding inspite of having tickets and whether they will have to wait in the boarding queue till the last bidding is completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Scheduled domestic airlines do not enable bidding for seats. However, passengers have the option to pay for preferential seats at the time of booking, or at the time of check-in, or on board on an opt-in basis. Those passengers who do not wish to book preferential seats along with their air ticket, are allocated seats by the airlines at the time of check-in.

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा: महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया है कि विमान की सीटों को बेचा नहीं जाता है, लेकिन मैं बताना चाहूंगी कि जिस तरह से कस्बों में मिनी बस चलती है तो साइड वाली सीट को अतिरिक्त पैसे लेकर बेचा जाता है, ठीक उसी तरह आज विमानों में भी होने लगा है। मैं बताना चाहूंगी कि 29 जून को इंडिगो में साढ़े पांच बजे की फ्लाइट दिल्ली से रायपुर को गई, उसमें सामने की पूरी सीट्स खाली थीं। मेरे पास बिजनेस क्लास की टिकट थी, मेरे बोलने के बाद भी मुझे सामने की सीट नहीं मिली और जैसे ही फ्लाइट शुरू हुई, उसके बाद 600-600 रुपए में सीट्स को बेचने के लिए अनाउंस किया गया। मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि क्या वैध टिकट होने के उपरांत भी यात्रियों से सीट के एवज में अतिरिक्त राशि लेना जायज है और यदि जायज है तो उसे टिकट में क्यों समाहित नहीं किया जाता है? यह मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगी।

श्री सभापति: जयंत जी, यह एक गंभीर मामला है।

श्री जयंत सिन्हा: माननीय उपसभापति जी, जब एक पैसेन्जर और एक एयरलाइन्स के बीच में एक कॉन्ट्रैक्ट होता है तो उस कॉन्ट्रैक्ट में कुछ terms and conditions स्पष्ट की जाती हैं। उनमें condition स्पष्ट की जाती है कि आप जो सीट खरीद रहे हैं, वह आप किस किस्म की सीट खरीद रहे हैं। जो सबसे कम दाम की सीट होती है, वह मिडिल सीट होती है। उसको इस तरीके से किया गया है कि किफायती तौर से पैसेन्जर्स को हम लोग हवाई सेवाएं दे सकें। अगर आप मिडिल सीट खरीद रहे हैं, तो आपको उसको सबसे कम दाम में खरीदने का एक मौका मिलेगा। अगर आपको aisle seat लेनी हो या window seat लेनी हो तो आपको फिर उसके लिए अतिरिक्त पैसे देने की जरूरत पड़ेगी और इस प्रकार से जितनी किफायती सीट हम दिलवा सकते हैं, हम दिलवा देंगे और जो ये फेयर्स थे ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: प्लीज़, पहले पूरा सुनिए।

श्री जयंत सिन्हा: फेयर्स को डीरेग्युलेट कर दिया गया था और कुछ सिद्धांत थे, जिनको हम लोगों ने स्पष्ट किया है। वे सिद्धांत हैं - opt-in के, पारदर्शिता के और non-discrimination के, तो ये opt-in, transparency और non-discrimination principles को लेकर, आपके और एयरलाइन के बीच में जो समझौता, जो commercial contract बनता है, उसके आधार पर फिर terms of carriage होते हैं और उसके आधार पर फिर आप फ्लाइट सर्विसेज का उपयोग कर सकते हैं।

श्री सभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी, ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़, प्लीज़ 29 तारीख का अपना स्पेसिफिक उदाहरण खुद एम.पी. दे रही हैं। आप इसके बारे में इन्क्वायरी करवाइए कि वास्तविक रूप में क्या हुआ? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जयंत सिन्हा: अगर स्पष्ट कुछ हुआ है, किसी दिन ऐसा मामला हुआ है, तो आप जरूर हमें बताइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Was there discrimination? आप कार्रवाई करिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जयंत सिन्हा: उस पर आवश्यक कार्रवाई होगी। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI AHMED PATEL: Earlier also, this has happened. ...(Interruptions)... ऐसा सबके साथ हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, they are saying that. ...(Interruptions)... Now, second supplementary. ...(Interruptions)... I am here to facilitate you and also to convey your thoughts to the Government so that you can get required reply. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, he has not replied. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Chhaya Verma. ...(Interruptions)... आपका नाम छाया वर्मा नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Sir, why is he trying to circumvent? ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't make allegations. ...(Interruptions)... मधुसूदन जी, आप काफी अनुभवी हैं। आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... आप बीच में कैसे आ गए? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा: सभापति महोदय, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि अतिरिक्त सीट चार्ज में कितनी राशि पिछले तीन वर्षों में एयरलाइन्स को प्राप्त हुई है? क्या इस राशि पर जीएसटी नहीं लगता है और क्या इसकी जांच मंत्रालय करवाएगा?

श्री जयंत सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, जो सौदा किसी पैसेंजर और किसी एयरलाइन्स के बीच में होता है, उससे टैक्स लेना तो जरूरी है। सभी एयरलाइन्स से तो टैक्स कलेक्ट होता ही है और वह

रेवेन्यू डिपार्टमेंट को जाता है। इस पर रेवेन्यू डिपार्टमेंट भी जांच करता है। जो टैक्स देना होता है, उसकी जांच की जाती है और वह एयरलाइन्स से लिया जाता है। जैसा कि मैंने कहा कि जो फेयर किसी सीट के लिए है या किसी बैगेज चार्ज के लिए है या किसी meal के लिए है, तो वह एयरलाइन्स इसको लागू करने के लिए स्वतंत्र है। हम लोग इसका निरीक्षण और जांच यही करते हैं कि कुछ सिद्धांत हैं, उनके अनुसार काम किया जा रहा है या नहीं किया जा रहा है, उसका कोई उल्लंघन हो रहा है या नहीं हो रहा है, opt-in, non-discrimination और transparency का तब हम लोग उस पर कोई कार्रवाई करते हैं, लेकिन आपको और एयरलाइन्स के बीच में यह आपका निजी सौदा है कि आप किस प्रकार से उपयोग करेंगे। मैं माननीय सदस्यों से यही कहूंगा कि अगर आपको लगता है कि इन सिद्धांतों का कहीं कोई उल्लंघन हुआ है, तो आप जरूर हमें बताइए। उस शिकायत पर हम लोग जरूर कार्रवाई करेंगे। एक सेवा पोर्टल भी हमारा बना हुआ है।

श्री हरिवंश: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी को बताना चाहता हूं कि जिस फ्लाइट की चर्चा श्रीमती छाया वर्मा जी ने की है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: आपस में बात करते हैं, तो डिस्टर्बेंस होती है।

श्री हरिवंश: सर, उक्त एयरलाइन्स में आप कभी यात्रा करें, खाली सीटों पर खुले रूप से बताया जाता है कि आप आगे सीट लेना चाहते हैं, अच्छी सीट लेना चाहते हैं, तो आप अतिरिक्त पैसा पे करें। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि हाल ही में उन्होंने luggage पर 300 रुपए के.जी. से बढ़ाकर 500 रुपए के.जी. चार्ज कर दिया है। खासतौर से, मैं इंडिगो एयरलाइन्स का जिक्र करना चाहूंगा और इससे पहले मैंने सदन में भी सवाल उठाया था कि कई प्रमुख लोगों के साथ अभद्र व्यवहार की खबरें आई थीं। प्रो. राम गुहा से लेकर खुद मंत्री जी की निगाह में है कि एक पैसेंजर के साथ उन्होंने क्या सलूक किया था, उसके बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि हम कार्रवाई करेंगे। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि ऐसी क्या कार्रवाई की गयी है, जिससे कि यात्रियों का, पैसेंजर्स का ध्यान रखा जा सके?

श्री जयंत सिन्हा: माननीय सभापति जी, हम लोग पैसेंजर्स को पूरी तरह से सुरक्षित रख रहे हैं। अगर किसी को, कोई शिकायत होती है, ऐसे मामलों में, अगर उनके साथ अभद्र व्यवहार होता है, खासकर माननीय सदस्यों के साथ अभद्र व्यवहार होता है, तो आप जरूरत शिकायत दर्ज करिए। हम लोग उस पर जरूर कार्रवाई करेंगे। माननीय सदस्य जी ने एक विषय इंडिगो के बारे में कहा है, जिसमें हम सब ने एक यात्री को टी.वी. पर देखा था, उनके साथ अभद्र व्यवहार हुआ था, उस व्यक्ति के खिलाफ कार्रवाई हुई, उसका जो सिक्योरिटी परमिट है, वह ले लिया गया है और अब वह इंडिगो में काम नहीं कर रहा है। वहां से उनको बर्खास्त कर दिया गया था। उस विषय पर और उस घटना पर कार्रवाई अवश्य हुई है। आदरणीय सभापति जी, मैं एक बार फिर से सभी माननीय सदस्यों को आपके माध्यम से बताना चाहता हूं कि जो फेयर्स हैं, जिनको ancillary charges कहा जाता है, चाहे वे baggage charges हों, चाहे वे meal charges हों, चाहे वह बेहतर सीट का चार्ज हो, वे deregulate हो चुके हैं। वह एयरलाइन्स और पैसेंजर के बीच में कमर्शियल कॉन्टैक्ट है, जो चाहे उस वह तय कर सकते हैं। वे ऐसा करने के लिए स्वतंत्र हैं। जैसे आप होटल में जाकर चाय के लिए जो भी भाड़ा देना हो, वह दें, न दें, यह आप पर निर्भर है, उसी प्रकार से एयरलाइन्स में जो आपको सेवाएं मिल रही हैं, वे

regulate नहीं होती हैं, वे फेयर्स deregulate हो चुके हैं। इस पर माननीय दिल्ली हाई कोर्ट का भी ऑर्डर आया है कि ये deregulated सेवाएं हैं, उनका जो भी भाड़ा एयरलाइन्स चाहती हैं, वे लगा सकती हैं। फिर भी हम लोगों ने कुछ सिद्धांत रखे हैं, अगर उनका उल्लंघन हो रहा है, तो आप बताइए।

श्री माजीद मेनन: सर, अभी तक इंडिगो एयर लाइन्स की बात हो रही थी। मैं नेशनल एयरलाइन्स की बात कर रहा हूँ, मैं एयर इंडिया की बात कर रहा हूँ। कल अखबार में यह खबर आई थी कि एयर इंडिया भी preferred seats बेचेगी, तो आप इस खबर की तसदीक करिए कि यह सही है या गलत है। आपने जो पहले जवाब दिया है कि concessional rates पर middle seats दी जाती हैं। यह किसी सदस्य की ग्रीवेंस नहीं है। जो स्टैंडर्ड रेट है, फेयर है, अगर उससे कम पैसों में सीट मिले, तो कोई ग्रीवेंस नहीं होगी। स्टैंडर्ड रेट से ज्यादा पैसे लेकर preferred seats देने वाला जो मामला है, वह गड़बड़ी का है। अब वह एयर इंडिया में भी शुरू हो रहा है, तो आप सदन को भी ज़रा बता दीजिए कि क्या एयर इंडिया में भी तरह से प्रीमियम लेकर सीटें बेचेगी?

श्री जयंत सिन्हा: माननीय सभापति जी, आदरणीय सदस्य बिल्कुल सही कह रहे हैं कि एयर इंडिया में भी अब जो aisle सीट्स हैं या विंडो सीट्स हैं, उन्हें ज्यादा भाड़े में बेचा जा रहा है। यह कॉमर्शियल प्रैक्टिस है। दुनिया भर में इसे किया जाता है। यदि एयर इंडिया को भी हमें सही तरीके से चलाना है और कॉमर्शियल बेसिस पर चलाना है, तो हमें इस प्रैक्टिस का पालन करना होगा।

महोदय, मिडिल सीट्स को कंसेशनल भाड़े पर दिया जा रहा है, ऐसा मैंने नहीं कहा है। मैंने कहा कि जो मिडिल सीट है, वह सबसे कम भाड़े पर दी जा रही है। जो कम भाड़े या एफोर्डेबल रेट पर चलना चाहते हैं, वे अवश्य मिडिल सीट लें। जिन्हें फ़िर और कम्फर्ट की जरूरत है, जिन्हें और सुविधा की जरूरत है, वे aisle सीट लें, विंडो सीट लें या बिजनेस क्लास सीट लें। वह आप पर निर्भर करता है, क्योंकि हम लोगों ने मिडिल सीट के चार्ज अनुबंधित कर दिए हैं, इसलिए एफोर्डेबिलिटी आपको दी है। अगर आपको सब से कम भाड़े पर कहीं भी सफर करना हो, तो इस सुविधा का उपयोग आप कर सकते हैं।

महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्यों को विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश में एयरलाइन्स के जो फेयर्स हैं, वे दुनिया में करीब-करीब सबसे एफोर्डेबल हैं। दुनिया में हमारे देश के यात्री सबसे कम एयरलाइन के भाड़े में सफर कर रहे हैं। कम भाड़ा दिलवाने के लिए हमें एक रॉक बॉटम फेयर दिलवाना होता है। अगर आप तीन महीने पहले मिडिल सीट लीजिए, तो आपको सबसे कम भाड़े में वह सीट मिलेगी और वह दुनिया में सबसे कम भाड़ा भी होगा, लेकिन उसके बाद अगर आपको और सुविधा चाहिए, तो आपको और पैसा देना पड़ेगा। जैसे आप होटल में जाते हैं और आप यदि चाय पीते हैं, तो आप चाय का पेमेंट करते हैं और यदि समोसा खाते हैं, तो आपको समोसे का पेमेंट देना होता है, वगैरह-वगैरह।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the first part of my question is, see, these preferred seats make or give a feel that there is discrimination among the passengers. Why don't you kindly do away with this scheme because if it is adopted on first-come-

first-served basis, then, I think, that would help? Another thing is, Sir, at the time of the departure of the flight, the fares are increased by 400 per cent. You can allow them to increase the fares as per the demand but it should not be abnormal. So, at least, fix a ceiling. Sometimes, it is Rs. 4,000 and it goes up to Rs. 16,000 and Rs. 18,000 for a smaller sector, and people who are in a hurry and who are in a distress face a lot of trouble. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. It is a suggestion. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: The Ministry should intervene to fix a ceiling so that it should not increase by 200 per cent or something like that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a suggestion for action.

Crimes against SCs/STs

*3. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether crimes against persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have increased during the last four years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total number of cases of crimes that were reported and registered against persons who committed such crimes; and
- (d) whether legal protection is provided to victims and families of these communities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

(a) to (c) No Sir, the data does not show any such trend. As per the latest available published information with National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the data with respect to cases registered in crimes against persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from 2013-16 is as under:

Years	2013	2014	2015	2016
Scheduled Castes	39,408	40,401	38,670	40,801
Scheduled Tribes	6,793	6,827	6,276	6,568

(d) Section 15A of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act {PoA} 1989, as amended, specifies that it shall be the duty and responsibility of the State to make arrangements for the protection of victims, their dependents, and witnesses against any kind of intimidation or coercion or inducement or violence or threats of violence.

As regards legal protection, for speedy trial of the PoA Act related cases in courts, Section 14 of the PoA Act, *inter alia*, provides for establishing an Exclusive Special Court for one or more Districts by the concerned State/Union Territory, with concurrence of the Chief Justice of the High Court. However, in districts with lesser number of cases under this Act, the State Government shall, with the concurrence of the Chief Justice of the High Court, by notification in the official gazette, specify for such districts, the Court of Session to be a Special Court. Further, Section 15 of the PoA Act provides for specifying Special Public Prosecutor and Exclusive Special Public Prosecutor for conduct of cases in Special Courts and Exclusive Special Courts respectively.

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: सर, प्रश्न के उत्तर में जो फिगर्स मंत्री जी ने बताए हैं, वे मेरे प्रश्न के अनुसार नहीं बताए गए हैं, क्योंकि मैंने पांच साल का ब्यौरा मांगा था, लेकिन मुझे सिर्फ चार साल का ब्यौरा ही दिया गया है। एक साल वर्ष 2017-18 का ब्यौरा नहीं दिया गया है। जहां तक शेड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के ऊपर एट्रोसिटीज़ और क्राइम की बात है, उसके बारे में आप देखें और देश भर के अखबारों में भी आया है कि सरकारों ने जो ऑथेंटिक फिगर्स दी हैं और पिछले सेशन में आपने जवाब भी दिए हैं, उनसे स्पष्ट होता है कि कहां-कहां पर धर्म के नाम पर सरकारें चलाई जा रही हैं, फिर चाहे वह छत्तीसगढ़ हो, मध्य प्रदेश हो या महाराष्ट्र हो ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: आप कृपया सवाल पूछिए।

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: सर, इन राज्यों में शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के खिलाफ क्राइम बढ़ते जा रहे हैं, फिर चाहे रेप के केस हों, चाहे एट्रोसिटीज़ की बात हो, मर्डर के केसेज़ हों या डिफरेंट टाइप के केसेज़, फिर चाहे वे रिलीजियस मामले हों, ये दिन पर दिन बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। यह बात, इन्होंने जो फिगर्स वर्ष 2016 की दी हैं, मैं उनके आधार पर कह रहा हूं।

सर, वर्ष 1989 में स्पेशल कोर्ट की अमेंडमेंट हुई और उसकी बात भी कही गई, लेकिन शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के ऐसे बहुत से मामले हैं, जो रजिस्टर ही नहीं किए जाते हैं। मुल्क को आज़ाद हुए 70 साल हो गए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask the question. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: सर, 70 सालों में आप देखेंगे कि शेड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट्स पर ज्यादतियां, मुकदमे, उनके खिलाफ रेप के केस, लड़कियों को उठाए जाने और किडनैप किए जाने आदि के केसेज़ बढ़ते ही जा रहे हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask the question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शमशेर सिंह ढुलो: सर, जहां-जहां धर्म के नाम पर सरकारें चलाने की बात है और उसमें भी सबसे पहले तो गुजरात को देखें ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: यदि आपको इस बारे में भाषण देना है, तो उसके लिए अलग से व्यवस्था होगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मंत्री जी इस बारे में आप क्या कुछ बोलना चाहते हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री शमशेर सिंह ढुलो: सर, मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बारे में सरकार ने क्या रणनीति बनाई है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't deviate from the main question. ...*(Interruptions)*... And let us not make comments. Get the answer.

श्री शमशेर सिंह ढुलो: सभापति जी, मैं स्टेट की बात कर रहा हूँ। स्टेट्स में, जहां श्री राम के नाम से ...*(व्यवधान)*... जहां राम राज्य की बात करते हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... वहां इतने जुल्म हो रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं उसकी बात कर रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: नहीं, नहीं, यहां पर राम जी का नाम लेने की जरूरत नहीं है। ऐसी बात कहने की जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि यह वह क्वेश्चन नहीं है। आप राम कहेंगे, कोई रहीम कहेगा, कोई करीम कहेगा, कोई और कुछ कहेगा, उस पर unnecessary विवाद होगा, इसलिए इसमें क्यों पड़ना है? यह विषय वह नहीं है। विषय है is, atrocities against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. That is the issue, serious issue. If you divert it, then you are not doing justice.

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति महोदय, सम्माननीय सदस्य ने प्रश्न पूछा है कि क्या इन पर होने वाले अपराधों में वृद्धि हुई है? NCRB के माध्यम से हमारे पास डेटा उपलब्ध है। यह पद्धति है कि केवल चार साल का ही डेटा दिया जाता है, इसलिए हमारे पास 2017 तक को डेटा अभी आना है। एनसीआरबी समय पर डेटा देता है। अभी इसमें 2013 से लेकर 2016 तक का जो डेटा दिया है, उसमें अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग पर होने वाले अपराधों में वृद्धि होने की जो बात है, उस पर हमने न कहा है और यही सही है कि अपराधों में वृद्धि नहीं हुई है। इसके साथ ही हमने अनुसूचित जनजाति वर्ग पर होने वाले अपराधों में भी वृद्धि नहीं होने की बात कही है। जो भी अपराध होते हैं, वे चाहे मर्डर के हों या और भी तरह के अपराध हों, जैसे आपने कहा है, छेड़खानी के अपराध या बलात्कार के अपराध हों, उन सारे अपराधों का इसमें इनपुट हैं, इन सारे अपराधों को मिलाकर यह डेटा दिया गया है। सरकार इसके प्रति काफी गंभीर है। आपने भी देखा है कि इसमें 2015 में इसी के चलते कुछ और अपराधों को जोड़ा है। पहले इसमें, एनसीआरबी में 22 अपराध गिने जाते थे, लेकिन अभी हमने इस Atrocities Act की कार्यवाही के अंदर और 25 अपराधों की बढ़ोतरी करके इसमें 47 अपराध जोड़ दिए हैं, ताकि अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति वर्ग पर अन्याय न हो। सरकार इस तरीके से काम कर रही है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary question. Be specific.

श्री शमशेर सिंह ढुलो: सभापति जी, जहां तक कन्विक्शन का सवाल है, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि डिफरेंट स्टेट्स में कन्विक्शन रेट बहुत कम है। जो पेंडिंग केसेज हैं, मैं आपको उनकी डिटेल् देना

चाहता हूं। मेरे पास जानकारी है कि वहां पेंडिंग केसेज हैं। कोर्ट में ट्रायल चल रहे हैं। वे ट्रायल सालों से चल रहे हैं। वहां पर कई जिलों में तो स्पेशल कोर्ट का प्रावधान किया गया है, लेकिन स्पेशल कोर्ट भी नहीं बना है। एक तरफ तो हम बाबा साहेब भीमराव अम्बेडकर की 125 जयंती मनाने जा रहे हैं, दूसरी तरफ शेड्यूल्ड कॉस्ट के लोगों पर atrocities बढ़ रही हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question, please.

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: अगर देश का * किसी मंदिर में माथा टेकने के लिए जाता है, तो उसकी एंट्री नहीं करने दी जाती है, सीटों पर बैठने ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, this is not going on record. * का नाम लिया है। वह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाएगा।

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: जहां * जैसे व्यक्ति, जो जब मंदिरों में जाते थे, उन मंदिरों को, मूर्तियों को गंगा जल से, दूध से नहलाया जाता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... धर्म के नाम पर जो atrocities होती हैं, इनको तय करने के लिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... सरकार क्या कर रही है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the reply. ...**(Interruptions)**... This is not going on record. ...**(Interruptions)**... This has become a habit of some hon. Members to deviate and then make political comments which are not doing justice to the cause. This is how they have been deprived all these years. जो * वाला बोला है, वह रिकॉर्ड से निकाल दीजिए।

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति जी, जो प्रश्न पूछा गया है, जो मूल प्रश्न है, मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि ये मामले कई राज्यों में प्रलंबित हैं।

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: सभापति जी, यह हो रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठिए, आप अनुभवी हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति जी, ऐसे मामलों में ज्यादा विलंब न हो, इसलिए सरकार 2015 में जो अमेंडमेंट लाई थी, उसमें इसी बात को लेकर, पीड़ितों को जल्दी न्याय दिलाने के लिए एक विशेष न्यायालय खोलने के साथ ही अनन्य विशेष न्यायालय खोलने की बात कही थी। कई राज्यों में इसकी स्थापना हो चुकी है। करीब 30 राज्यों में स्पेशल मजिस्ट्रेट न्यायालय खुल चुके हैं और 14 राज्यों में अनन्य विशेष न्यायालयों की स्थापना हो चुकी है, ताकि इन मामलों का जल्दी निपटान हो सके। अगर कई राज्यों में ये मामले प्रलंबित होते हैं, तो इसमें राज्य सरकारों का बहुत ज्यादा रोल होता है, उनको इस पर ध्यान देना चाहिए और इन मामलों का जल्दी निपटारा करना चाहिए।

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, it is good that when this question is taken up, the Home Minister is present in the House. Sir, the Government has given the data with respect to the cases registered in crime against persons. The Government in a way admits that there are cases unregistered and it is a fact, there is an increase in atrocities, crimes, committed against

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Dalits and *adivasis* in our country. Sir, my question is, the recent verdict of the Supreme Court two-judge bench has made the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act literally redundant, ineffective and it has diluted the very essence of this Act.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Raja, question please.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, several Ministers of the Government and the Social Justice Minister are sitting here. He has made a statement that the Government will make all efforts to strengthen this Act, and there was a talk about the Ordinance to protect the interest of *dalits* and *adivasis*. Now, I am asking the Home Minister what this Government is going to do to strengthen this Act.

गृह मंत्री (श्री राजनाथ सिंह): चेयरमैन सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि एस.सी./एस.टी. कम्युनिटी के लोगों को भारत के संविधान के द्वारा जो भी प्रोटेक्शंस उपलब्ध हैं, उन्हें न कोई संस्था छीन सकती है, न इस देश का कोई व्यक्ति छीन सकता है। यह मैं पूरी तरह से आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ। हमारी सरकार ने एस.सी./एस.टी. एक्ट में किसी भी प्रकार का dilution न हो पाए, इसके लिए जो कुछ भी किया जा सकता है, किया है। यानी एस.सी./एस.टी. एक्ट को और अधिक strengthen करने के लिए, जो भी अमेंडमेंट्स आवश्यक थे, हमारी सरकार ने एक्ट में वे सारे अमेंडमेंट्स करने का काम किया है। हमारी सरकार ने केवल एक्ट में ही अमेंडमेंट नहीं किया है, बल्कि रूल्स में भी अमेंडमेंट किया है। इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए कि भारत के संविधान के द्वारा एस.सी./एस.टी. कम्युनिटी को जो भी प्रोटेक्शंस प्राप्त हैं, उन पर किसी भी सूरत में कोई सवालिया निशान न लग सके, मैं यह पुनः आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि हमने एक्ट में भी 2015 में अमेंडमेंट किया है, रूल्स में भी अमेंडमेंट किया है। कुछ ऐसे मामले जो इसके पहले एक्ट में सम्मिलित नहीं थे, जैसे एस.सी./एस.टी. कम्युनिटी के लोगों को tease करना, यह करना, वह करना, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि ये सभी मामले हमने रूल्स में अमेंडमेंट करके शामिल कर दिए हैं।

सर, जहां तक conviction rate का सवाल है, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे सहयोगी मित्र, श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर जी ने उसका बहुत अच्छा जवाब दिया है। पहले स्पेशल कोर्ट्स हुआ करते थे, लेकिन हमारी सरकार ने यह फैसला किया कि अब सिर्फ स्पेशल कोर्ट्स से काम नहीं चलेगा, बल्कि एक्सक्लूसिव स्पेशल कोर्ट्स होने चाहिए और ऐसे 1094 एक्सक्लूसिव स्पेशल कोर्ट्स को establish करने का काम सरकार ने किया है। मैं सदन को आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि एक्सक्लूसिव स्पेशल कोर्ट्स establish होने के बाद निश्चित रूप से conviction rate बढ़ेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to look after all the sections of the entire House.

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV: Sir, The situation is really grave, and I welcome the establishment of exclusive special courts. There is a question. To what extent has there been an increase in the number of crimes against the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled

Tribes women, and what is the conviction rate as far as the cases against the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes women are concerned? And how does it compare with the general cases registered under the Indian Penal Code?

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सभापति जी, इस संबंध में हमने पहले ही कहा कि हमने अपराधों में वृद्धि होने की बात नहीं मानी है। महिलाओं पर जो भी अपराध होते हैं या किसी और प्रकार के अपराध होते हैं, उनका एन.सी.आर.बी. के माध्यम से अलग से एन्ट्री या अलग से डाटा नहीं बनता है। यह बात सही है, जैसा हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने भी कहा है कि एस.सी./एस.टी. के प्रति सरकार बहुत संवेदनशीलता से काम करती है। ऐसे अपराध न बढ़ें, इसके लिए हम जो अमेंडमेंट लाए थे, उसके अनुसार न्यायालय भी बने हुए हैं और राज्य सरकारों को भी बार-बार advisory जारी की जाती है। ऐसे अपराध न बढ़ें, इसके लिए राज्य सरकारों को सूचना भेजी जाती है और राज्य सरकारों से काम करवाया जाता है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे अपराध न बढ़ें, सरकार इसके प्रति गंभीर है।

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Thank you very much, Sir. I just join this discussion because I believe the complaint is not against any political party, किसी दल विशेष से complaint नहीं है, लेकिन पूरी अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के जो मसले हैं, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि उनके खिलाफ हिंसा routinize हो गई है। दिक्कत यह है कि अब यह सामान्य लगने लगा है और जब इस तरह की हिंसा सामान्य लगने लगती है, तब यह समाज के बीमार होने का लक्षण है। मैं एक छोटी सी टिप्पणी करना चाहूंगा कि शायद 70 वर्ष में बहुत कुछ न हुआ होगा, लेकिन कमाल की बात यह है कि सीवर में उतरने वाले की जाति नहीं बदली है।

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछिए।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: सर, हम मंगल ग्रह पर चले गए हैं, लेकिन सीवर में उतरने वाले की जाति नहीं बदली है। यह हम सभी के लिए कष्ट का विषय है, चाहे हम किसी भी दल में हों। आज चाहे हम सत्ता में हों या विपक्ष में हों, क्योंकि परिस्थितियां बदलेंगी, लेकिन सवाल वही रहेगा।

श्री सभापति: मंत्री जी, क्या आप इसका जवाब देना चाहते हैं? स्थिति सुधारने के लिए आप क्या कर रहे हैं, उन्होंने इसके ऊपर commentary की है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़, प्लीज़।

श्री हंसराज गंगाराम अहीर: सर, मैला ढोने की प्रथा से लेकर हर चीज के प्रति सरकार गंभीर है। अगर कोई ऐसा गंदा काम करवाता है, तो उसके खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने के लिए हम 2015 में जो अमेंडमेंट लाए हैं, उसमें इसके लिए प्रावधान किया हुआ है।

Hurdles faced by WTO

*4. **SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trade Ministers from various countries feel that World Trade Organisation is facing significant hurdles;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that fundamental reflections are required at the political level on major issues of divergence;
- (d) whether the Ministers expressed their willingness to pursue their active engagements towards preserving and further developing the multilateral trading system; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes Sir. Many member countries of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) have, from time to time, expressed concern on the challenges being faced by the organisation in upholding and promoting the principles of multilateralism and non-discrimination. The challenges include the current impasse in appointing members to existing vacancies in the Appellate Body of the WTO, some members questioning the principles of special and differential treatment provisions for developing countries and LDCs which are an integral part of the WTO agreements and questionable unilateral trade measures and resulting counter measures which risk escalation to a trade war and undermining of the cardinal principles and credibility of the WTO's rules-based system.

In various interventions made at the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the WTO held in Buenos Aires in December 2017 and the subsequent WTO informal meeting in Davos in January 2018, Ministers of member countries have, however, reiterated their faith in multilateral trading system and have called for active engagement with a view to resolving the issues facing the WTO. Similar sentiments were also expressed by various participants in the Informal WTO Ministerial Meeting hosted by India on 19-20 March 2018. Another Informal Mini- Ministerial meeting was held in Paris on 31 May 2018, where many Ministers again raised the issues of unilateral trade measures being taken by a few WTO members, rising protectionism and the need for positive contribution to strengthen the WTO. In the Joint Communiqué issued in the BRICS Trade Ministers Meeting (TMM) in South Africa on 5 July 2018, the fact that the multilateral trading system is facing unprecedented challenges, was again recognised.

(c) to (e) At the 11th Ministerial Conference in December 2017 in Buenos Aires, Informal Gatherings of WTO Ministers in Davos (January 2018), New Delhi (March 2018) and Paris (May 2018) Trade Ministers have, while expressing serious concerns on the challenges being faced by the WTO, advocated engaging at the political level to address divergences and the need to urgently re-establish mutual trust and work to restore the primacy of the rules-based system. In the Joint Communiqué issued on conclusion of the 8th BRICS Trade Ministers Meeting in South Africa on 5 July 2018, Ministers expressed their concern on the systemic impact of unilateral trade measures which are incompatible with WTO rules and called for opposing protectionism and honouring commitments. They further committed to work together to strengthen the WTO.

Many countries including India have brought proposals to address the impasse in the appointment of members to the Appellate Body and have advocated strongly for protecting the fundamental principles of the WTO including multilateralism, rule-based consensual decision-making, an independent and credible dispute resolution and appellate process, the centrality of development and special and differential treatment for all developing countries.

SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the major issue India is facing before the WTO is food security. The developed nations, like the U.S., have refused to agree to the demands of the developing nations on food security. Initially, India was bargaining hard for improving an already available mechanism that safeguarded the Government purchase of staple food grains from low-income and resource the poor farmers at subsidised prices for stockpiling, and then distributing them to the country's economically weak. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what the stand of the WTO on India's food security is.

श्री सी. आर. चौधरी: ऑनरेबल चेयरमैन सर, बहुत ही समसामयिक क्वेश्चन पूछा गया है। Actually, food security के लिहाज से WTO में stockpiling के ऊपर कई समय से विचार-विमर्श चल रहा है। कुछ developed countries का कहना है कि अनाज की stockpiling करने से, stockholding करने से, international market में इसके prices पर असर आता है, लेकिन जितने developing nations और least developed countries हैं, उनका यह कहना है कि for the food security, for the poor people, this public procurement is a must. Government procure करती है और उसको अपने-अपने सिस्टम से, जैसे भारत में Public Distribution System through ration shops है, we distribute the food. Because of the poverty यह गरीब लोगों को सहायता देने के लिए किया जाता है, लेकिन उनका यह कहना है कि it distorts the international market. The developed countries do not like it. अभी ब्यूनस आयर्स में 11th Ministerial Conference हुई थी,

वहां भी हमारा firm opinion था। हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने यह बात रखी कि इस प्रकार से हमारे यहां जो stockpiling की जा रही है, public procurement किया जा रहा है, that is essential because a large chunk of the population, five crore population, is below poverty line in India and we are providing highly subsidized food grains to the 81 crore people of this country. So, this is a must, इसके बाद चूंकि इस पर कोई decision नहीं हो पाया, फिलहाल whatever decision is taken before that will continue till the final decision is taken. इसी आधार पर 19 और 20 मार्च को दिल्ली में एक Informal Ministerial Meeting भी हुई है, जिसमें 53 countries ने participate किया। दावोस में जनवरी में एक मीटिंग हुई है। मेरा निवेदन यह है कि हम जो stockpiling कर रहे हैं, यह बिल्कुल सही है, वाजिब बात है। उनका कहना है कि आप subsidized या काफी low price पर अनाज खरीदते हैं, then you sell the highly subsidised rate to the farmer; they say that that is a problem with the developed countries.

SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the developed nations always have an upper hand in the decision-making of the World Trade Organisation in all matters. Under these circumstances, the developing nations, like India, from time to time, joined hands with other countries, whether it is in Davos or elsewhere. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what sort of assurance we got from these nations to protect the trade interests of nations like ours. Thank you.

SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there are 167 members in the WTO. इससे पहले GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) था। इसमें 117 developing nations हैं, the remaining developed countries वगैरह हैं। आपका यह कहना है कि developed countries निर्णय करने में developing countries या अन्य दूसरे देशों पर हावी होती हैं, जबकि ऐसा नहीं है। WTO का जो नियम है, उसके अनुसार सभी मेम्बर्स को समान अधिकार हैं और वे अपनी बात को रखते हैं। There are 19 general agreements, जो major agreements हैं, वे common consensus से और general decision से तैयार किए गए हैं and every country is following them. कहीं-कहीं दिक्कत भी आती है, क्योंकि निश्चित रूप से some countries are unilateral now a days और यह जो प्रॉब्लम आई है, वह इसीलिए आई है क्योंकि कुछ unilateral decisions होने लगे हैं, जो किसी न किसी प्रकार से WTO के multinational system को थोड़ा सा distort करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, तो countries में, चाहे 11th Ministerial Conference, चाहे India में हुई informal gathering हो, चाहे Davos में हुई informal gathering, चाहे 21st May को Paris में हुई informal gathering of the Ministers हो, everywhere it is discussed. Even I attended BRICS Commerce and Trade Ministers Conference near Johannesburg, वहां पर भी यह डिस्कस हुआ था। सभी BRICS countries इस बात से agree थे कि जो developed countries हैं, वे protectionism की नीति नहीं अपनाएं, इसी प्रकार से जो developing countries हैं, उनको आगे बढ़ाएं।

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me an opportunity. Sir, the Minister in his statement has rightly spoken about some of the impediments which the WTO is facing, notably the vacancies in the appellate body which the United States Administration has been responsible for in trying to whittle down. He is also right in saying that India has stood up for the integrity and effectiveness of the WTO as a fair global trading system. Sir, in this context, I would like to point out that when the WTO raises new issues and one of the major issues which was raised at the Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires was the question of setting up global standards for e-commerce, which is a vibrant industry, which is an opportunity industry as far as India is concerned, which enables global networks for particularly our SMEs, why is it that the first and instinctive reaction of the Indian negotiators at the WTO and in fact, various international conferences is to say 'no'?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

श्री सी. आर. चौधरी: 2001 में दोहा में हुई वार्ता में एक general consensus हुआ, साथ ही दोहा में जो round of negotiations चल रहे हैं, उनमें जो पुराने issues हैं, which is regarding food, fisheries etc. and also there are so many other important issues, उनके ऊपर भारत और अन्य developing nations का यह आग्रह है कि first you kindly complete these issues, kindly go through all these issues and try to resolve them first and then we can go to other issues. India never refuses to discuss on electronic system, e-marketing or investment-related issues or gender-related issues, but India wants them to resolve those issues which are pending for long. अभी आपने पहले क्वेश्चन में stocking पर भी प्रश्न पूछा था। इंडिया का यह कहना है कि जो इश्यूज़ काफी समय से पेंडिंग हैं, उन इश्यूज़ को पहले रिज़ॉल्व किया जाए।

श्री सभापति: उनका कहना यह है कि यह इस देश के हित में है, तो हम लोग positively respond क्यों नहीं कर रहे हैं? Take note of it.

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Sir, the question was on e-commerce.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, yes.

SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to put my supplementary question. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Government has taken up with the WTO the issue of unilateral imposition of high tariff in steel and aluminium by the US Government in detriment to the Foreign trade policy being pursued by the members of the WTO? This is, Sir, seriously hampering aluminium and steel production of our country and affecting the serious situation which has been created in the export policy. Will you please respond to it?

SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY: Hon. Chairman, Sir, the Member is right. उन्होंने जो सप्लिमेंटरी क्वेश्चन पूछा है, वह काफी हद तक ठीक है। इसका कारण यह है कि actually, WTO के तहत अभी जो आपने US वाला बताया, USA ने भारत के ऊपर, steel पर 25 per cent और aluminium पर 10 per cent additional duty लगायी है। उससे न केवल भारत पर, बल्कि चाइना, जापान, EU, कनाडा, मैक्सिको, कई कंट्रीज़ पर भी यह लगायी है। It is not discriminatory कि सिर्फ भारत पर ही लगायी है। ऐसा भी नहीं है। But they have increased or put additional customs duty or tariff on these two items. इसका अध्ययन करने के पश्चात् हम लोगों ने dispute resolution के लिए, Dispute Settlement Committee (DSC) के समक्ष, यानी Appellate Body (AB) के सामने, भारत की तरफ से 20 जून को फाइल किया है, जिसमें यह कहा गया कि किस प्रकार से हमारे ऊपर यह लगाया गया है। न केवल भारत, बल्कि चाइना, जापान, बहुत सी कंट्रीज़ Dispute Settlement Committee के समक्ष प्रस्तुत हुई हैं। हमने भी वह पेश किया है, जिसकी hearing कल और परसों है। 19 और 20 तारीख को इसके ऊपर, settlement के ऊपर hearing भी है। दोनों पक्षों के, USA और भारत के representatives इसके ऊपर बात करेंगे।

SHRI ANIL DESAI: Sir, a very elaborate answer has been given, but there are missing points and my colleagues have also raised on the same issues. Recently, the United States has put it very explicitly and expressed its reservations as far as the working mechanism of WTO is concerned. What the United States has done on goods that are imported from other countries is, they have raised duties on certain multilateral trading products which have already affected the countries, and China in return has slapped similar duties on their side. Is India in a position as a development economy? I want to know from the hon. Minister what are the steps being taken in this connection because this is a major step where India is a signatory in the international forum for the developing countries coming together and whether India is in a position to take it. What is the response from the international forum, as such, from WTO Appellate Body?

श्री सी. आर. चौधरी: ऑनरेबल चेयरमैन सर, इसीलिए हम हर जगह, चाहे Eleventh Ministerial Conference हो या informal gathering of the Trade Ministers हो, सब जगह multilateral के ऊपर बात कर रहे हैं और इस protectionism के खिलाफ बात कर रहे हैं। साथ में अभी जो मैंने पहले ही बताया था, जैसे particularly USA में जो अभी किया गया है, उसके against में हम Dispute Settlement Committee के अन्दर भी गये हैं। साथ में सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि जो 29 items हैं, इंडिया ने भी अभी उनके ऊपर 10 to 20 per cent तक duty बढ़ा दी है। यह 4 अगस्त से लागू हो जायेगा। इस कारण in retaliation we have also imposed additional duty on 29 items which originated from US and exported to India also. So, the Government is very much concerned about that.

Skill development in textile sector

*5. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering policy reforms to undertake skilling and re-skilling of textile workers for more employment generation in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of programmes currently being implemented by Government for skill Development in various sectors of textile industry; and

(d) the details of funds allocated to various educational institutions and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), etc. for the skill development programmes in Maharashtra State during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) to (c) With a view to address the skilled manpower requirements of textile sector, the Ministry has been implementing Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) from 2010-11 to 2017-18. Under the scheme, 11.14 lakh persons have been trained out of which 8.43 lakh persons have been given employment. Out of total trained, 7.94 lakh were women, 2.32 lakh Scheduled Caste, 0.77 lakh Scheduled Tribes and 3176 persons were Divyangs.

In order to continue the endeavor of the Ministry in addressing the skill gap in the textile industry, a new scheme titled “Samarth” has been launched with a target to train 10 lakh persons in different job roles across all value chains (excluding Spinning and Weaving in the organized sector), over a period of three years upto 2019-20 with an outlay of Rs. 1300 crore. Overall framework for implementation is in alignment with the broad policy framework for skill development viz. Common Norms, National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) etc. adopted by Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE). The scheme assistance will be provided to the training partner as per the Common Norms of the MSDE.

Handicrafts Sector:- For Skill Development in Handicrafts Sector, Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) is implementing following schemes:

(I) Human Resource Development Scheme to provide qualified and trained workforce to the handicraft sector and also to create human capital for the sector in terms of trained cadre of designers.

- (II) Design & Technology Upgradation Scheme to upgrade artisan's skills through development of innovative designs and prototype products for overseas market, revival of endangered crafts and preservation of heritage.

Handloom Sector:- Under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), Office of Development Commissioner (Handlooms) is providing training in technical area for upgradation of skill of the persons engaged in weaving activities.

Sericulture Sector:- Central Silk Board under the Ministry is imparting training for Skill enhancement to farmers, reelers, dyers, weavers, seed producers for boosting productivity and production of quality silk.

- (d) The details of fund released to various Implementing agencies having training centers located in Maharashtra State under ISDS during last two years are given in the Annexure-I (*See below*). The details of fund released to various organizations for skill development programme in Maharashtra under Handicraft and Handloom sector during last two years are given in the Annexure-II.

Annexure-I

Funds released to Implementing Agencies conducted training in Maharashtra State under Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS)

(In Rs. Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Implementing Agency	FY - 2016-17	FY - 2017-18	Total
1	Birla Cotsyn (India) Limited	265.0	93.5	358.5
2	IL&FS; Cluster Development Initiative Ltd.	12.4	4.8	17.2
3	National Textile Corporation Limited (NTCL)	17.2	55.1	72.3
4	Office of the Textile Commissioner	8.4	0	8.4
5	The Clothing Manufacturers Association of India (CMAI)	40.3	7.5	47.8
6	Wazir Advisors Private Limited	329.9	24.2	354.1
	TOTAL	673.2	185.1	858.3

Annexure-II

*Details of funds released to various NGOs and Institutions for Skill Development
Programmes in Maharashtra*

I. Under Handicrafts Sector

(In Rs. lakhs)		
Sl. No.	Name of Organization	Year 2016-17
1.	Rekha Rang Kala Trust , Aurangabad	13.80
2.	M/s Vidarbha Handicrafts Artisans Welfare Association, Nagpur	6.82
3.	M/s Adiwasi Swayam Kala Sansthan, Maharashtra	9.99
4.	M/s Shilpkar Bahudhiya Kalankari Mahila Sansthan, Nagpur	9.99
Total		40.60
S. No.	Name of Organization	Year 2017-18
1.	M/s Jagriti Vikas Sansthan Jakadni Kalyan, Ratnagiri	9.99
2.	M/s Chadrk Swasthya Bahuddeshiya Sansthan, Sangli	19.97
3.	Council of Handicrafts Development Corporations	14.85
4.	Council of Handicrafts Development Corporations	14.85
5.	Council of Handicrafts Development Corporations	14.85
6.	Maharashtra Center for Entrepreneurship Development	4.80
7.	Council of Handicrafts Development Corporations	14.85
8.	Maharashtra Center for Entrepreneurship Development	4.80
TOTAL		98.96
GRAND TOTAL (2016-17 & 2017-18)		139.56

II. Under Handloom Sector

(In Rs. lakh)

Name of organisation	FY - 2016-17	FY - 2017-18	Total
Weaver Service Centre, Nagpur	11.10	33.30	44.40

श्री संजय राउत: ऑनरेबल चेयरमैन सर, मेरा प्रश्न इस देश के लाखों-करोड़ों टेक्सटाइल वर्कर्स, हैंडलूम वर्कर्स, पावरलूम वर्कर्स से जुड़ा हुआ है, जिनको सरकार से बहुत बड़ी आस है और वे हमेशा मदद की गुहार भी लगाते हैं। सबसे पहले मैं सरकार से, मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहूंगा, मेरा प्रश्न है कि skilling and re-skilling of textile workers for more employment generation in the country, तो आपने टेक्सटाइल वर्कर की क्या डेफिनिशन की है, क्योंकि पावरलूम वर्कर्स तो बहुत तरह के काम करते हैं, हैंडलूम में काम करते हैं, पावरलूम में काम करते हैं। मुम्बई जैसा हमारा जो बड़ा शहर है, इसमें एक ज़माने में सबसे बड़ी आबादी टेक्सटाइल वर्कर्स की थी।

श्री सभापति: संजय जी, क्वेश्चन पूछिए।

श्री संजय राउत: लाखों टेक्सटाइल मिलें आज वहां बंद हो चुकी हैं, जिससे अनेक वर्कर बेरोज़गार हो गए हैं। आपने उन कामगारों को कौशल प्रदान करने हेतु जो योजना चलाई है, मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रश्न है कि वहां मिलें बंद होने की वजह से जो लोग बेरोज़गार हो गए हैं, उनके बच्चे भी बेरोज़गार हो गए हैं, नई स्कीम के तहत रोज़गार देने के लिए क्या आप कोई नई योजना बनाने जा रहे हैं?

श्री अजय टम्टा: सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न किया है, खास तौर पर टेक्सटाइल के क्षेत्र में स्किल करने की बहुत अच्छी संभावनाएं हैं, जिसके लिए सरकार के द्वारा 2010 से लेकर 2017 तक योजनाएं चलाई गई थीं। हमने उत्तर में भी बताया है कि इन योजनाओं के अंतर्गत 11,14,545 लोगों ने प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त किया है। वहीं प्रशिक्षण प्रदान करने वाले संगठन को यह जिम्मेदारी भी दी गई है कि ट्रेनिंग के बाद उन्हें रोज़गार भी उपलब्ध कराना है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... महोदय, मैं उसी पर आ रहा हूँ। यदि फिर भी कोई सवाल रहता है, तो आप बाद में पूछिए। इस योजना के अंतर्गत हमने 8,93,082 लोगों को अब तक रोज़गार दिया है। माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा है कि हमारे विभाग द्वारा क्या कोई नई योजना उन्हें रोज़गार देने हेतु चलाने पर विचार किया जा रहा है, तो मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के मार्गदर्शन में हम एक नई योजना 'समर्थ' के रूप में जल्दी शुरू करने वाले हैं, जिसमें हमने बहुत पारदर्शी प्रक्रिया अपनाई है। उस पारदर्शी प्रक्रिया के अतिरिक्त हमने इसमें 1300 करोड़ रुपए का परिव्यय भी रखा है। इस योजना का 2017 से लेकर 2020 तक कामगारों को लाभ मिलेगा। दस लाख लोगों को हम इसमें स्किल्ड करेंगे, उनके कौशल का उन्नयन करेंगे। उस योजना की

बहुत सी गाइडलाइन्स को हम पूरा करेंगे। ऐसा करते हुए, हमने 25.5.2018 से लेकर 25.6.2018 तक, online उनकी formalities के संबंध में सुझाव मांगे और 10.7.2018 तक, जो अभी गया है, हमने उसकी समीक्षा की है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री संजय राउत: महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न कुछ अलग था और माननीय मंत्री जी ने उससे अलग हटकर रिप्लाई दिया है। मैंने मुम्बई के टेक्सटाइल मिल वर्कर्स और उनके बच्चों के बारे में स्पेसिफिक प्रश्न पूछा था, जिसका जवाब मुझे मंत्री जी से नहीं मिला है। सरकार की ओर से यहां कहा गया कि इस स्कीम में अब तक लगभग 11,14,545 लोगों को ट्रेन किया गया है और 8 लाख के आसपास लोगों को रोजगार भी दिया है। महाराष्ट्र में भिवंडी सबसे बड़ा हैंडलूम का पब है। उसके बाद इचलकरंजी है, जिसे महाराष्ट्र का मैनचेस्टर कहा जाता है। उसके बाद हमारे यहां पलछिन है, येवला है, जहां बुनकर साड़ियां बनाते हैं। यदि वहां के सभी वर्कर्स तक आपकी योजना का लाभ न पहुंचे तो लाखों-करोड़ों रुपए, जो इन योजनाओं पर एन.जी.ओ. के माध्यम से आप खर्च कर रहे हैं, उसका लाभ उन्हें कब तक मिलेगा?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Madam Minister. The question was general but the hon. Member has asked a specific question. If you have answer, please give it to him now; otherwise collect the information and give it to the hon. Member.

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी): माननीय सदस्य ने यहां विशेष रूप से महाराष्ट्र के संदर्भ में, पैटन कला के संदर्भ में, भिवंडी और इचलकरंजी के संदर्भ में प्रश्न पूछा है। इससे पहले मुम्बई के मिल वर्कर्स और उनके बच्चों के संदर्भ में प्रश्न पूछा। जैसा माननीय राज्य मंत्री जी ने उन्हें अवगत कराया, इस संदर्भ में हमारी भूमिका यह रही है कि हम इंडस्ट्री पार्टनर, एन.जी.ओ. और प्रदेश की सरकारों के साथ मिलकर इस काम को आगे बढ़ाते हैं। वर्तमान में 'समर्थ' नाम की जो स्कीम प्रेषित की गई है, उसके संबंध में 14 मई को देश भर में टेक्सटाइल से संबंधित सभी महानुभावों को आमंत्रित किया गया था, जिसमें महाराष्ट्र के, विशेषकर भिवंडी और इचलकरंजी के कई representatives भी उपस्थित हुए थे। पिछले प्लान के अंतर्गत, हमारी स्कीम में जो placement and training हुई है, उसमें महाराष्ट्र के लगभग 37,000 से ज्यादा लोगों की training हुई है। भिवंडी ठाणे जिले में आता है, जहां 17,850 से ज्यादा लोगों की training हुई है। इचलकरंजी, कोल्हापुर जिले में है और वहां पर लगभग 136 से ज्यादा लोगों की पिछले समय में ट्रेनिंग हुई है। जहां तक इस बात का संबंध है कि जो मिल वर्कर रह चुके हैं, उनके बच्चों को अगर ट्रेनिंग की दरकार हो, तो वर्तमान में इस स्कीम के अंतर्गत विशेष रूप से प्रावधान है कि किसी एसोसिएशन, ऑर्गेनाइजेशन के माध्यम से आ सकते हैं। हमने विशेष प्रावधान यह भी किया है कि माननीय प्रधान मंत्री की जो 'स्टार्ट-अप-इंडिया' की सोच है, उससे जोड़ते हुए जो first-time-entrepreneur हैं या बनना चाहते हैं, उनको हम मुद्रा योजना से भी जोड़ रहे

हैं ताकि अगर वे ट्रेनिंग के बाद स्वतः काम करना चाहें, तो उसकी भी सुविधा भारत सरकार उपलब्ध कराती है।

श्री सभापति: श्री दिग्विजय सिंह।

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने स्किलिंग और री-स्किलिंग के मामले में हैंडलूम के बारे में बात की, handicraft के बारे में बात की, sericulture के बारे में बात की, लेकिन खादी उद्योग शायद उनकी प्राथमिकता में नहीं है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि खादी के मामले में कौन-सी स्किलिंग और री-स्किलिंग की योजना बना रहे हैं, क्योंकि खादी उद्योग में जब तक चरखे की री-स्किलिंग नहीं की जाएगी, तब तक उसकी economic viability नहीं सुधरेगी? आप खादी के कपड़े के उद्योग में स्किलिंग और री-स्किलिंग की कौन-सी योजना बना रहे हैं?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: सर, माननीय सदस्य शायद इस बात से अवगत होंगे कि खादी का विभाग एमएसएमई मिनिस्ट्री के अंतर्गत आता है, टैक्सटाइल मंत्रालय के अंतर्गत नहीं आता है, लेकिन भारत सरकार का स्किलिंग का जो प्रोग्राम है, उसमें इस तरह के सारे विशेष प्रावधान किए गए हैं कि खादी included बहुत सारी चीजों में ट्रेनिंग NSQF-compliant courses में दी जाती है। 'समर्थ' नाम की स्कीम में भी हम लोग स्किल मिनिस्ट्री के साथ मिल कर NSQF-compliant सारे courses दे रहे हैं और विशेषतः हथकरघा और बुनकर अगर इसमें काम करना चाहें, तो डेवलपमेंट कमिशनर, हैंडलूम के माध्यम से देश में 28 वीवर सर्विस सेंटर हैं, जिनके अंतर्गत हमारे बुनकर समाज के जितने भी प्रतिनिधि हैं, वे आकर इसमें विशेष रूप से स्किलिंग प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

श्री सभापति: श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन जी।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: सभापति महोदय, भागलपुर, रेशमी शहर के नाम जाना जाता है और आज वह अपनी पहचान खोता जा रहा है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यही जानना चाहती हूँ कि रेशम उद्योग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए वहां कितने बुनकरों को प्रशिक्षण दिया गया और उनका कितना लाभ हुआ? क्या सरकार ने इसके आकलन के लिए कोई टीम बनाई कि जो प्रशिक्षण दिए हुए बुनकर हैं, उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति में कितना सुधार हुआ?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: सर, भागलपुर में विशेष रूप से जो सिल्क का उत्पादन होता है, जो बुनकर परिवार इससे जुड़े हैं, उनके लिए विशेष प्रावधान मात्र 'समर्थ' के माध्यम से नहीं है, बल्कि सेंट्रल सिल्क बोर्ड के अंतर्गत भी बुनकर परिवारों को इससे और विशेषतः जो इसकी फार्मिंग से जुड़े हैं, ऐसे समुदाय को बहुत सारी सहाूलियतें और बहुत सारा समर्थन मिलता है। विशेष रूप से केबिनेट ने

हाल ही में सिल्क इंडस्ट्री के लिए 'सिल्क समग्र' नाम की एक स्कीम को प्रेषित किया है, राष्ट्र को समर्पित किया है। इसमें 2,000 करोड़ रुपए से ज्यादा का आबंटन हुआ है। डेवलपमेंट कमिश्नर, हैंडलूम के ऑफिस के माध्यम से भी, वीवर सर्विस सेंटर्स के माध्यम से भी और प्रदेश के अधिकारियों के साथ मिलकर... विशेषतः हमने पहली बार हैंडलूम वीवर्स के लिए प्रदेश की सरकारों के साथ एक विशेष बैठक की और उसमें हमने विशेष प्रदेश की सरकारों से आग्रह किया कि अगर आपको किसी एक खास विशेष इलाके के लिए कोई प्रावधान चाहिए और ज्यादा समर्थन चाहिए, तो आप अपना मसौदा हमारे पास भेज सकते हैं। हम आशावादी हैं कि प्रदेश की सरकार से हमारे पास वह मसौदा आएगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Hon. Members, who had given Zero Hour notices and which could not be taken up, if they are interested in raising their submissions, they can repeat their notices. As an exception, I have decided to allow them tomorrow. So, all those who are interested can give fresh notices again.

Now, Shri Naresh Gujral.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, I commend the Government for laying so much emphasis on the skilling programme, especially in the textile industry because, after agriculture, this is the largest employment generator in the country. But, there is only one issue that after skilling — while the Government has made schemes to incentivise companies to hire these people — there is one caveat that if a company hires a person, then, for the first couple of years, the provident fund and the ESI is paid by the Government; however, if that person is reemployed somewhere else then that facility is withdrawn. Sometimes, a person finds a job for six months. But when he moves to the second company, this is withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: So, I hope the Minister would look into it because this is disincentivising employment generation.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, incentives given to companies or to entrepreneurial ventures come from taxpayers' money and, hence, come with caveats.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**Introduction of ethanol blended petrol as fuel**

*6. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any decision has been taken by Government to introduce ethanol blended petrol in the country soon;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what shall be the advantages of ethanol blended petrol in the country; and
- (d) whether any time-frame has been fixed for introduction of the blended fuel in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme was launched *w.e.f.* 1st January, 2003 in nine States and four Union Territories for sale of 5% ethanol blended petrol. Government has directed the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to sell 5% Ethanol Blended Petrol as per Bureau of Indian Standards specifications in the notified States and UTs of the country with effect from 1st November, 2006, subject to commercial viability.

Presently, the Government, through OMCs, is implementing EBP Programme in twenty one States and four Union Territories under which, OMCs sell EBP with percentage of ethanol upto 10%.

Ethanol has higher octane than petrol and burns slowly and completely resulting in reduced emissions. Government is promoting use of EBP to address environmental concerns, provide remunerative income to farmers and to reduce import bill.

Privatisation of 'Air India'

*7. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the privatisation plan of the National Carrier 'Air India' has found no takers till the last date of the bid/FDI;
- (b) what would be the plan of action of the Government after the failure of the efforts of FDI; and

- (c) what decision has the Government taken about the employees of Air India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Till the last date, *i.e.*, 31.05.2018, for inviting Expression of Interest (EoI) for disinvestment of Air India including Air India's share holding interest in the Air India Express Ltd. and Air India SATS, no EoI/ bid was received.

(b) and (c) The Government remains committed to the disinvestment of Air India. In this regard, the Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism (AISAM) has decided as follows:

- (i) In view of volatile crude prices and adverse fluctuations in exchange rates, the present environment is not conducive to stimulate interest amongst investors for strategic disinvestment of Air India in immediate near future. The issue would be revisited once global economic indicators including oil prices and forex conditions stabilize,
- (ii) to undertake near and medium term efforts to capture operational efficiencies and to improve the performance of Air India,
- (iii) to monetise non-core land and building assets,
- (iv) to separately decide the contours of the mode of disposal of the subsidiaries *viz.* Air India Engineering Services Limited (AIESL), Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AIATSL) and Airline Allied Services Limited (AASL).

Districts affected by left wing extremism

*8. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a reduction in the number of deaths caused by naxal activities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with State-wise data thereof;
- (c) whether Government has included new districts in the list of Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether certain districts have been removed from the list of LWE affected districts; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Yes, there has been substantial reduction in deaths caused due to I-WE violence. State wise data is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) to (f) In view of the improving security situation in LWE affected States, a review of districts covered under the Security Related Expenditure Scheme, was undertaken by the Government. Accordingly 44 districts were excluded and 08 new districts were included under the scheme wef 01 April 2018. The inclusion of new districts was a pre-emptive measure taken to address potential areas of expansion by Left Wing Extremists. As a result of the review, 00 districts in 11 States are now covered under the Security Related Expenditure Scheme. Districts included and excluded are as follows:-

- (i) **New Districts Included.** 08 new districts have been included - West Godavari (Andhra Pradesh), Kabirdham (Chhattisgarh), Mandla (Madhya Pradesh), Angul & Boudh (Odisha), Malappuram, Palakkad and Wayanad (Kerala).
- (ii) **Districts Excluded.** 44 districts have been excluded as follows:-
 - **Andhra Pradesh (03).** Prakasam, Kurnool, Anantapur.
 - **Bihar (06).** Patna, Bhojpur, Sheohar, Sitamarhi, Begusarai, Khagaria.
 - **Chhattisgarh (03).** Sarguja, Korea, Jashpur.
 - **Jharkhand (02).** Deoghar, Pakur.
 - **Maharashtra (01).** Aheri.
 - **Odisha (06).** Mayurbhanj, Ganjam, Gajapati, Dhenkanal, Jajpur, Keonjhar.
 - **Telangana (19).** Karimnagar, Nizamabad, Medak, Mahboobnagar, Nalgonda, Jagtiyal, Nagarkurnool, Rajanna-Sircilla, Jogulamba-Gadwal, Wanaparthy, Nirmal, Suryapet, Mahbubabad, Sangareddy, Warangal Urban, Janagaon, Siddipet, Yadadri-Bhongir, Kamareddy.
 - **West Bengal (04).** Bankura, Purulia, Birbhum, West Medinipur.

Statement*State-wise data relating to deaths due to LWE violence from 2009 to 2018*

State	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018 (upto 15.06.2018)
Andhra Pradesh	18	24	9	13	7	4	8	6	7	0
Bihar	72	97	63	44	69	32	17	28	22	7
Chhattisgarh	290	343	204	109	111	112	101	107	130	85
Jharkhand	208	157	182	163	152	103	56	85	56	21
Madhya Pradesh	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
Maharashtra	93	45	54	41	19	28	18	23	16	5
Odisha	67	79	53	45	35	26	28	27	29	7
Telangana	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	5	2	0	2	1
Uttar Pradesh	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Bengal	158	258	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	908	1005	611	415	397	310	230	278	263	126

Bringing of petrol and diesel under ambit of GST

*9. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of the rise in prices of petrol and diesel in the country, Government proposes to bring it within the ambit of GST;

(b) whether Government has initiated any action to that effect in consultation with various stake holders, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government has initiated in the meantime to control the prices of petrol and diesel?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Article 279A (5) of the Constitution provides that Goods and Services Tax Council shall recommend the date on which goods and services tax shall be levied on petroleum crude, high speed diesel, motor spirit, natural gas and aviation turbine fuel. Thus while, petroleum products are constitutionally included under GST, the date on which GST shall be levied on such goods shall be as per the decision of the GST Council, which has representation of Ministers-in-charge of Finance or Taxation of all States and Union Territories with Legislature.

(c) The prices of petrol and diesel have been made market determined by the Government effective from 26th June, 2010 and 19th October, 2014 respectively. Since then the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decisions on pricing of petrol and diesel in line with international products prices and other market conditions. The Central Government has reduced the Central excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹2 per litre effective from 4th October, 2017. The Central Government also requested the State Governments to reduce VAT imposed by them on petrol and diesel to give further relief to the consumers. Accordingly, five State Governments and one Union Territory have reduced the VAT on petrol and diesel.

Pilgrims registered for Amarnath Yatra

*10. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pilgrims who have been registered for Amarnath Yatra this year;

(b) whether Government is aware that the route covered under the Amarnath Yatra is in difficult terrain and is accident prone;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the number of accidents reported along with the number of persons died/injured in those accidents during the last three years and the details of compensation paid to the victims; and

(d) the other steps taken by Government for the safety and security of the pilgrims visiting the holy shrine of Amarnath?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) As per the information made available by Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, a total no. of 2,53,474 pilgrims have registered for Shri Amarnathji darshan till 13.07.2018.

(b) and (c) Shri Amarnathji Yatra does pass through difficult and inhospitable terrain prone to landslides, shooting stone, snow avalanches, etc. The climate conditions en-route and at the Holy Cave are unpredictable. The number of pilgrims who died during the Yatra during the last three years is as given below:

Year	Number of deaths in the Yatra area
2015	38
2016	22
2017	29

Details of the compensation paid to the victims/Next of Kin during the last three years are as under:

Year	Ex-gratia relief disbursed to NOKs of deceased Yatris		Insurance claim disbursed to NOKs of deceased Yatris		Ex-gratia relief disbursed to the injured Yatris	
	Number	Amount (in ₹ lakh)	Number	Amount (in ₹ lakh)	Number	Amount (in ₹ lakh)
2015	05	3.00	03	3.00	Nil	Nil
2016	09	6.25	03	3.00	Nil	Nil
2017	10	43.50	17	51.00	36	33.00
TOTAL	24	52.75	23	57.00	36	33.00

(d) Adequate arrangements for safety and security of the pilgrims have been made along the Yatra routes. These include deployment of local police and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), upgradation of tracks and fixing railings along the critical

stretches of the tracks, provision of medical facilities, deployment of nine mountain rescue teams, installation of ten Automatic Weather Stations, etc.

India unsafe country for women

*11. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per a recent survey, India is the most dangerous and unsafe country for women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for the same; and
- (d) the details of cases of rapes, murders and molestation of women registered during the last year and current year, till date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) Government's attention has been drawn to a recent report in the media on this subject. This report is not based on any scientific survey or facts but is a poll of a statistically insignificant sample of persons and presents a distorted picture of the comparative state of women safety in different countries. Even a quick comparison of available global data disproves the poll finding. The said polling survey has been rejected by the National Commission for Women as it is based on perception and flawed methodology.

(d) As per the available published information by National Crime Records Bureau for 2015 and 2016, the number of cases of rapes, murders and molestation of women registered, State-wise, is given in the Statement.

Statement

*Number of cases of rapes, murders and molestation of women registered,
State-wise*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Rape		Assaults (molestation)		Murder (women)	
		2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1027	994	4616	4829	428	411
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	71	92	101	109	9	11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	1733	1779	4293	3378	185	220
4.	Bihar	1041	1008	198	324	340	318
5.	Chhattisgarh	1560	1626	1868	1770	338	347
6.	Goa	86	61	150	143	11	16
7.	Gujarat	503	982	1164	1224	269	288
8.	Haryana	1070	1187	1886	1860	197	226
9.	Himachal Pradesh	244	252	434	410	25	28
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	296	256	1343	1235	19	24
11.	Jharkhand	1053	1109	844	667	137	174
12.	Karnataka	589	1655	5112	5260	574	547
13.	Kerala	1256	1656	3987	4029	97	99
14.	Madhya Pradesh	4391	4882	8049	8717	656	645
15.	Maharashtra	4144	4189	11713	11396	780	756
16.	Manipur	46	55	84	65	16	18
17.	Meghalaya	93	190	95	68	23	11
18.	Mizoram	58	23	75	71	11	13
19.	Nagaland	35	26	8	14	12	9
20.	Odisha	2251	1983	6499	8252	666	591
21.	Punjab	886	838	1123	1025	194	201
22.	Rajasthan	3644	3656	4813	4839	224	238
23.	Sikkim	5	92	21	34	4	7
24.	Tamil Nadu	421	319	1163	854	532	468
25.	Telangana	1105	1278	3608	3767	418	311
26.	Tripura	213	207	352	214	52	64
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3025	4816	7885	11335	1135	1217
28.	Uttarakhand	283	336	318	344	53	47
29.	West Bengal	1199	1110	5069	4177	737	983
TOTAL (STATES)		32328	36657	76871	80410	8142	8288

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	36	30	57	46	8	6
31.	Chandigarh	72	68	76	76	3	3
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	8	14	5	1	3	1
33.	Daman and Diu	5	12	7	4	1	0
34.	Delhi UT	2199	2155	5367	4165	124	123
35.	Lakshadweep	0	5	6	1	0	0
36.	Puducherry	3	6	33	43	10	8
TOTAL (UTs)		2323	2290	5551	4336	149	141
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		34651	38947	82422	84746	8291	8429

Source: Crime in India

Setting up of handloom clusters under NHDP in Andhra Pradesh

*12. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had set up block level Handloom Clusters under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is concentrating/focusing on promoting products which are specific to particular geographical area of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) During 2015-16 to 2018-19 (till date), the Government of India, Ministry of Textiles has sanctioned 22 Block Level Clusters under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) in the State of Andhra Pradesh as detailed below:

Year of sanction	Name of Block Level Cluster	Name of District
2015-16	Tilaru	Srikakulam
	Mori	East Godavari
	A.Vemavaram	West Godavari
2016-17	West Pedana	Krishna
	Central Pedana	Krishna
	North Pedana	Krishna
	Dayankhanapalli	Y.R. Kadapa
	Sivalayam Nagar	YSR. Kadapa
	Sri Thirumala	YSR. Kadapa
	Sri Moragudi	YSR. Kadapa
	Uppada	East Godavari
	Puttaparthi	Ananthapuramu
	Uravakonda	Ananthapuramu
	Putlamma	Ananthapuramu
	Chennur	SPSR Nellore
	Venkatachalam	SPSR Nellore
	Vivekananda	Chittoor
2017-18	Bandar	Krishna
	Mydukur	YSR Kadapa
	Srinivasa	YSR Kadapa
2018-19	Appanapalli	YSR Kadapa
	Mallavolu	Krishna

A cluster is eligible to avail financial assistance upto ₹ 2.00 crore for implementation of various interventions like; skill up-gradation, loom up-gradation, construction of workshed, design and product development, setting up of Common Facility Centre etc.

(c) and (d) Four handloom products of Andhra Pradesh have been registered under Geographical Indication (GI) Act, which are as follows:

- (i) Uppada Jamdani Sarees in East Godavari District
- (ii) Venkatagiri Saree in SPSR Nellore District
- (iii) Mangalagiri Sarees and Fabrics in Guntur District
- (iv) Dharmavaram Pattu Sarees and Paavadas in Ananthapuramu District

Further, the Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is promoting handloom products, including GI products of Andhra Pradesh through participation of agencies/weavers in the marketing events/Craft melas, e-commerce, India Handloom Brand, Handloom mark etc.

- (e) Does not arise.

Shortage of police personnel in the country

*13. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any assessment has ever been made about the shortage of police personnel in the country;
- (b) whether Government is aware that the country is short of 5 lakh police personnel;
- (c) if so, the details of such shortage, State-wise;
- (d) whether as per Bureau of Police Research and Development, there are three policemen for each VIP and one policeman for every 663 citizens;
- (e) whether it is a fact that more than threat perception, having a police officer around for security has become a status symbol for many; and
- (f) if so, how Government is planning to address this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) "Police" is a State subject falling in List -II (State List) of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. It is the responsibility of the State Governments to sanction and recruit police personnel, in accordance with

their, assessment of recruitment. The Central Government advises the States/UTs from time to time, in this regard. The latest figures of the number of vacancies in the Police Forces of the States and UTs are being compiled.

(d) to (f) The responsibility for providing security to an individual, lies primarily with States/Union Territories in whose jurisdiction such individual is ordinarily a resident or happens to be a resident. State Governments have their mechanism for assessing threat and providing security to individuals.

The security categorization to any threatened person is periodically reviewed and accordingly security provided is withdrawn/upgraded/downgraded/continued. Hence the number of protectees is not static and varies over time.

Problems faced by fishermen due to laying of pipeline by oil PSUs

*14. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether fishermen have been facing umpteen problems as they are unable to catch fish since fish are going back to sea and not coming to shore/nearby shore to catch due to laying of pipeline under sea/dredging of sea in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh by ONGC, GAIL, OIL and other PSUs;

(b) whether Government is aware that due to pipelines, mechanized boats are severely damaging;

(c) whether this issue has been brought to notice of companies by fishermen time and again and requested for paying compensation on monthly basis; and

(d) if so, action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Limited has reported that no instance of fish going back to sea due to laying of this pipeline has come to its notice. ONGC had laid in Feb 2017, 1.5 km High Density Poly Ethylene sub-sea pipeline, safely anchored to sea bed for safe disposal of produced water in its Rajahmundry asset in Andhra Pradesh. Pipelines are laid after getting statutory clearances from respective agencies viz. Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board and Coastal Regulation Zone Authority. To ensure that fishing activities are not disturbed pipelines are laid at a very slow pace. The pipelines are buried about 1 to 2 meters below seabed.

Laying of pipelines is not a continuous operation and is carried out on need basis. The company has reported that no proof of damage of mechanized boats due to ONGC pipelines has been brought to its notice. GAIL (India) Limited, Oil India Limited and other PSUs have not reported any activity pertaining to laying of pipeline under sea/dredging of sea in East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh.

The fishermen community of Karavakagram, Mamidikuduru Mandal, East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh made a representation to ONGC claiming that due to laying of pipeline their fishing activities are getting disturbed and demanded for the compensation for likely damage of the boats and fishing nets of the fishermen of the village. In the past the Government has advised companies to resolve such issues amicably.

Identification of routes under Regional Connectivity Scheme

*15. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to stated:

- (a) whether Government has identified new regional connectivity spots in the North-Eastern States;
- (b) if so, under the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS), how many routes will connect these States and from which States;
- (c) the details of Government proposal to develop airbase in the new spots; and
- (d) under RCS, the details of the proposal of civil aviation connectivity with the States having no airports therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) The identified list of un-served and under-served airports of the North-Eastern States under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN 2.0 is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The list of proposals/networks awarded under RCS-UDAN round 1 and round 2 connecting the airports and heliports of North-Eastern States is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN was launched by Government of India to promote Regional Air Connectivity of the country by connecting

the existing un-served and under-served airports/airstrips of the country. Construction of New/Greenfield airports is not covered under the provision of RCS-UDAN. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal for revival of 50 existing im-served/under-served airports / airstrips of the State Governments, Airports Authority of India and Civil enclaves at an estimated cost of ₹ 4500 crores, in three financial years starting from 2017-18. However, the revival of these existing airstrips/airports will be 'demand driven', depending upon firm commitment from airline operators as well as from the State Government for providing various concessions.

Statement-I

*Details of under served and un-served airports in North-Eastern
States under RCS*

(A) List of Under-Served airports in North-Eastern States

Sl. No.	Name of Airport/ Airstrip	State (where the airport/ Airstrip)
1	2	3
1.	Jorhat	Assam
2.	North Lakhimpur (Lilabari)	Assam
3.	Tezpur	Assam

(B) List of Un-Served airports in North-Eastern States

1.	Alinya	Arunachal Pradesh
2.	Along	Arunachal Pradesh
3.	Daparizo	Arunachal Pradesh
4.	Mechuka	Arunachal Pradesh
5.	Passighat	Arunachal Pradesh
6.	Tezu	Arunachal Pradesh
7.	Vijayanagar	Arunachal Pradesh
8.	Walong	Arunachal Pradesh
9.	Tuting	Arunachal Pradesh
10.	Yinghiong	Arunachal Pradesh
11.	Zero	Arunachal Pradesh

1	2	3
12.	Bograjeng	Assam
13.	Boregnajuli	Assam
14.	Chabua	Assam
15.	Darrang	Assam
16.	Dinjan	Assam
17.	Doomur Dullang	Assam
18.	Kokrajhar	Assam
19.	Kolapni	Assam
20.	Lakhipur	Assam
21.	Ledo	Assam
22.	Mackebpur	Assam
23.	Misa	Assam
24.	Misa Mari	Assam
25.	Mornai	Assam
26.	Nazira	Assam
27.	Panneri	Assam
28.	Rupsi	Assam
29.	Sadiya	Assam
30.	Sorbhog	Assam
31.	Sukerating (Dum Duma)	Assam
32.	Imphal (Korangee)	Manipur
33.	Palel	Manipur
34.	Dwara	Meghalaya
35.	Shella	Meghalaya
36.	Tura	Meghalaya
37.	Aizawl	Mizoram
38.	Kohima	Nagaland

1	2	3
39.	Pakyong	Sikkim
40.	Kailashahar	Tripura
41.	Kamalpur	Tripura
42.	Khowai	Tripura

Statement-II

Lists of proposals/networks awarded under RCS-UDAN

(A) RCS networks/proposals awarded in First Round of bidding

Sl. No.	Network	Selected Airline Operator
1	2	3
1.	Shillong -Silchar -Shillong-Imphal-Shillong -Dimapur-Shillong-Aizawl-Kolkata-Aizawl-Shillong-Agartala-Shillong [Helicopters]	Air Deccan

(B) RCS networks/proposals awarded in Second Round of bidding

1.	Imphal Moreh(Heliport) Imphal (Helicopters)	Pawan Hans Limited
2.	Imphal Tamenglong(Heliport) Jiribam (Heliport) Tamenglong(Heliport) Imphal (Helicopters)	Pawan Hans Limited
3.	Imphal Thanlon(Heliport) Parbung (Heliport) Thanlon (Heliport) Imphal (Helicopters)	Pawan Hans Limited
4.	Guwahati Tezpur Jorhat Dibrugarh Jorhat Tezpur Guwahati (Helicopters)	Pawan Hans Limited
5.	Guwahati Nagaon(Heliport) Tezpur Itanagar (Heliport) Tezpur Nagaon(Heliport) Guwahati (Helicopters)	Skyone Airways
6.	Kolkata Pakyong Guwahati Pakyong Kolkata (Fixed-wing)	Spicejet Limited
7.	Kolkata Jorhat Passighat Jorhat Kolkata (Fixed-wing)	Zoom Air
8.	Kolkata Jorhat Tezu Jorhat Kolkata (Fixed-wing)	Zoom Air
9.	Kolkata Lilabari Kolkata (Fixed-wing)	Spicejet Limited
10.	Kolkata Tezpur (Fixed-wing)	Zoom Air
11.	Dibrugarh Lilabari Itanagar (Heliport) Lilabari Dibrugarh (Helicopters)	Skyone Airways

1	2	3
12.	Dibrugarh Daparizo Yinghiong Dibrugarh (Helicopters)	Skyone Airways
13.	Dibrugarh Passighat Tuting Dibrugarh (Helicopters)	Skyone Airways
14.	Dibrugarh Tezu Walong Dibrugarh (Helicopters)	Skyone Airways
15.	Dibrugarh Itanagar (Heliport) Ziro Dibrugarh (Helicopters)	Heligo charters
16.	IGI Airport Delhi Pakyong Kolkata Bokaro Kolkata Pakyong IGI Airport Delhi (Fixed-wing)	Spicejet Limited
17.	Tezpur Kolkata (Fixed-wing)	Zoom Air
18.	Shillong Tezpur Lilabari Kolkata Lilabari Tezpur Shillong (Fixed-wing)	AAA Aviation Private Limited
19.	Lucknow-Hindan-Kolkata-Jorhat- Kolkata-Hindan-Lucknow (Fixed-wing)	Zoom Air

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Air services from Darbhanga and Bhagalpur under UDAN scheme

†1. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a plan has been formulated to start flight services from Darbhanga and Bhagalpur of Bihar under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik);

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it will be implemented;

(c) whether any plan would be prepared to provide air travel facility to other cities of Bihar as well under this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) In the 2nd round of bidding under RCS (UDAN), Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Implementing Agency, has awarded the following network to Selected Airline Operator for starting air services from Darbhanga in Bihar:

1. Mumbai - Darbhanga - Mumbai

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2. Delhi - Darbhanga - Delhi
3. Bangalore - Darbhanga - Bangalore

No airline has submitted a bid to operate RCS flights connecting Bhagalpur airport in first and second round of bidding under RCS-UDAN.

(c) RCS-UDAN is a demand driven scheme where airline operator assess the feasibility of operation on a particular routes and bids under the scheme from time to time.

Privatisation of airports

2. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a proposal to privatise some major airports in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No Sir there is no such proposal at present under consideration with the Government.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Bringing new towns under new aviation scheme

3. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many new towns have been brought on the civil aviation map under the new scheme announced by Government;

(b) what has been the response of the State Governments thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that some States are unwilling to invest on airport infrastructure as the expected returns are low;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) how does the Centre propose to cope up with the problem and roll out air services to hitherto uncovered and remote areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) 56 unserved and 17 underserved airports and 31 heliports in the country will be connected under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN.

(b) So far, 30 State Government / Union Territories have signed the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Airports Authority of India for participating in the Scheme and providing various concessions to the Selected Airline Operators under RCS-UDAN.

(c) and (d) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal for revival of 50 existing un-served/under-served airports/airstrips of the State Governments, Airports Authority of India, Central Public Sector Undertakings (CP.SUs) and Civil enclaves at an estimated cost of ₹ 4500 crore.

(e) A Monitoring cum Coordination Committee has been constituted under RCS-UDAN which is responsible for coordinating with the concerned stakeholders including the State Governments and UTs for time bound implementation of the Schemes.

Disinvestment of Air India

4. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that proposed sale of stake in Air India has failed to attract bidders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is rethinking of its decision of disinvestment of Air India, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Strategic Disinvestment of Air India including its shareholding in Air India Express and AI SATS was issued on 28th March, 2018. No EoI/bid was received till the last date of receipt of bids. Probable reasons as analyzed by the Transaction Advisor *i.e.* M/s EY for non-receipt of bids *inter-alia*, are GOI 24% stake and corresponding rights, high amount of allocated debt, changes in macro environment, individuals not being allowed to bid, profitability track record, and bidders not being able to form a consortium within given time period.

(c) The Government remains committed to the disinvestment of Air India. In this regard, the Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism (AISAM) has decided as follows:

- (i) In view of volatile crude prices and adverse fluctuations in exchange rates, the present environment is not conducive to stimulate interest amongst investors for strategic disinvestment of Air India in immediate near future. The issue would be revisited once global economic indicators including oil prices and forex conditions stabilize,
- (ii) to undertake near and medium term efforts to capture operational efficiencies and to improve the performance of Air India,
- (iii) to monetise non-core land and building assets,
- (iv) to separately decide the contours of the mode of disposal of the subsidiaries viz. Air India Engineering Services Limited (AIESL), Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AIATSL) and Airline Allied Services Limited (AASL).

Leasing out of Air India

5. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is still determined to go ahead with stake sale in loss-making Air India;
- (b) whether Government has examined the factors that had resulted in the market rebuff for Air India's sale;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government would consider leasing out Air India to an Indian/ foreign/ joint venture operator instead of pumping in more money into the loss making national carrier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) Probable reasons as analyzed by the Transaction Advisor, *i.e.* M/s EY for non-receipt of bids, *inter-alia*, are GOI 24% stake and corresponding rights, high amount of allocated debt, changes in macro environment, individuals not being allowed to bid, profitability track record and bidders not being able to form a consortium within given time period.

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- (ii) to undertake near and medium term efforts to capture operational efficiencies and to improve the performance of Air India,
- (iii) to monetise non-core land and building assets,
- (iv) to separately decide the contours of the mode of disposal of the subsidiaries viz. Air India Engineering Services Limited (AIESL), Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AIATSL) and Airline Allied Services Limited (AASL).

Plan to decommission airports in the country

6. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any plan to decommission airports in the country;
- (b) the details and number of airports decommissioned in the country so far; and
- (c) what is the current percentage of market share of each airline company operating in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No, Sir. No such proposal at present.

(b) No airports belonging to the Airports Authority of India has been decommissioned so far.

(c) The current percentage of market share of scheduled domestic airlines is as under:

Sl. No.	Airline	Percentage Share
1.	Indigo Airlines	40.0
2.	Jet Airways	14.5
3.	Air India	13.2

Sl. No.	Airline	Percentage Share
4.	Spicejet	12.5
5.	Go Air	9.1
6.	Air Asia	4.7
7.	Vistara	3.8
8.	JetLite	1.8
9.	Trujet	0.4
TOTAL		100.0

Growth in passenger air traffic

7. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether substantial growth in passenger air traffic has been registered during the last few years and now air travel is not the sole domain of economically well off people only;

(b) if so, the year-wise details of domestic flyers within different destinations of the country;

(c) whether the growth is commensurate with the international trend; and

(d) what is the projected growth rate in passenger air traffic within the country up to the year 2020?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Substantial growth in passenger air traffic has been registered during the last few years. Three year Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) for passengers handled at all Indian Airports taken together is 17.5% during 2017-18. Details are given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Year wise list of Domestic passenger traffic handled during 2014-15 to 2017-18 at top 45 airports that cover more than 98% of domestic passengers traffic handled in the country is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) Indian Domestic aviation market is witnessing highest growth. According to IATA report, for 2017, Indian domestic passenger market, in terms of Revenue Passenger

Kilometres (RPK), has posted the fastest full year growth for the third year in a row (17.5%), followed by China (13.3%).

(d) Domestic air passenger traffic is expected to witness a year-on-year growth rate of 16.0% during 2018-19 and 14.0% during 2019-20.

Statement-I

Total Air Passenger Traffic Growth during 2014-15 to 2017-18

Year	Passenger (in million)	Growth rate (%)
2014-15	190.13	-
2015-16	223.96	17.8
2016-17	264.97	18.3
2017-18	308.75	16.5
Compounded Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) During 2014-15 to 2017-18		17.5

Statement-II

Airport Wise Domestic Passengers Handled (in Million.)

Sl. No.	Airport	2017-18	% Change in 2017-18 over 2016-17	2016-17	% Change in 2016-17 over 2015-16	2015-16	% Change in 2015-16 over 2014-15	2014-15	Three Year CAGR during 2014-15 to 2017-18
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Delhi (DIAL)	48.31	14.5%	42.21	23.1%	34.27	24.8%	27.45	20.7%
2.	Mumbai (MIAL)	34.85	6.5%	32.71	8.9%	30.05	19.2%	25.21	21.4%
3.	Bangalore (BIAL)	23.10	19.8%	19.28	23.6%	15.60	25.2%	12.47	22.8%
4.	Kolkata	17.31	27.3%	13.59	28.1%	10.61	18.0%	8.99	24.4%
5.	Chennai	14.84	12.8%	13.15	27.2%	10.34	7.8%	9.59	25.7%
6.	Hyderabad (GHIAL)	14.47	23.3%	11.73	27.1%	9.23	21.4%	7.61	23.9%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7.	Pune	7.89	21.2%	6.51	25.8%	5.18	27.3%	4.07	24.7%
8.	Ahmedabad	7.32	30.3%	5.62	14.4%	4.91	28.1%	3.83	24.1%
9.	Goa	6.77	11.9%	6.05	27.9%	4.73	21.3%	3.90	20.2%
10.	Cochin (CIAL)	4.80	21.4%	3.95	27.7%	3.10	16.3%	2.66	21.7%
11.	Guwahati	4.64	23.3%	3.76	36.6%	2.75	24.8%	2.21	28.1%
12.	Jaipur	4.23	26.9%	3.33	32.0%	2.52	35.4%	1.86	31.4%
13.	Lucknow	4.01	21.4%	3.31	24.8%	2.65	28.2%	2.07	24.8%
14.	Bhubaneswar	3.16	37.1%	2.30	22.6%	1.88	25.8%	1.49	28.4%
15.	Patna	3.11	47.3%	2.11	33.3%	1.58	32.4%	1.20	37.5%
16.	Srinagar	2.42	16.1%	2.09	-9.3%	2.30	13.7%	2.03	6.2%
17.	Visakhapatnam	2.35	3.8%	2.26	34.3%	1.68	61.9%	1.04	31.2%
18.	Indore	2.27	27.1%	1.78	5.5%	1.69	25.1%	1.35	18.8%
19.	Bagdogra	2.23	48.8%	1.50	42.9%	1.05	3.0%	1.02	29.9%
20.	Coimbatore	2.20	12.0%	1.96	25.9%	1.56	19.5%	1.31	19.0%
21.	Nagpur (MIPL)	2.08	16.7%	1.78	17.2%	1.52	12.1%	1.36	15.3%
22.	Chandigarh	1.99	13.7%	1.75	14.0%	1.53	27.2%	1.21	18.2%
23.	Varanasi	1.94	6.9%	1.81	37.9%	1.31	36.8%	0.96	26.3%
24.	Trivandrum	1.92	21.9%	1.57	31.4%	1.20	10.7%	1.08	21.0%
25.	Ranchi	1.77	72.0%	1.03	40.3%	0.73	13.3%	0.65	39.8%
26.	Amritsar	1.69	63.9%	1.03	15.2%	0.89	19.2%	0.75	31.0%
27.	Raipur	1.63	16.6%	1.40	15.7%	1.21	30.4%	0.93	20.7%
28.	Portblair	1.55	25.2%	1.24	42.1%	0.87	6.8%	0.82	23.9%
29.	Mangalore	1.50	46.1%	1.03	1.9%	1.01	21.5%	0.83	21.8%
30.	Jammu	1.44	24.5%	1.16	3.8%	1.12	17.3%	0.95	14.9%
31.	Agartala	1.38	16.5%	1.18	28.5%	0.92	4.8%	0.88	16.2%
32.	Udaipur	1.15	5.2%	1.09	53.3%	0.71	55.4%	0.46	35.8%
33.	Madurai	1.14	60.4%	0.71	22.3%	0.58	18.7%	0.49	32.5%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
34.	Dehradun	1.12	27.5%	0.88	87.2%	047	24.5%	0.38	43.8%
35.	Vadodara	1.01	-8.6%	1.10	18.6%	0.93	30.7%	0.71	12.3%
36.	Imphal	0.99	11.4%	0.89	15.6%	0.77	25.3%	0.61	17.3%
37.	Vijayawada	0.75	19.9%	0.62	56.1%	0.40	71.9%	0.23	47.6%
38.	Bhopal	0.72	6.6%	0.67	2.2%	0.66	59.2%	0.41	20.1%
39.	Leh	0.69	22.7%	0.56	38.0%	0.41	1.3%	0.40	19.7%
40.	Surat	0.68	250.0%	0.19	105.3%	0.09	-30.7%	0.14	70.7%
41.	Tirupati	0.58	20.3%	049	31.0%	0.37	51.5%	0.24	33.7%
42.	Calicut	0.51	16.1%	0.44	20.1%	0.37	23.4%	0.30	19.8%
43.	Jodhpur	0.47	33.8%	0.35	16.1%	0.30	2.0%	0.30	16.6%
44.	Silchar	0.37	72.9%	0.21	5.7%	0.20	6.1%	0.19	24.7%
45.	Rajkot	0.37	-9.9%	0.41	-1.9%	0.41	15.3%	0.36	0.6%
	Top 45 airports	239.71	18.2%	202.83	21.7%	166.68	21.7%	136.97	20.5%
	Other airports	3.57	24.9%	2.86	9.5%	2.61	10.6%	2.36	14.8%
	GRAND TOTAL	243.28	18.3%	205.68	21.5%	169.29	21.5%	139.33	20.4%

Grounding of fleet of aircrafts with NEO engines

8. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are still 1174 aircrafts with neo engines operating flights in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there were demands to ground the entire fleet of aircrafts with neo engines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No Sir. As on date, 53 Airbus A320 Neo aircraft fitted with PW1127G-JM engines and 28 Airbus A 320 Neo aircraft fitted with CFM LEAP 1A engines are operating flights in the country.

(b) and (c) European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) issued an Emergency Airworthiness Directive (EAD) no. 2018-0041-E on 09.02.2018 which was immediately implemented by the Airlines. 3 A320 neos in Indigo fleet fitted with both the affected engines having ESN No. 450 and beyond were grounded. However, 11 other A 320neo aircraft (08 in Indigo and 03 in Go Air fleet) continued to operate as they were fitted with one affected engine having ESN 450 and beyond.

Subsequently, 3 cases of in-flight shutdown of A 320 neos fitted with PW1100G-JM engines were reported to DGCA. Keeping in view the safety of aircraft operations, DGCA unilaterally decided to ground even the 11 aircraft which were operating with one affected engine.

After replacing the engines affected by the EASA EAD and by installing modified engines, all grounded aircraft were put in to service by both the airlines and as on date no Neo aircraft is grounded.

Flight services from gwalior under UDAN scheme

†9. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme called UDAN has been introduced by the Central Government with a view to promoting regional connectivity and air travel facility to common citizens under the new Civil Aviation Policy;

(b) whether Gwalior airport has been prominently included in the scheme and if so, by when and to which cities flight services are to be started from Gwalior under the scheme; and

(c) the names of airports to be developed under the scheme in Madhya Pradesh apart from Gwalior and the time by which this task is scheduled to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)-UDAN two Selected Airline Operators are awarded network/routes involving Gwalior airport.

(i) M/s Alliance Air has started air services on the network Gwalior - Indore - Gwalior -Indore.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (ii) M/s Air Odisha has been awarded the network Gwalior - Lucknow - Gwalior-Delhi.
- (c) The identified list of un-served airports of the Madhya Pradesh under RCS-UDAN 2.0 are as under:

Amla, Betul, Birlagram (Nagda), Birwa, Burhar, (Shahdol), Chhindwara, Damoh, Datia, Dhana, Gandhisagar, Guna, Jhabua, Jhabua (Ranpet), Kanha (Mandla), Khandwa, Khargone, Lalpur, Nagda, Neemuch, Nowgong, Pachmarhi, Panna, Raisen (Chiklod), Rajhara (Dhalli), Rakhikol, Ratlam, Rewa, Sagar, Sarangarh, Sarani, Satna, Seoni, Shahdol, Shivpuri, Sidhi, Sitamanu (Mandasur), Tekanpur, Ujjain and Umaria The revival of these existing airstrips / airports will be 'demand driven', depending upon firm commitment from airline operators as well as from the State Government for providing various concessions. No airline has submitted bid to operate RCS flight connecting to airports in Madhya Pradesh except Gwalior in 1st & 2nd round of bidding under RCS-UDAN.

Issuing licenses for in-flight connectivity

10. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to issue licenses for the in-flight connectivity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether foreign satellites and foreign gateways will also be permitted; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) The Government has decided to provide in-flight connectivity for calling and internet facilities. The implementation through licenced service providers requires necessary approvals from Department of Telecommunication and other Government agencies. The same is under consideration of Department of Telecommunication.

Development of airports in Andhra Pradesh

11. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has embarked on development of smaller airports in the State of Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof;

- (b) the details of the airports to be developed under this project;
- (c) the quantum of funds earmarked and released so far; and
- (d) the progress of the work made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has already initiated development of smaller airports at Kadapa, Rajahmundry and Donakonda in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Out of these, Kadapa and Rajahmundry are operational airports whereas Donakonda is a non-operational airport for which AAI has prepared a master plan for operation of ATR-72 type of aircraft under Regional Connectivity Scheme and is in the process of conducting the requisite Obstacle Limitation Surface (OLS) survey to ascertain the feasibility of development of airport. AAI has earmarked ₹29.50 crore for development of Kadapa and ₹ 48.10 crore for Rajahmundry for the year 2018-19, out of which ₹4.49 crore for Kadapa and ₹22.16 crore for Rajahmundry have already been released for undertaking the construction work like extension & strengthening of existing runway, construction of isolation bay pavement against blast erosion, Runway Safety Area and other allied work.

Sale of Air India

12. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there were no takers for the proposal of Government to sell-off Air India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the next step/measures Government proposes in view of the present scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Strategic Disinvestment of Air India including its shareholding in Air India Express and AI SATS was issued on 28th March, 2018. No EOI/ bid was received till the last date of receipt of bids. Probable reasons as analyzed by the Transaction Advisor *i.e* M/s EY for non-receipt of bids inter-alia, are GOI 24% stake and corresponding rights, high amount of allocated debt, changes in macro environment, individuals not being allowed to bid, profitability track record, and bidders not being able to form a consortium within given time period.

(c) The Government remains committed to the disinvestment of Air India. In this regard, the Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism (AISAM) has decided as follows:

- (i) In view of volatile crude prices and adverse fluctuations in exchange rates, the present environment is not conducive to stimulate interest amongst investors for strategic disinvestment of Air India in immediate near future. The issue would be revisited once global economic indicators including oil prices and forex conditions stabilize,
- (ii) to undertake near and medium term efforts to capture operational efficiencies and to improve the performance of Air India,
- (iii) to monetise non-core land and building assets,
- (iv) to separately decide the contours of the mode of disposal of the subsidiaries viz. Air India Engineering Services Limited (AIESL), Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AIATSL) and Airline Allied Services Limited (AASL).

Stake sale of Air India

13. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to sell major stake in Air India and privatize the organisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether it is a fact that in spite of Government's bidding it has failed to attract the buyers and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 28.06.2017, had given in principle approval for considering strategic disinvestment of Air India and its five subsidiaries and constitution of Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism(AISAM) to guide the process of Strategic disinvestment. Government decided to sell 76% shareholding of Air India. The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Strategic Disinvestment of Air India including its shareholding in Air India Express and AI SATS was issued on 28th March, 2018. The last date of receipt of bids was 31st May, 2018.

(c) No EoI/bid was received till the last date of receipt of bids. Probable reasons as analyzed by the Transaction Advisor, *i.e.* M/s EY for non-receipt of bids, inter-alia, are GOI 24% stake and corresponding rights, high amount of allocated debt, changes in macro environment, individuals not being allowed to bid, profitability track record, and bidders not being able to form a consortium within given time period.

Disinvestment of Air India

14. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the move of Government to disinvest Air India has failed due to unfavourable terms and conditions imposed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government proposes to take either to disinvest Air India or for its revival within a time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Strategic Disinvestment of Air India including its shareholding in Air India Express and AI SATS was issued on 28th March, 2018. No EoI/ bid was received till the last date of receipt of bids. Probable reasons as analyzed by the Transaction Advisor *i.e.* M/s EY for non-receipt of bids inter-alia, are GOI 24% stake and corresponding rights, high amount of allocated debt, changes in macro environment, individuals not being allowed to bid, profitability track record, and bidders not being able to form a consortium within given time period.

(c) The Government remains committed to the disinvestment of Air India. In this regard, the Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism (AISAM) has decided as follows:

- (i) In view of volatile crude prices and adverse fluctuations in exchange rates, the present environment is not conducive to stimulate interest amongst investors for strategic disinvestment of Air India in immediate near future. The issue would be revisited once global economic indicators including oil prices and forex conditions stabilize,
- (ii) to undertake near and medium term efforts to capture operational efficiencies and to improve the performance of Air India,
- (iii) to monetise non-core land and building assets,

(iv) to separately decide the contours of the mode of disposal of the subsidiaries viz. Air India Engineering Services Limited (AIESL), Air India Air Transport Services Limited. (AIATSL) and Airline Allied Services Limited (AASL).

Version of Udan scheme

15. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that buoyed by the success of Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) scheme, Government is working on another version of the scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the States will now have the option to subsidize international flights for regions that are underserved but have the latest demand to become sizeable markets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) Ministry of Civil Aviation on the request of the Ministry of Tourism has started work on another version of the UDAN scheme for connecting tourist destinations to other cities in India.

Low occupancy rate in Air India International flights

16. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Air India International flights presently in operation;

(b) if so, the details of occupancy percentage of all flights during last one year;

(c) whether it is a fact that many of Air India International flights are flying with low occupancy and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of steps taken to improve occupancy rate of Air India International flights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Presently Air India is operating 760 international flights

per week (including return Flight from international destinations). During the F.Y 2017-2018, the average seat factor (occupancy) of Air India international flights is 79.7%. The occupancy of the flights depends on various factors including product offered by competitors, seasonality, flight frequency, timings, direct/indirect operations, traffic flows etc.

(c) All International flights of Air India have load factor of more than 60% except on (02) two routes *i.e* Kolkata-Yangon and Bhubaneshwar-Bangkok.

(d) Air India constantly endeavours to improve/upgrade its services. The following are the initiatives/measures to meet the competition in the market:

- (i) Sales and marketing initiatives,
- (ii) Induction of B787 Dreamliner,
- (iii) Preferred seat selection,
- (iv) Dynamic pricing and introduction of advance purchase fare,
- (v) Flash sale of seats to increase revenue and Passenger Load Factor (PLF),
- (vi) Introduction of various meal option.

Apart from the above, Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) and other short term incentives are offered regularly in various markets to incentivize travel agents for promoting travel on Air India. Incentives are given in United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, UAE, Italy, Spain and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to travel agents.

Tie ups with local travel authorities/tourism boards are formalized and special packages are given to passengers in collaboration with the tourism board to promote the international destination and to travel by Air India.

Plan to make Air India profitable

17. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) since no bidder has turned up to acquire Air India, what Government plans next;
- (b) how Government plans to make Air India profitable; and

(c) how much is the current loss of Air India and how Government is planning to make up for losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Till the last date, *i.e.*, 31.05.2018, for inviting Expression of Interest (EoI) for disinvestment of Air India including Air India's share holding interest in the Air India Express Ltd. and Air India SATS, no EoI/ bid was received.

The Government remains committed to the disinvestment of Air India. In this regard, the Air India Specific Alternative Mechanism (AISAM) has decided as follows:

- (i) In view of volatile crude prices and adverse fluctuations in exchange rates, the present environment is not conducive to stimulate interest amongst investors for strategic disinvestment of Air India in immediate near future. The issue would be revisited once global economic indicators including oil prices and forex conditions stabilize,
- (ii) to undertake near and medium term efforts to capture operational efficiencies and to improve the performance of Air India,
- (iii) to monetise non-core land and building assets,
- (iv) to separately decide the contours of the mode of disposal of the subsidiaries *viz.* Air India Engineering Services Limited (AIESL), Air India Air Transport Services Limited (AIATSL) and Airline Allied Services Limited (AASL).

(b) and (c) The details of the Net Losses of Air India during the last three years as per the audited accounts are given below:

Year	Loss after Tax (₹ in crores)
2014-15	5859.91
2015-16	3836.78
2016-17	5765.16

In view of this precarious financial health of Air India Ltd and to take AIL back on the path of profitability, the Government has already approved and implemented a Turnaround Plan (TAP) for Air India Ltd in 2012 in terms of which all Government Guaranteed Aircraft Loans and interest thereon are being paid by the Government by way of Equity Infusion into Air India. Similarly, a Financial Restructuring Plan (FRP)

has also been implemented by means of which high cost working capital loans have been converted into long term debt carrying lesser rates of interest so as to reduce the financial burden on AIL.

The TAP/FRP includes budgetary support amounting to ₹ 30231 crores spread over 10 years *i.e.* upto FY 2020-21 and also equity support for the payment of principal/ interest of the Non Convertible Debentures. AIL has received an Equity Infusion of Rs 27195.21 crores till FY 2018.

Air India has shown a considerable improvement both in terms of Operational and Financial Parameters in the recent past. EBITDA has become positive since 2012-13 and continues to be positive even today as compared to the negative EBITDA before the implementation of TAP.

As a part of the Turnaround strategy for Air India Ltd, Air India with the overall support of the Govt has initiated a number of steps in order to cut costs and losses. These steps, *inter-alia*, include the following:

- (i) Setting up a Route Rationalization Committee to ensure revenue maximization by continuously looking at load factors, revenue yields and competitor fare structure and responding immediately to the same,
- (ii) Induction of brand new aircraft on several domestic & international routes to increase passenger appeal,
- (iii) Phasing out and grounding of old fleet,
- (iv) Leveraging the assets of the Company to increase MRO revenue and revenue from Company's real estate properties,
- (v) Introduction of PSS (Passenger Services System) to have a single code and SAP ERP based Solutions,
- (vi) Establishment of Integrated Operations Control Centre and Hub Control Centre in Delhi,
- (vii) Operationalization of Subsidiary Companies such as AIATSL & AIESL and transfer of manpower and equipment and treating them as Independent Profit Centres,
- (viii) Induction of the B-787 aircraft on Medium Capacity/Long Haul Routes,

- (ix) Restriction on staff overtime/holiday pay, except when operationally required,
- (x) Encouraging of same day return duty travel to avoid unnecessary hotel expenses,
- (xi) Restriction on Foreign Travel,
- (xii) Focus on cargo Revenue,
- (xiii) Focus on Ancillary Revenue,
- (xiv) Rationalising Commission of Agents,
- (xv) Review of loss making routes.

Increasing connectivity between India and China

18. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the air connectivity between India and China will be increased shortly; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Sir, no traffic rights between India and China have been increased in recently concluded bilateral air services talks as the sufficient traffic rights are available for Indian carriers. Indian carriers may mount services subject to the availability of resources and commercial viability. The start of flight operations between two countries depends upon the commercial judgement of airline companies and Government does not interfere in their operation plan.

Grounding of A320 Neo aircrafts

19. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that according to European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) Government's decision to ground A320 Neo aircrafts was a unilateral decision;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that according to them, such a decision is not deemed necessary by it for the time being; and

- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) issued an Emergency Airworthiness Directive(EAD) no. 2018-0041-E on 09.02.2018 which was immediately implemented by the Airlines. 3 A320 neos in Indigo fleet fitted with both the affected engines having ESN No. 450 and beyond were grounded. However, 11 other A 320neo aircraft (08 in Indigo and 03 in Go Air fleet) continued to operate as they were fitted with one affected engine having ESN 450 and beyond.

Subsequently, 3 cases of in-flight shutdown of A 320 neos fitted with PW1100G-JM engines were reported to DGCA. Keeping in view the safety of aircraft operations, DGCA unilaterally decided to ground 11 aircraft which were operating with one affected engine.

After replacing the engines affected by the EASA EAD and by installing modified engines, all grounded aircraft were put in to service by both the airlines and as on date no Neo aircraft is grounded.

Formulation of air passenger charter

20. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any decision to formulate Air Passenger Charter;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has proposed any pro-passenger measures under the said Charter; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) A Draft Passenger Charter incorporating rights for air passengers was released on 22.05.2018 for public consultation.

(c) and (d) The draft passenger charter includes measures in the areas of delays and cancellations of flights, denied boarding due to over-booking, cancellation of tickets by passenger, name change on the ticket and lock-in period of ticket and various facilities at airports.

Growth of air traffic at Bhubaneswar airport

21. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) how much of growth Bhubaneswar airport has registered during the 2017-18 fiscal;
- (b) whether this growth is a record figure leading it to become one of the fastest growing airports in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) The Bhubaneswar airport has registered a growth of 39.4% during the fiscal year 2017-18, as compared to last year in terms of total passengers handled.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Bhubaneswar airport has been the second fastest growing airport among top 20 airports of the country during 2017-18 in terms of total passengers handled.

Proposal for second airport at Bhubaneswar

22. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has cleared the proposal of setting up of a second airport at Bhubaneswar in order to reduce air traffic congestion;
- (b) if so, the details thereof mentioning the amount of fund allocated for this project and the time period stipulated to complete it;
- (c) whether Government is planning to take more initiatives in order to improve passengers' convenience; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) No such proposal has been cleared by the Ministry of Civil Aviation. However, three sites near Khorda have been identified by the State Government of Odisha for construction of a second airport at Bhubaneswar. The

Airports Authority of India (AAI) has already conducted the pre-feasibility study in respect of these sites and has submitted the report to the State Government for necessary action.

(c) and (d) The AAI has already taken up the work for construction of parallel taxi track, extension of apron and construction of technical block cum control tower at the Biju Patnaik Airport, Bhubaneswar to provide better travel experience to the passengers.

Rising jet fuel prices

23. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government to contain the rise in jet fuel prices and its cascading impact on air ticket prices;

(b) the percentage of hike in the prices of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) during 2017-18; and

(c) the percentage of hike in airfares in different airlines in different sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) The pricing of Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) was deregulated w.e.f. 1st April, 2001 and the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on pricing of ATF in line with its international price and other market conditions.

(b) Price of ATF was increased by 19.81% in year 2017-18 at Delhi.

(c) No such analysis has been carried out by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). As per prevailing regulation, air fare is not regulated by the Government.

All women crew flights of Air India Express on International Women's Day

24. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India Express operated eight all women crew flights on the occasion of International Women's Day;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the budget carrier had also organized functions at all its offices to felicitate the women workforce which is about 40 per cent of its total employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Air India Express operated only six all women crew flights on 08th March 2018 on the occasion of International Women's day. The details of the flights are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) To mark the occasion of Women's day, functions were held on 8th March 2018 at Air India Express offices. The women staff were felicitated with greetings cards, cupcakes, roses and special honorary speeches were given by Departmental Heads. A special program consisting of interviews of women staff from various departments of Air India Express Limited (AIXL) was carried out.

This program was posted on Air India Express social media platform, *i.e.* AI Express Facebook page. Press release was also issued to publicize All-Women crew flights on Facebook page posting real-time pictures of AIXL's lady cabin crew operating these flights.

Statement

*Details of Flights operated by Air India Express with women crew on the
Occasion of Womens Day on 08 March 2018*

Sl. No.	Flight no	Sector
1.	IX 435/434	Kochi /Dubai/Kochi
2.	IX 247/248	Mumbai/Dubai /Mumbai
3.	IX 549/544	Trivandrum/Muscat/Trivandrum
4.	IX 688/681	Chennai/Singapore/Trichy
5.	IX 363/348	Calicut/Abu Dhabi/Calicut
6.	IX345/142	Calicut/Dubai/Delhi

Review of cancellation charges for delayed flights

25. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is reviewing the cancellation charges policy to ensure that the same is reasonable;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had in August, 2016 asked airlines to pay fines of upto ₹ 20,000 to a flyer for denying boarding and fine upto ₹ 10,000 for delaying or cancelling a flight beyond two hours, if the delay is due to carrier's fault;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Government is reviewing this as well; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) A Draft Passenger Charter incorporating rights for air passengers was released on 22.05.2018 for public consultation. The draft passenger charter, *inter alia*, includes measures in the areas of cancellation of tickets by passenger, name change on the ticket and lock-in period of ticket.

(c) Existing provisions as per CAR Section 3 Series M Part IV effective from 15th July 2016 in case of denied boarding, flight delay and cancellation are as follows: For denied boarding- When airline fails to provide alternate flight within one hour of original schedule departure, compensation payable to passengers is as follows:

(i) Amount varying from INR 10000 to 20000 in case airline arranges alternate flight,

(ii) in case passenger does not opt for alternate flight, refund of full value of ticket and maximum amount upto INR 20000.

For Delays-

(i) Meal and Refreshments in relation to waiting time beyond delay of two hours or more if passenger has checked -in on time,

(ii) hotel accommodation, including transfers, if expected time of departure is more than 24 hours,

(iii) it is responsibility of the airlines to inform passengers about flight delays.

For cancellations - When airline fail to provide alternate flight schedules to depart-within two hours, compensation payable to passengers, in addition to refund of air ticket is as follows:

- (i) INR 5000 to 10000 - linked to flight block time,
- (ii) additional meals and refreshments in relation to waiting time and hotel accommodation when necessary (including transfers).

(d) and (e) The draft passenger charter released on 22.05.2018 for public consultation, *inter alia*, includes the measures for denied boarding, delay or cancellation of flights.

Charter for passengers

26. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is reviewing issues like behind schedule operations and cancelling flight tickets, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is drawing up a charter for passengers which will spell out everything clearly in an intelligible manner; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (d) A Draft Passenger Charter incorporating rights for air passengers was released on 22.05.2018 for public consultation.

The draft passenger charter includes measures in the areas of delays and cancellations of flights, denied boarding due to over-booking, cancellation of tickets by passenger, name change on the ticket and lock-in period of ticket and various facilities at airports.

Proposal for new airports

27. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has received feasibility report from consultants for many new airports proposed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government on such proposals received as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) No Sir. Government does not receive feasibility reports directly from consultants/consultancy agency for setting up of new airports in the country. The construction of Greenfield airports is governed by the Greenfield Airport Policy of Gol. As per this Policy, the promoter seeking to develop an airport has to submit the proposal to the Central Government for consideration. Based on the proposal and detailed project report submitted by the airport developer, Government of India (Gol), Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) grants two stage clearance *i.e.* 'site clearance' followed by 'in principle' approval. In many cases, it's the airport developer who hires consultant for preparation of detailed project report for airport project.

(c) Recently, the Government of India has received a proposal for setting up of a greenfield airport at Jewar from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, who have hired Pricewaterhouse Coopers (PwC) as the consultant for the preparation of the detailed project report. Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* approval dated 8th May, 2018 have granted 'in principle' approval to this proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

Ombudsman for civil aviation sector

28. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether after Government enforced the first-ever set of guidelines imposing ban on flying, ranging from three months upto a lifetime, on passengers found guilty of misbehaviour while on board, the incidents involving unruly passengers have come down dramatically;

(b) whether at the some time, there have been incidents of airlines shortchanging passengers through deficient services on board and on ground with arrogant airline crew assaulting passengers; and

(c) whether Government would consider setting up of a mechanism under an Ombudsman for the Civil Aviation sector on lines of other public utility sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) DGCA has issued CAR Section 3 Series M Part VI titled "Handling of unruly passengers" effective 8th September 2017. Only one passenger has been placed in the No-fly list by Jet Airways from the effective date of CAR as on date,

(c) There is no such proposal under consideration.

VRS for facilitating Air India's disinvestment process

29. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's efforts so far on disinvesting Air India have met with road blocks with no serious buyer coming forward with an acceptable bid;

(b) whether the stumbling block in Air India's disinvestment process has been its bloated employee strength which is much more than that of any other airline in the private sector; and

(c) whether Government would attempt pruning Air India's staff strength by offering attractive Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) terms for its employees, to make the disinvestment offer more acceptable to prospective bidders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Strategic Disinvestment of Air India including its shareholding in Air India Express and AI SATS was issued on 28th March, 2018. No EoI/ bid was received till the last date of receipt of bids.

(b) Probable reasons as analyzed by the Transaction Advisor *i.e* M/s EY for non-receipt of bids, *inter alia*, are GOI 24% stake and corresponding rights, high amount of allocated debt, changes in macro environment, individuals not being allowed to bid, profitability track record, and bidders not being able to form a consortium within given time period.

(c) Does not arise, in view of (b) above. However, as per applicable rules, an employee can seek Voluntary Retirement from the services of the Company by giving 3 months' notice on attaining the age of 55 years or on completion of 20 years of continuous service with the approval of Competent Authority.

UDAN Scheme in Maharashtra

†30. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed any project to make all the existing airports in the country completely operational and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the names of airports covered for implementation of Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) Scheme in Maharashtra;
- (c) the provisions being made by Government to provide the benefits of these airports to more and more people; and
- (d) the number of airports/airstrips of Maharashtra being considered under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India has envisaged a scheme for Regional Connectivity in the National Civil Aviation Policy, 2016. This scheme is to be implemented by way of revival of un-served and under-served airports/routes, concession by various stakeholders and viability gap funding (VGF). The development of airports/airstrips is to be undertaken only in those States where the State Government agrees to provide requisite concessions and there is a firm commitment from airlines to fly from/to such airports.

RCS-UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) is market driven mechanism. Development of regional air connectivity routes is proposed to be left to market forces such that airlines undertake assessment of demand and nature of supply required on particular routes and lead the process under RCS.

(b) The airports at Nanded, Nasik, Kohlapur, Jalgaon and Solapur in Maharashtra were covered in UDAN Scheme after the first round of bidding. Further, the airport at Ozar (Nasik) in Maharashtra has also been covered in UDAN Scheme after the second round of bidding.

(c) Government of India has sanctioned ₹ 4500 crores for revival of 50 unserved and underserved airports.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) The following 24 Unserved/Underserved airports in the State of Maharashtra have been included in the Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS): Akola, Amravati, Baramati, Chandrapur, Darna Camp, Deolali, Dhulia, Gondia, Jalgaon, Jath, Karad, Kawalpur, Kolhapur, Kudal, Latur (Maharashtra Airport Development Company Ltd.), Lonavala Amby Valley, Nanded, Osmanabad, Ozar (Nasik), Phaltan, Ratnagiri, Shirpur, Solapur and Waluj.

Development of international airport in Visakhapatnam

31. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Airports Authority of India (AAI) bagged the tender to develop an international airport at Bhogapuram in Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government of Andhra Pradesh has cancelled the tender stating reasons about its intention of not just development of the airport but also related to infrastructure like aviation academy, Maintenance Repair Overhaul (MRO) facility for aircraft and aerotropolis;

(c) whether AAI has come forward to take up building integrated airport at Bhogapuram as sought by Government of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Yes Sir. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has cancelled the tender with a view to revise the scope of the project by including an Aerotropolis, Aviation Training Institute and MRO.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir, after opening of bids, Airports Authority of India (AAI) showed interest to take up project and that development of MRO and Aviation Academy were included in the scope of the Project. But under the present scope of the tender, it is not mandatory to the concessionaire for development of MRO and Aviation Academy and the Authority can't enforce the concessionaire to build the same.

Grounding of aircrafts due to safety considerations

32. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Seventeen aircrafts have been grounded due to safety considerations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the airlines affected by the said decision have cancelled many domestic flights;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the grounding of such large number of flights would hit services in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) On the basis of Emergency Airworthiness Directive (EAD) no. 2018-0041-E on 09.02.2018 issued by European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and keeping in view the safety of aircraft operations, 11 A320 neos aircraft installed with PW 1100 engines having engine Serial No. 450 & subsequent (8 of Indigo and 3 of Go Air) were grounded.

(c) to (e) Due to the grounding, Indigo Airlines had cancelled 776 flights from 13.03.2018 to 02.04.2018 and Go Air had cancelled 150 flights from 12.03.2018 to 08.04.2018. However, after replacing the engines affected by the above EAD and by installing modified engines all grounded aircraft were put into service by both airlines.

Calling off disinvestment of Air India

33. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has called-off the Air India disinvestment deal;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) if Government is not certain of the situation of Air India in the aviation market, why has it floated and rushed the idea of disinvestment without giving proper thought into it; and

- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for the Strategic Disinvestment of Air India including its shareholding in Air India Express and AI SATS was issued on 28th March, 2018. No EoI/ bid was received till the last date of receipt of bids *i.e* 31/05/2018.

Probable reasons as analyzed by the Transaction Advisor *i.e* M/s EY for non-receipt of bids *inter alia*, are GOI 24% stake and corresponding rights, high amount of allocated debt, changes in macro environment, individuals not being allowed to bid, profitability track record, and bidders not being able to form a consortium within given time period. The Government remains committed to disinvestment of its stake in Air India.

(c) and (d) NITI Aayog in its recommendations, on Strategic Disinvestment of the Central Public Sector Enterprises on May 12, 2017 had given the rationale for the disinvestment of Air India and has referred to the fragile finances of the company, among various other reasons. Air India has been incurring continuous losses and has huge accumulated losses. Further, NITI Aayog in its report on Air India has stated that further financial support in a mature and competitive aviation market would not be the best use of scarce financial resources of the Government. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), in its meeting held on 28.06.2017, has given in principle approval for considering strategic disinvestment of Air India and its five subsidiaries and constitution of Air India Specific Alternate Mechanism (AISAM) to guide the process of strategic disinvestment from time to time.

Display of art collections of Air India in the National Gallery of Modern Art

34. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Carrier Air India is in talks with the Ministry of Culture to hand over its priceless art collections to the Ministry for their display in the National Gallery of Modern Art in various metros; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Air India is in possession of paintings and most of them

are kept in the Air India office at Nariman Point, Mumbai. Paintings under possession of Air India are the precious heritage of the country. Government has decided that the paintings will not be sold and the same will be handed over to Ministry of Culture, GOI. The paintings and artefacts will be preserved and displayed in National Gallery of Modern Arts (NGMA), an organisation under Ministry of Culture, GOI. Ministry of Culture has formed a committee of persons, who are well versed in the art collection and restoration process and also have technical expertise to oversee the work.

Salaries to permanent employees of Air India

35. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the national carrier Air India recently failed to pay salaries to its permanent employees in time; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) and (b) Salaries have been paid to all employees of Air India including the salary for the month of June 2018 which was paid on 2nd July, 2018. There was a short delay in the payment of salaries for the month of May, 2018, however, same was paid subsequently.

Identification of Air India routes making profits and losses

36. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India has identified routes which are making profits and losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof, route-wise;

(c) the number of routes which are unable to make profit; and

(d) the reasons for incurring losses on a number of routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The route economics of Air India flights for the period from April 2017 to March 2018 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (d) The reasons for incurring losses include:
- (i) Low demand on the sectors
 - (ii) Competitive fares by the rival carriers
 - (iii) Cost of operation is higher being full service carrier as compared to other airline some of which are Low Cost Carrier.

Statement

*Route economics of Air India flights for the period from
April 2017 to March 2018*

Period (April 2017 to March 2018)	Domestic	International
No. of routes not meeting variable cost	33	02
No. of routes meeting variable cost but not meeting cost of EBITDAR	61	15
No. of routes meeting cost of EBITDAR but not meeting EBIT cost	42	42
No. of routes meeting EBIT but not meeting Total cost	13	16
No. of routes meeting Total Cost	12	03

Introducing internet and calling facilities on board domestic airlines

37. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to introduce internet and calling facilities for the flyers on board in domestic airlines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of implementation of the same; and
- (c) the time by which these facilities will be made available?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): (a) to (c) The Government has decided to provide in-flight connectivity for calling and internet facilities. The implementation through licenced service providers requires necessary approvals from Department of Telecommunication and other Government agencies. The same is under consideration of Department of Telecommunication.

Low growth rate of FDI inflow

38. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether growth rate of inflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in India has been at a five-year low in 2017-18; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Measures taken by the Government on FDI policy liberalization coupled with improvement in ease of doing business climate has resulted in unprecedented growth of total FDI inflows. Country has been recording highest ever FDI since 2015-16. It increased from 55.56 USD billion to 60.22 USD billion in 2016-17 and reached to 61.96 USD billion in 2017-18. These figures surpass the FDI inflows of any of the preceding financial years. Year wise increase in the total FDI inflows can be seen in the following table:

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Total FDI Inflow (in USD billion)
1.	2013-14	36.05
2.	2014-15	45.15
3.	2015-16	55.56
4.	2016-17 (P)	60.22
5.	2017-18(P)	61.96

(P) - Provisional.

WTO'S panel to check compliance on solar power Programme

39. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN:

SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Trade Organisation had set up a panel to check India's compliance with last year's ruling on solar power programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to convince the world body about the action initiated by India with regard to last year's ruling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Yes, the Compliance Panel under Article 21.5 of Understanding on Rules and Procedures governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) has been set up by WTO in DS456 dispute on India's request to prove that India has fully complied with the recommendations and rulings of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body (DSB). The United States has filed a retaliation request under Article 22.6 of DSU stating that India has not complied fully with the recommendations and rulings of the DSB. However, India and the United States are also engaged bilaterally on this dispute with a view to reaching a mutually satisfactory solution.

Hiking of duties on steel and aluminium imports by the US

40. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United States has unilaterally hiked duties on Indian steel and aluminium imports;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government will consider dragging the US to the WTO since such unilateral action is against free global trade; and

(c) whether Government will opt for similar action, particularly on imports from the US, particularly agri products and motorcycles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes.

(b) India has already filed a request for consultations with the U.S. on the imposition of additional duties of 25% on imports of steel and 10% on imports of aluminium, before World Trade Organisation (WTO)

(c) India has notified imposition of retaliatory tariffs on 29 commodities which would come into effect from 4th August, 2018. Nevertheless, India remain engaged with the U.S. for an amicable solution of the issue.

Heavy demand of Indian coffee

41. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a heavy demand of Indian coffee in the foreign market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum and value of coffee exported from the country during the last three years along with the revenue generated therefrom during the period;

(d) whether export of coffee has drastically increased the price of coffee, domestically affecting consumers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Indian Coffee is considered to be one of the best coffees in the world due to its high quality and fetches high premium in the international markets. India's coffee exports reached an all-time high of 3.95 lakh Metric Tonnes (MT) during 2017-18. The demand of Indian coffee is seen to have increased in Germany, Indonesia, USA, Poland, Libya, Spain, Tunisia, Ukraine, Italy and Belgium.

(c) The quantum and value of coffee exported from the country during the last three years along with the revenue generated are as under:-

Year	Quantity (MT)#	Value (₹ in crores)
2015-16	3,16,752	5,160.50
2016-17	3,53,089	5,593.90
2017-18	3,95,014	6,210.00

Based on export permit. The total coffee exports include export of Indian coffees as well as re-export of imported coffees after value addition.

Source: Coffee Board

(d) and (e) No, Sir. Coffee is primarily an export oriented commodity for India. The demand/consumption in domestic market is about 25% to 30% of country's total coffee

production and therefore, does not drastically impact the prices of coffee in the domestic market.

Growth of e-commerce industry

42. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether e-commerce has become one of the fastest growing trade channels facilitating cross-border trade of goods and services due to advanced technological innovations;

(b) if so, the details of e-commerce industry's growth;

(c) whether e-commerce industry and its consumers are facing various problems during transactions and post-transactions in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and

(e) whether Government is seriously considering to bring national e-commerce policy, if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) E-commerce is one of the trade channels facilitating cross-border trade of goods and services. As per 'Information Economy Report 2017' published by UNCTAD, worldwide e-commerce sales in 2015 reached US \$25.3 trillion, 90 per cent of which were in the form of business-to-business e-commerce and 10 per cent in the form of business-to-consumer sales. UNCTAD estimates that cross-border business-to-consumer e-commerce was worth about US \$189 billion in 2015. As per Economic Survey 2017-18, e-commerce market in India is estimated at US \$ 33 billion with a 19.1 per cent growth in 2016-17.

(c) and (d) Consumers are facing problems while doing transactions in e-commerce. Complaints relating to delivery of defective goods, damaged goods and also non-delivery of products are being received in the National Consumer Helpline being run by the Department of Consumer affairs. Complaints regarding e-commerce received in-National Consumer Helpline are referred to the companies concerned for redressal. In some cases, consumers are advised to file complaints in the appropriate consumer forum for redressal.

(e) The department of Consumer Affairs has introduced Consumer Protection Bill 2018 in the Lok Sabha on 5th January, 2018. There is provision for making of rules by the Central Government to regulate unfair trade practice in e-commerce. Department of Commerce initiated an exercise and established a Think Tank on "Framework for National Policy on E-commerce" and a Task Force under it and has deliberated on the challenges confronting India in the arena of the digital economy and e-commerce.

Denial of financial assistance to startups

43. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of startups under the 'Startup India' scheme have been denied financial assistance on one pretext or the other;

(b) if so, year-wise number of startup proposals received and number of entrepreneurs to whom financial assistance has been granted since 2015;

(c) whether it is a fact that the authority responsible for scrutinizing the proposals is a big hindrance in the success of the scheme; and

(d) whether Government would review the procedure to help startups grow in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No Sir. Direct funding support to startups is not envisaged under Startup India Programme. Government of India has established Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS), to meet the funding needs of startups. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Government of India is the monitoring agency and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) is the operating agency for FFS.

As per the operating guidelines issued by DIPP, FFS contributes to the corpus of SEBI registered Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs). These AIFs in turn have to invest at least twice the contribution under FFS in startups, as defined by the Government of India. Each AIF sets up its own Investment Committee and the investment Committee of each Fund takes a decision on its investment decisions. The AIFs under FFS have supported 142 startups as on June 30, 2018. Year wise figures for number of Startups provided financial assistance are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The investment committee (IC) of each AIF, comprising of investment experts drawn from different domains takes decisions on investing into particular startup. These decisions are largely a matter of business decisions which depend on a host of factors like uniqueness, innovativeness, intellectual property, business potential, etc.

(d) A formal mechanism has been put in place in form of Monitoring Committee to review progress of Startup India programme on regular basis. The Monitoring Committee comprises representative from DIPP, NITI Aayog, Department of Revenue (Ministry of Finance), Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Department of Science and Technology (Ministry of Science and Technology), Department of Bio-Technology (Ministry of Science and Technology), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Department of Higher Education (Ministry of Human Resources Development) and Small Industries Development Board of India (SIDBI). The Monitoring Committee continuously reviews progress and implementation of various measures for growth of startup ecosystem.

Statement

Number of Startups provided financial assistance (Year-wise):

Financial Year	No. of Startups given financial assistance under FFS
FY-2016-17	62
FY-2017-18	58
FY-2018-19	22

Anti-dumping investigations

44. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 850 anti-dumping investigations have been initiated by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping Duties (DGAG) against China, US, EU and other countries;

(b) whether it is also a fact that out of 850, more than 200 investigations are against China alone; and

(c) if so, in how many cases antidumping duty has been imposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) DGTR (erstwhile DGAD) has initiated 888 investigations against imports from various countries. These investigations mainly pertain to China, EU, Republic of Korea, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, US, Indonesia, Japan and Malaysia. The table below shows the number of anti-dumping investigations by India against various countries:

Country	Number of investigations*
China	214
EU	65
Republic of Korea	65
Chinese Taipei	62
Thailand	49
US	40
Indonesia	39
Japan	39
Malaysia	34
Others	281
TOTAL	888

Source WTO As on 31.12.2017

(b) 214 investigations have been initiated against China upto 31.12.2017.

(c) Out of 888 investigations initiated by India, duty has been imposed in 656 investigations against various countries and out of which 167 were from China.

War room to monitor investments

45. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to set up a war room to help monitor investments across the country, track progress of projects and ascertain issues faced in their implementation on a real time basis;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that many countries are looking at India for investment opportunities after simplification of Foreign Direct Investment norms; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No, Sir; there is no such proposal for setting up of war room in this department. However, this department is providing facilitation to investors through Invest India, a national level investment promotion agency.

(c) and (d) Government has put in place a liberal and transparent policy for attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), wherein most of the sectors are open to FDI under the automatic route. India has been witnessing unprecedented growth in total FDI in last few years due to liberalization of FDI policy coupled with improvement in ease of doing business climate. Total FDI inflow has increased to USD 61.96 billion in 2017-18 compared to USD 36.05 billion in 2013-14.

Impact of non-settlement of GST refunds on exports

46. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that exporters were not able to execute the orders for exports for want of settlement of GST refunds;
- (b) whether Government has received any representation from the export organisations in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Government has received representations from exporters/export organizations that they had difficulty in fulfilling export orders due to delay in settlement of Goods and Services Tax (GST) refunds.

- (c) Government has taken many measures to expedite the refund of GST to exporters which *inter-alia* include:
 - (i) Issuance of Circular No.42/2017-Customs dated 7.11.2017 regarding certain common errors hindering disbursement of Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) refund and solutions thereof;

- (ii) Permitting manual intervention for corrections in figures by Customs officers through Amendment of Rule 96 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017 *vide* Notification No.3/2018-Central Tax dated 23.1.2018. Moving a step ahead for the ease of exporters, in case of refund of IGST where there is a mis-match of invoice details as filed in the Shipping Bill and GST Returns cases, an alternate mechanism with officer's interface has been developed and circulated *vide* Circular No.5/2018-Customs dated 23.2.2018.
- (iii) Circular No.06/2018-Cus dated 16.3.2018 has been issued by Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) providing solutions to Export General Manifest(EGM) related errors; Circular No.08/2018-Cus dated 23.3.2018 has been issued for granting one time exception for refund of IGST through an officer interface after due verification of payment of IGST based on information contained in the GST returns, in cases where status of IGST payment was declared as "NA" instead of "P" in shipping bill; and Circular No. 12/2018-Cus dated 29.5.2018 has been issued in respect of pending IGST refund claims where records have not been transmitted from Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) to Customs and a mechanism was provided both for cases where there was short payment and where there was no such short payment.
- (iv) In order to ensure smooth operation of the prescribed procedure and clearing the backlog of refund of IGST paid on export of goods, CBIC has directed Custom Houses to open a dedicated cell and e-mail address for the purpose of facilitating the pending IGST refund cases and Custom Houses have been directed to give wide publicity to this step.
- (v) Over a period of time various pro-active measures have been taken in consultation with GSTN, IT wing of customs and field formations, as a result of which most of the errors have been rectified and IGST refunds have been sanctioned. Exporter awareness campaigns using both print media and social media were carried out so as to benefit the maximum exporters. Further, to encourage the exporters and sort out the problems being faced by the exporters, two 'Special Drive Refund Fortnight' from 15.3.2018 to 29.3.2018 and from 31.5.2018 to 16.6.2018 were organized.

As a result, most of the claims filed till 30.04.2018 have been sanctioned. IGST refunds amounting to ₹ 21,142 crore and RFD-01A refunds totalling ₹ 16,920 crore has been sanctioned by CBIC and State Governments as on 16.06.2018.

Promotion of products on the basis of geographical origin

47. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to launch a mega campaign for promoting products closely associated with their geographical origin;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Central Government is considering to involve all State Governments in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) Geographical Indications (GI) are registered as per the provisions of the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. The Government has undertaken several steps as a part of the campaign for promotion of Indian products registered as GIs. These include, *inter alia*, participation in events to promote and create awareness on GIs, promotion of GIs through social media, involving State Governments, Union Territory Administration and other relevant organisations for facilitation of GI producers.

All State Governments have been requested to appoint nodal officers for promotion of Geographical Indications from their respective states, establish Facilitation Cells for each GI from the state, undertake steps for GI awareness in consumers, undertake training of GI producers, take effective action against manufacture and sale of counterfeit GI products etc.

Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor

48. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the status and progress of the Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC);
- (b) the details of the funds released so far;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Central Government is giving a step motherly treatment to Andhra Pradesh in release of funds by giving insufficient funds to

Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor and releasing more funds to other projects in the country, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government for early release of sufficient funds to Visakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor for its early completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) On the basis of Conceptual Development Plan (CDP) prepared by Asian Development Bank (ADB) team, four nodes namely; (i) Visakhapatnam, (ii) Kakinada, (iii) Kankipadu-Gannavaram and (iv) Yerpedu-Srikalahasti of Andhra Pradesh have been identified for development in Vishakhapatnam-Chennai Industrial Corridor (VCIC).

(b) to (d) Government of India releases funds after approval of National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT) for projects for development of industrial corridors on completion of master planning and detailed preliminary engineering. The master planning of two nodes of VCIC namely (i) Visakhapatnam and (ii) Yerpedu-Srikalahasti is under way.

Further, ADB has approved US \$631 million (in loans and grants) for VCIC, comprising a Multi-tranche Financing Facility (MFF) as follows:

- (i) US \$500 million two-tranche MFF to build key infrastructure
- (ii) US \$125 million two-tranche Policy Based Loan (PBL) to support policy reforms and institutional development in the state
- (iii) US \$5 million grant from the multi-donor Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund (UCCRTF) to build climate change resilient infrastructure in Visakhapatnam
- (iv) US \$1 million technical assistance to help the Andhra Pradesh Government implement policy reforms.

Decline in export of leather products

49. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of leather products from the country is consistently on the decline and leather industry in the country particularly in Maharashtra is facing acute shortage of raw material that is leather;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons behind this scenario; and

(c) what action Government proposes to take to revive the leather industry in the country including Maharashtra and improve the export of leather products from the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The export of leather, leather products and footwear from India in 2016-17 was US\$ 5.65 billion and increased to US\$ 5.74 billion in 2017-18 as per DGCIS. The industry in the country including Maharashtra is not facing any shortage of leather.

(c) The Government of India has notified a special package namely Indian Footwear, Leather and Accessories Development Programme (IFLADP) with an approved outlay of ₹2600 crores from 2017-18 to 2019-20. The package includes grant of assistance to leather manufacturing units including tanneries for modernization, technology up-gradation & capacity expansion and establishment/up-gradation of Common Effluents Treatment Plants (CEPTs). The Government has reduced GST for finished leather from 12% to 5%; for leather goods, leather garments, saddlery and harness, belts, gloves etc., from 28% to 18%; for certain chemicals from 28% to 18% and extension of additional 2% scrip under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) for notified leather, leather products and footwear beyond June 30, 2018.

Bilateral trade with neighbouring countries

50. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the country's bilateral trade with neighbouring countries, country-wise details thereof; and

(b) what action Government has taken/ proposes to take to substantially increase bilateral trade with neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The value of India's bilateral trade with neighbouring countries, country-wise, for 2017-18 and for the current year 2018-19 (for the period April-May 2018), is furnished below:

Country in South Asia	2017-18		2018-19 (April - May) (Provisional)	
	Indian Exports	Imports into India	Indian Exports	Imports into India
Afghanistan	709.75	433.78	119.38	50.67
Bangladesh	8,460.34	685.64	1,419.49	134.41
Bhutan	541.69	373.35	113.78	44.03
Maldives	217	5.68	39.05	0.64
Nepal	6,597.09	438.38	1,297.21	65.31
Pakistan	1,924.31	488.56	405.66	65.14
Sri Lanka	4,476.33	772.64	676.27	143.17
TOTAL	22,926.51	3,198.02	4,070.84	503.37

Data Source: DGCIS database

(b) The Government has taken various steps for increasing bilateral trade with neighbouring countries in South Asia. Efforts have been made to improve the trade infrastructure which, *inter-alia*, include upgradation of Land Customs Stations, establishment of Integrated Check Posts/Border Haats, facilitation of bilateral and sub-regional connectivity, etc. Trade liberalisation is being carried out under SAFTA by India/ other SAARC countries to encourage enhanced trade. The Government also continues to engage pro-actively with SAARC countries to strengthen trade and economic relations. Bilateral and multilateral trade discussions, held with these countries from time to time, explore mechanisms for enhancement of trade. Further, assistance is provided under Market Access Initiative (MAI) to Indian exporters, Export Promotion Councils, apex trade-bodies etc., for enhancing exports through participation in events in foreign countries, including countries in neighbourhood.

Formulation of new Industrial Policy

51. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is formulating new Industrial Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) the details of steps taken to set up more industries in rural areas; and
- (d) what is the policy of Government to provide assistance to educated rural youths for setting up industry under the 'Make in India' programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is in the process of formulating a new Industrial Policy. The proposed vision is to create a globally competitive Indian industry driven by innovation, speed and ease, competitiveness, quality and sustainability. The underlying goals include advancing India as leader in emerging technologies, increasing technological depth in Indian industry, reducing environmental footprint of industry and increasing employment avenues in industry.

(c) and (d) The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is implementing Plan schemes for providing special incentives for industrially less developed regions like the North-East, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. 'Make in India' initiative aims to make India a hub for manufacturing, design and innovation. It focuses on infrastructure, simplified processes, job creation, skill development and fostering innovation in select thrust sectors. This initiative is based on four pillars of New processes, New infrastructure, New sectors and New mindset, which have been identified to give boost not only to manufacturing but also in other sectors. In addition to the opening up of new sectors and enhancement of caps for existing sectors, various conditionalities for foreign investments have also been simplified. The Government has also taken up a series of measures to improve Ease of Doing Business. The emphasis has been on simplification and rationalization of the existing rules and introduction of information technology to make governance more efficient and effective.

Blocking of WTO ministerial declaration agreement

52. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the US has alleged that India blocked the ministerial declaration agreement of World Trade Organization;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the Marrakesh Agreement was not in India's interest; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) In the 2018 Trade Policy Agenda and 2017 Annual Report of the President of the United States, it is stated that at the end of the conference (the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) held in Buenos Aires in December 2017), the United States and all Members, except India, were prepared to sign a short Ministerial Declaration.

It is a fact that India could not support the proposed draft of the Ministerial Declaration as it excluded or failed to adequately include important issues such as multilateralism, the Doha Development Agenda and Special and Differential Treatment of developing countries.

(c) and (d) The Marrakesh Agreement of 1995 established the World Trade Organization (WTO). The Agreement aims to achieve certain objectives through the multilateral trading system, such as, raising living standards, ensuring full employment, ensuring a large and steadily growing volume of real income and effective demand and expanding the production of, and trade in, goods and services, while allowing for the optimal use of the world's resources in accordance with the objective of sustainable development.

The Agreement also recognizes the need for positive efforts to ensure that developing countries, and especially the least-developed among them, secure a share in the growth in international trade commensurate with the needs of their economic development.

With these objectives in mind, the WTO rules have been framed and adopted through a process of consensus. India, like many other developing countries, has joined the consensus while ensuring that its trade interests are protected. The trade rules of the WTO, its dispute settlement mechanism and methods of decision-making provide stability and predictability to the global trading system. As a developing country, India has been able to get the benefit of various special and differential treatment provisions in the WTO Agreements. These special provisions include, for example, longer time periods for implementing Agreements and commitments or measures to increase trading opportunities for developing countries. The opening in the global markets has helped Indian trade both in goods and services.

Interest Equalisation Scheme

53. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives of the Interest Equalisation Scheme;
- (b) whether Government has raised budget allocation for the scheme in the recent budget;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details regarding subsidy given under the scheme for promotion of labour intensive sectors which promote employment;
- (e) whether Government has State-wise details of subsidy given under the scheme; and
- (f) if so, the details in respect of Rajasthan and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The objective of the Interest Equalisation Scheme is to help the identified export sectors to be internationally competitive and achieve higher level of export performance.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. BE for FY 2018-19 under the Scheme is ₹ 2500 crore. RE for FY 2017-18 was ₹ 2000 crore.

(d) The scheme covers mostly labour intensive and employment generating sectors like processed agriculture/food items, handicrafts, handmade carpet, handloom products, coir and coir manufactures, jute raw and yarn and other jute manufactures, readymade garments and made ups covered under Chapter 61-63, fabrics of all types, toys, sports goods, paper and stationary, Cosmetics and Toiletries, Leather Goods and footwear, Ceramics and Allied Products, Glass and Glassware, Medical and Scientific Instruments, Optical Frames, Lenses, Sunglasses Etc., Auto Components/Parts, Bicycle & Parts, Articles of Iron or Steel (Notified lines), Misc. Articles of base metals (Notified lines), Industrial Machinery, Electrical and Engineering items, IC Engine, Machine tools, Parts (Notified lines), Electrical Machinery and Equipment (Notified lines), Telecom Instruments (Notified lines) and all items manufactured by SMEs other than those covered above. Details of fund released to RBI under the scheme are as under:-

Year	Budget Estimates (in crore)	Revised Estimates (in crore)	Actual Expenditure (in crore)
2015-16	1625	1100	1100
2016-17	1000	1000	1000
2017-18	1100	2000	2000
2018-19	2500	2500	729 (till date)

(e) and (f) No Sir. The department does not have state wise data.

Failure of WTO meeting

54. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the first time in more than two decades in the history of the World Trade Organization, India was not blamed for the failure of a meeting of the global organization's apex decision making body as witnessed in the Argentine capital;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it is more important as India was pilloried for earlier failure;

(c) whether India gained goodwill of the rest of the world due to its firm stand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Decisions at the WTO are taken by consensus and each member has equal voice in the decision making process. Members, including India, take stand on issues based on their national interests.

India participated in a positive spirit in the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the WTO, the apex decision-making body of the organization, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in December 2017. India worked proactively with other WTO member countries across issues to constructively find a way forward in various areas of negotiations. Towards this end India was a proponent in nearly all agenda items under consideration. India had created strong coalitions based on common interests in agriculture and other areas. India stood firm on its stand on the fundamental principles of the WTO including multilateralism, rule-based consensual decision-making, an independent and credible

dispute resolution and appellate process, the centrality of development and Special and Differential Treatment for all developing countries.

(c) and (d) Given India's positive and constructive engagement in good faith in all areas of work and issues discussed at the 11th Ministerial Conference and the stand taken by us, India gained goodwill from a large number of developing countries who were our coalition partners on key issues.

Startup India Virtual Hub

55. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Startup India Virtual Hub' launched by Government has developed an entrepreneurial eco-system in the country in all sectors including agriculture in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, sector-wise; and

(c) the details of benefits that can be accrued to common man by 'Startup India Virtual Hub'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. 'Startup India Virtual Hub' launched by Government has developed an entrepreneurial eco-system in the country in all sectors including agriculture. "Startup India Virtual Hub" is a one stop digital platform, which serves as a virtual incubator to Startups that provides access to information, knowledge, industry programmes, Government schemes and networking opportunities within Startup community. Startup India Virtual Hub portal was launched in June 2017. There are presently 2,35,441 registered users on the portal. As per optional information provided by registered users, sector-wise categorization is given in the Statement (See below).

(c) The details of benefits which can be accrued by all Startups and Startup aspirants are as under:

- (i) Pro-bono services such as legal consultation, business advisory and products such as cloud credits, software suites, App building tools available for free.
- (ii) Knowledge modules through aggregation of online learning programmes and Market research reports.
- (iii) Discover and apply to all relevant government schemes for the Startup Ecosystem.

Statement*Sector-wise categorisation*

Industry/Sector	Number of Users
IT Services	1677
Healthcare & Lifesciences	1135
Education	971
Agriculture	932
Food & Beverages	580
Internet of Things	561
Finance Technology	549
Professional & Commercial Services	487
Green Technology	468
Renewable Energy	444
Enterprise Software	426
Technology Hardware	423
Marketing	405
Retail	375
AI	350
Travel & Tourism	297
Transportation & Storage	275
Media & Entertainment	269
Social Impact	261
Automotive	259
Analytics	254
Construction	221
Social Network	215
Human Resources	208
Telecommunication & Networking	202

Industry/Sector	Number of Users
Fashion	200
AR VR (Augmented + Virtual Reality)	199
Design	198
Advertising	189
Textiles & Apparel	181
Robotics	163
Others	150
Security Solutions	136
Real Estate	132
Aeronautics Aerospace & Defence	126
Events	118
House-Hold Services	111
Other Speciality Retailers	100
Sports	99
Computer Vision	89
Art & Photography	82
Chemicals	75
Architecture Interior Design	67
Safety	60
Non- Renewable Energy	59
Nanotechnology	57
Animation	43
Pets & Animals	39
Dating Matrimonial	25

Invitation to Commerce Ministers for meeting on WTO issues

56. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India invited Commerce Ministers from various nations to attend an informal meeting concerning issues of World Trade Organization;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government extended an invitation to Commerce Minister of Pakistan as well; and
- (d) whether Government received confirmation from all those countries whose Ministers were invited for the said purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. India hosted an Informal Ministerial Meeting of World Trade Organization (WTO) members on 19-20 March, 2018 in New Delhi, for which Ministers responsible for WTO matters in various member countries as well as Director General of the WTO were invited. India is a strong supporter of the multilateral trading system and has been working constructively with members of the WTO to ensure that multilateralism is strengthened through collaborative efforts. It is in this spirit that India hosted this meeting with the objective of facilitating an exchange of views on various issues and challenges relating to the multilateral trading system.

- (c) Yes Sir.
- (d) Out of the 53 Members of the WTO (including the European Union) to whom invitations were sent, 51 Members and the Director General of the WTO attended the meeting at Minister or Vice Minister or official levels.

Impact of increasing import tariff on steel by the US

57. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India will be severely impacted by US Government's plans to impose hefty import tariff on steel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that US imports only 2 per cent of steel from India; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the said move will certainly affect some exports of steel to the US?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) As per the report (dated January 11, 2018) of the investigation conducted under Section 232 of the U.S. Trade Expansion Act of 1962, (as amended), by U.S. Department of Commerce (Bureau of Industry and Security, Office of Technology Evaluation), out of 35,927,141 Metric Tons of Steel products imported by United States in 2017 (annualized), imports from India were only 854,026 Metric Tons, *i.e.*, around 2.4% of total U.S. imports.

In 2017-18, India exported Steel and Steel products worth USD 1.98 billion to U.S. out of which exports of USD 0.62 billion fall under the tariff lines on which the United States has imposed tariff of 25%. India's steel exports to the U.S., under the said tariff lines, are hence likely to be impacted.

Renewal of 'Make in India' programme

58. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to renew 'Make in India' programme of 2014 as 'Make in India 2.0' with a focus on ten champion sectors;

(b) the reasons for the ambit of the scheme being reduced to ten sectors from earlier twenty five;

(c) on what basis were the ten sectors selected out of the earlier twenty five;

(d) the list of ten champion sectors and all twenty five in total; and

(e) whether this step is being taken due to lukewarm response to a majority of sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) 'Make in India' initiative launched in 2014 along with action plans prepared for 25 sectors has been reviewed and is now focusing on 27 sectors. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion is coordinating action plans

for 15 manufacturing sectors while Department of Commerce is coordinating 12 service sectors. The list of earlier 25 sectors being coordinated under Make in India and new revised list of 27 sectors are given in the Statement-I and II.

Statement-I

List of 25 Sectors under 'Make in India' initiative

1. Automobile
2. Automobile Components
3. Aviation
4. Biotechnology
5. Chemical
6. Construction
7. Defence Manufacturing
8. Electrical Machinery
9. Electronic Systems
10. Food Processing
11. IT and BPM
12. Leather
13. Media and Entertainment
14. Mining
15. Oil and Gas
16. Pharmaceuticals
17. Ports and Shipping
18. Railways
19. Renewable Energy
20. Roads and Highways
21. Space
22. Textile and Garments
23. Thermal Power
24. Tourism and Hospitality
25. Wellness

Statement-II*Revised list of 27 Sectors under 'Make in India' initiative*

1. Aerospace and Defence
2. Automotive and Auto Components
3. Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices
4. Bio-Technology
5. Capital Goods
6. Textile and Apparels
7. Chemicals and Petro chemicals
8. Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM)
9. Leather & Footwear
10. Food Processing
11. Gems and Jewelry
12. Shipping
13. Railways
14. Construction
15. New and Renewable Energy
16. Information Technology & Information Technology enabled Services (IT & ITeS)
17. Tourism and Hospitality Services
18. Medical Value Travel
19. Transport and Logistics Services
20. Accounting and Finance Services
21. Audio Visual Services
22. Legal Services
23. Communication Services
24. Construction and Related Engineering Services
25. Environmental Services
26. Financial Services
27. Education Services

Outcome of US-India Bilateral Trade Policy Forum meet

59. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the outcome of the recent US-India Bilateral Trade Policy Forum (TPF) meet;

(b) whether it is a fact that under the new regime, Indian IT professionals working in the US on H-1B Visa do not get back their contribution to social security which runs into US 1 billion dollars annually;

(c) whether it means that there is a mismatch between US Visa and US Social Security regimes; and

(d) how the Ministry is planning to address this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) India and the United States have established institutional mechanism in the form of Trade Policy Forum to resolve bilateral trade issues. The last India-United States Bilateral Trade Policy Forum meeting was held on 26th October, 2017 at Washington D.C. The Indian side was led by Hon'ble CIM Shri Suresh Prabhu and United States side was led by Ambassador Robert Lighthizer. The discussions focussed on taking forward the outstanding bilateral trade issues in the areas of Intellectual Property Rights, Market Access for agricultural commodities, Non-agriculture goods and Services.

(b) and (c) It has been the policy of the U.S. government that under the U.S. Social Security Act, non-immigrant foreign workers, including Indians, are required to complete a contribution period of 40 quarters or 10 years before they qualify for social security benefits. The non-immigrant visa-holders on H-1B and L-1 visas are allowed residence for a maximum of 7 years. Due to this mismatch between the U.S. visa regime and U.S. Social Security regime, all non-immigrant visa-holders on H-1B and L-1 visas from countries with whom the U.S. does not have social security agreement, including Indian nationals, cannot claim the social security benefits on return to their country.

(d) The issue of social security agreement with the United States has been taken up with the U.S. Government from time to time, including in all recent ministerial-level discussions. The US side has held its position that the Indian social security system does not meet the criteria under Section 233 of the US Social Security Act which

prevents them from concluding a totalization agreement with India. It has been urged by the Government of India that the U.S. Government should revisit its position and work towards achieving a totalization agreement with India.

New strategy on trade competitiveness

60. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government wishes Indian Industry to be more open to competition from overseas goods;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering a new strategy where trade will form 40 per cent of the economy in the coming years;

(c) whether the strategy will look at how to have bilateral and multilateral deals to move to a US 5 trillion dollars economy with exports being US 1 trillion dollars as part of the strategy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Trade facilitation is a priority of the Government for cutting down the transaction cost and time, thereby rendering Indian exports more competitive. The various provisions of FTP and measures taken by the Government in the direction of trade facilitation are focused on benefiting the stakeholders for enhancing exports.

(b) to (d) Steps taken by Department of Commerce to promote exports:

- Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 and Mid-term review notified in December 2017, focused on encouraging exports by MSMEs and Labour Intensive Industries. FTP was aligned with the GST regime.
- Interest Equalization scheme on Pre and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit which helped in accessing credit at reduced rates was introduced.
- A new logistic division was created in DOC to focus on improving logistics efficiency and enhancing growth.
- A new scheme namely TIES was launched which provided matching assistance for setting up and up-gradation of infrastructure projects with overwhelming

export linkages: Border Haats, Land customs stations, quality testing, certification labs and cold chains etc.

- Facilitating Transparency through Ease of Doing Business and IT initiatives
- DGFT and SEZ online integrated with customs ICEGATE.
- Import Export Code(IEC) integrated with PAN and MoU signed with GSTN for complete registration.
- State Governments provided access to DGCI&S export data in real time.

Steps taken to increase exports are an ongoing process. Focus on Product and Market Specific strategies are part of this process for achieving an accelerated growth in exports, both Merchandise and Services. Appropriate adoption of these proposed measures and their rightful implementation would ensure India achieving significant boost in exports in the coming years. Indian economy is globally integrated. Several Indian products are globally competitive. Through a focused exports strategy involving all stakeholders, it should be possible to achieve a higher share of exports in the GDP.

Registration of patents

61. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) how many patents have been registered during the last three years, the State-wise/sector-wise details thereof, in Jharkhand and Gujarat in particular;
- (b) the number and details of patents registered in different countries during the last three years, country-wise;
- (c) the steps Government is planning to make patent registration easier and hassle- free; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to set up innovation centers across the country on the line of iCreate in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) The number of patents granted during the last three years is as under:

2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
6326	9847	13045

Based on the address of the patent applicant, the state-wise figures for grant of patents for the last three years are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Based on the field of invention, the figures for grant of patents for last three years are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(b) The latest figures for country-wise grant of patents, as available on the website of World Intellectual Property Organisation, pertain to the three years 2014, 2015 and 2016 are given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

(c) The Government has taken several steps to simplify the procedure for processing of patent applications and make it user-friendly. These steps, *inter-alia*, include the following:

- (i) To address the issue of lack of technical manpower for examination and disposal of patent applications, available manpower has been augmented through creation of new posts.
- (ii) Recruitment has been completed for 459 posts of Examiners of Patents and Designs.
- (iii) Further, 84 new posts of Examiners and 95 posts of Controllers have been sanctioned.
- (iv) Patent Rules have been amended and notified on 16.05.2016 to simplify procedures for disposal of patent applications. The salient amendments include:
 - (a) Provisions have been included for condonation of delay due to war/natural calamities.
 - (b) For the first time, refund of fees in certain cases has been permitted, as also withdrawal of application being permitted without any fees.
 - (c) Timelines have been imposed to ensure speedy disposal, while the number of admissible adjournments has been limited.
 - (d) Applications can be transferred electronically from any of the Patent Office branches to another, utilizing specialized technical manpower more efficiently.

- (e) Expedited Examination is now permitted on certain grounds.
- (f) Hearing through video conferencing has been permitted.
- (v) IPO website has been updated to make it more interactive, informative, user-friendly and transparent.
- (vi) In order to facilitate the examination work and optimise the speed and quality of examination, number of measures *viz.*, computerised work-flow, automation and IT enablement in the functioning has been implemented.
- (d) No, Sir.

Statement-I

Based on the address of the patent applicant, the state-wise figures for grant of patents for the last three years

State name	Year of grant		
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	11	66	104
Assam	5	5	6
Bihar	0	1	0
Chandigarh	7	9	8
Chhattisgarh	1	0	5
Delhi	196	277	451
Goa	0	1	5
Gujarat	35	50	60
Haryana	18	18	37
Himachal Pradesh	0	1	5
Jharkhand	44	27	90
Karnataka	118	196	143
Kerala	7	14	23
Madhya Pradesh	1	0	9

1	2	3	4
Maharashtra	313	353	474
Mizoram	0	0	1
Odisha	4	8	13
Pondicherry	0	0	2
Punjab	8	17	25
Rajasthan	7	5	17
Tamil Nadu	52	138	153
Telangana	1	10	11
Uttar Pradesh	34	22	65
Uttarakhand	1	2	7
West Bengal	67	84	158

Statement-II

Based on the field of invention, the figures for grant of patents for last three years

Field of Invention	Patents Granted		
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
1	2	3	4
Agriculture engineering	2	4	24
Agrochemicals	45	97	125
Bio-chemistry	52	73	142
Bio-medical engineering	69	167	145
Biotechnology	185	333	579
Chemical	1683	2673	3284
Civil	60	100	121
Communication	414	805	983
Computer & electronics	810	1049	1005
Electrical	362	579	809

1	2	3	4
Food	32	71	105
General engineering	142	228	296
Mechanical engineering	1414	1939	2461
Metallurgy	94	182	422
Micro biology	44	81	108
Pharmaceuticals	370	551	732
Physics	175	260	556
Polymer Science/technology	279	562	741
Textile	94	93	179
Others/Miscellaneous			228
	6326	9847	13045

Statement-III

Data for grant of country-wise patents available on the website of World Intellectual Property Organisation pertaining to last three years

Sl. No.	Office	2014	2015	2016
1.	Albania	5	10	5
2.	Algeria	0	353	383
3.	Argentina	1360	1559	1879
4.	Armenia	108	81	93
5.	Australia	19304	23098	23744
6.	Austria	962	1356	1135
7.	Azerbaijan	97	88	131
8.	Bahamas	238	192	47
9.	Bangladesh	121	0	0
10.	Barbados	3	10	26
11.	Belarus	1938	902	949
12.	Belgium	373	567	1620

Sl. No.	Office	2014	2015	2016
13.	Belize	28	8	4
14.	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	97	0	86
15.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	5	0	12
16.	Botswana	0	0	1
17.	Brazil	2749	3411	4195
18.	Brunei Darussalam	0	0	0
19.	Bulgaria	72	37	42
20.	Cambodia	0	1	0
21.	Canada	23749	22201	26424
22.	Chile	1168	1058	2077
23.	China	233228	359316	404208
24.	China, Hong Kong SAR	5932	5963	5698
25.	China, Macao SAR	16	36	57
26.	Colombia	1212	1003	917
27.	Costa Rica	114	130	67
28.	Croatia	90	45	35
29.	Cuba	94	0	93
30.	Czech Republic	688	749	781
31.	Denmark	292	430	409
32.	Dominican Republic	62	24	21
33.	Ecuador	20	14	10
34.	Egypt	415	472	450
35.	El Salvador	77	35	40
36.	Estonia	38	24	27
37.	Eswatini	2	2	0
38.	Finland	787	931	815

Sl. No.	Office	2014	2015	2016
39.	France	11889	12699	12374
40.	Georgia	209	206	177
41.	Germany	15030	14795	15652
42.	Ghana	0	0	25
43.	Greece	316	262	271
44.	Grenada	0	9	14
45.	Guatemala	105	51	52
46.	Guyana	1	0	57
47.	Honduras	0	69	53
48.	Hungary	376	365	271
49.	Iceland	54	17	22
50.	India	6153	6022	8248
51.	Indonesia	0	0	3674
52.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	3060	0	3268
53.	Iraq	0	312	0
54.	Ireland	148	126	164
55.	Israel	3984	4492	4938
56.	Italy	7795	7153	6429
57.	Jamaica	28	74	5
58.	Japan	227142	189358	203087
59.	Jordan	115	83	121
60.	Kazakhstan	1504	1504	0
61.	Kenya	53	24	26
62.	Kyrgyzstan	100	111	120
63.	Latvia	141	147	68
64.	Lebanon	316	279	0
65.	Lithuania	120	133	103

Sl. No.	Office	2014	2015	2016
66.	Luxembourg	152	153	184
67.	Madagascar	24	23	19
68.	Malawi	0	1	7
69.	Malaysia	2705	2877	3324
70.	Malta	4	10	6
71.	Mauritius	9	4	2
72.	Mexico	9819	9338	8652
73.	Monaco	5	8	9
74.	Mongolia	216	234	157
75.	Montenegro	14	10	8
76.	Morocco	0	0	352
77.	Mozambique	60	54	35
78.	Nepal	0	2	0
79.	Netherlands	1722	1377	1914
80.	New Zealand	4677	4259	3910
81.	Nicaragua	62	0	0
82.	Norway	1413	1446	2525
83.	Pakistan	185	131	214
84.	Panama	166	0	13
85.	Papua New Guinea	0	70	0
86.	Patent Office of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf	503	662	673
87.	Peru	332	362	403
88.	Philippines	2159	2200	4006
89.	Poland	2852	2572	3548
90.	Portugal	97	76	38

Sl. No.	Office	2014	2015	2016
91.	Republic of Korea	129786	101873	108875
92.	Republic of Moldova	54	0	70
93.	Romania	356	305	355
94.	Russian Federation	33950	34706	33536
95.	Samoa	0	64	0
96.	San Marino	201	290	462
97.	Saudi Arabia	561	763	595
98.	Serbia	105	86	68
99.	Singapore	5538	7054	7341
100.	Slovakia	94	82	122
101.	South Africa	5065	4499	4255
102.	Spain	3235	2561	2308
103.	Sri Lanka	0	262	123
104.	Sudan	0	196	164
105.	Sweden	588	889	866
106.	Switzerland	677	687	617
107.	Syrian Arab Republic	0	14	0
108.	Thailand	1286	1364	1838
109.	Trinidad and Tobago	39	33	60
110.	Tunisia	0	0	583
111.	Turkey	1276	1723	1764
112.	Uganda	1	0	0
113.	Ukraine	3319	3014	2813
114.	United Arab Emirates	110	177	0
115.	United Kingdom	4986	5464	5602
116.	United Republic of Tanzania	4	1	0

Sl. No.	Office	2014	2015	2016
117.	United States of America	300678	140970	303049
118.	Uruguay	31	19	0
119.	Uzbekistan	179	153	166
120.	Viet Nam	1397	1388	1423
121.	Yemen	20	15	0
122.	Zambia	23	0	0

Lynching in the name of child lifting

†62. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the incidents involving the lynching of people based on rumours of them being child-lifters are being reported continuously in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any conspiracy behind such incidents; and
- (d) the States where the incidents of lynching in the name of child lifting have been reported during the last three years and the total number of deaths caused thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (d) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain specific data with respect to lynching incidents in the country. 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order and protect life and property, therefore, rests with the respective State Governments.

The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. The Ministry of Home Affairs have, however, issued advisory to the States and UTs, from time to time, to maintain law and order and ensure that any person who takes law into his/her own hand is punished promptly as per law. Such an

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

advisory was also issued to the States and UTs on 04.07.2018. State Governments and UT Administration have been advised to keep watch for early detection of such trends of circulation of rumours having potential for violence, and take all required measures to counter them effectively and to deal firmly with persons taking law into their own hands.

Crimes against women and girls

†63. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken to prevent crimes against women and girls in the context of an image of India presented in an international report with regard to growing crimes against women in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that the expected decrease in the crimes against women is not being achieved even after the implementation of criminal law (Amendment) Act, 2013 after Nirbhaya Case in the year 2012;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of various crimes committed against women during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Government's attention has been drawn to a recent report in the media about a poll on image of India. The said report is not based on any scientific survey but is a poll of a statistically insignificant sample of persons and presents a distorted picture of the comparative state of women safety in different countries. The said polling survey has been rejected by the National Commission for Women as it is based on perception and flawed methodology.

However, steps have been taken for increasing safety of women, which include, inter-alia:

(i) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance 2018 has put in place a regime which prescribes stringent punishment against rapes, including death penalty.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (ii) Government has undertaken a project for developing an Emergency Response Support System based on a Pan-India 24X7 Helpline Number 112, and accessible through call/SMS/email panic button etc.
- (iii) Government has issued advisories to States/UTs to take measures for prevention crimes against women and stressing on mandatory registration of FIRs, providing on-line complaint filing system, increasing representation of women in Police, gender sensitization of police, deployment of Special Mahila Police Volunteers, activating victim compensation fund, setting up of Anti-human Trafficking units, etc. Details of these advisories issued are available on website of Ministry of Home Affairs at <https://mha.gov.in>.
- (iv) A separate portal for Cyber-Crime against women and children has been commenced.
- (v) In order to facilitate better investigation and prosecution in rape cases, modernization and capacity building of forensic labs has been undertaken.
- (vi) Government has approved safe-city projects for 8 cities to put in place comprehensive infrastructure, technological and community based interventions for women safety.
- (vii) Government has commenced development of a National Database on Sexual Offenders to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country.

(b) and (c) After the implementation of Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 after Nirbhaya case in the year 2012, an increase in registration of cases of crime against women has been observed, which may be *inter-alia* attributed to higher compliance of mandatory registration of FIRs, advisories issued by MHA in the matter to States, sensitization of police, higher media coverage, and public awareness on lodging of cases.

(d) Latest published data is available till the year 2016. The details of cases registered for crimes against women during 2014-2016 is as below:

Year	No. of cases registered
2014	339457
2015	329243
2016	338954

AFSPA in Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh

64. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to revoke the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in Meghalaya and reduce its ambit in Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to revisit the B.P. Jeevan Reddy Committee report of 2005, which had recommended the repeal of the AFSPA altogether; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In view of improved security situation in Meghalaya and in certain areas of Arunachal Pradesh bordering Assam:

(i) disturbed area under Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, (AFSPA) for 10 km. belt in Meghalaya bordering Assam, was not extended beyond 31.3.2018.

(ii) areas under AFSPA in the districts of Arunachal Pradesh have been reduced from 16 police stations/police out post earlier to 8 police stations bordering the State of Assam besides continuing of AFSPA in Tirap, Changlang and Longding districts of Arunachal Pradesh.

The decision to issue notification for declaring 'disturbed area' under AFSPA, is taken periodically after making an objective assessment of the ground situation in consultation with security agencies and the concerned state Governments.

Exodus of hindu families in Uttar Pradesh

†65. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Hindu families are forced to flee Banhera Khas village of Deoband, Saharanpur district of Uttar Pradesh;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the information regarding the incidents of such forced exodus and the steps being taken by Government to prevent such type of exodus; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) A report in this regard has been received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. As per report, no matter related to exodus of Hindu families in Banhera Khas village of Deoband, Saharanpur has been reported.

Kidnapping of young women and children

66. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidents of kidnapping of young women and children have increased in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to formulate new guidelines/ standard operating procedures and setting up of a unified command for tracking kidnapped/ missing young women and children; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to develop mechanism for regular monitoring and supervision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) As per the inputs received from National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), State/UT-wise details of young women (19-30 years) and children under Kidnapping and Abduction during 2014-2016 are given in the Statement-I and II, respectively (*See* below). The latest data pertains to the year 2016.

(c) and (d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens rest primarily with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. However, Ministry of Women and Child Development in order to provide outreach services to the missing children or needy children, is operating Child

Helpline No. 1098, which is operational 24/7. Apart from this, Railway Childlines at major railway platforms are also being operated to provide assistance to any needy child. In addition to this, Ministry of Women and Child Development has developed a national tracking system for missing and vulnerable children *i.e.* Track Child portal and it has been implemented across the country. The URL of TrackChild is www.trackthemissingchild.gov.in.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has also launched Khoya-Paya on 2nd June, 2015 which is an enabling platform, where citizens can report missing children as well as sightings of their whereabouts without loosing much time. Found children can also be reported. Khoya-Paya has been integrated as a module under the citizen corner in TrackChild.

In addition, Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been prepared for tracing of missing children, and has been circulated to all the States and UTs for further dissemination to all other stake holders such as Police, Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs) etc. This SOP lays down the uniform guidelines for expediting the research and rehabilitation of a missing child all over the country.

Statement-I

Total Kidnapped and Abducted Young Women during 2014-2016

Sl. No.	State/UT	Young Women 19 to 30 years		
		2014	2015	2016
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	217	197	172
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	38	27	39
3.	Assam	2534	3093	3120
4.	Bihar	3157	3699	2754
5.	Chhattisgarh	91	124	46
6.	Goa	12	3	19
7.	Gujarat	363	306	260
8.	Haryana	1131	1166	1159
9.	Himachal Pradesh	76	70	44

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	521	686	499
11.	Jharkhand	671	834	516
12.	Karnataka	394	370	332
13.	Kerala	23	43	25
14.	Madhya Pradesh	853	933	684
15.	Maharashtra	532	689	731
16.	Manipur	45	38	37
17.	Meghalaya	24	25	24
18.	Mizoram	1	1	0
19.	Nagaland	8	7	14
20.	Odisha	1489	1556	1331
21.	Punjab	427	462	334
22.	Rajasthan	2364	2241	2074
23.	Sikkim	1	13	1
24.	Tamil Nadu	1005	843	665
25.	Telangana	218	240	249
26.	Tripura	19	34	27
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4673	4009	4352
28.	Uttarakhand	132	89	150
29.	West Bengal	1868	1809	1855
TOTAL (STATES)		22887	23607	21513
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	13	1	0
31.	Chandigarh	21	41	26
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	3	0
34.	Delhi UT	383	498	385

1	2	3	4	5
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	1	9	0
TOTAL (UTs)		419	552	411
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		23306	24159	21924

Source: Crime in India

Statement-II

Total Kidnapped and Abducted Children during 2014-2016

Children

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014			2015			2016		
		m	f	T	m	f	T	m	f	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	63	539	602	93	433	526	81	396	477
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15	66	81	38	102	140	10	48	58
3.	Assam	61	91	152	54	329	383	534	917	1451
4.	Bihar	132	1453	1585	223	1008	1231	511	2746	3257
5.	Chhattisgarh	542	1342	1884	663	1227	1890	579	1475	2054
6.	Goa	68	77	145	39	69	108	45	57	102
7.	Gujarat	352	1783	2135	371	1255	1626	371	1939	2310
8.	Haryana	318	533	851	403	878	1281	265	1035	1300
9.	Himachal Pradesh	60	158	218	86	163	249	88	164	252
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	138	139	58	189	247	21	147	168
11.	Jharkhand	25	69	94	49	64	113	91	197	288
12.	Karnataka	150	1037	1187	368	1296	1664	682	1585	2267
13.	Kerala	17	115	132	22	149	171	18	145	163

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1847	4546	6393	1716	3590	5306	2023	4091	6114
15.	Maharashtra	940	1769	2709	2579	4571	7150	2762	5498	8260
16.	Manipur	6	64	70	7	51	58	5	62	67
17.	Meghalaya	26	17	43	22	26	48	43	34	77
18.	Mizoram	0	2	2	6	5	11	3	3	6
19.	Nagaland	3	4	7	17	24	41	23	30	53
20.	Odisha	118	684	802	202	793	995	210	937	1147
21.	Punjab	199	714	913	175	784	959	152	874	1026
22.	Rajasthan	426	1404	1830	387	1324	1711	567	1353	1920
23.	Sikkim	5	14	19	0	4	4	0	11	11
24.	Tamil Nadu	9	386	395	30	373	403	35	339	374
25.	Telangana	173	464	637	229	400	629	121	638	759
26.	Tripura	8	80	88	19	77	96	8	96	104
27.	Uttar Pradesh	461	5415	5876	505	5428	5933	1475	8203	9678
28.	Uttarakhand	66	209	275	272	200	472	212	224	436
29.	West Bengal	408	1953	2361	543	1424	1967	782	2879	3661
TOTAL (STATES)		6499	25126	31625	9176	26236	35412	11717	36123	47840
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2	13	15	9	21	30	4	22	26
31.	Chandigarh	33	101	134	60	124	184	60	99	159
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	6	8	5	9	14	5	5	10
33.	Daman and Diu	1	5	6	16	9	25	19	9	28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
34.	Delhi UT	2987	3771	6758	3407	3915	7322	2679	3575	6254
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	3	6	9	1	5	6	2	9	11
TOTAL (UTs)		3028	3902	6930	3498	4083	7581	2769	3719	6488
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		9527	29028	38555	12674	30319	42993	14486	39842	54328

Source: Crime in India

Security forces personnel killed in LWE hit States

67. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of security forces personnel who were killed in nine Left Wing Extremism hit States during the last three years;

(b) whether the security personnel are being targeted by the extremists in the country due to glaring lack of preparedness and technical faults;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) the other steps taken by Government to control extremism in the country and lift the morale of security forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) 199 Security Forces personnel have been martyred in Left Wing Extremism affected States in the period 2015 to 2017.

(b) and (c) No. Security Forces personnel are being provided adequate training, specialized equipment and logistic support required to deal with the operational situation in the theatre of deployment. New technologies are continuously being inducted to enhance operational effectiveness of the forces.

(d) The Government has a holistic approach towards combating LWE wherein it supplements the efforts of the State Governments over a wide range of measures. A National Policy and Action Plan has been put in place that envisages a multi-pronged

strategy involving security related measures, developmental interventions and ensuring rights & entitlements of local communities etc. Security related measures include assistance to LWE affected States by providing CAPF Bns, helicopters, UAVs, construction of fortified police stations, funds for modernization of State Police forces, arms and equipment, training assistance, sharing of intelligence etc. On development side, apart from flagship schemes of the Central Government in infrastructure, education, health, skill development, agriculture etc., several initiatives have been taken specifically for development of LWE affected areas. These include focused schemes for development of roads, installation of mobile towers, skill development, improving network of banks and post offices, health and education facilities, particularly in the 35 worst affected districts. Recently the Government has approved the Special Central Assistance Scheme which envisages an outlay of Rs 1000 Cr per annum for three years for the 35 worst affected LWE districts to cover gaps in critical infrastructure and services.

The Government has been taking several measures to ensure good morale of CAPF personnel. Additional allowances/incentives to personnel in terms of Risk Allowance, HRA and extension of facility for retention of Government accommodation at the last place of posting is already in place. In addition, insurance schemes and various advances/loans are in place to ensure financial well being. Basic facilities like proper accommodation and amenities at the place of deployment are being ensured. Better medical facilities, evacuation of injured by helicopters, timely grant of entitled leave, better promotional avenues, gallantry awards, rewards/appreciations, prompt grievance redressal, better officer-men interaction, monitoring of mental health and measures for stress management are being ensured.

Procurement of weapons for civilian purposes

68. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chalked out any strategy to procure and use guns compatible to use of rubber bullets for effective control of riots in the country, minimising the loss of deaths due to firing;

(b) whether Government has devised any new initiatives and policies to decide on procurement of weapons for civilian purposes;

(c) if so, details thereof and State-wise total number of license holders for possession of weapons, the requirements, State-wise, till date; and

(d) the MoU signed by Government with foreign companies in the last three years and its impact on supply and demand of civilian weapons in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) As per available information, a number of less lethal alternatives are being used for riot control. Rubber bullet is one such less lethal option which is used with the guns compatible with them.

(b) to (d) There is no such plan by the Government to procure weapons for civilian purposes.

Fake Aadhaar cards in Delhi

69. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards producing fake Aadhaar cards and arrest of two culprits, who were allegedly producing fake Aadhaar cards in Delhi;

(b) if so, details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to avoid such unlawful activities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) As reported by Delhi Police, on a secret information, a raid was conducted at Shop No. 1572, B-Block, Shastri Nagar, Delhi and the items seized during the raid, *inter-alia* include, 09 laminated Aadhaar Cards of different persons, 400 plastic cards, a Laptop, three fingerprint scanners, two eye scanners, three web cameras, plastic card printer, one Wi-Fi modem, desktops and computer accessories, one laminating machine and passport size photographs of different persons. A case vide FIR No. 247/18 dated 26.06.2018 u/s 419/420/467/468/471/34 IPC Police Station Sarai Rohilla was registered and two persons were arrested.

(c) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology and Delhi Police have reported that the unlawful activities related to Aadhaar are dealt in accordance with penal provisions of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 and other relevant applicable statutory laws. Further, Delhi Police has briefed

all field staff to keep surveillance over the activities of persons suspected to be involved in the activities of making fake Aadhaar cards and whenever any person is found involved in such illegal activities, necessary legal action as per law is taken. General awareness among local residents about the process of Aadhaar card, enrolment, correction in Aadhaar card and authorized Aadhaar card centers is also developed through division/ beat staff. Intelligence is collected by Delhi Police through Eyes & Ears scheme regarding persons involved in illegal practices of making fake Aadhaar card.

Plan to increase number of jails for women

70. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of women prisoners is increasing in the country at a fast pace;
- (b) if so, the details of the women prisoners, State-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there are only 18 jails exclusively for women;
- (d) if so, whether there is any plan to increase the number of jails for women in the country in the near future; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) As per information compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau, a total of 17681, 17834 and 18498 female prisoners were lodged in various jails of the country as on 31st December of the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively, indicating an increase of 0.9% in 2015 over 2014 and 3.72% in 2016 over 2015. State-wise details of female prisoners as on 31.12.2016 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (c) As on 31.12.2016, there are 20 Women Jails in the country.

(d) and (e) 'Prisons' is a State subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and administration and management of prisons is primarily the responsibility of respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to increase the number and capacity of Women Jails within their jurisdictions.

Statement*Female inmates in Jails as on 31.12.2016 (Provisional)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Inmate population of female
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	416
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6
3.	Assam	298
4.	Bihar	1128
5.	Chhattisgarh	982
6.	Goa	30
7.	Gujarat	657
8.	Haryana	655
9.	Himachal Pradesh	73
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	91
11.	Jharkhand	788
12.	Karnataka	575
13.	Kerala	219
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1309
15.	Maharashtra	1428
16.	Manipur	22
17.	Meghalaya	12
18.	Mizoram	85
19.	Nagaland	6
20.	Odisha	538
21.	Punjab	1177
22.	Rajasthan	664
23.	Sikkim	4

1	2	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	616
25.	Telangana	385
26.	Tripura	35
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3785
28.	Uttarakhand	174
29.	West Bengal	1722
TOTAL (STATES)		17880
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9
31.	Chandigarh	46
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
33.	Daman and Diu	3
34.	Delhi	552
35.	Lakshadweep	1
36.	Puducherry	6
TOTAL (UTs)		618
TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)		18498

Lynching cases in the country

71. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that lynching has become a regular issue in the country;
- (b) if so, the year-wise number of lynching cases registered during the last three years; and
- (c) the action taken by Government for safeguarding the law and order from deadly spectre of vigilantism therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain specific data with respect to lynching incidents in the country.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order and protect life and property, therefore, rests with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. The Ministry of Home Affairs have, however, issued advisory to the States and UTs, from time to time, to maintain law and order and ensure that any person who takes law into his/her own hand is punished promptly as per law. Such an advisory was also issued to the States and UTs on 04.07.2018. State Governments and UT Administration have been advised to keep watch for early detection of such trends of circulation of rumours having potential for violence, and take all required measures to counter them effectively and to deal firmly with persons taking law into their own hands.

Access of Aadhaar data for police identification

72. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that NCRB has asked UIDAI for limited access of Aadhaar data for police identification;
- (b) if so, the report from UIDAI in this regard;
- (c) whether access of data will breach the law of UIDAI or not; and
- (d) if so, the proposal of Government to trace the facts and scene of crime cases and the use of biometric data therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Damage due to Ockhi cyclone in Tamil Nadu

73. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any final assessment has been made regarding damages to huts, pucca/kutchha homes caused by cyclone Ockhi in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has arrived at final figure for compensation to people affected by Ockhi cyclone;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): (a) to (e) Yes Sir. Based on the Memorandum submitted by the State Government of Tamil Nadu, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) was deputed for on the spot assessment of damage caused by the cyclone Ockhi and flood of North-East monsoon of 2017. The High Level Committee (HLC), in its meeting held on 26.02.2018, *inter alia* considered the report of IMCT, recommendations of the Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (NEC) thereon; the extant items & norms of assistance from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), and approved the assistance of ₹ 133.05 crore from NDRF, subject to the adjustment of 50% of balance available in the SDRF account for the cyclone Ockhi and flood of North-East monsoon of 2017.

This includes an assistance of ₹ 3.04 crore assessed for 7,412 damaged houses/huts (72 partially pucca houses + 29 partially kutcha houses + 7311 huts) caused by cyclone Ockhi in Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu.

The financial assistance under SDRF/ NDRF in the wake of natural disasters is by way of relief and not for compensation of loss as suffered/ claimed. Information on compensation provided to victims/ owners of damaged house/ huts is not maintained by this Ministry centrally, since the execution of relief activities on the ground is the responsibility of the State concerned.

Long term plan to construct prisons

74. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conceived any long term plan to construct prisons to accommodate prisoners in a reasonable ratio to avoid congestion/overcrowding in prisons across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) 'Prisons' is a State subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Administration and management of prisons is, therefore, the responsibility of respective State Governments who have to plan construction of more prisons to accommodate prisoners.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, however, issues advisories to States/UTs on a regular basis on various measures that can help in reducing overcrowding in Prisons.

**Inadequate facilities to paramilitary forces deployed in
troubled and sensitive areas**

75. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether paramilitary forces deployed in troubled and sensitive areas do not get adequate training, facilities and service benefits at par with Indian Army;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how far it is a fact that despite recommendations of the concerned authorities, financial approvals are not forthcoming for upgradation of facilities; and

(d) the major proposals pending for financial approval and how much further time it will take for their approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJUJU): (a) and (b) Specialized training is imparted by the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) to its personnel before deployment in troubled and sensitive areas. Special courses are also conducted for counter insurgency/ militancy/naxalism operations with the help of various agencies, who have specialization in the field.

As regards, facilities and service benefits, CAPF personnel deployed at borders are provided with barrack accommodation with cook house, dining hall and toilet blocks. In harsh areas, integrated composite buildings with central heating and freeze

proof toilets are provided. The CAPF personnel deployed in such areas are also entitled to various allowances which *inter alia* include Risk & Hardship Allowance, Medical facilities, Air Courier Services, dedicated rail coaches in some major trains, Central Police Canteen, Recreation and transit camp facilities.

The Government has accepted the recommendations of 7th Central Pay Commission on various allowances to be applied uniformly for Defence and CAPF personnel which *inter alia* include Risk and hardship allowance, Additional free Railway Warrant/LTC etc.

Continuous efforts are made to improve the living conditions of the CAPF personnel, including those deployed at borders.

(c) and (d) Raising of Battalions is done in phased manner over a period of time with provision of meeting the expenditure out of sanctioned budget grant of the respective financial year. The infrastructure is developed as per the authorised norms as and when the battalions are raised. However, the proposals are sanctioned as per the priority indicated by the Force, within the available budget.

Occupancy rate in jails

76. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether occupancy rate in various jails is 115 per cent at the end of December, 2015 and in terms of numbers it was more than 60,000 additional inmates;

(b) what is the status between year 2015 and June, 2018, State-wise and jail-wise;

(c) how Government is supplementing efforts of States in constructing new jails, infrastructure and providing facilities to inmates since States have limited finances in this regard;

(d) whether Government will consider new scheme on lines of Modernisation of Police Force to have a scheme like Modernisation and Expansion of Jails as one-time intervention; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) As per information compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the average occupancy rate of various jails at national level was 114.4 percent at the end of December, 2015. As against the capacity of 366781, there were 419623 inmates in various jails of the country.

(b) As per the latest data of prisons compiled by NCRB, which pertains to the year 2016, as against the available capacity of 380876, there were 433003 inmates in various jails of the country. The data for the years 2017 and 2018 is not available. State-wise details of capacity of jails and inmate population during the years 2015 and 2016 are given in the Statement-I and the Statement-II respectively (*See* below).

(c) to (e) 'Prisons' is a State subject under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. Prison Administration is therefore the responsibility of State Governments. Presently, no proposal for modernisation and expansion of jails on the lines of Modernization of Police Force is under consideration. The, Fourteenth Finance Commission, which had examined the proposal of second phase of modernisation of prisons, had observed that in view of improved outlay for States, there is appropriate fiscal space available with them to provide for additional expenditure needed for such requirements.

Statement-I*State/UT-wise Capacity, Inmate Population and Occupancy Rate in Indian Jails as on 31.12.2015*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total No. of Jails	Available Capacity		Inmate Population		Occupancy Rate (in %)			
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	112	7984	899	8883	7481	416	7897	93.7	46.3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	188	24	212	180	4	184	95.7	16.7
3.	Assam	31	7706	586	8292	8780	317	9097	113.9	54.1
4.	Bihar	58	36449	1360	37809	27527	891	28418	75.5	65.5
5.	Chhattisgarh	28	7046	506	7552	16754	908	17662	237.8	179.4
6.	Goa	2	1070	25	1095	393	30	423	36.7	120.0
7.	Gujarat	27	11359	973	12332	11262	516	11778	99.1	53.0
8.	Haryana	19	15242	1476	16718	17546	723	18269	115.1	49.0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	14	1649	138	1787	1912	67	1979	115.9	48.6
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	2800	201	3001	2247	91	2338	80.3	45.3
11.	Jharkhand	29	14666	742	15408	16751	862	17613	114.2	116.2
12.	Karnataka	102	12850	1196	14046	12934	539	13473	100.7	45.1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13.	Kerala	54	5773	417	6190	7106	219	7325	123.1	52.5	118.3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	123	25857	1650	27507	37136	1322	38458	143.6	80.1	139.8
15.	Maharashtra	154	24584	1719	26303	28321	1336	29657	115.2	77.7	112.8
16.	Manipur	2	860	110	970	611	40	651	71.0	36.4	67.1
17.	Meghalaya	4	485	45	530	935	8	943	192.8	17.8	177.9
18.	Mizoram	7	1126	185	1311	1151	93	1244	102.2	50.3	94.9
19.	Nagaland	11	1290	160	1450	481	9	490	37.3	5.6	33.8
20.	Odisha	91	16371	1641	18012	15323	642	15965	93.6	39.1	88.6
21.	Punjab	26	18479	1588	20067	22510	1135	23645	121.8	71.5	117.8
22.	Rajasthan	126	18409	1210	19619	19409	677	20086	105.4	56.0	102.4
23.	Sikkim	2	206	47	253	238	13	251	115.5	27.7	99.2
24.	Tamil Nadu	137	19774	2427	22201	13495	627	14122	68.2	25.8	63.6
25.	Telangana	50	6388	677	7065	5750	451	6201	90.0	66.6	87.8
26.	Tripura	13	2051	122	2173	997	42	1039	48.6	34.4	47.8

27.	Uttar Pradesh	67	49434	3138	52572	85214	3533	88747	172.4	112.6	168.8
28.	Uttarakhand	11	3065	123	3188	4162	186	4348	135.8	151.2	136.4
29.	West Bengal	58	19493	1423	20916	20017	1506	21523	102.7	105.8	102.9
	TOTAL (STATES)	1374	332654	24808	357462	386623	17203	403826	116.2	69.3	113.0
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5	1209	40	1249	493	6	499	40.8	15.0	40.0
31.	Chandigarh	1	1000	120	1120	664	24	688	66.4	20.0	61.4
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	50	10	60	153	13	166	306.0	130.0	276.7
33.	Daman and Diu	2	120	40	160	43	3	46	35.8	7.5	28.8
34.	Delhi	10	5850	400	6250	13604	579	14183	232.5	144.8	226.9
35.	Lakshadweep	4	64	0	64	24	0	24	37.5	0.0	37.5
36.	Puducherry	4	371	45	416	185	6	191	49.9	13.3	45.9
	TOTAL (UTs)	27	8664	655	9319	15166	631	15797	175.0	96.3	169.5
	TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)	1401	341318	25463	366781	401789	17834	419623	117.7	70.0	114.4

Source: Prison Statistics India-2015

Statement-II*Capacity, Inmate Population and Occupancy Rate in Indian Jails as on 31.12.2016 (Provisional)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total No. of Jails	Available Capacity			Inmate Population			Occupancy Rate (in %)		
			Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	112	7984	899	8883	6851	416	7267	85.8	46.3	81.8
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	188	24	212	208	6	214	110.6	25.0	100.9
3.	Assam	31	7903	684	8587	8313	298	8611	105.2	43.6	100.3
4.	Bihar	58	36449	1360	37809	31974	1128	33102	87.7	82.9	87.6
5.	Chhattisgarh	30	9285	528	9813	17649	982	18631	190.1	186.0	189.9
6.	Goa	2	1170	25	1195	418	30	448	35.7	120.0	37.5
7.	Gujarat	27	11419	973	12392	11781	657	12438	103.2	67.5	100.4
8.	Haryana	19	16596	1500	18096	16999	655	17654	102.4	43.7	97.6
9.	Himachal Pradesh	14	1736	144	1880	2119	73	2192	122.1	50.7	116.6
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	14	2800	201	3001	2597	91	2688	92.8	45.3	89.6
11.	Jharkhand	29	14680	793	15473	16385	788	17173	111.6	99.4	111.0
12.	Karnataka	102	12663	1096	13759	14268	575	14843	112.7	52.5	107.9

13.	Kerala	54	5773	417	6190	6854	219	7073	118.7	52.5	114.3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	123	26027	1650	27677	36340	1309	37649	139.6	79.3	136.0
15.	Maharashtra	154	24484	1819	26303	30010	1428	31438	122.6	78.5	119.5
16.	Manipur	5	1037	110	1147	602	22	624	58.1	20.0	54.4
17.	Meghalaya	5	575	55	630	821	12	833	142.8	21.8	132.2
18.	Mizoram	7	1126	185	1311	1076	85	1161	95.6	45.9	88.6
19.	Nagaland	11	1290	160	1450	407	6	413	31.6	3.8	28.5
20.	Odisha	91	16371	1641	18012	14765	538	15303	90.2	32.8	85.0
21.	Punjab	26	20774	1765	22539	21421	1177	22598	103.1	66.7	100.3
22.	Rajasthan	126	18656	1223	19879	19699	664	20363	105.6	54.3	102.4
23.	Sikkim	2	206	40	246	320	4	324	155.3	10.0	131.7
24.	Tamil Nadu	138	20084	2548	22632	14257	616	14873	71.0	24.2	65.7
25.	Telangana	49	6388	677	7065	5834	385	6219	91.3	56.9	88.0
26.	Tripura	13	2051	122	2173	894	35	929	43.6	28.7	42.8
27.	Uttar Pradesh	70	54883	3228	58111	91551	3785	95336	166.8	117.3	164.1
28.	Uttarakhand	11	3255	123	3378	4026	174	4200	123.7	141.5	124.3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29.	West Bengal	59	19523	1423	20946	21247	1722	22969	108.8	121.0	109.7
	TOTAL (STATES)	1384	345376	25413	370789	399686	17880	417566	115.7	70.4	112.6
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4	409	40	449	174	9	183	42.5	22.5	40.8
31.	Chandigarh	1	1000	120	1120	722	46	768	72.2	38.3	68.6
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	50	10	60	119	1	120	238.0	10.0	200.0
33.	Daman and Diu	2	120	40	160	56	3	59	46.7	7.5	36.9
34.	Delhi	12	7418	400	7818	13506	552	14058	182.1	138.0	179.8
35.	Lakshadweep	4	64	0	64	6	1	7	9.4	0.0	10.9
36.	Puducherry	4	371	45	416	236	6	242	63.6	13.3	58.2
	TOTAL (UTs)	28	9432	655	10087	14819	618	15437	157.1	94.4	153.0
	TOTAL (ALL-INDIA)	1412	354808	26068	380876	414505	18498	433003	116.8	71.0	113.7

Proposal to change Sedition law

77. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the growing incidents of anti-nationalism in the country in the name of freedom of expression;

(b) whether Government has any proposal to change sedition law to crack down on such incidents;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of persons tried under sedition law during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Home Affairs has written to the Ministry of Law and Justice to request the Law Commission of India to study the usage of the provisions of Section 124 A (Sedition) of IPC and suggest amendments, if any. The Law Commission has undertaken the examination of Section 124 A and is considering the scope and ambit of the law on sedition, in order to ascertain under what circumstances it can legitimately be invoked. A draft report on the subject has been prepared and discussed/deliberated in the Law Commission's meeting held on 26th June, 2018 and, as decided, the same is being reviewed. The Report is yet to be finalized by the Law Commission.

(d) As per the information received from National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), State-wise data for 2014, 2015 and 2016 is given in the Statement (*See below*). The data for 2017 has not been compiled by NCRB.

Statement

[illegible]

11.	Jharkhand	18	10	1	18	10	1	0	2	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	4	1	0	3	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
13.	Kerala	5	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	4	4	0	0	4	4	0	0
15.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16.	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Odisha	2	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	9	0	0	1	2	2	0	7	7	0	0	7	7	0	0
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Telangana	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	2	0	9	2	0	0	9	2	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
28.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	West Bengal	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	0
	TOTAL (STATES)	47	14	1	58	16	1	30	6	0	73	13	0	33	16	31	1	44	26	1
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Q	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi UT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT (S)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	0
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	47	14	1	58	16	1	30	6	0	73	13	0	35	16	31	1	48	26	1

Human rights violations in J&K

78. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the recent report of United Nations, there are excessive human rights violations in Jammu and Kashmir since 2016;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of civilians killed and injured since 2016, till date in Jammu and Kashmir and the number of inquiries initiated for human rights violation since 2016, till date; and

(d) the details of persons found guilty and punished in this regard, case-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) No Sir, the so-called report of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has been rejected by India.

(c) and (d) Up-to-date information is being collected.

Youths involved in stone pelting in J&K

†79. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in terror incidents in the State of Jammu and Kashmir after terror funding to separatist organisations being probed by National Investigation Agency (NIA) and a clampdown on separatists leaders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the case of involvement of youths from other States of the country in stone pelting on army jawans in Jammu and Kashmir has come to the light in recent times; and

(d) if so, whether it is being investigated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) The details of incidents of terrorist violence,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

terrorists killed, security personnel killed and civilians killed in Jammu and Kashmir during the last two years and in the current year are as under:

Sl. No.	Incidents	2016	2017	2018 (upto 8th July)
1.	Number of incidents of terrorist violence	322	342	256
2.	Terrorists Killed	150	213	100
3.	Security Personnel killed	82	80	43
4.	Civilians killed	15	40	16

(c) and (d) As per reports, 02 youth from other States of the country have been found involved in stone pelting in Jammu and Kashmir and in this regard, two FIRs have been registered in 2018.

Report of Sheela Bhide Committee on APMEL

80. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report of the Sheela Bhide Committee on allotment of Singareni Subsidiary Company Andhra Pradesh Heavy Machinery Engineering Ltd. (APMEL) to Andhra Pradesh as part of the AP Reorganisation Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received any objection from Government of Telangana on the irrational allotment of APMEL to Andhra Pradesh, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the stand of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) The State Government of Telangana has raised objection to the recommendation given by the Expert Committee (Mrs. Sheela Bhide Committee) relating to allotment of Andhra Pradesh Heavy Machinery Engineering Ltd. (APMEL) to Andhra Pradesh on the ground that APMEL is a subsidiary of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL), which is jointly owned by Government of

Telangana and Government of India having equity of 51% and 49% respectively. It has been further contended that SCCL holds 81.54% equity in APHMEL and undivided Government of Andhra Pradesh holds only 0.86% equity in APHMEL. Therefore, the only issue to be decided is approval of ownership of 0.86% of shares.

- (d) The matter has been referred to Expert Committee for its consideration.

Standing Committee on Inter-State Council

81. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Twelfth Inter-State Council Standing Committee meeting has been held at Delhi recently, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has demanded in the Committee to include 'environment' in the Concurrent List which is now in the Central List, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of the Union Government to such request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The 12th meeting of the Standing Committee of Inter-State Council was held in Delhi on November 25, 2017.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. During the 13th Meeting of the Standing Committee of Inter-State Council held on 25.05.2018, Government of Andhra Pradesh averred that the subject 'Environment, Ecology and Climate change' may be included in the Concurrent List. Considering the divergence in opinions, the Standing Committee recommended that various views expressed in the meeting may be placed before the Inter-State Council for wider consultation and decision.

Violation of human rights in jails

82. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the human rights violations taking place in the jails across the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any study has been conducted on this issue;

(c) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court has pointed out and expressed its concern on the various incidents of violation of human rights taking place in the jails;

(d) the causes of the violation; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) As per information provided by the National Crime Records Bureau, the National Human Rights Commission had reported 298 cases of human rights violations in jails in 2016 and State Human Rights Commissions had reported 563 cases. For evaluating the condition in prisons, inspections are carried out by the Special Rapporteurs of the National Human Rights Commission from time to time and their reports are sent to State Governments for consideration and taking necessary action.

(c) and (d) The Supreme Court of India, in its Order dated 15.9.2017, had noted that custodial violence has been a matter of concern and directed the Ministry of Home Affairs to circulate the (i) Model Prison Manual, (ii) Monograph prepared by NHRC entitled 'Suicide in Prisons - prevention strategy and implication from human rights and legal points of view', (iii) Communications sent by NHRC to States from time to time, (iv) Compendium of advisories issued by MHA to State Governments, (v) Nelson Mandela Rules and (vi) Guidelines on investigating deaths in custody issued by the International Committee of the Red Cross to the Director General/ Inspector General incharge of prisons in all States and UTs. The Ministry of Home Affairs circulated the said documents to all States/Union Territories. The Supreme Court also pointed out various causes of violation of human rights in jails such as overcrowding, inadequacy of staff, untrained or inadequately trained staff, lack of proper or timely medical attention, staff insensitivity, etc.

(e) The Ministry of Home Affairs issues advisories to State Prison authorities from time to time on various aspects of prison administration and welfare of prison inmates. Model Prison Manual, 2016, which provides detailed guidance on various aspects of prison administration and welfare of prisoners has also been forwarded to all States and UTs. The National Human Rights Commission sensitizes officers of the concerned Governments during its various workshops and seminars on protection of human rights of prison inmates.

**Division of 9th and 10th Schedule Institutions between
AP and Telangana**

83. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the matter of division of 9th and 10th Schedule Institutions between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana as per the AP Reorganisation Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the contentions of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and the steps being taken by Government of India to resolve the matters without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. An Expert Committee (Smt. Sheela Bhide Committee) has been constituted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh (undivided) on the apportionment of the assets, liabilities and employees of the Companies and Corporations listed under Schedule-IX of the A. P. Reorganisation Act, 2014. As per information available, the Committee has submitted its recommendations for apportionment of assets and liabilities and division of employees in respect of 77 and 54 institutions respectively. In respect of Singareni Colleries Company Ltd. (SCCL), Government of Andhra Pradesh has contended that SCCL should be apportioned between both the States, whereas Government of Telangana has raised objection to the recommendation for allotment of Andhra Pradesh Heavy Machinery Engineering Ltd. (APHMEL) to Andhra Pradesh. The matter has been referred to the Expert Committee for its consideration.

The Schedule-X of the APR Act contains the list of Training Institutions/Centres, which is governed by Section 75 of the APR Act. Section 75 of the said Act does not envisage division of Institutions/Centres included in Schedule X.

Heavy firing by Pakistan

84. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that people of the villages in Jammu and Kashmir along Indo-Pakistan border had to flee their villages because of heavy firing by Pakistan from across the border;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government has taken to provide relief to such people and to ensure their safety from firing by Pakistani forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) In the event of persistent cross border firing/ ceasefire violations along LoC/ IB by Pakistan, the people residing in the affected areas have to leave their homes temporarily. The affected families are shifted to safer places. They are provided all kinds of basic amenities like water, electricity, medical aid, etc. at the designated safe shelters.

Government has sanctioned construction of 14,460 bunkers, to mitigate the hardships being faced by people living on IB/LoC, due to cross border firing. Further, ex-gratia cash relief of ₹5 lakh is given to next of kin (NoK) in case of death or to the victim of more than 50% disability. Compensation for housing damages/losses, crop losses, livestock losses, relief for stay at relief camps and displacement etc. to those affected by cross border firings are also given as per National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) norms of assistance, fixed from time to time. Compensation of ₹50,000/- per loss of milch animal is also given.

Prevention of Torture Bill, 2010

85. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the 273rd Law Commission report on Prevention of Torture Bill, 2010, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has studied the previous Torture Bill and the Rajya Sabha Select Committee report on the same, if so, Government's stand on the same;

(c) why India has not ratified the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment after signing it in 1997; and

(d) whether Government plans to hold a multi-stakeholder consultative process to draft the Prevention of Torture Bill, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (d) The Law Commission has submitted

its 273rd Report on "Implementation of United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment" on 30.10.2017 along with a draft Bill namely "The Prevention of Torture Bill, 2017." As Criminal Laws are in the Concurrent List to the Constitution, the said Report of Law Commission along with the draft Bill has been circulated to the State Governments/UTs for their views. The revised Prevention of Torture Bill, 2010 as reported by Select Committee of Rajya Sabha was under examination and in the meanwhile, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs intimated on 21.05.2014 that the revised Prevention of Torture Bill, 2010 had lapsed on dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha on 18th May, 2014.

CRPF camps in naxal hotbeds

86. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last one month, the CRPF has opened four to five permanent camps in three naxal hotbeds in the 1,200 sq. km. long Bastar Sukma region, 2000 sq. km. Andhra-Odisha border and the 4,500 sq. km. Abjumaad forest area;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the purpose for the new camps was that the force did not want its troops to travel several kilometers back to headquarters after operation or area domination exercise; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) Opening of new camps in the core areas of influence of Left Wing Extremists is a continuous process with the aim of progressively reducing the security vacuum and curtailing their influence. Camps serve as launch pads for operations and increase the reach of the security forces into the strongholds of the Left Wing Extremists.

Jawans of paramilitary forces martyred in border areas

87. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many jawans of paramilitary forces, deployed in the border areas have been martyred from January, 2018 till date;

(b) whether the number of jawans who have been martyred has increased during the last two years;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) Government's stern action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) As per available records, the number of jawans of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and Assam Rifles (AR) deployed in border areas and killed in action during last 2 years and current year upto 30th June, 2018 is as under:

No. of jawans killed in border areas from 01/01/18 to 30/06/18.	No. of jawans killed in border areas in the year 2017.	No. of jawans killed in border areas in the year 2016.
16	10	10

(d) Forces have taken action which, *inter-alia*, includes,

- (i) Domination of Border to Curb Extremism:- Area Domination Patrols (ADPs), Short and Long Range Patrols are being carried out regularly by the troops along the border to check movement of extremists to and from their Camps and smuggling of illegal weapons and contrabands.
- (ii) Mobile Vehicle Check Posts (MVCs) and Patrols:- Mobile Vehicle Check Posts (MVCs) are being established and Area Domination Patrols (ADPs) being launched on regular basis.
- (iii) Counter infiltration/Exfiltration:- Special operations to include Ambushes along the likely infiltration/exfiltration routes are carried out to check insurgents smuggling illegal weapons and drugs into our country from across the border.
- (iv) Intelligence Gathering and Specific Intelligence based Operations:-
 - (a) Liaison Intelligence Agency Meetings:- Monthly Liaison Intelligence Agency (LIA) meetings are held at functional level (battalion) and Directional level (Sectorial) for intelligence sharing.

- (b) Human Intelligence:- Detachments and teams of Assam Rifles Field Intelligence Unit along with Military Intelligence Teams and Detachments of Corps Intelligence Surveillance Unit and intelligence Field Surveillance Unit gather border related intelligence and operations are conducted based on specific intelligence.
- (v) Use of Surveillance Equipment:- Signal and Human Intelligence is being actively exploited to check illegal activity/violations at the border. The following Surveillance Equipments are being utilized for keeping the border under effective surveillance:-
- (a) Laser Range Finder (LRF).
 - (b) Hand Held Thermal Imager (HHTI)
 - (c) Passive Night Vision Goggles (PNVG).
 - (d) Passive Night Vision Binocular (PNVB).
 - (e) Battle Field Surveillance Radar (BFSR).
 - (f) Explosive Detector (ED)
 - (g) Micro Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV).
- (vi) Continuous Monitoring is being done in this regard. Field formations and intelligence set ups have been sensitized. Co-ordination meetings with district administration and counterparts are also being held by the field Commandants to share inputs and plan strategy to prevent illegal activities in the International borders.
- (vii) Dedicated Intelligence set up has been established to gear-up INT network up to Border Out Post (BOP) level. Inputs received from different sources are further disseminated for Ops Success, extra vigil and alertness.
- (viii) Predictive Analysis software is being developed namely, Counter insurgency and Operational Planning System (COPS) & Border Operations & Planning System (b-OPS) for better operational planning with the help of Department of space.

Overcrowding in district level prisons

88. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that Prison Occupancy Rate (POR) is more alarming at district level prisons across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any scheme to reduce overcrowding of district level prisons across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) As on 31.12.2016, the overall occupancy rate of District Jails in the country is 128.3%. Occupancy rate of Andhra Pradesh District Jails is 72.1%

(c) to (e) 'Prisons' is a State subject under List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. Prison Administration is, therefore, the responsibility of State Governments. However, the Government of India has issued advisories to State Governments and UT Administrations with regard to Prison Administration and Prison Management. A Model Prison Manual, 2016 has been forwarded to all States and Union Territories, which, *inter alia*, provides for measures to be taken to reduce overcrowding in prisons. The Government of India has also taken various administrative and legislative measures which may contribute in reducing overcrowding in prisons. Some of the initiatives taken are: (i) introduction of the concept of plea bargaining through Section 265A of Cr PC and (ii) insertion of a new Section viz. 436-A in Cr PC on the maximum period for which an under trial prisoner can be detained etc.

Clashes on Assam-Mizoram border

89. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had to intervene after clashes on Assam - Mizoram border between police forces and Mizo protestors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State Governments have been asked to ensure maintaining law and order, prevent the situation from escalating and bring the situation under control; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RUIJU): (a) to (d) There was some disturbance on Assam-Mizoram border in March, 2018 and Government of India intervened in the matter to resolve the issue. There was a meeting under the Chairmanship of Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries of Assam and Mizoram on 20.03.2018. It was decided in the meeting that the State Government of Assam and Mizoram would maintain *status quo* at the spot, prevent assembly of people on the troubled spot, adopt appropriate measure to maintain peace and withdraw police from the troubled spot to their respective police establishment. The Deputy Commissioner of Hailakandi, Assam and Kalashib district of Mizoram would meet at regular intervals in order to maintain peace and law and order. Follow-up meetings were taken by Joint Secretary (North East) Ministry of Home Affairs on 27.03.2018 at Assam-Mizoram Border and later on in Mizoram and Assam.

Deaths of CRPF personnel in naxal attacks

90. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 45 CRPF personnel died in Chhattisgarh alone from March, 2017 to March, 2018 in various naxal attacks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that much bigger attacks happened in Chhattisgarh during the said period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) During the period from March 2017 to March 2018, 47 CRPF personnel were martyred in LWE violence in Chhattisgarh. 46 of these casualties took place in three major incidents as follows:-

	Date	Incident	Martyred
1.	11 Mar 2017	Ambush followed by IED blasts on CRPF road opening party near Kottacheru Village, Bheji, District Sukma, Chhattisgarh.	12 martyred
2.	24 Apr 2017	Ambush on CRPF road opening party near Burkapal, Chintagufa, District Sukma, Chhattisgarh.	25 martyred
3.	13 Mar 2018	IED blast on Mine Protected Vehicle of CRPF at Kistaram, District Sukma, Chhattisgarh.	09 martyred

(c) and (d) During the said period a total of 411 incidents of LWE violence took place in Chhattisgarh in which 80 LWE cadres were killed and 76 Security Force personnel, including the above said 47 of CRPF, were martyred.

Incidents of lynching by mob

91. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government keeps record of incidents of lynching by mobs which are increasing across several parts of the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of such incidents reported, year-wise during last three years along with number of victims injured/killed, number of people arrested, number of people prosecuted, number of people convicted and under what sections of law;

(c) State-wise and year-wise details of victims of such incidents of lynching and in how many cases, victims belonged to minority communities, how many were dalits and how many were women; and

(d) if Government doesn't maintain this data, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (d) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) does not maintain specific data with respect to lynching incidents in the country. NCRB collects information in prescribed formats which does not cover information about lynching.

Incentives to industrial sector

92. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to extend incentives, concessions to industrial sector in the country for generation of employment opportunities on a large scale; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing a number of sector specific schemes under which financial assistance is provided for promotion and development of the sector thereby creating employment opportunities. Recently a special package for employment generation in leather and footwear sector was approved, involving implementation of Central Sector Scheme "Indian Footwear, Leather & Accessories Development Programme" with an expenditure of ₹ 2600 crore over the three financial years from 2017-18 to 2019-20. Further, the Government has recently notified schemes for the North Eastern Region & Hilly States to boost employment and industrial development. The North East Industrial Development Scheme (NEIDS), 2017 has been notified with financial outlay of ₹ 3000 crores upto March, 2020 for the States of the North Eastern Region. The scheme has come into force w.e.f. 01.04.2017 for the period of five years. New Industrial Development Scheme for Jammu and Kashmir has been notified, which is effective from 15.06.2017 to 31.03.2022. New Industrial Development Scheme for Himachal Pradesh & Uttarakhand has been notified, which is effective from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2022.

Putting final draft of NRC in public domain

93. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the second and final draft of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in Assam is scheduled to be put in public domain by 30 June, 2018 and whether the NRC Secretariat has sought extra time because of time lost in recent floods;
- (b) whether Government expects that the post-NRC scenario would be violence-free with all Indian citizens included in the list; and

(c) whether there have been apprehensions in the North-East about the Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016, now under the examination in Parliament that will change the demographic balance in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) Sir; the Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that the complete Draft National Register of Citizens in the State of Assam be published on or before 30.07.2018.

(b) NRC will include the names of all genuine Indian Citizens. The State Government has made all the necessary arrangements for the maintenance of Law and Order during the course of NRC updation exercise. The Central Government on the request of the State Government has also made available Central Armed Police Forces for deployment in Assam.

(c) Representations have been received from different quarters on the proposed Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2016.

Creation of special battalion in J&K

†94. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to create a special battalion by means of recruiting youths belonging to ten kilometer radius of Jammu and Kashmir border with Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this regard, so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) to (c) On 08.03.2018, Government has approved raising of two Border I Battalions of Jammu and Kashmir Police, one each for Jammu region and Kashmir region, for being filled only from the youth living within 0-10 kilometer from International Border (IB)/ Line of Control (LoC). These battalions involve creation of 2014 posts.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Safety of women

95. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn towards a poll of global experts released recently that India is world's most dangerous country for women due to the high risk of sexual violence and women being forced into slave labour;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(c) whether Government proposes to formulate a new law to focus on all aspects of women safety after holding discussion with all stakeholders including National Commission for Women thereby prescribing stringent penalties for those who are involved in harassment and atrocities against women in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) Government's attention has been drawn to a recent report in the media on this subject. This report is not based on any scientific survey or facts but is a poll of a statistically insignificant sample of persons and presents a distorted picture of the comparative state of women safety in different countries. Even a quick comparison of available global data disproves the poll finding. In fact, the absolute number of rapes in some countries with much smaller population is higher than India. The said polling survey has been rejected by the National Commission for Women as it is based on perception and flawed methodology.

(c) The Government has notified Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance 2018 on 21 April 2018, which has put in place a regime which prescribes stringent punishment against rapes, including death penalty.

Rohingyas and other illegal immigrants in the country

96. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of illegal Rohingyas and other illegal immigrants in the country;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to trace and repatriate these illegal immigrants and the results of such steps;

(c) the steps taken by Government to identify and isolate criminal immigrants/Rohingyas in the country; and

(d) how many Rohingyas alleged to have been involved in terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir have been caught so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): (a) The entry of illegal immigrants is clandestine and surreptitious and therefore accurate number of such illegal migrants is not available.

(b) to (d) Detection and deportation of illegal immigrants is a continuous process. Instructions have been issued to State Governments for taking appropriate and prompt steps for identification of illegal migrants (including Rohingyas), their restriction to specified locations as per provisions of law, capturing their biographic and biometric particulars, and initiation of legal proceeding including deportation proceedings as per provisions of Law. There are reports of some Rohingyas indulging in illegal activities, however, such data is not centrally maintained.

Promotion of Hindi language in official work

97. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindi is not the language of majority of the Indians; and

(b) if so, the reasons for promoting Hindi in all official works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) No, Sir. As per the last Census conducted in 2011, Hindi is spoken by the majority of the population of the country.

(b) The question does not arise.

Crime and rape incidents against women

98. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crime and rape incidents against women in the country are on the rise;

(b) the details of such incidents, Statewise, during the last six months; and

(c) whether any survey has been done to identify which strata of the society are behind such crimes and what action Government proposes to take to build confidence amongst women in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) The data does not show any such trend. The details of cases registered for crimes against women, including rape, from 2014 to 2016 is as below:

Year	No. of cases registered
2014	3,39,457
2015	3,29,243
2016	3,38,954

(b) Latest published data is available for the year 2016. The State-wise details of the total crimes against women and rape cases are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) No such survey has been conducted in this regard. However, steps have been taken for increasing safety of women, which include, *inter alia*:

- (i) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 has put in place a regime which prescribes stringent punishment against rapes, including death penalty.
- (ii) Government has undertaken a project for developing an Emergency Response Support System based on a Pan-India 24X7 Helpline Number 112, and accessible through call/SMS/email/panic button etc.
- (iii) Government has issued advisories to States/UTs to take measures for prevention crimes against women, stressing on mandatory registration of FIRs, providing on-line complaint filing system, increasing representation of women in Police, gender sensitization of police, deployment of Special Manila Police Volunteers, activating victim compensation fund, setting up of Anti-human Trafficking units, etc. Details of these advisories issued are available on website of Ministry of Home Affairs at <https://mha.gov.in>.
- (iv) A separate portal for Cyber-Crime against women and children has been commenced.

- (v) In order to facilitate better investigation and prosecution in rape cases, modernization and capacity building of forensic labs has been undertaken.
- (vi) Government has approved safe-city projects for 8 cities to put in place comprehensive infrastructure, technological and community based interventions for women safety.
- (vii) Government has commenced development of a National Database on Sexual Offenders to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country.

Statement*State-wise details of the total crimes against women, including rape cases*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014		2015		2016	
		Cases registered	Total rape cases	Cases registered	Total rape cases	Cases registered	Total rape cases
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16526	961	15967	1027	16362	994
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	351	83	384	71	367	92
3.	Assam	19169	1980	23365	1733	20869	1779
4.	Bihar	15393	1127	13904	1041	13400	1008
5.	Chhattisgarh	6301	1436	5783	1560	5947	1626
6.	Goa	508	95	392	86	371	61
7.	Gujarat	10854	841	7777	503	8532	982
8.	Haryana	9010	1174	9511	1070	9839	1187
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1529	283	1295	244	1222	252
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3327	331	3366	296	2850	256
11.	Jharkhand	6086	1050	6568	1053	5453	1109
12.	Karnataka	14004	1324	12775	589	14131	1655
13.	Kerala	11451	1347	9767	1256	10034	1656
14.	Madhya Pradesh	28756	5076	24231	4391	26604	4882

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15.	Maharashtra	26818	3438	31216	4144	31388	4189
16.	Manipur	337	75	266	46	253	55
17.	Meghalaya	390	118	337	93	372	190
18.	Mizoram	258	120	158	58	120	23
19.	Nagaland	68	30	91	35	105	26
20.	Odisha	14651	1978	17200	2251	17837	1983
21.	Punjab	5481	981	5340	886	5105	838
22.	Rajasthan	31216	3759	28224	3644	27422	3656
23.	Sikkim	111	47	53	5	153	92
24.	Tamil Nadu	6354	455	5919	421	4463	319
25.	Telangana	14147	979	15425	1105	15374	1278
26.	Tripura	1618	239	1267	213	1013	207
27.	Uttar Pradesh	38918	3467	35908	3025	49262	4816
28.	Uttarakhand	1413	270	1465	283	1588	336
29.	West Bengal	38424	1466	33318	1199	32513	1110
30.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	117	32	136	36	108	30
31.	Chandigarh	434	59	468	72	414	68
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	21	5	25	8	28	14
33.	Daman and Diu	16	2	29	5	41	12
34.	Delhi UT	15319	2096	17222	2199	15310	2155
35.	Lakshadweep	4	1	9	0	9	5
36.	Puducherry	77	10	82	3	95	6
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		339457	36735	329243	34651	338954	38947

Source: Crime in India, NCRB

People killed due to dust and thunderstorms

99. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether hundreds of people got killed in the dust and thunderstorms in the country in recent months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of people killed/injured, Statewise;
- (c) whether Government announced compensation to the victims/kins of the victims;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether Government had made any preparedness to minimise losses due to storms; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RUIJU): (a) and (b) As per information provided by States/UTs, details of people who died in the dust and thunderstorms in the month of May and June 2018 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Respective State Govts./UTs have provided relief to the victims/kins of the victims as per State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) norms from the SDRF placed at their disposal by Government of India. A copy of the norms is available at www.ndmindia.nic.in.

Information on relief provided to victims/kin of the victims is not maintained by this Ministry centrally, since the execution of relief activities on the ground is the responsibility of the concerned State.

(e) and (f) Preparedness for disaster is a continuous process. National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) provides financial assistance to States/UTs for conducting Mock Exercises on various disasters, based on demands received from States/UTs. Two meetings on pre-monsoon dust and thunder storms were conducted at NDMA with all stakeholders to ensure timely delivery of early warning, resulting reduction in mortality. Awareness campaigns on various disasters are being run through

news letter 'Aapda Samvaad', Social media (Facebook and Twitter) and Do's and Don'ts through digital newsletter.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) also monitors Severe Weather and alert State Meteorological Centres (SMCs)/Regional Meteorological Centres (RMCs) about occurrence of severe weather in their region through daily Nowcast Guidance and Forecast Demonstration Project (FDP) bulletins (during FDP STORM Period). State Meteorological Centres (SMCs) issue three hourly Nowcast and issue warnings through SMS at district level as and when necessary. IMD maintains and upgrades the Nowcast webpage and website to include information of severe weather events and monitor quality of various tools for nowcasting such as Radar and satellite data, and ensure interact with relevant divisions to ensure quality upkeep.

Statement

Report regarding human lives lost/injured due to dust storm/ thunderstorm/ flood occurred in various States

As per information received from the State Emergency Operation Center (SEOCs) of States/UTs, the following persons have been died/ injured due to lightning/ thunderstorm/flood during the months of May and June, 2018 (up to 25.06.2018).

Sl. No.	State/UT	Human lives lost	No. of injured
1.	Andhra Pradesh	73	09
2.	Assam	44	Nil
3.	Bihar	74	32
4.	Gujarat	02	Nil
5.	Haryana	06	05
6.	Himachal Pradesh	03	Nil
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	10	03
8.	Jharkhand	51	20
9.	Karnataka	71	Nil
10.	Kerala	71	16
11.	Madhya Pradesh	17	30
12.	Maharashtra	19	19

Sl. No.	State/UT	Human lives lost	No. of injured
13.	Manipur	09	Nil
14.	Mizoram	15	05
15.	Odisha	97	20
16.	Punjab	04	Nil
17.	Rajasthan	45	58
18.	Tamil Nadu	26	02
19.	Telangana	11	01
20.	Tripura	16	32
21.	Uttar Pradesh	252	360
22.	Uttarakhand	14	11
23.	West Bengal	74	Nil
24.	Delhi	02	12
TOTAL		1006	635

Services of ESIC and EPFO under PPP mode

100. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on extending the services of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) and Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode to benefit up to 50 crores more people; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Cess collected under the Building and Other Construction
Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996**

101. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the value of construction work, cess collected, the total number of male and female workers involved in construction activity and the number of construction workers registered as beneficiaries under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 during the years 2014 to 2018; and

(b) how many workers have been issued identification cards by Construction Workers Welfare Boards (CWWBs), the State/UT-wise and year-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The data regarding value of construction work carried during the years 2014 to 2018 is not Centrally available.

The cumulative amount of cess collected during the years 2014 to 2018 by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 is as under:

Year	Amount (In crore) (Provisional)
2013-14	4125.81
2014-15	5621.18
2015-16	7241.84
2016-17	5670.78
2017-18	9872.82

The number of building workers registered during the years 2014 to 2018 by the State Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Boards is as under:

Year	No. of workers registered (Provisional)
1	2
2013-14	2174910
2014-15	1134690

1	2
2015-16	9211963
2016-17	2881039
2017-18	4873072

As per estimates of National Sample Survey (2011-2012), there are about 5 crore building and other construction workers in the country.

- (b) Information in this regard is not Centrally available.

Crises in employment sector

102. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a huge scarcity of Government jobs, retrenchment in private sectors and non-availability of handsome salary to capable employees in the private sector;

(b) whether it is also a fact that private employees and job seekers are getting underpaid jobs which is the burning issue in the unemployment sector; and

(c) the status of the promise made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of giving one crore good jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) As per the report of Pay Research Unit (PRU) of the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, the estimated number of central government civilian regular employees during 2014, 2015 and 2016 in major ministries/ departments (excluding Union Territories) are given below:

Year (as on 1 st March)	2014	2015	2016
Employees (in lakh)	32.24	32.29	32.21

According to the Public Enterprises Surveys 2016-17 of Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises, the number of employees in Central Public Sector Enterprises in 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 were 12.91 lakh, 11.84 lakh and 11.29 lakh respectively. Besides Public sector, salaried employment is also present in other sectors as well. However, salaried employment data of only Public sector is being maintained

centrally. The Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority concern of the Government. The Government is implementing various programs in this direction like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendyal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM). The employment generated through these schemes are given below:

Employment Generated			
Schemes/Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Estimated employment generated under PMEGP (person in lakh)	3.23	4.08	2.31 (till 22.01.18)
Persondays Generated under MGNREGS (in lakh)	23,515	23,583	23,426 (till 31/03/18)
Candidates placed in jobs after training DDU-GKY (in lakh)	1.35	0.85	0.59 (till Nov, 2017)
Skill Trained Persons given Placement DAY-NULM (in lakh)	0.34	1.52	0.83 (till Jan, 2018)

MUDRA scheme is initiated by the Government to facilitate self-employment by providing loans up to 10 Lakh for manufacturing, processing, trading, services and activities aligned to agriculture for promotion of self-employment.

Mudra loans			
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (upto 06/07/2018)
No. of PMMY Loans Sanctioned (in lakhs)	397.01	481.31	89.29

The total number of persons trained under Skill Development in various Ministries in 2015-16 is 1.04 crores.

Make in India initiative aims to create a conducive environment for investment, development of modern and efficient infrastructure, opening up new sectors for foreign investment and forging a partnership between Government and industry through a positive mind set. Government has been taking various steps to boost industrial development, capital formation and employment generation in the country. Besides Make in India, these, *inter alia*, include 'Startup India' initiative and 'Ease of Doing Business'. Steps taken to improve ease of doing business include simplification and rationalization of existing rules and introduction of information technology and liberalizing policy for industrial licensing. The government has initiated labour reforms to create an enabling environment to facilitate ease of doing business, ease of compliance, transparency, accountability and extending the social security coverage of the unorganised workers. It is expected that the enabling environment which the labour reforms would create and facilitate investment and job creation.

Investment of EPF in shares and equities

103. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has invested Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) amount in various Public Limited companies and in shares and equities of various private limited companies as well as blue chip shares of some private companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the total amount invested and the details of top ten companies, company-wise;

(c) the steps taken by Government to protect the interests of EPF subscribers;

(d) whether Government has taken any efforts to bring in more employees in both organised and unorganised sectors under the ambit of EPF; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and Government's stand thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is investing in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) based on Nifty 50, Sensex, Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and Bharat 22 Indices. EPFO does not invest in shares and equities of individual companies.

(b) The total amount invested by EPFO in ETFs as on June, 2018 is ₹ 48,946 crore.

(c) The Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in its 207th meeting held on 31.03.2015 decided to invest only in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in the category of equity and related investments.

(d) and (e) The Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 is applicable to every establishment employing 20 or more persons which is either a factory engaged in any industry specified in Schedule-I of the Act or an establishment to which the Act has been made applicable by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette.

An Employees' Enrolment Campaign was launched by EPFO during the period 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2017, which was further extended to 30.06.2017. During the Campaign, various incentives were offered to establishments to enroll such workers who remained un-enrolled for any reason between 01.04.2009 and 31.12.2016.

Details of employment opportunities

104. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to increase the employment opportunities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any statistical report on State-wise employment generation in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority concern of the Government. Further, Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's

Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) run by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) and Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) schemes run by Ministry of Rural Development and Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) run by Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation. The Make in India, Skill India, Digital India schemes are being implemented by the Government and these are likely to enhance the employment base. MUDRA and START UPS scheme are initiated by the Government for facilitating self employment.

Government has decided to strategically promote labour-intensive manufacturing and expand employment opportunities by promoting tourism and agro-based industries.

In order to improve the employability of youth, around 22 Ministries/Departments run skill development schemes across various sectors.

Government has also implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project which comprises a digital portal that provides a nation-wide online platform for jobseekers and employers for job matching in a dynamic, efficient and responsive manner and has a repository of career content.

A Scheme called "Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana" has been initiated by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the year 2016-17 for incentivizing industry for promoting employment generation. Under this scheme, Government had been paying the 8.33% contribution of Employers to the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) in respect of new employees having a new Universal Account Number (UAN) and earning upto ₹ 15,000 per month for the next 3 years from the date of registration with the aims to formalize a large number of informal workers. Considering the paramount importance of this scheme, Government will now pay the entire employer's contribution (12% or as admissible) towards the EPS and EPF for all sectors *w.e.f.* 01.04.2018 to all eligible new employees and applicable for all sectors for the next 3 years from the date of registration of the new employee including existing beneficiaries for their remaining period of 3 years.

(c) and (d) As per the information received from the State, the number of job seekers, all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed, registered with Employment Exchanges in the country and the placement affected through these employment exchanges during the year 2015 (Provisional) is given in the Statement.

Statement*Employment Exchange Statistics - All Categories - State-Wise 2015 (Provisional)*

(In Thousand)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Registration	Placements	Live Register
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55.7	0.2	901.3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.1	0.0	75.3
3.	Assam	262.8	0.9	1813.0
4.	Bihar	133.2	1.1	675.6
5.	Chhattisgarh	216.0	3.2	1794.5
6.	Delhi	64.4	0.2	1262.6
7.	Goa	19.0	2.9	132.8
8.	Gujarat	474.1	336.7	677.4
9.	Haryana	127.3	0.3	737.7
10.	Himachal Pradesh	169.5	1.1	820.1
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.6	0.1	279.4
12.	Jharkhand	160.1	2.9	569.8
13.	Karnataka	62.5	0.8	352.7
14.	Kerala	442.5	8.2	3616.2
15.	Madhya Pradesh	392.9	0.1	1715.3
16.	Maharashtra	613.3	22.9	3686.5
17.	Manipur	18.8	0.0	741.1
18.	Meghalaya	14.0	0.1	42.5
19.	Mizoram	8.3	0.0	31.7
20.	Nagaland	28.7	0.0	72.6
21.	Odisha	132.7	1.3	1031.0
22.	Punjab	115.0	1.7	356.0
23.	Rajasthan	85.7	0.4	580.3

.1	2	3	4	5
24.	Sikkim*	-	-	-
25.	Tamil Nadu	1527.3	7.7	7750.6
26.	Telangana	198.0	0.5	1008.9
27.	Tripura	24.8	0.4	276.4
28.	Uttarakhand	191.8	0.2	794.5
29.	Uttar Pradesh	1008.1	0.4	3504.7
30.	West Bengal	333.2	0.5	7890.6
Union Territories				
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	11.1	0.1	40.2
32.	Chandigarh	4.1	0.1	23.6
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.5	0.0	8.8
34.	Daman and Diu	0.7	0.0	10.5
35.	Lakshadweep	0.2	0.0	18.9
36.	Puducherry	26.3	0.1	209.4
	CEE	-	-	-
	TOTAL	6939.4	395.0	43502.7

Note:- * No Exchange is working in the State

\$ At the end of the year total may not tally due to rounding off.

Employment Generation

105. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study to know the total employment generation in the period from April, 2017 to March, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) is covering each and every district of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The nation-wide new employment and un-employment survey namely, Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) has been launched by NSSO from April, 2017 on continuous basis with the objective to measure quarterly changes of key labour force indicators (such as Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) & Unemployment Rate (UR)) in urban areas as well as to generate the annual estimates of different labour force indicators both in rural and urban areas. For measuring the labour force indicators, both Current Weekly Status (CWS) and Usual Activity Status (US) approach are followed.

(c) and (d) Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) is now gradually being implemented in all districts instead of targeted industrial clusters. The second generation reforms agenda named ESIC 2.0 which was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 20-07-2015 according to which in the first phase 393 partially implemented districts had to be fully notified. Now vision 2022 proposes implementation of ESI Scheme Pan India. As of now, out of 393 partially notified districts, 325 districts have been fully notified. List of these 325 fully notified districts State/UT-wise is given in the Statement.

Statement

List of 325 fully notified districts, State/UT-wise

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of Total Fully Notified District
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13
2.	Bihar	16
3.	Chhattisgarh	10
4.	Goa	2
5.	Haryana	22
6.	Himachal Pradesh	7
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	8
8.	Jharkhand	9
9.	Karnataka	30
10.	Kerala	14

1	2	3
11.	Madhya Pradesh	22
12.	Maharashtra	22
13.	Odisha	20
14.	Rajasthan	33
15.	Tamilnadu	1
16.	Telangana	10
17.	Uttar Pradesh	41
18.	Uttarakhand	6
19.	West Bengal	14
20.	Assam	6
21.	Tripura	1
22.	Chandigarh	1
23.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
24.	Daman and Diu	2
25.	Delhi	11
26.	Puducherry	3
TOTAL		325

Creating credible data on inter-state migrants

106. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is still facing great difficulty in creating credible data on inter-State migrants, which poses serious constraint in framing an effective policy;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any proposal to form/formulate robust mechanism to monitor inter-State labour migrants and create a credible data in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) In Order to safeguard the interest of the Migrant workers, the Central Government has enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1979 which, inter alia, provides for registration of certain establishments employing Inter State Migrant Workers, licensing of contractors etc. by the appropriate Government. Workers employed with such establishment are to be provided payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc. Registers and records are to be maintained giving particular of the Inter-State Migrant Workers, the nature of work performed by such workmen, the rates of the wages paid to the workmen etc. Every principal employer and every contractor is to keep exhibited within the premises of the establishment where the Inter-State Migrant Workmen is employed, notices in the prescribed form containing the particulars about the hours of work, nature of work etc.

Shram Suvidha Portal

107. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched Shram Suvidha Portal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the objectives for launching the portal;
- (c) whether the portal will reduce compliance under various labour laws by entrepreneurs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Shram Suvidha Portal, launched by the Government on 16.10.2014, caters to four major Organisations under the Ministry of Labour & Employment, namely Office of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Directorate General of Mines Safety, Employees' Provident Fund Organization and Employees' State Insurance Corporation. The main features of the Portal are as follow:-

- Allotment of Unique Identity *i.e.* Labour Identification Number (LIN) for effective, efficient and real-time governance in Labour Administration

- To bring transparency and accountability in enforcement of labour laws through Online Inspection System and Filing of Online Inspection Report
- Common Online Registration and Filing of Self-Certified and Simplified Single Online Annual Return for multiple labour laws to ease the complexity of compliance
- Unified ECR under EPFO/ESIC to encourage compliance by reducing transaction costs and promoting ease of business.

With these initiatives, the procedures have been simplified; returns and registration forms have been unified to provide an ease of doing business environment through Shram Suvidha Portal. Further, the portal provides a platform for sharing of information among the labour enforcement agencies. In this way, the Portal has not reduced but eased the compliance burden on establishments by simplifying the way of doing business and also facilitated effective enforcement of labour laws enhancing wage, job and social security for workers.

Eradication of child labour

108. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that eradication of child labour will create jobs for the youth in the country;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that despite having adequate law to prevent child labour, there has been no end to child labour in the country;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has asked the State Governments and Union Territories to comply with the norms existing to prevent engagement of child labour In various activities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Child Labour is an outcome of various socio-economic problems such as poverty, economic backwardness, illiteracy etc. As per 2011 Census, the number of main workers in the age group of 5-14 years in the country is 43.53 lakh which shows a decline from 57.79 lakh as per 2001 Census.

Under Legislative action plan Government has enacted the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 which came into force *w.e.f* 01.09.2016. The Amendment Act, *inter alia*, provides for complete prohibition on employment or work of children below 14 years and also prohibits employment of adolescents (14-18 years) in hazardous occupations and processes. Ministry of Labour & Employment has circulated an Action Plan to all States/UTs indicating the provisions and related actions by State Governments/UTs for enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016.

After strengthening the legislative framework through amendment in Child Labour Act, Government has framed the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2017 which *inter alia* specifies the duties and responsibilities of State Governments and District Authorities to ensure effective enforcement of the provisions of the Act. Government has also devised a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) as a ready reckoner for trainers, practitioners and enforcing and monitoring agencies and the same has been forwarded to all States/UTs.

To ensure effective enforcement of the provisions of the Child Labour Act and smooth implementation of the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme a separate online portal PENCIL (Platform for Effective Enforcement for No Child Labour) has been developed. The Portal connects Central Government to State Government(s), District(s) and all District Project Societies. Further the Ministry has instructed all the concerned States where NCLP Scheme is sanctioned, to form State Resource Centre (SRC) under the chairmanship of State Labour Secretary, which would monitor the enforcement of Child Labour Act, coordinate for the rescue of children and adolescents, child tracking system and supervise all the functions through PENCIL portal. SRC would also prepare and implement awareness generation plan to curb the menace of child labour in the State.

Amended Maternity Benefit Act

109. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States that have drafted Rules under the amended Maternity Benefit Act, 1961;

(b) the details of States where the Rules have been notified; and

(c) the details of the monitoring mechanism and the authorities responsible for effective implementation of the Act at ground level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No State has reported to have made rules in this regard.

(c) The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, is enforced and implemented by the respective State Governments in all sectors except in the Mines and Circus industries. Time to time, advisories are issued to State Governments for strict enforcement and compliance of the provisions of the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961. The provisions of the Act are implemented by the appropriate government through Inspectors as per the provisions contained in Section 14 & 15 of the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961.

Creation of employment opportunities in unorganised sector

†110. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to create one crore employment opportunities in unorganised sectors in the next three years;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any step so far in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority concern of the Government. The Government is implementing various programs in this direction like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendyal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM), Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY). The employment generated through these schemes are given below:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Employment Generated

Schemes/Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Estimated employment generated under PMEGP (person in lakh)	3.23	4.08	2.31 (till 22.01.18)
Persondays Generated under MGNREGS (in lakh)	23,515	23,583	23426 (till 31/03/18)
Candidates placed in jobs after training DDU-GKY (in lakh)	1.35	0.85	0.59 (till Nov, 2017)
Skill Trained Persons given Placement DAY- NULM (In lakh)	0.34	1.52	0.83 (till Jan, 2018)

MUDRA scheme is initiated by the Government to facilitate self employment by providing loans up to 10 Lakh for manufacturing, processing, trading, services and activities aligned to agriculture for promotion of self-employment.

MUDRA loans

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (upto 06/07/2018)
No. of PMMY Loans Sanctioned (in lakhs)	397.01	481.31	89.29

The Government has enacted Unorganised Workers Social Security Act, 2008 for the welfare of unorganized workers. The Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) implemented by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is a health insurance scheme which provides health and maternity benefits to the unorganized workers, listed in the schedule I of the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. Besides this, the scheme is also applicable to MGNREGA workers (who have worked for more than fifteen days during preceding financial year), Beedi workers, Domestic workers, Sanitation workers, Mine workers, Rickshaw pullers, Rag pickers and Auto/Taxi drivers, for insurance against death and disability.

Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana has been launched by the Government in the year 2016-17 for incentivising industry for promoting employment generation. Under this scheme employers are provided an incentive to enhance employment where

the Government is paying the entire employer's contribution (12% or as admissible) towards the EPS and EPF for all eligible new employees and applicable for all sectors for the next 3 years from the date of registration of the new employee.

Department of Financial Services implements schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY). Ministry of Labour and Employment implements Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana (AABY) which covers death and disability along with a scholarship component for 2 children studying in class 9th to 12th standard'.

Simplification of labour laws

111. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has repeatedly claimed to have simplified labour laws but not a single bill, from minimum wage, industrial relations, social security and safety to others, has been passed;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps that Government is taking to address labour distress considering so many bills have not yet been introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Reforms in labour laws are an ongoing process to update the legislative as well as governance system to address the need of the hour so as to make them more effective, flexible and in sync with emerging economic and industrial scenario. The Second National Commission on Labour has recommended that the existing Labour Laws should be broadly grouped into four or five Labour Codes on functional basis. Accordingly, the Ministry has taken steps for drafting four Labour Codes on Wages; Industrial Relations; Social Security; and Occupation Safety, Health and Working Conditions respectively, by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. Out of these, the Labour Code on Wages has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 10.08.2017 and subsequently, referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour. The rest of the codes are at pre-legislative consultative stage.

In addition, the Ministry has taken a number of legislative as well as governance initiatives during the last 3 years for the protection of the interests of labourers. Some of the important initiatives are as follows:

- Amendment to the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 by which eligibility limit for payment of bonus enhanced from ₹ 10,000/- to ₹ 21,000/- per month and the Calculation Ceiling from ₹ 3,500/- to ₹ 7,000/- or the minimum wages.
- Payment of Wages (Amendment) Act, 2017 enabling payment of Wages to employees by Cash or Cheque or crediting it to their bank account.
- Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 provides for complete ban on employment of children below 14 years in any occupation or process.
- Maternity Benefit Amendment Act, 2017, increases the paid maternity leave from 12 weeks to 26 weeks.
- The Employee Compensation (Amendment) Act, seeks to rationalize penalties and strengthen the rights of the workers under the Act.
- The Payment Of Gratuity (Amendment) Act, 2018, provides flexibility to the Central Government firstly to increase the ceiling limit of gratuity to such amount as may be notified from time to time and secondly to enhance the calculation of continuous service for the purpose of gratuity in case of female employees who are on maternity leave to such period as may be notified from time to time. Accordingly, the ceiling limit of gratuity has been increased from ₹ 10 Lakh to ₹ 20 Lakh and the period of maternity leave for calculation purpose has been enhanced from 12 weeks to 26 weeks.
- Shram Suvidha Portal, launched by the Government on 16.10.2014, operates a transparent risk based Online Labour Inspection Service for effective enforcement of Labour Laws.

Vulnerable employment as per ILO report

112. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the recent report of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) that has estimated over 77 per cent of India's active workforce to be in vulnerable employment by 2020;

- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken to tackle this issue;
- (c) whether special provisions have been instituted for creation of quality jobs in different sectors such as manufacturing sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) International Labour Organisation (Decent Work Team Country Office) has informed that the ILO's World Employment Social Outlook Trends 2018 report has not made any statement that 77 per cent of the India's active workforce will be in vulnerable employment by 2020.

- (b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c) to (e) Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country including increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM). Further, MUDRA and START UPS Schemes have been initiated to facilitate self-employment. Government has also strategically promoted labour-intensive manufacturing, tourism and agro-based industries to create job opportunities. In order to improve the employability of youth, around 22 Ministries/ Departments run skill development schemes across various sectors. Government has also implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project which comprises a digital portal that provides a nation-wide on line platform for jobseekers and employers for job matching in a dynamic, efficient and responsive manner and has a repository of career content. A Scheme called "Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana" has been initiated by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the year 2016-17 for incentivizing industry for promoting employment generation.

Workers/labourers rendered jobless due to closure of industries/factories

113. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of workers/labourers in the country have got affected or become jobless due to closure of industries/factories;

(b) if so, details thereof along with number of industries/factories closed and workers affected thereby during last three years and current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government provides/proposes to provide short-term skill development training to such workers to make them capable of starting self-employment activities and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other remedial steps taken by Government to provide employment to the workers who have become jobless due to closure of industrial units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Labour Bureau receives information in respect of only those temporary work-stoppages which include (i) strikes, (ii) lockouts, and (iii) gheraos followed by lockouts and involving 10 or more workers, whether directly and/or indirectly. The State-wise information of closure for the years 2015 to 2017 based on the returns/clarifications received in the Labour Bureau till 9th July, 2018 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) The Government is implementing Counseling, Retraining and Redeployment (CRR) Scheme to provide opportunity of self/wage employment to the employees (or dependents) of Central public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) separated under VRS/VSS or retrenched due to closure/restructuring of CPSEs. The scheme aims at providing short duration skill development training programme to equip the beneficiaries for self/wage employment. CRR scheme is being implemented in collaboration with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.

Statement

State-wise number of permanent closures and workers affected thereby during 2017 (Provisional)

State/Union Territory	Number of units	Number of workers affected
1	2	3
Assam	1	109
Chhattisgarh	-	-
Haryana	1	145

1	2	3
Kerala	1	5
Madhya Pradesh	-	-
	(1)	(547)
	-	-
Odisha	(1)	(429)
Telangana	4	1003
Tripura	5	29
Uttar Pradesh	4	234
Uttarakhand	2	188
State Sphere	18	1713
Central Sphere	(2)	(976)
GRAND TOTAL	20	2689

*State-wise number of permanent closures and workers affected
thereby during 2016 (Provisional)*

State/Union Territory	Number of Units	Number of Workers affected
Himachal Pradesh	3	204
Odisha	2	943
Tripura	14	566
Uttar Pradesh	6	345
Uttarakhand	1	21
State Sphere	26	2079
Central Sphere	(-)	(-)
GRAND TOTAL	26	2079

*State-wise number of permanent closures and workers affected
thereby during 2015 (Provisional)*

State/Union Territory	Number of Units	Number of Workers affected
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	1	260
Chhattisgarh	-	-

1	2	3
	(1)	(153)
Goa	2	44
Himachal Pradesh	1	90
Karnataka	1	96
Maharashtra	-	-
	(1)	(12)
Odisha	1	36
Tripura	9	687
Uttar Pradesh	4	118
State Sphere	19	1331
Central Sphere	(2)	(165)
GRAND TOTAL	21	1496

Note: 1. This statement is based on the returns/information received in the Bureau as on 9th July, 2018.

2. The information in respect of remaining state/union Territories is either 'Nil' and/or 'Not reported'.

3. The information within brackets related to Central Sphere.

'-' =Nil Source: Labour bureau, Shimla.

Unemployment rate

114. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- the unemployment rate in the country during the last four years;
- whether Government has taken any steps to address this issue; and
- the quantum of employment created in different sectors in the country during the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) As per the results of available labour force surveys on Employment-Unemployment conducted by Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment, the estimated unemployment rate for persons aged 15 years and above on usual status basis in the country in 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2015-16 were 3.3%, 4.0%, 3.4% and 3.7% respectively.

(b) The Employment generation and improving employability has been the priority concern of the Government. The Government is implementing various programmes in this direction like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation

Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendyal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

In order to improve the employability of youth, around 22 Ministries/Departments run skill development schemes across various sectors. MUDRA and START UPS schemes are initiated by the Government for facilitating self-employment.

Government has implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project which comprises a digital portal that provides a nation-wide online platform for the job seekers and employers for job-matching in a dynamic, efficient and responsive manner and has a repository of career content.

Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana has been launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the year 2016-17 for incentivising industry for promoting employment generation. Under this scheme, Government is paying entire employer's contribution (12% or as admissible) towards EPF and EPS for all eligible new employees for all sectors for 3 years.

(c) Labour Bureau has been conducting Quarterly Employment Surveys in the selected labour-intensive and export-oriented sectors namely textiles including apparels, metals, gems and jewellery, automobiles, transport, IT/BPO, leather and handloom/powerloom. The coverage of the Quarterly Employment Survey has been enhanced since 2016 with more industries/sectors. According to the survey results, estimated change in employment in all selected sectors was 4.21 lakh, 1.35 lakh, 2.31 lakh and 3.85 lakh in 2014, 2015, 2016 and, 2017 (upto September) respectively.

Maternity Benefit Act

115. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that post-amendments to the Maternity Benefit Act, entitling working women to 26 week paid leave, the women employees'/labourers'

participation rate dwindled considerably during the current year in comparison to previous years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of steps taken/being taken by the Ministry for compliance of the said Act in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Though no such data is maintained by Central Government, the Government is of opinion that with enforcement of the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Act, 2017, more and more women workers would be inclined to seek employment which will lead to increase in women labour participation.

(c) The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 is enforced and implemented by the respective State Governments in all sectors except in the Mines and Circus industries. Time to time, advisories are issued to State Governments for strict enforcement and compliance of the provisions of the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961.

Modification in withdrawal process in EPF

116. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any modification in the withdrawal process of Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) for the employees in the existing rules;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning to further simplify the process of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for the withdrawal, for the convenience of employees; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Paragraph 69(2) of Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 enables a member to withdraw the full amount standing to his credit in the Fund on ceasing to be an employee in an establishment for a continuous period of two months immediately preceding the date on which he makes an application for withdrawal. The requirement of two months waiting period

shall not, however, apply in cases of female members resigning from the services of the establishment for the purpose of getting married.

Further, review and modification of Schemes framed under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 is an ongoing process based on the changing socio-economic scenario.

(c) and (d) The Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in its 222nd meeting held on 26.06.2018 has considered a proposal for insertion of paragraph 68HH in EPF Scheme, 1952 to enable a member who is no longer in employment for a continuous period of one month, to avail 75 per cent of the total fund standing to his credit.

MSME units registered in the country

117. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) how many MSME units are registered in the country so far;
- (b) the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) how many MSME units are working in Kerala; and

(d) the details of loan sanctioned to MSME units by the banks in Kerala during 2014-15 to 2017-18 and bank-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) and (b) The number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) registered on Udyog Aadhaar Memorandum (UAM) Portal till 12th July, 2018 (since September, 2015) are 48.40 lakh. The registration details of MSMEs on UAM portal (State/UT-wise) are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) As per the data received from 73rd round of the National Sample Survey (NSS) on "Unincorporated Non-Agricultural Enterprises (excluding Construction)", conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, during July 2015 to June 2016, the total number of MSMEs in Kerala are estimated to be 23.79 lakh.

(d) As per information provided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the details of loan sanctioned to MSMEs are not maintained. However, the amount of outstanding credit to MSMEs in Kerala for the year ended in March during the years 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 are ₹ 38304.39 Crore, ₹ 46235.43 Crore, ₹ 47099.36 crore and ₹49374.77 crore, respectively. The bank-wise details of outstanding credit are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

*The registration details of MSMEs on Udyog Aadhaar Memorandum
(State/UT-wise)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Micro	Small	Medium	Udyog Aadhaar Regd.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	210337	21491	682	232510
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	367	265	13	645
3.	Assam	2555	1012	73	3640
4.	Bihar	756633	13494	744	770871
5.	Chhattisgarh	17768	4877	157	22802
6.	Goa	2470	1042	65	3577
7.	Gujarat	408582	74471	3027	486080
8.	Haryana	53652	14919	853	69424
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4195	1594	140	5929
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3271	714	36	4021
11.	Jharkhand	92541	5282	175	97998
12.	Karnataka	108067	25452	1230	134749
13.	Kerala	52542	8978	359	61879
14.	Madhya Pradesh	340679	19270	677	360626
15.	Maharashtra	485167	81058	3876	570101

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Manipur	14787	2418	34	17239
17.	Meghalaya	1035	90	3	1128
18.	Mizoram	1062	308	17	1387
19.	Nagaland	336	103	5	444
20.	Odisha	65870	6382	222	72474
21.	Punjab	56436	12470	451	69357
22.	Rajasthan	262960	30540	1092	294592
23.	Sikkim	241	105	23	369
24.	Tamil Nadu	518165	68633	1685	588483
25.	Telangana	96794	40576	1012	138382
26.	Tripura	2500	357	13	2870
27.	Uttar Pradesh	559687	34688	1661	596036
28.	Uttarakhand	11254	2704	211	14169
29.	West Bengal	130971	11382	498	142851
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2746	642	31	3419
31.	Chandigarh	3225	748	49	4022
32.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	1321	639	44	2004
33.	Daman and Diu	558	534	42	1134
34.	Delhi	46120	12852	528	59500
35.	Lakshadweep	39	5	0	44
36.	Puducherry	3908	847	38	4793
TOTAL		43,18,841	5,00,942	19,766	48,39,549

Statement

*Details of loan sanctioned to MSME units by Banks in Kerala
during 2014-15 to 2017-18*

*(A) Bank-wise outstanding credit to MSME in the State of Kerala
for the year ended March 2015*

Sl. No.	Bank Name	No. of Accounts	Balance Outstanding (in ₹ Thousand)
1	2	3	4
1.	AB Bank	0	0
2.	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank	0	0
3.	Allahabad Bank	1757	1226823
4.	Andhra Bank	900	2442743
5.	Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	0	0
6.	Axis Bank	753	12865125
7.	Bank Internasional Indonesia	0	0
8.	Bank of America	0	0
9.	Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait	0	0
10.	Bank of Baroda	6612	5842268
11.	Bank of Ceylon	0	0
12.	Bank of India	13692	4892289
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	344	150382
14.	Bank of Nova Scotia	0	0
15.	Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi, UFJ	0	0
16.	Barclays Bank	0	0
17.	Bhartiya Mahila Bank Ltd.	343	48906
18.	BNP Paribas	0	0
19.	Canara Bank	118856	39364467
20.	Catholic Syrian Bank	26717	17936899

1	2	3	4
21.	Central Bank of India	9116	4138790
22.	Chinatrust Commercial Bank	0	0
23.	Citibank	11	406326
24.	City Union Bank	466	1634125
25.	Commonwealth Bank of Australia	0	0
26.	Corporation Bank	17489	10054364
27.	Credit Agricole Bank	0	0
28.	Credit Sussie AG	0	0
29.	DBS Bank	0	0
30.	Dena Bank	1033	684520
31.	Deutsche Bank	0	0
32.	Development Credit Bank	0	0
33.	Dhanlaxmi Bank	39143	6187972
34.	Federal Bank	19312	48533290
35.	FirstRand Bank	0	0
36.	HDFC Bank	10256	12027575
37.	HSBC	6856	1632354
38.	ICICI Bank	11773	9350491
39.	IDBI Bank Ltd.	2102	7449745
40.	Indian Bank	14444	6842912
41.	Indian Overseas Bank	32704	15027315
42.	Indusind Bank	103708	8197194
43.	Industrial & Commercial Bank of China	0	0
44.	ING Vysya Bank	333	995128
45.	J.P.Morgan Chase Bank	0	0
46.	Jammu and Kashmir Bank	165	209676
47.	JSC VTB Bank	0	0

1	2	3	4
48.	Karnataka Bank	730	1216236
49.	Karur Vysya Bank	894	539430
50.	Kotak Mahindra Bank	1186	1403594
51.	Krung Thai Bank	0	0
52.	Lakshmi Vilas Bank	214	239691
53.	Mashreqbank	0	0
54.	Mizuho Corporate Bank	0	0
55.	Nainital Bank	0	0
56.	National Australia Bank	0	0
57.	Oman International Bank	0	0
58.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	1848	1343338
59.	Punjab and Sind Bank	252	192113
60.	Punjab National Bank	12088	12979728
61.	Rabo Bank International	0	0
62.	Ratnakar Bank	0	0
63.	Royal Bank of Scotland	0	0
64.	Sber Bank	0	0
65.	Shinhan Bank	0	0
66.	Societe Generate	0	0
67.	Sonali Bank	0	0
68.	South Indian Bank	22613	40301444
69.	Standard Chartered Bank	169	1597551
70.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	75	1391194
71.	State Bank of Hyderabad	338	334470
72.	State Bank of India	17084	14490753
73.	State Bank of Mauritius	0	0
74.	State Bank of Mysore	1025	467886

1	2	3	4
75.	State Bank of Patiala	31	151827
76.	State Bank of Travancore	50609	55385551
77.	Sumitomo mitsui Banking Corporation	0	0
78.	Syndicate Bank	40654	9707900
79.	Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	858	1248926
80.	UCO Bank	8709	4083252
81.	Union Bank of India	21537	11668578
82.	United Bank of India	536	511088
83.	United Overseas Bank	0	0
84.	Vijaya Bank	7704	4064827
85.	Westpack Banking Corporation	0	0
86.	Woori Bank	0	0
87.	Yes Bank	4373	1582823
GRAND TOTAL		632412	383043879

*(B) Bank-wise outstanding credit to MSME in the State of Kerala
for the year ended March 2016*

Sl. No.	Bank Name	No. of Accounts	Balance Outstanding (in ₹ Thousand)
1	2	3	4
1.	AB Bank	0	0
2.	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank	0	0
3.	Allahabad Bank	2041	1435919
4.	Andhra Bank	1586	6475110
5.	Australia and New Zealand Banking Group	0	0
6.	Axis Bank	2867	22021574
7.	Bandhan Bank Limited	0	0

1	2	3	4
8.	Bank Internasional Indonesia	0	0
9.	Bank of America	0	0
10.	Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait	0	0
11.	Bank of Baroda	9435	5891296
12.	Bank of Ceylon	0	0
13.	Bank of India	15904	4427675
14.	Bank of Maharashtra	720	444455
15.	Bank of Nova Scotia	11	141189
16.	Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi, UFJ	0	0
17.	Barclays Bank	0	0
18.	Bhartiya Mahila Bank Ltd.	1472	154244
19.	BNP Paribas	0	0
20.	Canara Bank	125864	46325728
21.	Catholic Syrian Bank	19516	16932131
22.	Central Bank of India	11237	5219201
23.	Chinatrust Commercial Bank	0	0
24.	Citibank	11	776966
25.	City Union Bank	469	2221789
26.	Commonwealth Bank of Australia	0	0
27.	Corporation Bank	27470	10151083
28.	Credit Agricole Bank	0	0
29.	Credit Suisse AG	0	0
30.	DBS Bank	0	0
31.	Dena Bank	1153	636765
32.	Deutsche Bank	0	0
33.	Development Credit Bank	4	4298
34.	Dhanlaxmi Bank	60790	9244337

1	2	3	4
35.	Federal Bank	16361	55147352
36.	FirstRand Bank	0	0
37.	HDFC Bank	23368	16835319
38.	HSBC	7377	1813426
39.	ICICI Bank	14904	11979225
40.	IDBIBank Ltd.	3936	7964293
41.	IDFC Bank Limited	0	0
42.	Indian Bank	21768	6295248
43.	Indian Overseas Bank	52212	14064162
44.	Indusind Bank	80854	8235158
45.	Industrial & Commercial Bank of China	0	0
46.	J.P.Morgan Chase Bank	0	0
47.	Jammu and Kashmir Bank	120	126259
48.	JSC VTB Bank	0	0
49.	Karnataka Bank	828	2115930
50.	Karur Vysya Bank	652	1412088
51.	Keb Hana Bank	0	0
52.	Kotak Mahindra Bank	1907	3424997
53.	Krung Thai Bank	0	0
54.	Lakshmi Vilas Bank	245	1060240
55.	Mashreqbank	0	0
56.	Mizuho Corporate Bank	0	0
57.	Nainital Bank	0	0
58.	National Australia Bank	0	0
59.	Oman International Bank	0	0
60.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	2105	1564032
61.	Punjab and Sind Bank	517	350809

1	2	3	4
62.	Punjab National Bank	17355	14002729
63.	Rabo Bank International	0	0
64.	Ratnakar Bank	0	0
65.	Royal Bank of Scotland	0	0
66.	Sber Bank	0	0
67.	Shinhan Bank	0	0
68.	Societe Generale	0	0
69.	Sonali Bank	0	0
70.	South Indian Bank	14708	47308742
71.	Standard Chartered Bank	160	1419526
72.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	100	92328
73.	State Bank of Hyderabad	349	305095
74.	State Bank of India	12332	16054814
75.	State Bank of Mauritius	0	0
76.	State Bank of Mysore	1234	431705
77.	State Bank of Patiala	44	160881
78.	State Bank of Travancore	52250	77602758
79.	Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation	0	0
80.	Syndicate Bank	51139	10894423
81.	Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	921	1189118
82.	UCO Bank	11922	4432337
83.	Union Bank of India	30657	13205437
84.	United Bank of India	662	554612
85.	United Overseas Bank	0	0
86.	Vijaya Bank	14367	6992970
87.	Westpack Banking Corporation	0	0
88.	Woori Bank	0	0
89.	Yes Bank	21025	2814573
GRAND TOTAL		736929	462354346

*(C) Bank-wise outstanding credit to MSME in the State of Kerala
for the year ended March 2017*

Sl. No.	Bank Name	No. of Accounts	Balance Outstanding (in ₹ Thousand)
1	2	3	4
1.	State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	106	66310.29
2.	State Bank of Hyderabad	346	364013.56
3.	State Bank of India	12098	18191322.37
4.	State Bank of Mysore	1119	452761.70
5.	State Bank of Patiala	46	144239.00
6.	State Bank of Travancore	64348	61950894.00
	SBI and its Associates	78063	81169540.92
1.	Axis Bank Limited	3232	18920887.00
2.	Bandhan Bank Limited	1	100000.00
3.	Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd.	17513	13433969.68
4.	City Union Bank Limited	469	2218011.91
5.	DCB Bank Limited	12	32486.45
6.	Federal Bank Ltd.	30994	57638410.04
7.	HDFC bank Ltd.	81062	19264656.95
8.	ICICI Bank Limited	17839	14204244.88
9.	IDFC Bank Limited	15556	136729.97
10.	Indusind Bank Ltd.	109249	11682072.49
11.	Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.	109	110159.00
12.	Karnataka Bank Ltd.	909	2568720.00
13.	Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.	644	1121361.64
14.	Kotak mahindra bank Ltd.	2200	3852316.00
15.	Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd.	230	342023.00
16.	Nainital Bank Ltd.	0	0.00

1	2	3	4
17.	Rbl Bank Limited	0	0.00
18.	South Indian Bank Ltd.	13274	51926032.58
19.	Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd.	915	1186588.78
20.	The Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd.	70222	13740414.75
21.	Yes Bank Ltd.	16813	2986895.26
	Private Sector Banks	381243	215465980.38
1.	Allahabad Bank	2039	1431381.00
2.	Andhra Bank	1805	6235064.35
3.	Bank of Baroda	10810	7319022.45
4.	Bank of India	16428	5562943.92
5.	Bank of Maharashtra	834	353996.95
6.	Bharatiya Mahila Bank Ltd.	1665	137927.08
7.	Canara Bank	134003	48036520.11
8.	Central Bank of India	10804	3922655.00
9.	Corporation Bank	28222	9405972.00
10.	Dena Bank	1143	492365.62
11.	IDBI Bank Limited	4954	8999421.07
12.	Indian Bank	23238	7940337.00
13.	Indian Overseas Bank	33970	13635757.00
14.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	2185	1469427.35
15.	Punjab and Sind Bank	701	546913.22
16.	Punjab National Bank	18449	13744657.24
17.	Syndicate Bank	51701	11434962.00
18.	UCO Bank	14756	5095652.00
19.	Union Bank of India	36797	16144921.08
20.	United Bank of India	605	522995.23
21.	Vijaya Bank	12090	6772612.87

1	2	3	4
	Nationalised Banks	407199	169205504.54
1.	AB Bank Limited	0	0.00
2.	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC	0	0.00
3.	Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited	0	0.00
4.	Bank of America, National Association	0	0.00
5.	Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait B.S.C.	0	0.00
6.	Bank of Ceylon	0	0.00
7.	Bank of Nova Scotia	0	0.00
8.	Barclays Bank PLC	0	0.00
9.	BNP Paribas	0	0.00
10.	Citibank N.A	11	1132473.41
11.	Commonwealth Bank of Australia	0	0.00
12.	Cooperative Rabobank U.A.	0	0.00
13.	Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank	0	0.00
14.	Credit Suisse AG	0	0.00
15.	CTBC Bank Co. Ltd.	0	0.00
16.	DBS Bank Ltd.	0	0.00
17.	Deutsche Bank AG	0	0.00
18.	Doha Bank QSC	0	0.00
19.	First Abu Dhabi Bank PJSC	0	0.00
20.	Firststrand Bank Ltd.	0	0.00
21.	Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corpn. Ltd.	7570	2326404.15
22.	Industrial and Commercial Bank of China	0	0.00
23.	Industrial Bank of Korea	0	0.00
24.	Jpmorgan Chase Bank National Association	0	0.00
25.	JSC VTB Bank	0	0.00

1	2	3	4
26.	KEB Hana Bank	0	0.00
27.	Krung Thai Bank Public Company Limited	0	0.00
28.	Mashreq Bank PSC	0	0.00
29.	Mizuho Bank Ltd.	0	0.00
30.	National Australia Bank	0	0.00
31.	PT Bank Maybank Indonesia TBK	0	0.00
32.	Sberbank	0	0.00
33.	SBM Bank (Mauritius)Ltd.	0	0.00
34.	Shinhan Bank	0	0.00
35.	Societe Generale	0	0.00
36.	Sonali Bank	0	0.00
37.	Standard Chartered Bank	146	1693670.00
38.	Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation	0	0.00
39.	The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ Ltd.	0	0.00
40.	The Royal Bank of Scotland PLC	0	0.00
41.	United Overseas Bank Ltd.	0	0.00
42.	Westpac Banking Corporation	0	0.00
43.	Woori Bank	0	0.00
	Foreign Banks	7727	5152547.56
	GRAND TOTAL	874232	470993573.40

*(D) Bank-wise outstanding credit to MSME in the State of Kerala
for the year ended March 2018*

Sl. No.	Bank Name	No. of Accounts	Balance Outstanding (in ₹ Thousand)
1	2	3	4
1.	AU Small Finance Bank Limited	0	0.00
2.	Capital Small Finance Bank Limited	0	0.00

1	2	3	4
3.	Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited	0	0.00
4.	ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited	94581	1722346.98
5.	Fincare Small Finance Bank Limited	0	0.00
6.	Suryodaya Small Finance Bank Ltd.	0	0.00
7.	Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited	14031	224812.05
8.	Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited	0	0.00
	Small Finance Bank	108612	1947159.03
1.	State Bank of India	60408	74486576.44
	SBI and its Associates	60408	74486576.44
1.	Axis Bank Limited	2565	15377673.89
2.	Bandhan Bank Limited	2	134709.26
3.	Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd.	18427	9768949.33
4.	City Union Bank Limited	449	2126783.32
5.	Deb Bank Limited	46	97626.10
6.	Federal Bank Ltd.	109594	61255777.46
7.	HDFC Bank Ltd.	117666	19146376.57
8.	ICICI Bank Limited	1871	6782742.87
9.	IDFC Bank Limited	22949	747553.67
10.	Indusind Bank Ltd.	108735	13555973.40
11.	Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd.	119	128027.00
12.	Karnataka Bank Ltd.	902	2545559.00
13.	Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.	656	1525924.00
14.	Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.	2674	5103127.88
15.	Lakshmi Vilas Bank Ltd.	216	353852.00
16.	Nainital Bank Ltd.	0	0.00
17.	RBL Bank Limited	70	2100.00
18.	South Indian Bank Ltd.	15556	70567648.45

1	2	3	4
19.	Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Ltd.	924	1251850.37
20.	The Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd.	79381	11365437.56
21.	Yes bank Ltd.	2537	5908683.50
	Private Sector Banks	485339	227746375.63
1.	Allahabad Bank	2102	1472178.00
2.	Andhra Bank	1851	8408589.44
3.	Bank of Baroda	10011	7735990.99
4.	Bank of India	17190	5265245.13
5.	Bank OF Maharashtra	975	267065.00
6.	Canara Bank	127077	53806104.85
7.	Central Bank of India	10124	3872470.00
8.	Corporation Bank	24963	7951897.07
9.	Dena Bank	1174	509565.75
10.	IDBI Bank Limited	5526	9136376.29
11.	Indian Bank	29273	10528364.00
12.	Indian Overseas Bank	27405	16829828.00
13.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	2075	1609217.10
14.	Punjab and Sind Bank	723	648643.28
15.	Punjab National Bank	20085	12603174.83
16.	Syndicate Bank	49575	11649062.00
17.	UCO bank	14101	4801501.25
18.	Union Bank of India	36137	20278353.00
19.	United Bank of India	609	506391.78
20.	Vijaya Bank	17400	6207875.78
	Nationalised Banks	398376	184087893.54
1.	AB Bank Limited	0	0.00
2.	Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank PJSC	0	0.00

1	2	3	4
3.	Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited	0	0.00
4.	Bank of America, National Association	0	0.00
5.	Bank of Bahrain & Kuwait B.S.C.	0	0.00
6.	Bank of Ceylon	0	0.00
7.	Bank of Nova Scotia	0	0.00
8.	Barclays Bank PLC	0	0.00
9.	BNP Paribas	0	0.00
10.	Citibank N.A	12	1452856.12
11.	Cooperatieve Rabobank U.A.	0	0.00
12.	Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank	0	0.00
13.	Credit Suisse AG	0	0.00
14.	CTBC Bank Co., Ltd.	0	0.00
15.	DBS Bank Ltd.	1	59967.98
16.	Deutsche Bank AG	0	0.00
17.	Doha Bank QSC	0	0.00
18.	First Abu Dhabi Bank PJSC	0	0.00
19.	Firststrand Bank Ltd.	0	0.00
20.	Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corpn.Ltd.	7439	2534477.00
21.	Industrial and Commercial Bank of China	0	0.00
	Industrial Bank of Korea	0	0.00
23.	Jpmorgan Chase Bank National Association	0	0.00
24.	JSC VTB Bank	0	0.00
25.	Keb Hana Bank	0	0.00
26.	Krung Thai Bank Public Company Limited	0	0.00
27.	Mashreq Bank PSC	0	0.00
28.	Mizuho Bank Ltd.	0	0.00

1	2	3	4
29.	National Australia Bank	0	0.00
30.	PT Bank Maybank Indonesia TBK	0	0.00
31.	Qatar National Bank SAQ	0	0.00
32.	Sberbank	0	0.00
33.	SBM Bank (Mauritius) Ltd.	0	0.00
34.	Shinhan Bank	0	0.00
35.	Societe Generale	0	0.00
36.	Sonali Bank	0	0.00
37.	Standard Chartered Bank	104	1432435.55
38.	Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation	0	0.00
39.	The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ Ltd.	0	0.00
40.	The Royal Bank of Scotland PLC	0	0.00
41.	United Overseas Bank Ltd.	0	0.00
42.	Westpac Banking Corporation	0	0.00
43.	Woori Bank	0	0.00
	Foreign Banks	7556	5479736.65
GRAND TOTAL		1060291	493747741.29

MSME units shut down after GST

118. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several thousands of MSME units were shut down after the announcement of GST last year, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the total MSME units registered in the Country, State-wise, as on date;

(c) whether Government has taken effective steps to support and develop MSME units in Tamil Nadu, particularly under GST regime;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the total funds allocated in this regard; and

(e) the various steps taken by Government to provide incentives and other encouragements to best performing MSME units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium enterprises (MSME) has not received any such report on shut down of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) from the States/UTs.

(b) 48.40 lakh MSMEs have been registered at Udyog Aadhaar Memorandum (UAM) Portal from September, 2015 to 12th July, 2018 in the entire country. The registration details of MSMEs on UAM Portal (State/UT-wise) are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No. 117 (a) and (b)]

(c) and (d) Government implements various schemes for support and development of MSMEs in the country including Tamil Nadu. Government has taken several proactive measures for smooth implementation of GST for MSMEs like (i) exemption to Khadi fabric sold through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) and KVIC certified institutions outlets, (ii) majority of items produced by MSMEs in the band of 28% tax slab brought to lower slabs, (iii) composition levy extended upto turnover worth ₹ 150 lakh per annum, (iv) quarterly levy extended upto turnover worth ₹ 150 lakh per annum or less, and (v) reverse charge mechanism has been kept in abeyance till September 2018. There are various schemes which are being implemented by Government of India in the country for development of MSMEs (which includes Tamil Nadu). ₹ 6552 Crore has been provided in the Union Budget during 2018-19 for the Ministry of MSME for support to and development of MSMEs in the country.

(e) The Ministry of MSME, with a view to recognizing the efforts and contribution of MSMEs, gives National Awards annually to selected entrepreneurs of MSME, under the scheme of National Awards.

Job loss in MSME sector

119. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data regarding the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise sector that have shut down since November 8, 2016 till date, State/UT-wise details thereof;

(b) whether Government has any data regarding MSME units that have shut down since the implementation of GST, till date, State/UT-wise details thereof; and

(c) the data regarding job loss in the MSME sector since November 8, 2016, till date along with the loss to the nation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium enterprises does not maintain data on shut down of MSMEs/job losses. It has also not received any such report from States/UTs on shut down of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and consequential job losses. However, 30.60 lakh MSMEs have been registered on Udyog Aadhaar Memorandum (UAM) portal since 8th November, 2016 till 12th July, 2018. Out of this 16.34 lakh MSMEs were registered on UAM since the implementation of GST (01.07.2017) till 12th July, 2018.

Reopening of closed Khadi Gramodyog centres

120. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to reopen the closed Khadi Gramodyog centres situated amongst different panchayats of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the schemes implemented and progressive works done for the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) during each of the last three years; and

(d) the details of increase in sales through KVIC, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no plan to reopen the closed Khadi Gramodyog centres situated amongst different panchayats of the country. However, to revive the sick Khadi Institutions, Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) implements 'Strengthening of Infrastructure of Existing Weak Khadi Institutions and assistance for Marketing Infrastructure' scheme. The scheme is meant to meet the need based support of the Khadi Sector to nurse the sick Khadi Institutions which have potential to attain normalcy and support creation of marketing infrastructure in other identified outlets.

The details of financial support extended by KVIC under the scheme during the last three years are furnished as under:

Year	No. of KIs covered	Funds released (₹ in crore)
2015-16	15	2.99
2016-17	33	3.27
2017-18	35	3.72

(c) The details of the schemes implemented and progressive works done for the Khadi and Village Industries during each of the last three years are as follows:

- (i) Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) is a credit linked subsidy scheme, for setting up of new micro-enterprises and to generate employment opportunities in rural as well as urban areas of the country through KVIC, State Khadi & Village Industries Board (KVIB) and District Industries Centre (DIC). General category beneficiaries can avail of margin money subsidy of 25% of the project cost in rural areas and 15% in urban areas. For beneficiaries belonging to special categories such as SC/ST/Women/PH/Minorities/Ex-Servicemen/NER, the margin money subsidy is 35% in rural areas and 25% in urban areas. The maximum cost of projects is ₹25 lakh in the manufacturing sector and ₹10 lakh in the service sector.
- (ii) Market Promotion Development Assistance (MPDA) - A unified scheme by merging Market Development Assistance, Publicity, Marketing and Market Promotion. A new component of Infrastructure namely setting up of Marketing Complexes /Khadi Plazas has been added to expand the marketing network of Khadi & VI products. Under the Modified MDA (MMDA) financial assistance at 30% of the Prime Cost is distributed amongst Producing Institutions (40%), Selling Institutions (20%) and Artisans (40%).
- (iii) Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) Scheme provides credit at concessional rate of interest through Banks as per the requirement of the Khadi institutions. The institutions are required to pay interest of only 4%, any interest charged by banks over 4% will be paid by the Government of India through KVIC to the banks.

- (iv) Workshed Scheme for Khadi Artisans was introduced in 2008-09 to provide financial assistance for construction of workshed to khadi artisans belonging to BPL category through the khadi institutions with which the khadi artisans are associated. This empowers khadi spinners and weavers to chart out a sustainable path for growth, income generation and better work environment.
- (v) Strengthening infrastructure of weak Khadi institutions and assistance for marketing infrastructure: This scheme provides need-based support towards the Khadi sector for nursing the sick/problematic institutions elevated from "D" to "C" category as well as those whose production, sales and employment have been declining while they have potential to attain normalcy and to support creation of marketing infrastructure in other identified outlets. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to existing weak Khadi institutions for strengthening of their infrastructure and for renovation of selected khadi sales outlets.
- (vi) Khadi Reform and Development Programme (KRDP) aims to revitalize the khadi sector with enhanced sustainability of khadi, increased incomes and employment for spinners and weavers, increased artisans' welfare and to achieve synergy with village industries. Under KRDP, restructured amount of US\$ 105 million has been negotiated with Asian Development Bank (ADB) and funds are being provided to the Government of India to be released to KVIC as 'grants-in-aid' under budgetary allocation through the Ministry of MSME. Khadi Reform Package envisages reform support in the following areas: (i) Artisan Earnings and Empowerment, (ii) Direct Reform Assistance to 400 Khadi Institutions & (iii) Implementation of a well-knit MIS The details of the performance of Khadi and Village Industries (KVI) during each of the last three years are given in the Statement (See below).

(d) The details of increase in sales performance of entire sector under Khadi and Polyvastra for the last three years is furnished here under:

Year	Sales performance (₹ in crore)	% increase over 2015-16
2015-16	1663.98	-
2016-17	2146.60	129%
2017-18 (Provisional)	2508.10	151%

Statement*Details of performance of KVI during 2015-16 to 2017-18**(A) State-wise position of PMEGP during 2015-16*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Margin Money subsidy allocated (₹ lakh)	Margin Money subsidy utilized# (₹ lakh)	Number of projects assisted	Estimated employment generated (No. of persons)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	4006.80	3781.19	2207	12115
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1721.57	1767.26	1077	5134
3.	Punjab	3026.80	2902.97	966	7762
4.	UT Chandigarh	90.00	87.72	43	323
5.	Uttarakhand	1909.93	1740.86	1136	6161
6.	Haryana	3747.40	3112.09	1248	7232
7.	Delhi	257.35	254.05	256	2048
8.	Rajasthan	4188.14	4384.07	1988	14537
9.	Uttar Pradesh	17535.32	14456.87	4365	43059
10.	Bihar	7118.59	6588.55	2430	19624
11.	Sikkim	227.38	186.11	110	397
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	200.08	38.85	35	104
13.	Nagaland	1255.83	1392.81	623	4998
14.	Manipur	2855.92	1213.98	685	2715
15.	Mizoram	924.99	1026.35	1134	9072
16.	Tripura	2748.26	945.84	642	5355
17.	Meghalaya	1250.62	1056.12	603	4824
18.	Assam	4969.87	2869.74	3483	9026
19.	West Bengal	4765.49	3400.65	1873	12746

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Jharkhand	3462.64	3559.74	1839	12873
21.	Odisha	6282.00	5736.32	2876	17629
22.	Chhattisgarh	4303.80	2829.38	1277	9496
23.	Madhya Pradesh	7729.40	8117.17	1979	16497
24.	Gujarat*	6536.16	6339.73	1419	14960
25.	Maharashtra**	9718.42	5285.03	2497	20161
26.	Andhra Pradesh	4496.85	2262.37	642	7740
27.	Telangana	2094.00	2217.57	660	7761
28.	Karnataka	10846.89	5898.01	2140	17284
29.	Goa	159.40	165.43	91	500
30.	Lakshadweep	90.00	0.00	0	0
31.	Kerala	2731.60	2720.48	1369	9653
32.	Tamil Nadu	7110.80	5497.54	2463	20836
33.	Puducherry	100.00	106.37	65	447
34.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	158.00	65.11	119	293
TOTAL		128620.30	102006.33	44340	323362

including un-utilized balance funds of previous year.

* including Daman and Diu.

** including Dadra & Nagar Haveli

(B) State-wise position of PMEGP during 2016-17

Sl. No.	State/UT	Margin Money subsidy allocated (₹ lakh)	Margin Money subsidy utilized# (₹ lakh)	Number of projects assisted	Estimated employment generated (No. of persons)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	3541.26	2621.40	1492	11691
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1970.11	2185.27	941	6916
3.	Punjab	3504.09	3181.60	1266	9858

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	UT Chandigarh	100	82.84	47	376
5.	Uttarakhand	2140.93	2122.33	1345	9890
6.	Haryana	3371.31	3383.53	1377	11016
7.	Delhi	300	182.41	119	952
8.	Rajasthan	5500.99	4641.6	1749	13408
9.	Uttar Pradesh	12981.52	14271.05	4074	36315
10.	Bihar	6909.77	8336.51	3234	25872
11.	Sikkim	200	35.93	27	201
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	500	440.34	301	1984
13.	Nagaland	1751.68	2007.48	1018	7783
14.	Manipur	1741.7	2162.78	1265	8419
15.	Mizoram	1253.49	491.96	425	3400
16.	Tripura	1578.62	3734.66	2297	17961
17.	Meghalaya	1748.1	407.89	329	2632
18.	Assam	5636.41	4910.38	6028	31498
19.	West Bengal	3680.3	6270.32	3528	26604
20.	Jharkhand	4165.73	2654.35	1300	10400
21.	Odisha	5201.65	6848.96	3029	20392
22.	Chhattisgarh	4493.3	4070.73	1598	12856
23.	Madhya Pradesh	8527.32	8346.06	1940	15520
24.	Gujarat*	5398.45	7561.61	1386	11629
25.	Maharashtra**	6111.29	6001.36	2325	17799
26.	Andhra Pradesh	2336.59	4916.08	1357	14148
27.	Telangana	2004.86	2561.72	664	6445
28.	Karnataka	4941.62	11609.56	3575	30286
29.	Goa	371.62	191.44	90	660
30.	Lakshadweep	50	00	00	00

1	2	3	4	5	6
31.	Kerala	2446.06	3350.68	1584	13068
32.	Tamil Nadu	5291.23	8213.92	2941	25764
33.	Puducherry	150	103.65	66	699
34.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100	193.46	195	1398
TOTAL		110000	128093.86	52912	407840

including un-utilized balance funds of previous year.

* including Daman and Diu.

** including Dadra and Nagar Haveli

(C) State-wise position of PMEGP during 2017-18

Sl. No.	State/UT	Margin Money subsidy allocated (₹ lakh)	Margin Money subsidy utilized# (₹ lakh)	Number of projects assisted	Estimated employment generated (No. of persons)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	3272.84	6913.15	3753	30024
2.	Himachal Pradesh	1785.19	2042.5	886	7088
3.	Punjab	3272.84	3930.46	1520	12160
4.	UT Chandigarh	100.00	90.07	45	360
5.	Uttarakhand	1933.95	2880.98	1613	12904
6.	Haryana	3272.84	4167.04	1718	13744
7.	Delhi	300.00	150.65	115	920
8.	Rajasthan	4909.26	4929.04	1577	12614
9.	Uttar Pradesh	11157.41	16866.47	5432	43456
10.	Bihar	5653.09	6558.85	2307	18456
11.	Sikkim	200.00	46.36	37	296
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	500.00	309.42	209	1672
13.	Nagaland	1728.96	2672.15	930	7440

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	Manipur	1434.32	1383.87	600	4800
15.	Mizoram	1245.66	274.05	249	1992
16.	Tripura	1283.75	1892.3	1116	8928
17.	Meghalaya	1720.32	118.27	75	600
18.	Assam	5351.99	2362.48	2282	18256
19.	West Bengal	2975.31	3891.37	1366	10928
20.	Jharkhand	3570.37	2439.53	1111	8888
21.	Odisha	4462.97	5680.65	2399	19192
22.	Chhattisgarh	4016.67	3398.4	1463	11704
23.	Madhya Pradesh	7587.04	7631.41	1804	14432
24.	Gujarat*	4909.26	12883.63	1876	15008
25.	Maharashtra**	5355.56	8749.73	3329	26632
26.	Andhra Pradesh	1933.95	5336.1	1527	12216
27.	Telangana	4611.73	4030.21	1190	9520
28.	Karnataka	4462.97	6477.94	2115	16920
29.	Goa	297.53	149.07	50	400
30.	Lakshadweep	100.00	00	00	00
31.	Kerala	2082.72	2910.44	1347	10776
32.	Tamil Nadu	4760.50	9717.58	4095	32760
33.	Puducherry	100.00	78.95	44	352
34.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100.00	276.95	218	1744
TOTAL		100449	131240.07	48398	387184

including un-utilized balance funds of previous year.

* including Daman and Diu.

** including Dadra and Nagar Haveli

(D) KVI Performance

(i) Performance Overview of Khadi and Village Industries

(₹ in crore)				
Sl. No.	Particulars	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 (Provisional)
A. Production				
1.	Textile (Khadi+Poly+Solarvastra)	1158.44	1520.83	1624.86
2.	Village Industries	33331.78	41110.26	47471.20
	TOTAL-A	34490.22	42631.09	49096.06
B. Sales				
1.	Textile (Khadi + Poly + Solarvastra)	1663.98	2146.60	2508.50
2.	Village Industries	40230.58	49991.61	57942.78
	Total-B	41894.56	52138.21	60451.28

(ii) Market Promotion and Development Assistance Scheme (MPDA)

Year	MDA paid (₹ in crore)	No. of Inst. benefited	No. of Artisans benefited
2015-16	189.87	1877	Released through KIs
2016-17	325.25	1778	192383
2017-18 (Provisional)	187.10	1466	364826

(iii) Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) scheme

(₹ in crore)			
Year	ISEC Issued	ISEC Aailed	Int. subsidy released
2015-16	949.68	422.79	40.07
2016-17	1435.71	517.92	36.39
2017-18 (Provisional)	1702.83	575.27	35.85

(iv) Workshed Scheme

Year	No. of workshed for artisans
2015-16	1279
2016-17	3272
2017-18 (Provisional)	1825

(v) Scheme for Strengthening of Infrastructure of Existing Weak Khadi Institutions and Assistance for Marketing Infrastructure

Year	No. of KIs assisted	No. of sales outlets assisted
2015-16	15	15
2016-17	35	117
2017-18 (Provisional)	35	-

Loss of jobs due to model charkhas

121. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the model charkhas have made khadi artisans lose their jobs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that nearly 1.2 lakh jobs were lost in the east zone alone; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) New Model Charkhas have been introduced long back. It is not true that jobs are lost due to introduction of New Model Charkhas. Rather they give good quality yarn and enhanced wages to the Khadi artisans due to increase of production capacity.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) No. The total employment under Khadi and Polyvastra for the year 2016-17 and 2017-18 (Provisional) in the East Zone is given below, which shows an increasing trend.

Employment in East Zone

Particulars	2016-17	(in lakh persons)
		2017-18 (Provisional)
Employment under Khadi and Polyvastra	1.05	1.06

Efforts to increase MSME registrations

122. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) how many Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) have been registered with the department in last five years, State/UT-wise details especially in Gujarat and Jharkhand;

(b) how many MSME registrations have been cancelled in the same period in the country, especially in Gujarat and Jharkhand;

(c) what are the benefits of MSME registration; and

(d) what efforts have been made by Government to increase MSME registrations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI GIRIRAJ SINGH): (a) The number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) registered on Udyog Aadhaar Memorandum (UAM) Portal till 12th July, 2018 (after enactment of UAM in September, 2015) is 48.40 lakh. Prior to that 7.88 lakh MSMEs filed Entrepreneur Memorandum (Part-II) (EM-II) during 2013-14 and 2014-15. The details of MSMEs registered on UAM portal and filed EM-II (State/UT-wise) are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) 24,248 MSME registrations have been cancelled in the country on UAM portal till 12th July, 2018 (after enactment of UAM in September, 2015). 25 and 927 MSME registrations have been cancelled in Gujarat and Jharkhand respectively on UAM portal during the same period.

(c) The benefits of MSME registration are given below:

(i) Can avail the benefits of various schemes of Ministry of MSMEs like Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSEs, Credit Linked Capital Subsidies Scheme, Lean Manufacturing Competitiveness Scheme for MSMEs, Micro and Small Enterprises Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP), A Scheme for Promoting Innovation, Rural Industry & Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE), Revamped Scheme Of Fund for Regeneration Of Traditional Industries (SFURTI), Design Clinic Scheme for MSMEs, financial support to MSMEs in ZED certification scheme, etc. and the schemes of other Ministries.

(ii) Getting access to the following benefits/facilities under the Public Procurement Policy:

- Tender set free of cost,
- Exemption from the payment of earnest Money,
- Purchase preference to MSEs,
- 358 product items reserved for exclusive procurement from MSEs,
- Exemption in respect of prior experience - prior turnover criteria.

(iii) Recognizing the importance of MSME sector, a recent ordinance has empowered the Government to provide the MSME special dispensation under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).

(d) To increase the registration at UAM portal, State Government and Industry associations have been urged through communication, interactive session over video conferencing etc. Also, helpdesks for enrolment of UAM have been provided in various state level conclaves.

Statement

Details of MSMEs registered on UAM portal and filed EM-II (State/UT-wise)

Sl. No.	State/UT	EM-II (During 2013-14 to 2014-15)	UAM registration (Since Sep. 2015 to as on date)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5213	232510
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50	645
3.	Assam	4489	3640
4.	Bihar	5142	770871
5.	Chhattisgarh	3258	22802
6.	Goa	329	3577
7.	Gujarat	122787	486080
8.	Haryana	3963	69424
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1015	5929

1	2	3	4
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2077	4021
11.	Jharkhand	7042	97998
12.	Karnataka	54720	134749
13.	Kerala	29903	61879
14.	Madhya Pradesh	39277	360626
15.	Maharashtra	56818	570101
16.	Manipur	376	17239
17.	Meghalaya	759	1128
18.	Mizoram	491	1387
19.	Nagaland	333	444
20.	Odisha	5810	72474
21.	Punjab	4419	69357
22.	Rajasthan	36256	294592
23.	Sikkim	15	369
24.	Tamil Nadu	259497	588483
25.	Telangana	12631	138382
26.	Tripura	345	2870
27.	Uttar Pradesh	97545	596036
28.	Uttarakhand	5138	14169
29.	West Bengal	26624	142851
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	212	3419
31.	Chandigarh	345	4022
32.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	183	2004
33.	Daman and Diu	120	1134
34.	Delhi	981	59500
35.	Lakshadweep	14	44
36.	Puducherry	172	4793
TOTAL		7,88,349	48,39,549

Increase in petroleum prices

123. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether prices of petrol and diesel have reached a historic high during May-June, 2018;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of increase in price of petrol, diesel and LPG since 15th April 2018, till date?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Prices of petrol and diesel have been made market-determined by the Government with effect from 26.06.2010 and 19.10.2014 respectively. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on pricing of petrol and diesel in line with international product prices and other market conditions. The prices of petrol and diesel in Delhi on 29th May, 2018 was ₹ 78.43 per litre and ₹ 69.31 per litre respectively.

The selling prices of petrol, diesel (as furnished by Indian Oil Corporation Limited) and LPG, since 15th April 2018, till date are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II.

Statement-I***Selling of prices of petrol and diesel since 15th April, 2018***

Date	Petrol	Diesel
	(₹/litre) At Delhi	
15-Apr-18	73.98	65.09
16-Apr-18	74.02	65.18
17-Apr-18	74.02	65.18
18-Apr-18	74.02	65.18
19-Apr-18	74.07	65.27
20-Apr-18	74.08	65.31
21-Apr-18	74.21	65.46

Date	Petrol	Diesel
22-Apr-18	74.40	65.65
23-Apr-18	74.50	65.75
24-Apr-18	74.63	65.93
25-Apr-18	74.63	65.93
26-Apr-18	74.63	65.93
27-Apr-18	74.63	65.93
28-Apr-18	74.63	65.93
29-Apr-18	74.63	65.93
30-Apr-18	74.63	65.93
1-May-18	74.63	65.93
2-May-18	74.63	65.93
3-May-18	74.63	65.93
4-May-18	74.63	65.93
5-May-18	74.63	65.93
6-May-18	74.63	65.93
7-May-18	74.63	65.93
8-May-18	74.63	65.93
9-May-18	74.63	65.93
10-May-18	74.63	65.93
11-May-18	74.63	65.93
12-May-18	74.63	65.93
13-May-18	74.63	65.93
14-May-18	74.80	66.14
15-May-18	74.95	66.36
16-May-18	75.10	66.57
17-May-18	75.32	66.79
18-May-18	75.61	67.08

Date	Petrol	Diesel
19-May-18	75.91	67.31
20-May-18	76.24	67.57
21-May-18	76.57	67.82
22-May-18	76.87	68.08
23-May-18	77.17	68.34
24-May-18	77.47	68.53
25-May-18	77.83	68.75
26-May-18	77.97	68.90
27-May-18	78.12	69.06
28-May-18	78.27	69.17
29-May-18	78.43	69.31
30-May-18	78.42	69.30
31-May-18	78.35	69.25
1-Jun-18	78.29	69.20
2-Jun-18	78.20	69.11
3-Jun-18	78.11	69.11
4-Jun-18	77.96	68.97
5-Jun-18	77.83	68.88
6-Jun-18	77.72	68.80
7-Jun-18	77.63	68.73
8-Jun-18	77.42	68.58
9-Jun-18	77.02	68.28
10-Jun-18	76.78	68.10
11-Jun-18	76.58	67.95
12-Jun-18	76.43	67.85
13-Jun-18	76.43	67.85
14-Jun-18	76.43	67.85

Date	Petrol	Diesel
15-Jun-18	76.35	67.85
16-Jun-18	76.35	67.85
17-Jun-18	76.35	67.78
18-Jun-18	76.35	67.78
19-Jun-18	76.27	67.78
20-Jun-18	76.27	67.78
21-Jun-18	76.16	67.68
22-Jun-18	76.02	67.68
23-Jun-18	75.93	67.61
24-Jun-18	75.79	67.54
25-Jun-18	75.69	67.48
26-Jun-18	75.55	67.38
27-Jun 18	75.55	67.38
28-Jun-18	75.55	67.38
29-Jun-18	75.55	67.38
30-Jun-18	75.55	67.38
1-Jul-18	75.55	67.38
2-Jul-18	75.55	67.38
3-Jul-18	75.55	67.38
4-Jul-18	75.55	67.38
5-Jul-18	75.71	67.50
6-Jul-18	75.85	67.66
7-Jul-18	75.98	67.76
8-Jul-18	76.13	67.86
9-Jul-18	76.36	68.07

Statement-II*Selling prices of LPG since 15th April, 2018*

Date	Domestic LPG	
	Effective Cost to Consumer	Non-subsidized
	(₹/14.2 KG Cylinder)	
01.04.2018	491.35	653.50
01.05.2018	491.21	650.50
01.06.2018	493.55	698.50
01.07.2018	496.26	754.00

Notes -The effective cost to consumer is after DBTL Subsidy at Delhi.

Tax recovered from per litre petrol and diesel

†124. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of tax being recovered on per litre petrol and diesel at present;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the rise in the prices of petrol-diesel leads to increase in tax also;
- (c) the State-wise retail rate of fluctuation in prices of petrol and diesel during the last three years;
- (d) amount of profit-loss earned by petroleum companies during this period;
- (e) rate of fluctuation in the prices of raw petroleum products in the international market during the last three years; and
- (f) amount being spent at present to refine per litre petrol and diesel in order to make crude oil usable?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) At present, the Central Excise duty on petrol and diesel is ₹ 19.48 per

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

litre and ₹ 15.33 per litre respectively. The State-wise effective rates of taxes on petrol and diesel as on 01.07.20,18 are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Currently, the Central Government levies Customs Duty and Excise Duty on petrol and diesel, whereas State Governments levy VAT/Sales Tax. Excise Duty is levied on specific basis (fixed amount per litre) and hence does not vary with the increase/decrease in prices of petrol and diesel. Customs Duty and VAT/Sales tax (by most of the States) are levied on an *ad-valorem* basis and vary with the increase/decrease in the prices of petrol and diesel.

(c) The monthly average prices for petrol and diesel for last two years and current year are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) The profit earned by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies during the last three years is given below:

	(₹ in crore)		
Companies	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
IOCL	10,399	19,106	21,346
HPCL	3,726	6,209	6,357
BPCL	7,432	8,039	7,919

* Figures as per OMCs.

(e) The rates of Indian basket of crude oil in the international market during the last three years are given below:

Year	\$/bbl
2015-16	46.17
2016-17	47.56
2017-18	56.43
2018-19 (till 8th July)	72.98

The Indian basket of crude oil represents a derived basket comprising of sour grade (Oman & Dubai average) and sweet grade (Brent Dated) of crude oil processed in Indian refineries.

(f) Refining of crude oil is a process industry, where crude oil is processed through several processing units. Each of these units produces intermediate product streams which results in difficulty in apportioning the total cost of individual refined product. Therefore, individual product-wise costs are not identified separately.

Statement-I

State-wise rates of taxes on petrol and diesel as on 01.07.2018

State/UT	As on 01.07.2018 (%)	
	Petrol	Diesel
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	35.99%	28.36%
Arunachal Pradesh	20.00%	12.50%
Assam	30.84%	22.75%
Bihar	24.66%	18.31%
Chhattisgarh	26.96%	25.77%
Delhi	27.00%	17.26%
Goa	16.63%	18.85%
Gujarat	25.44%	25.54%
Haryana	26.25%	17.22%
Himachal Pradesh	24.38%	14.36%
Jammu and Kashmir	27.51%	17.07%
Jharkhand	26.80%	23.27%
Karnataka	28.34%	18.28%
Kerala	30.38%	23.85%
Madhya Pradesh	36.05%	23.22%
Maharashtra - Mumbai, Thane & Navi Mumbai	39.69%	24.82%
Maharashtra (Rest of State)	38.68%	21.93%

1	2	3
Manipur	23.62%	13.95%
Meghalaya	22.44%	13.77%
Mizoram	18.84%	11.52%
Nagaland	23.16%	13.58%
Odisha	24.57%	25.00%
Punjab	35.29%	16.83%
Rajasthan	30.84%	24.19%
Sikkim	28.01%	15.87%
Tamil Nadu	32.10%	24.04%
Telangana	33.25%	25.97%
Tripura	18.91%	12.99%
Uttarakhand	28.30%	16.79%
Uttar Pradesh	27.99%	16.81%
West Bengal	25.27%	17.56%
Union Territories		
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6.00%	6.00%
Chandigarh	19.76%	11.42%
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	20.00%	15.00%
Daman and Diu	20.00%	15.00%
Lakshadweep	-	-
Puducherry	21.15%	17.15%

Source: PPAC Notes:

1. Taxes considered for computing effective tax rate includes Sales tax, VAT, Cess, Additional tax & Surcharge etc. which are recoverable in price as taxes excluding Central levies & CST.
2. In addition to the above taxes, State Government of Bihar and West Bengal, levies additional tax/surcharge on VAT @ 30%/20% respectively which is irrecoverable in nature.
3. Effective rate of tax has been worked out based on the % of total taxes (taxes as per note 1 above) to retail selling prices excluding these total taxes.

Statement-II

*The monthly average prices for petrol and diesel for last two years
and current year*

Monthly average Retail Selling Price of Petrol (₹/Ltr)

Month	Delhi	Mumbai	Chennai	Kolkata
Apr-16	61.62	66.65	61.07	65.29
May-16	62.61	66.42	62.06	66.09
Jun-16	65.63	70.21	65.07	68.48
Jul-16	63.64	68.22	63.12	66.91
Aug-16	60.59	65.37	60.15	64.58
Sep-16	63.84	69.52	63.39	67.13
Oct-16	65.25	71.65	64.78	68.14
Nov-16	66.78	73.15	66.27	69.46
Dec-16	67.52	73.87	67.00	70.16
Jan-17	70.87	77.19	72.25	73.40
Feb-17	71.14	77.46	74.43	73.66
Mar-17	71.14	77.46	74.43	73.66
Apr-17	67.18	75.06	70.22	69.82
May-17	67.17	76.18	70.2	69.86
Jun-17	65.55	76.94	68.3	68.27
Jul-17	64.02	73.96	66.46	67.28
Aug-17	67.77	76.91	70.21	70.61
Sep-17	70.21	79.32	72.78	72.96
Oct-17	68.74	76.51	71.23	71.52
Nov-17	69.53	76.66	72.07	72.29
Dec-17	69.37	77.04	71.89	72.13
Jan-18	71.38	79.26	74.01	74.10
Feb-18	72.52	80.39	75.21	75.23

Month	Delhi	Mumbai	Chennai	Kolkata
Mar-18	72.44	80.31	75.13	75.18
Apr-18	74.16	82.01	76.94	76.87
May-18	75.92	83.76	78.79	78.60
Jun-18	76.60	84.35	79.51	79.27
July 2018*	76.21	83.60	79.10	78.88

Monthly average Retail Selling Price of Diesel (₹/Ltr)

Month	Delhi	Mumbai	Chennai	Kolkata
Apr-16	48.88	54.81	49.65	51.21
May-16	51.31	56.71	52.44	53.54
Jun-16	54.56	59.88	56.11	56.76
Jul-16	54.49	59.8	56.04	56.69
Aug-16	51.27	56.56	52.69	53.72
Sep-16	52.77	58.29	54.25	55.02
Oct-16	53.50	59.06	55.00	55.80
Nov-16	55.56	61.24	57.13	57.81
Dec-16	55.63	61.29	57.19	57.87
Jan-17	58.42	64.25	60.98	60.67
Feb-17	59.02	64.89	62.48	61.27
Mar-17	59.02	64.89	62.48	61.27
Apr-17	56.22	61.92	59.49	58.48
May-17	55.72	61.35	58.95	58.02
Jun-17	54.89	60.44	57.96	57.14
Jul-17	54.58	58.7	57.52	57.18
Aug-17	56.85	60.39	59.85	59.51
Sep-17	58.36	61.99	61.46	61.02
Oct-17	57.28	60.17	60.30	59.94
Nov-17	58.25	60.88	61.34	60.91

Month	Delhi	Mumbai	Chennai	Kolkata
Dec-17	58.74	61.84	61.87	61.40
Jan-18	61.89	65.85	65.25	64.56
Feb-18	63.20	67.31	66.65	65.88
Mar-18	63.06	67.16	66.49	65.75
Apr-18	65.26	69.49	68.85	67.96
May-18	67.14	71.49	70.86	69.75
Jun-18	68.03	72.37	71.82	70.58
Jul-18	67.95	72.10	71.73	70.50

Note: The average for July 18 is till 16th July, 2018

Supply of PNG to Bihar by GAIL

†125. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a plan has been formulated by GAIL for supply of natural gas through pipelines in Patna and some other cities in the State of Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and city-wise time-frame for its commencement;
- (c) whether concerned basic structure has been prepared for it;
- (d) if not, the present status thereof and by when the consumers will get connections; and
- (e) whether Government is formulating any plan for the supply of PNG in some other cities of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) GAIL is executing Jagdishpur-Haldia/Bokaro-Dhamra/Barauni-Guwahati trunk pipeline project which is passing through the state of Bihar. Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), authorizes entities to develop Natural Gas Distribution Network as per PNGRB Act, 2006 and the Regulations notified thereunder. PNGRB identifies the Geographical Areas (GAs) for the development of City Gas

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Distribution (CGD) network depending on the natural gas pipeline connectivity/natural gas availability and techno-commercial viability. PNGRB has authorized GAIL to lay CGD network in Patna, Bihar on 7.03.2018 with the project cost of ₹ 360 crore. Laying of Pipeline has been started in May, 2018. Work for Compressed Natural Gas stations at Oil Marketing Companies retail outlets (2 Nos.) has been commenced as per agreement between GAIL and IOCL.

(e) Yes, Sir. PNGRB has received bids under 9th CGD bidding round for 86 GAs covering 174 districts for grant of authorization of CGD Network which includes Aurangabad, Kaimur, Rohtas, Begusarai, Gaya and Nalanda districts of Bihar.

Private partnership to build underground crude oil storage

126. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given in principle approval to the proposal to build two more underground crude oil storages to raise emergency stockpile cover by 12 days to 22 days;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the quantum of crude oil expected to be stored in such strategic underground oil storages;

(c) whether Government is considering private partnership to build these underground crude oil storage; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Government has given 'in principle' approval for creation of two additional underground rock cavern Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR) facilities with total storage capacity of 6.5 Million Metric Ton (MMT) at two locations namely (i) Chandikhol in Odisha (4 MMT) and (ii) Padur in Karnataka (2.5 MMT), including construction of dedicated Single Point Moorings for the two SPRs. As per the consumption pattern of 2017-18, 6.5 MMT crude oil emergency stockpile will provide for about 11.57 days of India's crude oil requirement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The 'in principle' approval is also for exploring public private partnership mode of project execution by conducting Road Shows with potential investors.

Acquisition of State run oil PSUs by ONGC

127. DR. V MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has given nod for the acquisition of certain State run oil PSUs and allied companies by ONGC;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for the same;
- (c) the effective steps taken by Government to make such projects economically viable and profit making and the Union Government's stand on this; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for the smooth execution of mergers and acquisitions of companies by ONGC in near future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) With due facilitation from Government, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) acquired 51.11% equity stake in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) from Government of India on January 31, 2018 by paying ₹ 36,915 crore. The acquisition was funded by ONGC through internal accruals of ₹12,034 crore and external borrowing of ₹ 24,881 crore.

(c) and (d) This acquisition in the oil sector created a vertically integrated public sector 'Oil Major' company having presence across the entire value chain, giving ONGC enhanced capacity to bear higher risks and take higher investment decisions. The acquisition of HPCL by ONGC will result in significant synergies, in terms of optimization of logistics costs, research and development activities, economies of scale of purchase of crude oil and optimization in refinery operations. An in-principle agreement was arrived at in a meeting held on 17.4.2018 to merge Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) and ONGC Mangalore Petrochemicals Limited (OMPL) with HPCL.

Impact of stopping oil imports from Iran

128. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the US has told all countries, including India to stop their oil imports from Iran by November or face sanctions;
- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government has asked refiners to prepare for a drastic reduction or zero imports of Iranian oil from November;

(d) if so, the details/reasons thereof indicating how it will impact the country's oil import bill due to such decision; and

(e) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for safeguarding the national interests in importing oil from other countries?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) On 8th May, 2018, the USA announced that it is walking out of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action with Iran and released a Frequently Asked Questions regarding the re-imposition of sanctions on entities engaged with Iran, including import of crude oil.

(b) Indian refineries import crude oil from diverse sources including from Iran, depending on their technical and commercial considerations.

(c) to (e) Oil PSUs import crude oil mainly keeping in view the domestic requirement. The price of crude oil is determined by many factors, including demand and supply in the global market.

Inability of Ujjawala beneficiaries in refilling cylinders

†129. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large section of beneficiaries of Ujjawala Scheme are not using LPG gas due to their inability to refill their cylinder because of economic reasons and they are once again depending upon traditional harmful fossil fuel, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is considering to provide support/grant/subsidy for refilling the cylinder to the beneficiaries of free gas connection under the Ujjawala Scheme; and

(c) if not, whether Government would consider to make small cylinders available to homemakers keeping in view of their poor economic conditions, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that average refill

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

consumption pattern of a Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiary is more than 3.5 cylinders (14.2 kg.) in a year.

(b) All eligible LPG consumers, including PMUY beneficiaries, are provided with subsidy under PAHAL on purchase of refill at non-subsidised price as per the policy.

(c) Under PMUY, the beneficiary has an option to avail connection with 5 kg. cylinder.

Fall in domestic crude oil and natural gas production

130. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that domestic crude oil and natural gas production has been falling for last six years in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that dependence on crude oil imports has increased by nearly 83 per cent in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to cut reliance on energy imports by 10 per cent by 2022?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The domestic crude oil and natural gas production for last six years is given below:—

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Crude Oil Production (in MMT)	37.86	37.79	37.46	36.96	36.01	35.68
Natural Gas Production (in BCM)	40.68	35.41	33.66	32.25	31.90	32.65

The policy initiatives taken by the Government to enhance domestic production of oil and gas include:—

- (i) Policy for Relaxations, Extensions and Clarifications under Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime for early monetization of hydrocarbon Discoveries, 2014.

- (ii) Policy on Testing Requirements, 2015.
- (iii) Discovered Small Field Policy, 2015.
- (iv) Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy, 2016.
- (v) Policy for Extension of Production Sharing Contracts, 2016.
- (vi) Policy for early monetization of Coal Bed Methane.
- (vii) Setting up of National Data Repository, 2017.
- (viii) Appraisal of Unappraised areas in Sedimentary Basins.
- (ix) Re-assessment of Hydrocarbon Resources.

(c) and (d) Net Crude Oil Import in 2017-18 was 169.7 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT), against the Net Crude Oil Import of 159 MMT in 2016-17, showing an increase of 6.73%.

The steps taken by the Government to achieve the goal of reducing the dependency on import in energy from oil and gas by 10% by 2021-22 include:—

- (i) Increasing domestic production of oil and gas;
- (ii) Promoting energy efficiency and conservation measures;
- (iii) Giving thrust on demand substitution;
- (iv) Capitalizing untapped potential in bio-fuels and other alternate fuels/renewables and;
- (v) Implementing measures for refinery process improvements.

Exploration of natural gas in Jharkhand

131. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether oil PSUs are exploring natural gas sources in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details of the current findings and the development work on those blocks;
- (c) the details of ONGC work on Coal Bed Methane (CBM) blocks in Jharkhand; and

(d) the current and future plans to drill all proposed CBM blocks in the financial year 2018-19?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Limited is operating in three Coal Bed Methane (CBM) blocks *i.e.* Bokaro, North Karanpura and Jharia in the State of Jharkhand. ONGC has completed exploration phase in all three blocks of Jharkhand and established commercial availability of CBM. The block-wise details of in-place volume of CBM gas reported by ONGC in three blocks are as under:—

Field	In-Place Volume of CBM Gas MMm ³
Total Jharia	22711.8
Total Bokaro	30123.4
Total North Karanpura	22928.4

Field Development Plans of all three blocks have been approved by the Steering Committee. These blocks are at Development Phase. ONGC has started selling incidentally produced CBM gas (approx. 10,000-15000 m³/day) from Jharia block.

(d) ONGC has plans to drill 30 wells each in Bokaro and North Karanpura CBM blocks during financial year 2018-19. In respect of Jharia CBM Block, ONGC plans to undertake pre-operational activities during current year.

Proposal of PNGRB to allow all entities to lay pipelines

132. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the proposal of Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act, 2006, Government is allowing all entities to lay pipelines including GAIL for open access of the country's gas pipeline infrastructure;

(b) if so, the present status of gas pipeline network for integrating the gas/crude network through capacity expansion and adding new pipelines thereof; and

(c) the reasons behind the plan to split State run gas utility organisation GAIL therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act, 2006 provides for granting authorization to the entities to lay, build, operate or expand gas pipeline as common carrier or contract carries in the country. PNGRB has defined the eligibility criteria for the entities including GAIL to lay pipelines as common carrier or contract carrier under the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) (Authorizing Entities to Lay, Build, Operate or Expand Natural Gas Pipelines) Regulations, 2008.

(b) There is no proposal to integrate gas/crude pipeline. At present, approximately 15800 km. of trunk Natural Gas Pipeline and 10400 km. of Crude Oil pipeline are passing through various States/UTs in the country.

(c) The policy of the Government notified in year 2006 regarding development of Natural Gas Pipeline and City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks has envisaged that in the long run and with the maturing of Gas market, the authorized entity will have transportation of natural gas as their sole business activity and will not have any business interest in the gas marketing in the CGD networks.

Receipt of gas supplies from Gazprom

133. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started receiving gas supplies from Russia's Gazprom;

(b) if so, whether import price per unit is less than other countries and is cheaper on port delivery thereof;

(c) if so, the details of rate and the import contracts with other countries thereon; and

(d) the technical feasibility to stock and distribution of imported gas in the present scenario therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The first Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Cargo of Russian natural gas under the long term contract between GAIL India Limited and Gazprom Marketing and

Trading Singapore (GMTS) of Russia was received on 4th June, 2018. The gas price is negotiated between parties depending on many factors like project location, duration of contract, pricing formula, etc. GAIL India Limited and Gazprom successfully re-negotiated the long-term LNG Sale and Purchase Agreement reflecting the current global gas market dynamics. The renegotiated price, compared to earlier contract price, will result in saving of approximately ₹ 8500 crore (crude oil at US\$ 50 per barrel) or ₹ 9000 crore (crude oil at US\$ 60 per barrel) or ₹ 9500 crore (crude oil at US\$ 70 per barrel) for the years 2018 to 2040.

(d) India has four operational LNG import terminals at Dahej, Hazira, Dabhol and Kochi with a total LNG import capacity 27.5 MMT. After regasification, the imported LNG is distributed to industries and domestic consumers through existing pipeline networks.

Advantages of daily pricing of petrol and diesel

134. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the advantages of daily pricing of petrol and diesel in major cities in the country;

(b) the details of Central taxes, State taxes, VAT, BS IV premium, marketing cost, margins, cess, etc. that are imposed on petrol and diesel;

(c) the final price of petrol in various major cities of the country and how they can be compared with neighbouring countries; and

(d) what are the advantages, as per the Ministry, if petrol and diesel are brought under the GST?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) implemented daily revision of retail selling price of petrol and diesel in the entire country with effect from 16th June, 2017. Daily price revisions of petrol and diesel make the retail prices more reflective of the current market conditions, minimizing the volatility in the retail selling price of petrol and diesel. Also, it leads to increased transparency in the system and enables smoother flow of products from refinery/depots to Retail Outlets.

(b) Prices of petrol and diesel have been made market-determined by the Government with effect from 26.06.2010 and 19.10.2014 respectively. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on pricing of petrol and diesel in line with international product prices and other market conditions. At present, The Central Excise duty on petrol and diesel is ₹ 19.48 per litre and ₹ 15.33 per litre respectively. The State-wise effective rates of taxes on petrol and diesel as on 01.07.2018 are given in the Statement-I. [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No. 124 (Part (a))].

(c) The retail selling price of petrol in State capitals/major cities as on 9.7.2018 is given in the Statement-I (*See below*). The prices of petroleum products in the country are benchmarked to international product prices. Generally, the prices of sensitive petroleum products in the country are higher/lower than other countries due to a variety of factors, including prevailing tax regime and subsidy compensations by the respective Governments.

(d) Article 279 A (5) of the Constitution provides that Goods and Services Tax Council shall recommend the date on which Goods and Services Tax (GST) shall be levied on petroleum crude, high speed diesel, motor spirit, natural gas and aviation turbine fuel. Thus, while petroleum products are included under GST, the date on which GST shall be levied on such products shall be as per decision of the Goods and Services Tax Council. The inclusion of petrol and diesel under GST will result in availability of input tax credit of GST paid on purchases intended for these petroleum products.

Statement-I

Retail Selling Price of petrol in State capitals/major cities as on 9.7.2018

Sl. No.	State/UT	State Capital/major cities	Petrol ₹/Ltr.
1.	UT Delhi	New Delhi	76.36
2.	West Bengal	Kolkata	79.03
3.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	83.75
4.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	79.25
5.	Tripura	Agartala	72.22
6.	Mizoram	Aizawl	72.33
7.	Haryana	Ambala	76.48

Sl. No.	State/UT	State Capital/major cities	Petrol ₹/Ltr
8.	Karnataka	Bangalore	77.60
9.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	81.96
10.	Odisha	Bhubhaneswar	75.18
11.	UT Chandigarh	Chandigarh	73.44
12.	Uttarakhand	Dehradun	77.71
13.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar	75.67
14.	Sikkim	Gangtok	79.50
15.	Assam	Guwahati	78.50
16.	Telangana	Hyderabad	80.89
17.	Manipur	Imphal	74.45
18.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	72.27
19.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	79.10
20.	Jammu	Jammu	78.09
21.	Punjab	Jullunder	81.57
22.	Nagaland	Kohima	74.87
23.	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	77.19
24.	Goa	Panjim	70.37
25.	Bihar	Patna	81.85
26.	Puducherry	Pondicherry	75.16
27.	Andaman and Nicobar Islnds	Port Blair	65.83
28.	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	76.77
29.	Jharkhand	Ranchi	76.35
30.	Meghalaya	Shillong	75.80
31.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	76.53
32.	Kashmir	Srinagar	80.78
33.	Kerala	Trivandrum	79.46
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvasa	74.28
35.	Daman and Diu	Daman	74.21

Daily revision of price of petroleum products

135. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the prices of petroleum products have been increasing since the daily price revision policy of Indian oil companies;
- (b) if so, whether Government will take necessary steps to control the prices of petroleum products in the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Prices of petrol and diesel have been made market-determined by the Government with effect from 26.06.2010 and 19.10.2014 respectively. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on pricing of petrol and diesel in line with international product prices and other market conditions. However, the Government continues to modulate the effective price to consumer for subsidized domestic LPG and retail selling price of PDS Kerosene. The Public Sector OMCs implemented daily revision of retail selling price of petrol and diesel in the entire country with effect from 16th June, 2017.

(b) and (c) To reduce the retail selling prices of petrol and diesel, the Government has reduced the Central Excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹2 per litre with effect from 4th October, 2017. The Central Government has also requested the State Governments to make reduction in VAT imposed by them on petrol and diesel. Accordingly, 5 State Governments and 1 Union Territory have reduced the VAT on petrol and diesel.

Subsidy on cylinders under PMUY

†136. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of gas connections released under Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY) till date;
- (b) the number of beneficiaries getting their cylinders refilled on regular basis;
- (c) the reasons for not granting a subsidy on cylinders under PMUY; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (d) whether Government proposes to grant a subsidy on cylinders under PMUY?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) As on 13.07.2018, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have released more than 4.65 crore LPG connections under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY).

(b) OMCs have reported that average refill consumption pattern of a PMUY beneficiary is more than 3.5 cylinders (14.2 kg.) in a year.

(c) and (d) PMUY beneficiaries are enrolled under PAHAL scheme wherein the applicable LPG subsidy on purchase of refill, which happens at non-subsidised price, is directly transferred into their bank accounts.

Plan to bring petroleum products under GST

†137. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of petroleum products had reached their highest in recent times in a period of last four years on account of continuous increase in prices in international market and whether the prices of petroleum products have now got normalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal from the Central Government to bring petroleum products under indirect tax system/GST but various States are not giving their consent to this proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Prices of petrol and diesel have been made market-determined by the Government with effect from 26.06.2010 and 19.10.2014 respectively. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on pricing of petrol and diesel in line with international product prices and other market conditions. Public Sector OMCs have implemented daily revision of retail selling price of petrol and diesel in the entire country with effect from 16th June, 2017. The retail selling price of petrol and diesel in Delhi on 13th July, 2018 was ₹ 76.76/litre and ₹ 68.43/litre.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Article 279 A (5) of the Constitution provides that Goods and Services Tax Council shall recommend the date on which Goods and Services Tax (GST) shall be levied on petroleum crude, high speed diesel, motor spirit, natural gas and aviation turbine fuel. Thus, while petroleum products are included under GST, the date on which GST shall be levied on such products shall be as per decision of the Goods and Services Tax Council.

Availing of refills under PMUY

138. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the State/UT-wise details of the total number of beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY);

(b) the State/UT/scheme-wise amount spent on the beneficiaries under the PMUY;

(c) the State/UT-wise list of PMUY beneficiaries who have availed second and third refills; and

(d) whether it is a fact that due to high price of LPG many PMUY beneficiaries are not able to afford refills, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to curb this problem?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) State/UT-wise details of total number of beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY) as on 16.07.2018 are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Under Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY), deposit free LPG connection is provided to the woman member of a BPL family with cash assistance upto ₹ 1600 per connection. The Government has re-imbursed ₹6393 crore to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) on the account of release of LPG connections under PMUY since its implementation.

(c) State/UT-wise details of PMUY beneficiaries who availed second and third refills are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) OMCs have reported that average refill consumption pattern of a Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiary is more than 3.5 cylinders (14.2 kg.) in a year which is at par with the existing rural consumers.

Statement-I*State/UT-wise LPG connections released under PMUY as on 16.07.2018*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Connection released
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5,041
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1,34,549
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	25,502
4.	Assam	17,96,363
5.	Bihar	57,62,701
6.	Chandigarh	34
7.	Chhattisgarh	23,63,016
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	12,753
9.	Daman and Diu	378
10.	Delhi	43,062
11.	Goa	1,011
12.	Gujarat	15,58,855
13.	Haryana	4,61,344
14.	Himachal Pradesh	63,081
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	5,58,210
16.	Jharkhand	16,88,305
17.	Karnataka	13,02,982
18.	Kerala	1,03,518
19.	Lakshadweep	264
20.	Madhya Pradesh	42,55,798
21.	Maharashtra	24,22,049
22.	Manipur	69,642
23.	Meghalaya	96,701
24.	Mizoram	20,376
25.	Nagaland	30,120

Sl. No.	State/UT	Connection released
26.	Odisha	29,07,196
27.	Puducherry	9,672
28.	Punjab	7,72,706
29.	Rajasthan	35,21,579
30.	Sikkim	3,010
31.	Tamil Nadu	20,22,083
32.	Telangana	3,40,287
33.	Tripura	1,52,371
34.	Uttar Pradesh	84,71,691
35.	Uttarakhand	2,02,796
36.	West Bengal	58,75,956
TOTAL		470,55,002

Statement-II

State/UT-wise details of PMUY beneficiaries who availed second and third refills

State/UT	Consumers who have taken 2nd refill	Consumers who have taken 3rd refill
1	2	3
Andaman and Nicobar Island	1,002	744
Andhra Pradesh	72,462	61,143
Arunachal Pradesh	6,518	3,346
Assam	5,85,636	2,91,008
Bihar	38,08,513	30,40,820
Chandigarh	8	2
Chhattisgarh	8,65,244	5,26,911
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	7,900	5,629
Daman and Diu	194	177
Delhi	16,472	5,442

1	2	3
Goa	926	841
Gujarat	10,91,246	9,08,675
Haryana	3,63,045	3,27,136
Himachal Pradesh	29,116	17,906
Jammu and Kashmir	2,86,791	2,11,697
Jharkhand	6,87,870	4,65,096
Karnataka	6,69,320	4,54,568
Kerala	38,003	22,894
Madhya Pradesh	22,67,919	16,15,504
Maharashtra	14,68,395	10,89,903
Manipur	32,829	22,390
Meghalaya	24,967	12,939
Mizoram	3,862	1,671
Nagaland	9,427	5,296
Odisha	14,48,810	10,41,148
Puducherry	-	-
Punjab	4,01,213	3,05,813
Rajasthan	22,05,765	17,88,697
Sikkim	864	492
Tamil Nadu	8,70,358	5,86,916
Telangana	11,319	1,083
Tripura	27,561	13,255
Uttar Pradesh	59,63,405	50,09,134
Uttarakhand	1,39,537	1,19,459
West Bengal	36,89,204	27,82,807
TOTAL	270,95,701	207,40,542

Language diversity of employees in Ministry

139. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees/staff strength sanctioned for the Ministry's headquarters in Delhi, how many of these positions have been filled in as of 30 June, 2018; the problems being faced in early filling up of the vacancies and what action is the Ministry taking in overcoming these problems; and

(b) what is the mother tongue-wise break-up of the employees currently working in the Ministry headquarters in Delhi and what efforts, if any, are being taken to ensure adequate language diversity?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The sanctioned strength of employees/staff for the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Headquarters in Delhi is 286 against which 208 employees/staff were in position as on 30.06.2018.

The recruitment to fill vacant positions is done by the Recruitment Agencies like UPSC/SSC as per the respective Recruitment Rules. The employees/staff in the Ministry are posted by various cadre controlling authorities including Department of Personnel and Training. Compiled information on mother tongue-wise break-up of employees is not maintained by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Steps to control rising petroleum prices

140. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of petroleum products in the country including petrol and diesel have increased manifold in comparison to previous years;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years including the current year, year-wise; and

(c) the details of steps taken/being taken by the Central Government to contain the rising prices of petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Prices of petrol and diesel have been made market-determined

by the Government with effect from 26.06.2010 and 19.10.2014 respectively. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on pricing of petrol and diesel in line with international product prices and other market conditions. Public Sector OMCs have implemented daily revision of retail selling price of petrol and diesel in the entire country with effect from 16th June, 2017. The Government continues to modulate the effective price to consumer for subsidized domestic LPG and retail selling price of PDS kerosene. The retail selling price of petrol, diesel, PDS kerosene and domestic LPG since 01.04.2015, against the dates indicated in the table is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The Government has reduced the Central Excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹2 per litre with effect from 4th October, 2017. The Central Government has also requested the State Governments to make reduction in VAT imposed by them on petrol and diesel. Accordingly, 5 State Governments and 1 Union Territory have reduced the VAT on petrol and diesel.

Statement

RSP of petrol, diesel, PDS kerosene and domestic LPG

Date	petrol	diesel (₹/litre)	PDS kerosene	Domestic LPG	
				Effective Cost to Consumer	Non- subsidized
				(₹/14.2 KG Cyl.)	
1	2	3	4	5	6
01.04.2015	60.49	49.71	15.24	417.82	621.00
01.07.2015	66.62	50.22	15.24	417.82	608.50
01.10.2015	61.20	44.95	15.24	417.82	517.50
01.01.2016	59.35	45.03	15.24	419.33	657.50
01.04.2016	59.68	48.33	15.42	419.13	509.50
01.07.2016	64.76	54.70	15.02	421.16	537.50
01.10.2016	64.58	52.51	16.66	427.09	490.00
01.01.2017	68.94	56.68	18.28	434.71	585.00
01.04.2017	66.29	55.61	18.77	440.90	723.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
01.07.2017	63.09	53.33	21.09	477.46	564.00
01.10.2017	69.22	58.40	22.76	491.13	649.00
01.01.2018	69.97	59.70	22.39	495.64	741.00
01.04.2018	73.73	64.58	23.98	491.35	653.50
01.07.2018	75.55	67.38	25.56	496.26	754.00

Note - The above prices are of Delhi - Kerosene prices are of Mumbai.

GAIL to buy 5 million tonnes of LNG from the US

141. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the GAIL India Limited will be buying about 5 million tonnes of LNG from the US in the current fiscal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the GAIL has decided to stop spot purchase of LNG; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) GAIL has entered into long-term contracts to buy about 5 Million Metric Ton Per Annum (MMTPA) of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from USA from Sabine Pass and Cove Point LNG Terminals.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Not applicable in view of answer at (c) above.

Augmenting strategic reserves of oil

142. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether towards augmenting the capacity for strategic reserves of petroleum products, Government has finalised details of two facilities at Chandikhol in Odisha and

Padur in Karnataka with an aggregate holding capacity of 6.5 million metric tonnes which works out to an additional 12 days' reserves;

(b) whether Government owned Special Purpose Vehicle mandated with building strategic caverns has already completed storage facilities at Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru and Padur in Karnataka with a total storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes of crude oil; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Government has given 'in principle' approval for creation of two additional underground rock cavern Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR) facilities with total storage capacity of 6.5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) at two locations namely (i) Chandikhol in Odisha (4 MMT) and (ii) Padur in Karnataka (2.5 MMT). As per the consumption pattern of 2017-18, 6.5 MMT SPR capacity will provide for about additional 11.57 days of India's crude oil requirement.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government of India Special Purpose Vehicle called Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL) has already created SPR facilities at 3 locations, namely (i) Vishakhapatnam (1.33 MMT), (ii) Mangaluru (1.5 MMT) and (iii) Padur (2.5 MMT). As per the consumption pattern of 2017-18, the total 5.33 MMT capacity will provide for about 9.5 days of crude oil requirement.

Long term policy to fix prices of petroleum products

†143. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is formulating a long-term policy to fix the prices of petroleum;

(b) if so, whether Government has so far taken any step in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Prices of petrol and diesel have been made market-determined by the Government with effect from 26.06.2010 and 19.10.2014 respectively. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies take appropriate decision on pricing of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

petrol and diesel in line with international product prices and other market conditions. Further, the Government continues to modulate the effective price to consumer for subsidized domestic LPG and Retail Selling Price of Public Distribution System kerosene.

Beneficiaries under PMUY

144. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise and year-wise number of beneficiaries who received free LPG connection under Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY) since inception of scheme;
- (b) the State-wise and year-wise funds released under PMUY;
- (c) whether Oil Marketing Companies offer loans to beneficiaries to cover for first refill, if so, number of beneficiaries who availed such loan and amount disbursed;
- (d) what assistance is offered to beneficiaries for subsequent refills when they are forced to buy from open market at high rates; and
- (e) what steps Government has taken to increase distributors in rural areas, details of State-wise, year-wise increase in distribution of LPG since 2014?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) State/UT-wise and year-wise details of total number of beneficiaries under Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY) as on 16.07.2018 are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Year-wise funds re-imbursed to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) on account of release of LPG connections under PMUY are as under:-

2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
₹2500 crore	₹2251 crore	₹1642 crore

(c) and (d) Under PMUY, the beneficiary has option to take hot plate or the first refill or both on loan basis, from OMCs at zero interest rate. As on 16.07.2018, more than 3.37 crore PMUY beneficiaries have availed loan from OMCs. Further, all eligible LPG consumers, including PMUY beneficiaries, are provided with subsidy under PAHAL on purchase of refill at non-subsidised price subject to the cap of 12 subsidised refills in a year.

(e) As on 01.04.2014, there were 13896 LPG distributors in the country which have increased to 20585 as on 01.07.2018. Further, OMCs have advertised 6351 locations for selection of LPG distributorships across the country which are mostly in rural areas. States/UTs-wise details are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State/UT-wise details of connections released under PMUY as on 16-07-2018

Sl. No.	State/UT	Connections released			
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1,189	522	3,330	5,041
2.	Andhra Pradesh	63,428	16,616	54,505	1,34,549
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	6,362	19,140	25,502
4.	Assam	2	11,28,137	6,68,224	17,96,363
5.	Bihar	24,76,953	24,36,197	8,49,551	57,62,701
6.	Chandigarh	-	-	34	34
7.	Chhattisgarh	11,05,441	8,46,679	4,10,896	23,63,016
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3,211	8,226	1,316	12,753
9.	Daman and Diu	73	130	175	378
10.	Delhi	516	161	42,385	43,062
11.	Goa	954	30	27	1,011
12.	Gujarat	7,52,354	5,16,660	2,89,841	15,58,855
13.	Haryana	2,78,751	78,361	1,04,232	4,61,344
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1,601	28,140	33,340	63,081
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	2,65,787	1,07,133	1,85,290	5,58,210
16.	Jharkhand	5,36,912	6,66,631	4,84,762	16,88,305

1	2	3	4	5	6
17.	Karnataka	15,840	8,93,174	3,93,968	13,02,982
18.	Kerala	11,241	27,152	65,125	1,03,518
19.	Lakshadweep	-	134	130	264
20.	Madhya Pradesh	22,39,821	10,75,351	9,40,626	42,55,798
21.	Maharashtra	8,58,808	10,18,570	5,44,671	24,22,049
22.	Manipur	25	32,592	37,025	69,642
23.	Meghalaya	-	36,844	59,857	96,701
24.	Mizoram	-	902	19,474	20,376
25.	Nagaland	-	9,225	20,895	30,120
26.	Odisha	10,11,955	12,88,380	6,06,861	29,07,196
27.	Puducherry	760	1,861	7,051	9,672
28.	Punjab	2,45,008	1,37,343	3,90,355	7,72,706
29.	Rajasthan	17,22,694	9,02,940	8,95,945	35,21,579
30.	Sikkim	-	687	2,323	3,010
31.	Tamil Nadu	2,72,749	7,45,302	10,04,032	20,22,083
32.	Telangana	41	-	3,40,246	3,40,287
33.	Tripura	-	46,379	1,05,992	1,52,371
34.	Uttar Pradesh	55,31,159	9,54,957	19,85,575	84,71,691
35.	Uttarakhand	1,13,866	23,574	65,356	2,02,796
36.	West Bengal	25,20,479	25,36,306	8,19,171	58,75,956
TOTAL		200,31,618	155,71,658	114,51,726	470,55,002
Incremental Previous Day					1,66,557

Statement-II*State/UT-wise details of LPG Distributorships*

State/UT	Total no. of existing Distributors as on		Total no. of Distributors advertised under Unified Guidelines till
	01.04.2014	01.07.2018	
1	2	3	4
Chandigarh	27	27	0
Delhi	318	321	0
Haryana	379	567	55
Himachal Pradesh	144	172	46
Jammu and Kashmir	180	258	56
Punjab	577	814	26
Rajasthan	790	1129	334
Uttar Pradesh	1932	3552	1030
Uttarakhand	194	271	78
SUB TOTAL NORTH	4541	7111	1625
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5	5	7
Arunachal Pradesh	43	67	16
Assam	339	469	159
Bihar	747	1132	998
Jharkhand	295	401	312
Manipur	55	84	18
Meghalaya	37	51	20
Mizoram	45	54	2
Nagaland	39	61	23
Odisha	370	803	435
Sikkim	10	16	18
Tripura	44	63	14

1	2	3	4
West Bengal	701	1078	631
SUB TOTAL EAST	2730	4284	2653
Chhattisgarh	246	458	81
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	3	2
Daman and Diu	2	3	0
Goa	53	53	4
Gujarat	607	775	320
Madhya Pradesh	866	1311	355
Maharashtra	1375	1870	452
SUB TOTAL WEST	3151	4473	1214
Andhra Pradesh	1277	943	140
Karnataka	705	1046	238
Kerala	474	610	93
Lakshadweep	1	1	0
Puducherry	22	27	1
Tamil Nadu	995	1371	309
Telangana	NA	719	78
SUB TOTAL SOUTH	3474	4717	859
ALL INDIA	13896	20585	6351

Acquisition of stake in offshore oilfield in Abu Dhabi

145. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC Videsh Limited and its partners have acquired a 10 per cent stake in a large offshore oilfield in Abu Dhabi for US 600 million dollars;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this is the first time that any Indian company has set foot in the oil rich UAE;

(c) whether the field is to achieve plateau target of 4,50,000 barrels of oil per day by 2025; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) On 10th February 2018, Indian Consortium comprising ONGC Videsh, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. and Bharat PetroResources Ltd. acquired 10% participating interest in Lower Zakhum offshore oil field from Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) of UAE at a cost of US \$ 600 million. The agreements in this regard have been signed and are valid for a period of 40 years.

(b) Yes, Sir. This is the first Indian upstream sector investment in the Gulf region and in UAE.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) During the peak production period, share of Indian Consortium in the crude oil produced will be about 2.24 Million Metric Ton Per Annum (MMTPA). The average share of the Indian Consortium would be 1.75 MMTPA during the contract period.

Agreements with UAE to strengthen energy security

146. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the two agreements that India had signed with United Arab Emirates (UAE) will strengthen India's energy security;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that oil company from UAE is expected to invest US 400 million dollars in storage; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In February 2018, two agreements were signed between India and UAE towards enhancing India's energy security. The two agreements are: (i) Concession agreement between an Indian Consortium, comprising ONGC Videsh Ltd., Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. and Bharat PetroResources Ltd., and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) of UAE for acquisition of 10% stake in Lower Zakum Offshore oil field, and

(ii) Restated agreement on oil storage and management between Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd. and ADNOC for filling up of Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) cavern in Mangaluru.

(c) and (d) As per the Restated agreement on oil storage and management, ADNOC to store 5.86 million barrels of crude oil in the Mangaluru SPR at its own cost. As per the prevailing rate of crude oil (at US \$ 74 per barrel) the expenditure towards crude oil by ADNOC will be US \$ 433.6 million. The 1st cargo of ADNOC oil was received at Mangaluru SPR on 22nd May, 2018.

Increase in prices of petrol and diesel

147. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of petrol and diesel have increased the highest number of times in the last one year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Prices of petrol and diesel have been made market-determined by the Government with effect from 26.06.2010 and 19.10.2014 respectively. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on pricing of petrol and diesel in line with international product prices and other market conditions. The OMCs implemented daily revision of retail selling price of petrol and diesel in the entire country with effect from 16th June, 2017. The number of times increase/decrease in retail selling price of petrol and diesel took place from 16.06.2017 to 12.07.2018 is given below:—

	Petrol	Diesel
Increase	207	212
Decrease	107	93

Formulation of new Textile Policy

148. SHRI A. VJJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government held any meeting with State Ministers to revise Textile Policy in the country recently;

(b) if so, the outcome of the meeting; and

(c) whether any time-limit has been fixed for formulation of new Textile Policy, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) to (c) The draft Textile Policy submitted by the Ajay Shankar Expert Committee in August, 2014 was put up on the website of the Ministry seeking comments of all stakeholders. The final report of the Expert Committee was also posted on the website of the Ministry for comments. Based on stakeholders' consultations, a CoS Note was circulated for inter-ministerial comments.

Another round of detailed stakeholder consultation followed for all Textiles segments in 2017. Some of the key aspects of the report were also discussed during the 26 Round Tables and three conferences held during Textiles India in June, 2017. Based on the suggestions received, the schemes of the Ministry/guidelines have been revised and it is observed that most of the recommendations of Expert Committee stand implemented.

Locations identified for new petrol pumps

149. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to add about thousands of new petrol pumps in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government oil companies have not appointed new dealers during the last four years;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of places which are under-served in the country identified for setting up of new petrol pumps, State-wise including Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Expansion of Retail Outlets (ROs) network by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in the country is a continuous process. ROs are set up by OMCs at identified locations based on field survey and feasibility studies. Locations found to be having sufficient potential and are economically viable are rostered in the Marketing Plans for setting up ROs.

(b) and (c) The number of ROs commissioned by OMCs (IOCL, BPCL and HPCL) during the last four years is given below:-

2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
2022	2252	2055	2105

(d) State-wise number of existing ROs (Regular+Rural) of OMCs as on 1.4.2018 is given in the Statement-I (See below). State-wise number of ROs where Letter of Intents (LOIs) have been issued by OMCs but ROs yet to be commissioned including in Karnataka as on 01.04.2018 is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

OMC - State/UT-wise number of existing ROs (regular+rural) as on 1.4.2018

Sl. No.	State	No. of Existing Ros
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3025
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	68
3.	Assam	782
4.	Bihar	2604
5.	Chhatisgarh	1213
6.	Delhi	394
7.	Goa	116
8.	Gujarat	2990
9.	Haryana	2627
10.	Himachal Pradesh	419
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	503
12.	Jharkhand	1124
13.	Karnataka	3890
14.	Kerala	1987
15.	Madhya Pradesh	3354
16.	Maharashtra	5440
17.	Manipur	93
18.	Meghalaya	190

Sl. No.	State	No. of Existing Ros
19.	Mizoram	40
20.	Nagaland	61
21.	Odisha	1554
22.	Punjab	3236
23.	Rajasthan	3750
24.	Sikkim	50
25.	Tamil Nadu	4853
26.	Telangana	2385
27.	Tripura	68
28.	Uttar Pradesh	6719
29.	Uttarakhand	556
30.	West Bengal	2244
Union Territories		
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	14
32.	Chandigarh	41
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	26
34.	Daman and Diu	29
35.	Lakshadweep	0
36.	Puducherry	153
TOTAL		56598

Statement-II*OMC - State-wise number of pending LoIs as on 01.04.2018*

Sl. No.	States	Pending LoIs
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	264
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	16
4.	Assam	108
5.	Bihar	452

Sl. No.	States	Pending LoIs
6.	Chandigarh	99
7.	Chhattisgarh	179
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5
9.	Daman and Diu	1
10.	Delhi	27
11.	Goa	33
12.	Gujarat	359
13.	Haryana	386
14.	Himachal Pradesh	50
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	96
16.	Jharkhand	110
17.	Karnataka	360
18.	Kerala	142
19.	Lakshadweep	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	575
21.	Maharashtra	963
22.	Manipur	9
23.	Meghalaya	27
24.	Mizoram	12
25.	Nagaland	7
26.	Odisha	150
27.	Puducherry	12
28.	Punjab	139
29.	Rajasthan	560
30.	Sikkim	6
31.	Tamil Nadu	288
32.	Telangana	243

Sl. No.	States	Pending LoIs
33.	Tripura	4
34.	Uttar Pradesh	902
35.	Uttarakhand	77
36.	West Bengal	132
TOTAL		6793

Investment by Saudi Arabia in oil refineries

150. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the world's largest oil company from Saudi Arabia is looking to buy a stake in existing Indian refineries and expansion projects as well as in the planned giant refinery on the west coast;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the west coast refinery and the planned ₹ 33,000 crore petrochemical complex had figured in the discussions with the Saudi Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Saudi Aramco of Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) of UAE signed a Memorandum of Understanding for their participation in the integrated refinery and petrochemicals complex project at Ratnagiri in Maharashtra on 50:50 joint partnership with Indian promoters of the project viz. Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited.

(c) and (d) During the visit of Minister of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources of Saudi Arabia to India in April 2018, both sides had discussed participation of Saudi Aramco in the integrated refinery and petrochemicals complex project at Ratnagiri. The project is estimated to cost US \$ 44 billion.

Skill development programmes in Karnataka

151. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of skill programmes being implemented in the State of Karnataka during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and district-wise;
- (b) the details of accredited and affiliated training centres in Karnataka, district-wise and performance of each of such accredited and affiliated centres;
- (c) the details of youth so far trained in various centres during last three years and current year, year-wise and district-wise and how many youth have got employment opportunities; and
- (d) the objective to establish model aspirational skill centre in every district of the country, including Karnataka and whether the objective has been achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI ANANTKUMAR HEGDE): (a) to (c) Skill India Mission was launched to create convergence across sectors and States in terms of skill training activities through consolidating and coordinating skilling efforts, alongwith expediting the decision making across sectors to achieve skilling at scale with speed and standards. There are more than 40 schemes in 20 different Ministries which provide a variety of skill development training programmes throughout the country. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is proactively facilitating in the creation of a vibrant skill ecosystem for imparting employable skills to the growing workforce. Recognizing the imperative needs of skill development on the basis of demand-supply skill gap, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is implementing flagship scheme known as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) on pan-India basis. PMKVY enables large number of prospective youth for taking Short Term Training (STT) and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) through accredited and affiliated Training Providers/ Training Centres (TPs/TCs). The schemes runs across 452 job roles related to 35 Sector Skill Councils which is a diverse and exhaustive representation of the industry.

Under standardised Skill Ecosystem, Accreditation, Affiliation and Continuous Monitoring of the Training Centres (TCs) are being done through a single window IT application SMART with the objective to address the important issues like evaluating skill providers in an objective manner, fostering excellence in Training Centres, enabling

trainees to make informed choices with regard to Training Centres etc. It covers various Central and State Government Schemes, Private initiatives, CSR etc. thus making it a scheme agnostic platform.

Under PMKVY 2016-20, the accreditation and affiliation of Training Centres are being done through SMART for imparting skill development training. Under PMKVY 2016-20, as on 10th July, 2018, 115 TCs are operational in the State of Karnataka. The district-wise number of TCs and candidates trained under STT of PMKVY 2016-20 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 2016-20 has two components known as Centrally Sponsored Centrally Managed (CSCM) being implemented by National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and Centrally Sponsored State Managed (CSSM) being implemented by State Skill Development Missions of the States/UTs popularly known as State-Engagement Component of PMKVY (2016-20).

Under CSCM component of PMKVY 2016-20, as on 10.07.2018, 31.12 lakh (approx.) candidates have been trained (22.01 lakh STT + 7.82 lakh RPL + 0.51 Special Project)/undergoing training (0.78 lakh approx.) under STT, RPL and Special Project in the country. Further, under the scheme, focus on employment has been significantly enhanced and placement tracking is mandatory. The placement data is reported within 90 days of certification of trained candidate. As per data reported on SDMS, as on 10.04.2018, 11.8 lakh candidates are certified under Short Term Training of PMKVY 2016-20. Out of the certified candidates, as on 10.07.2018, about 7.06 candidates have been placed in various sectors across the country.

Similarly, under the CSSM component of PMKVY 2016-20, 1,07,202 candidates have been trained (STT, RPL and Special Project) in the State of Karnataka. As per data reported on SDMS, as on 10.04.2018, 21,858 candidates have been certified in Short Term Training. Out of these certified candidates, as on 10.07.2018, 9,313 candidates have been placed in various sectors.

Further, under CSSM component of PMKVY 2016-20, 25% of the funds and corresponding physical targets of PMKVY 2016-20 has been allocated to the States for the implementation of scheme through State Skill Development Missions. Under this component, after evaluation of proposal received from Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Department (SDLD), Government of Karnataka, Ministry has given in-principle approval of a total target of 94,164 candidates for FY 2016-20.

Further, an amount of ₹ 21.43 crore has been released during FY 2016-17 to Government of Karnataka for the implementation of CSSM component of the Scheme. As on 10th July, 2018, 737 candidates have been enrolled and 487 have been trained under the scheme.

(d) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is promoting establishment of model and aspirational skill centres known as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) in every district for imparting skill training through Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 2016-20. As on 11.07.2018, 613 PMKKs have been allocated across 35 States and UTs covering 548 Districts and 468 Parliamentary Constituencies (PCs). Out of the 613 allocated PMKKs, 462 centres had been established. Also, a target to train 7,54,773 candidates under PMKVY scheme was allotted to 447 centres, out of which 4,18,814 and 3,78,210 candidates has been enrolled and trained, respectively.

In the State of Karnataka, 34 Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras are allocated covering 30 districts. Out of which, 31 PMKKs are established in 28 districts. As on 11.07.2018, a total of 25,957 candidates has enrolled in these PMKKs. Out of which, 23,056 candidates has been trained.

Statement

*District-wise number of TCs and candidates trained under
STT of PMKVY 2016-20*

Sl. No.	District	No. of Trained Candidates	No. of TCs
1.	Bagalkot	300	1
2.	Belgaum	4030	7
3.	Bellary	90	2
4.	Bengaluru Rural	1456	4
5.	Bengaluru Urban	11741	19
6.	Bidar	1672	6
7.	Chamarajanagar	266	1
8.	Chikballapur	489	2
9.	Chikkmagaluru	401	2
10.	Chitradurga	950	1

Sl. No.	District	No. of Trained Candidates	No. of TCs
11.	Dakshina Kannada	576	2
12.	Davanagere	180	2
13.	Dharwad	2201	8
14.	Gadag	1159	1
15.	Hassan	2142	2
16.	Haveri	1909	2
17.	Kalaburagi	1983	5
18.	Kodagu	0	1
19.	Kolar	2210	9
20.	Koppal	1200	3
21.	Mandya	1151	4
22.	Mysuru	1271	7
23.	Raichur	1003	3
24.	Ramnagara	2335	1
25.	Shivamogga	3416	5
26.	Tumakuru	923	5
27.	Udupi	267	2
28.	Uttara Kannada	660	2
29.	Vijayapura	1884	4
30.	Yadgir	782	2
TOTAL		48647	115

Training under Short Term Training Programme

152. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state: .

(a) the year-wise, State-wise, skill-wise number of candidates that have been trained and certified under the Short Term Training Programme and number of certified candidates that have been successfully employed since 2015 under PMKVY;

- (b) the State-wise details of number of operational training centres and training partners;
- (c) the year-wise, State-wise, skill-wise details of the number of women and persons with disabilities who have been certified and employed since 2015; and
- (d) the details of the monitoring strategy used under the Skill Development Management System (SDMS) to ensure that high quality is maintained for the Short Term Training Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI ANANTKUMAR HEGDE): (a) and (c) Skill India Mission was launched to create convergence across sectors and States in terms of skill training activities through consolidating and coordinating skilling efforts, alongwith expediting the decision making across sectors to achieve skilling at scale with speed and standards. There are more than 40 schemes in 20 different Ministries which provide a variety of skill development training programmes throughout the country. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is proactively facilitating in the creation of a vibrant skill ecosystem for imparting employable skills to the growing workforce. Recognizing the imperative needs of skill development on the basis of demand-supply skill gap, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship is implementing flagship scheme known as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) on pan-India basis.

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) is a flagship outcome-based skill training scheme of MSDE and was formally launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 15 July, 2015. After successful implementation of scheme during 2015-16, Government has modified its guidelines for four years (2016-20) to make it more effective, transparent and beneficiary oriented. Target under the Scheme is to provide skilling to one crore people [60 lakh under Fresh Short Term Training and 40 lakh under Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)] over the four years (2016-2020) with an outlay of ₹ 12,000 crore.

Under PMKVY 2015-16, 19.8 lakh candidates were trained. Under PMKVY 2015-16, it was not mandatory for training providers to report employment data. However, as per the data reported on SDMS, out of total 19.8 lakh trained candidates, 2.62 lakh candidates have been provided with the placement offers. Out of trained candidates, 8.62 lakh (approx.) and 0.12 lakh (approx.) are Women and PwD candidates, respectively. The State-wise details of PMKVY 2015-16 are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Under PMKVY 2016-20, which started from 2nd October, 2016 onwards, as on 10.07.2018, 31.12 lakh (approx.) candidates have been trained (22.01 lakh STT + 7.82 lakh / RPL + 0.51 Special Project)/undergoing training (0.78 lakh approx.) under Short Term Training, Recognition of Prior Learning and Special Project. Under the modified PMKVY 2016-20 scheme, placement tracking is mandatory. The placement data is reported within 90 days of certification of trained candidate. As per data reported on SDMS, as on 10.04.2018, 11.8 lakh candidates are certified under Short Term Training of PMKVY 2016-20. Out of the certified candidates, as on 10.07.2018, 7.06 lakh candidates have been placed in various sectors across the country. The schemes runs across 452 job roles related to 35 Sector Skill Councils which is a diverse and exhaustive representation of the industry.

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY) is for all sections of the society including the women and PwD. Under PMKVY 2016-20, there are certain incentives to encourage women and PwD participation in the skill training namely; post placement support, monthly conveyance allowance, boarding and lodging etc. As on 10.07.2018, out of trained candidates in STT, 11.11 lakh (approx.) and 7,750 are women and PwD candidates, respectively. The State-wise details of Short Term Training of PMKVY 2016-20 are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(b) Under standardised Skill Ecosystem, Accreditation, Affiliation and Continuous Monitoring of the Training Centres (TCs) are being done through a single window IT application SMART with the objective to address the important issues like evaluating skill providers in an objective manner, fostering excellence in Training Centres, enabling trainees to make informed choices with regard to Training Centres etc. It covers various Central and State Government Schemes, Private initiatives, CSR etc. thus making it a scheme agnostic platform.

Under PMKVY 2016-20, the accreditation and affiliation of training centres are being done through SMART for imparting skill development training.

Under the PMKVY 2015-16, about 13,000 Training Centres were involved for imparting skill training. However, under PMKVY 2016-20, the registration of TC is being done under single window IT application known as SMART. Under PMKVY 2016-20, as on 10.07.2018, about 7,213 TCs are operational. The State/UT-wise number of operational training centres is given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

(d) PMKVY 2016-20 is endowed with various provisions relating to continuous as well as performance monitoring of training centre. For ensuring quality of training

under the scheme, all accreditation and affiliation of training centre is done through an online portal SMART with inspections done by an independent third party assessment agency. Adding to the improved accreditation process MSDE has initiated a process of continuous monitoring through various channels and mandatory re-accreditation every year. Under this self-audit reporting, call validations, surprise visits and monitoring through the Skills Development Management System (SDMS) have been adopted. Further, the targets are being assigned to the TCs with a provision for periodic review. The grading is linked to quality of training, infrastructure availability, training capacity, past performance, geographical location and other relevant parameters. Various IT interventions such as Direct Benefit Transfer, Aadhaar linkage of trainers and trainees, Aadhaar enabled biometric attendance of candidate and trainers, maintaining of all MIS through SDMS portal to check duplication of candidates, etc., have been ensured.

Also, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has approved penalty grid guide under the scheme and provisions of penalty grid guides the action that needs to be taken against training centres find in non-compliance of PMKVY guidelines. National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), implementing agency of PMKVY under MSDE, has suspended training centres for non-compliance of PMKVY guidelines on multiple parameters and periodically publish the list on PMKVY official website.

Statement-I

State-wise details of PMKVY 2015-16

A. A summary of achievements under PMKVY 2015-16, as on 25.09.2017

Sl. No.	Particulars	Fresh Training	RPL
1.	State/UT	29/6	23/3
2.	Districts Covered	620	264
3.	Sectors	32	25
4.	Job Roles	400	174
5.	Enrolments	18,04,140	1,81,798
6.	Training Completed	18,04,110	1,81,798
7.	Certified Candidates	13,30,405	1,19,026

B. State-wise details of PMKVY 2015-16

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Enrolled Completed	Trainings	Assessed	Certified	Placed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	194	194	164	22	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	136102	136102	131011	104548	18889
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1017	1017	881	611	88
4.	Assam	33361	33331	32324	19189	3740
5.	Bihar	91993	91907	90381	60231	12099
6.	Chandigarh	5032	5032	4976	3956	396
7.	Chhattisgarh	37302	37302	36730	25902	1417
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	258	258	258	163	96
9.	Daman and Diu	230	230	230	179	111
10.	Delhi	105532	105532	104525	70338	5232
11.	Goa	499	499	499	284	213
12.	Gujarat	43999	43999	43313	30771	3152
13.	Haryana	86803	86803	83751	62939	11361
14.	Himachal Pradesh	22981	22981	22467	17997	2163
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	18177	18177	18033	12796	304
16.	Jharkhand	28533	28533	28482	21082	1842
17.	Karnataka	77051	77051	75678	55393	14465
18.	Kerala	15339	15339	15098	11473	1512
19.	Madhya Pradesh	168898	168838	166616	124423	20757
20.	Maharashtra	109435	109435	107410	76737	13154
21.	Manipur	1603	1603	1577	1169	499
22.	Meghalaya	1899	1899	1554	426	110
23.	Mizoram	1030	1030	1030	672	93
24.	Nagaland	1271	1271	1271	835	77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
25.	Odisha	61357	61357	59940	39907	11030
26.	Puducherry	7301	7301	7221	6272	904
27.	Punjab	84624	84624	83192	62821	11490
28.	Rajasthan	133567	133567	132483	102950	13371
29.	Sikkim	886	886	856	409	13
30.	Tamil Nadu	169213	169213	164994	128570	47176
31.	Telangana	109478	109478	107764	85128	21558
32.	Tripura	15221	15221	15011	10686	5254
33.	Uttar Pradesh	271923	271923	265825	197459	24425
34.	Uttarakhand	14301	14301	14084	9949	1192
35.	West Bengal	129080	129080	126963	87828	14556
GRAND TOTAL		1985490	1985314	1946592	1434115	262739

Statement-II

State-wise number of candidates trained and placed under STT component of PMKVY 2016-20, as on 10.07.2018

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Enrolled	Trainings Completed	Assessed	Certified	Placed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	70984	68654	64422	54756	30296
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	254	254	237	102	0
3.	Assam	41340	39947	35183	27980	10682
4.	Bihar	112082	107699	99605	77448	26984
5.	Chandigarh	4582	4402	4008	2986	789
6.	Chhattisgarh	39188	36382	31678	24281	4775
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	600	480	240	138	0
8.	Daman and Diu	435	195	190	50	0
9.	Delhi	106516	104981	94445	78432	34297

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Goa	1140	1140	819	753	411
11.	Gujarat	39779	37354	32618	25773	10556
12.	Haryana	195338	193295	183734	156050	67757
13.	Himachal Pradesh	23481	22230	19423	15141	6061
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	55728	54685	50864	42958	19403
15.	Jharkhand	27662	24991	23214	18860	6417
16.	Karnataka	52073	48524	42939	34248	8761
17.	Kerala	30886	29603	26306	21812	6686
18.	Madhya Pradesh	218434	211011	197762	163555	61760
19.	Maharashtra	67597	64881	56837	46651	14929
20.	Manipur	2995	2995	2135	1426	425
21.	Meghalaya	3450	3415	3236	2762	923
22.	Mizoram	70	70	65	26	0
23.	Nagaland	2231	2231	1827	1521	878
24.	Odisha	66519	65320	59699	48194	16263
25.	Puducherry	3522	3432	3190	2553	1535
26.	Punjab	121384	118197	112786	96348	40048
27.	Rajasthan	219553	216585	207943	178461	71450
28.	Sikkim	762	762	514	472	79
29.	Tamil Nadu	131727	128522	115092	99059	55847
30.	Telangana	96981	95811	91085	78645	44580
31.	Tripura	7993	7968	7044	5606	3287
32.	Uttar Pradesh	374306	366963	341557	278355	115338
33.	Uttarakhand	39579	37204	32800	26776	8876
34.	West Bengal	106313	101539	91465	75849	36210
GRAND TOTAL		2265484	2201722	2034962	1688027	706303

Statement-III

*State-wise number of operational TCs and TPs under
PMKVY 2016-20, as on 10.07.2018*

Sl. No.	State Name	Number of Training Centres	Number of Training Partners
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	148	61
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	2
3.	Assam	118	57
4.	Bihar	253	107
5.	Chandigarh	14	12
6.	Chhattisgarh	103	43
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1
8.	Daman and Diu	2	2
9.	Delhi	237	140
10.	Goa	3	3
11.	Gujarat	137	65
12.	Haryana	770	303
13.	Himachal Pradesh	87	51
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	182	78
15.	Jharkhand	90	64
16.	Karnataka	114	50
17.	Kerala	139	54
18.	Madhya Pradesh	631	286
19.	Maharashtra	213	91
20.	Manipur	11	10
21.	Meghalaya	9	7
22.	Mizoram	1	1
23.	Nagaland	6	4

1	2	3	4
24.	Odisha	193	78
25.	Puducherry	12	11
26.	Punjab	444	178
27.	Rajasthan	1057	421
28.	Sikkim	3	3
29.	Tamil Nadu	356	111
30.	Telangana	178	60
31.	Tripura	29	12
32.	Uttar Pradesh	1354	574
33.	Uttarakhand	95	49
34.	West Bengal	221	105
GRAND TOTAL		7213	2240

Training target under Skill India Mission

153. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Skill India Mission was supposed to train over 40 crore people by 2022;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a target of training 52 lakh people by 2019 was adopted;

(c) if so, the details of individuals that have been trained till now, year-wise; and

(d) if so, the reasons for the rate of job placements under the scheme being meagre 18 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI ANANTKUMAR HEGDE): (a) to (c) In the National Policy on Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, the total need for skilling in the country was estimated to be around 40 crore over 2015-2022. The National Skill Development Mission (NSDM) was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 15.07.2015,

for providing a variety of skill development training programmes in the country. Under the NSDM, a total of 104.16 lakh, 89 lakh and 87 lakh individuals were trained during 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively.

(d) Under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY) (2015-16), it was not mandatory for training partners to report employment data. However, under PMKVY (2016-20), which started from 2nd October, 2016 onwards, placement tracking is mandatory. Over the years, over 50% placement has been achieved by various funded and non-funded training partners of National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). In PMKVY the placements have improved substantially after job aggregation efforts, career fairs, job portals and linking of payments with placements. A study conducted in 2015 reveals that the 63.5% pass-outs trainees from Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) have been placed.

However, actual percentage of placements would be higher because many placements are not reported or tracked due to time lag between certification and jobs or self-employment. In addition, some candidates also opt for higher education despite having job offers.

Target of production of crude steel

154. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has fixed a target of production of 300 MT of crude steel by 2030-31 in its National Steel Policy, 2017;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of aspects which are to be given adequate and special attention in order to achieve this noble task; and

(d) the details of the role that will be assigned/have been assigned to Salem Steel Plant in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government has fixed a target of increasing crude steel capacity upto 300 MT (not of production) by 2030-31 in its National Steel Policy, 2017. The related production capacity shall be 255 MT.

(c) The Government has taken the following steps to encourage the steel production capacity and to increase steel consumption:—

- (i) Rolled out a visionary National Steel Policy, 2017.
 - (ii) Rolled out a policy for providing preference to Domestically Manufactured Iron and Steel Products (DMI&SP) in Government procurements.
 - (iii) Modified General Financial Rules (GFR) guidelines to incorporate life cycle cost analysis while formulating the design and specification in the Public/Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects.
 - (iv) Ministry of Steel has taken several initiatives through INS DAG, HSCL and its CPSEs to increase use of steel like, development of prototypes of low cost houses, Steel intensive structures for infrastructure development in hilly terrains and seismic zones and low cost "Anganwadi Centres".
- (d) There is no specific role given to Salem Steel plant in this regard.

CBI investigation regarding payments of HHEC

155. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is investigating cases against various bullion parties regarding payment by Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Ltd. (HHEC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the outcome of the case investigation by CBI; and

(d) the status of case as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Following two case against bullion parties are under investigation by CBI:—

- (i) Case No. RC221/2015/E0020 dated 31/12/2015 against Shyam Kedia, Vice

President of Edelweiss Commodities Services Ltd. (ECSL), M/s ECSL, unknown public servants of HHEC and unknown others.

- (ii) Case No. RC219/2016/E0007 dated 28.04.2016 against M/s Aaryavart Commodities Pvt. Ltd. a company registered under Companies Act, 1956. Director Shailesh J. Bhatt, its representatives Shri Suresh Gadecha, Shri Deep Gadecha, Shri Chitan Shah, Shri Bhuvan Matalia, Shri Mahesh Kacha, Shri Gunvantbhai J. Mandaliya – Authorised Signatory of ACPL, Hiralal Gordhandas Zaveri resident of Parshaw Avenue, Pragna Society, Navarangpura. Ahmedabad, Gujarat and unknown persons under Section 120B, 420 467 and 468 of IPC and Section 7 and 13 of Prevention of Corruption Act.

(c) and (d) No, information is available on the outcomes of the case. However, the cases continue to be under investigation by CBI.

Protection and promotion of traditional textile-making skills

156. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any initiative to establish well-equipped centres for ensuring the survival of traditional textile making in different regions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what special measures have been taken to document the traditional textile-making skills in different parts of the country and to promote them commercially?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) to (c) 28 Weavers' Service Centres (WSCs) are functioning across the country with a mandate to provide technical services for traditional textile making on handlooms, develop new designs/products, impart training in weaving of traditional textiles, undertake research and development projects, document traditional designs etc. Traditional textile making skills are promoted by the Government of India, Ministry of Textiles through displaying traditional textile products in theme pavilion in National Handloom Expos, organising weaving live demonstrations, uploading on the website of National Centre for Textile Design, e-commerce etc.

Appropriate remuneration to artists of Mithila paintings

†157. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the artists of Mithila paintings are compelled to sell their paintings to middlemen at a very low price due to unavailability of regularised market system inspite of heavy demand of these paintings worldwide and middlemen are profiteering from it;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an agreement has been signed by Central Government with Amazon with the aim of ensuring simultaneous branding and sale of Mithila paintings in many countries including India, in order to put a check on middlemen and to provide appropriate remuneration to artists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Domestic and International marketing events are being organised every year in various places of the country and abroad to provide marketing platform to the Handicraft artisans including the artisans of Mithila painting. The objective of the marketing events is to provide marketing platform to the artisans to sell their products directly to the buyers thereby eliminating middlemen. Also awardees including those of Mithila Paintings are given opportunity to showcase and sell their products at Dilli Haat, Surajkund Mela, Master Creation and other domestic marketing programmes. For the benefit of women artisans of Mithila Painting recently one special event was organised during international Women's Day at Madhubani. The wall between Madhubani Railway Station and Airport has been decorated in Mithila art by the artisans of Mithila Painting. Further many National Awardees artisans of Madhubani Painting have been deputed to participate in the fairs and exhibitions abroad.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

**Funds released and utilised for cluster development
projects for Jabalpur**

158. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ₹ 51.50 crore were released for the development of 17 cluster development projects under the Comprehensive Handloom Development Scheme under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP);

(b) whether it is believed that these funds were to be utilized between years 2015 to 2017, if so, whether these have been so utilized and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much funds have been utilized for development of the cluster in Jabalpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) and (b) The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles sanctioned 17 clusters in Madhya Pradesh during 2007-08 to 2010-11 under the Integrated Handloom Development Scheme and released an amount of ₹ 5.56 crore. The duration of cluster development project was three years and the funds have been fully utilised.

(c) Cluster project was not sanctioned in Jabalpur.

Impact of demonetization and GST on textile industry

159. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of demonetization and GST on the textile industry particularly powerloom units;

(b) how many workers lost jobs due to adverse and faulty implementation of GST in textile industry;

(c) how many units shutdown particularly powerlooms due to cash crunch, State-wise; and

(d) what steps Government has taken to revive the industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) to (d) GST has been under implementation only for a period of 12 months. A longer period is needed for appreciating the impact of GST and Demonetisation on the Textiles sector. No information is available regarding loss of jobs due to faulty implementation of GST. Several steps have been taken by the Government to revive the industry. On the intervention of Ministry of Textiles, several issues pertaining to the Industry were taken up with the GST Council and resolved. Accordingly, GST on job rate was reduced from 12% to 5%; rate of GST payable on Man Made yarn was reduced from 18% to 12% and a clarification was issued by D/O Revenue that refund of Input tax credit was allowed for job workers. To offer protection to the indigenous powerloom sector, Government enhanced import duty on MMF fabric from 10% to 20% *vide* their order dated 27.10.2017.

Separately, for the development of the textile sector, Government launched a special package for the apparel and made-ups sector, both of which segments have a high employment generation potential. Additionally, Government offers assistance for the development of the sector through the implementation of several programmes like the Skill development programme which aims at enhancing the employability of workers through skilling; Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) and Integrated Processing Development Scheme (IPDS) for infrastructure development, Amended Technology Upgradation Funds Scheme(ATUFS) for technology development besides implementing programmes for the development of Handloom, Handicraft, Silk, Cotton, Wool and Jute sector.

Welfare scheme for handloom weavers

160. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds allocated, released and spent under various welfare schemes for handloom weavers during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the success achieved so far in providing marketing facilities to the weavers and the total number of weavers benefited during the said period, State-wise;

(c) how many handloom weavers/members of their families have committed suicides due to financial crisis; and

(d) the steps taken to help them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI AJAY TAMTA): (a) The Government of India through the office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms has been implementing the following schemes for the welfare of the handloom weavers and development of the handloom sector in the country:

1. National Handloom Development Programme (with following components)
 - (i) Block Level Cluster
 - (ii) Handloom Marketing Assistance
 - (iii) Concessional credit/weavers Mudra Scheme
 - (iv) Handloom Census
2. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme
3. Yarn Supply Scheme
4. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme

Under the above mentioned schemes, funds are allocated Scheme-wise. The details of funds allocated, released/spent under the above mentioned schemes during each of the last three years are as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Fund allocated, released/spent (₹ in crore)					
		Funds allocated	Funds released/spent	Funds allocated	Funds released/spent	Funds allocated	Funds released/spent
		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	
		3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) in all components	135.83	133.96	167.53	153.56	140.24	135.05

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme	18.91	18.61	28.50	26.56	25.00	24.98
3.	Yarn Supply Scheme	321.96	321.96	261.50	261.35	200.00	199.84
4.	Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme	37.31	37.26	50.00	40.11	32.50	31.82 1

(b) The Handloom Marketing Assistance component of the National Handloom Development Programme has been facilitating the handloom weavers to sell their products directly to the customers by way of participation in the marketing events. The State-wise marketing events sanctioned, sales generated and total number of weavers benefited during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) No such report has been received from any State Government about suicides of weavers due to financial crisis.

Statement

State-wise marketing events sanctioned, sales generated and weavers benefited during 2015-16 to 2017-18

Sl. No.	Name of State	2015-16			2016-17			2017-18		
		Events sanctioned	Sales generated (₹ in lakh)	No. of Weavers benefited	Events sanctioned	Sales generated (₹ in lakh)	No. of Weavers benefited	Events sanctioned	Sales generated (₹ in lakh)	* No. of Weavers benefited
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23	804.34	1420	6	732.81	8300	11	895.91	25000
2.	Bihar	5	304.52	9500	0		4200	0		
3.	Chandigarh	0		0	0		0	0		
4.	Chhattisgarh	18	1,075.60	2700	12	452.68	2350	2		
5.	Delhi	12	16346	9800	7	56.78	4200	1		40
6.	Gujarat	1	32.46	0	0		0	0		
7.	Haryana	1		120	1		600	1		600
8.	Himachal Pradesh	18	298.46	6200	0		0	0		
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3	156.27	1800	3	758.42	2800	2		
10.	Jharkhand	0		0	0		0	0		
11.	Karnataka	8	349.98	17140	6	453.35	14400	6		
12.	Kerala	1	124.37	0	0		0	0		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13.	Madhya Pradesh	9	1,276.75	9200	3	301.79	2800	3	324.61	972
14.	Maharashtra	19	2,203.96	101775	5	1,992.68	147700	6		
15.	Odisha	12	1,457.23	19060	8	900.73	18300	6	241.29	20800
16.	Rajasthan	1		75	2	250.00	1850	3		500
17.	Tamil Nadu	22	1,003.76	18600	7	434.79	16200	7	478.52	18400
18.	Telengana	17	759.28	96000	9	778.31	25000	8		26800
19.	Uttar Pradesh	22	506.47	22675	12	453.97	16600	15		500
20.	Uttarakhand	12	992.76	4300	6	286.57	5600	2		
21.	West Bengal	9	606.41	15100	0		0	3		
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	0		0	1	12.50	2500	1		
23.	Assam	42	1,485.38	166300	14	1,829.24	148075	14	1924.7	95475
24.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0		0	1		
25.	Manipur	4	0	0	1		0	4		
26.	Mizoram	8	117.00	2700	3	147.26	3800	2		
27.	Nagaland	13	192.34	11500	7	428.24	9800	3		
28.	Sikkim	9	185.77	5800	3	130.51	19000	2		
29.	Tripura	9	221.28	50500	9	176.15	65000	8		
	TOTAL	298	14,317.85	572265	115	10,576.78	519075	111	3865.03	189087

*Note: For 2017-18, reimbursement claims for 2nd instalment have not been received. However, approximately 8000 Handloom producer groups will be benefited. Beneficiaries have been calculated on the basis of number of stalls of the events.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Question Hour is over. The House is adjourned till 2.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 2018

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we take up the Legislative Business. Bill for introduction — The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (Amendment) Bill, 2018. Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot.

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि राष्ट्रीय स्वपरायणता, प्रमस्तिष्क घात, मानसिक मंदता और बहुनिःशक्तताग्रस्त व्यक्ति कल्याण न्यास अधिनियम, 1999 का संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करने की अनुमति दी जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री थावर चन्द गहलोत: महोदय, मैं विधेयक को पुरःस्थापित करता हूँ।

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, through you, I just wanted to make a request to the Government that this is a very, very important Amendment Bill. There are a large number of people who are afflicted with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities. I am sure that the House will have one view. We will be together. If this is taken up in this Session, if the Government is agreeable, since this is only an amendment Bill to the National Trust which is already in existence, then we should pass it. We seek your kind ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I too agree. I hope the Government is also serious. इसी सेशन में इस बिल को पारित कराना है।

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): सर, आनन्द शर्मा जी जो कह रहे हैं, उससे मैं सहमत हूँ। सरकार के पास थोड़ा-सा और बिज़नेस भी है, परन्तु मैं समझता हूँ कि इसी सेशन में इसको लिया जा सकता है।

श्री सभापति : ठीक है।

In Now, the State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017. Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla to move.

The State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि भारतीय स्टेट बैंक (समनुषंगी बैंक) अधिनियम, 1959, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ हैदराबाद अधिनियम, 1956 का निरसन करने वाले और भारतीय स्टेट बैंक अधिनियम, 1955 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक पर, लोक सभा द्वारा पारित रूप में, विचार किया जाए।

The question was proposed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The motion is moved. Any Member desiring to speak may do so. Afterwards, the Minister will reply. A list has been given. Shri Jairam Ramesh will initiate the discussion.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir.

Sir, I rise to speak on a Bill which has already become a reality. This is a Bill which provides for the merger of the State Bank of Travancore, the State Bank of Mysore, the State Bank of Hyderabad, the State Bank of Patiala and the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur into the State Bank of India.

The merger already took place on the 1st of April, 2017. These associate banks have ceased to exist. However, we are discussing this Bill a year and two months after the formal merger took place. Better late than never! This Bill has been scheduled for successive sessions. But for one reason or the other it could not be taken up. So, we are actually giving *post-facto* approval to a merger that has already become a reality.

Sir, the history of these State Banks is well known. There were seven associated banks. In 2008, the State Bank of Saurashtra was merged with the State Bank of India. In 2010, the State Bank of Indore was merged with the State Bank of India. Today, we are merging the last of the five banks which are of historical legacy into the State Bank of India. In fact, today the only bank started by an erstwhile Maharaja, which still exists as an independent entity, is the J&K Bank, which was started by Maharaja Hari Singh's bank in 1938.

Sir, I want to use this opportunity to raise certain questions and issues relating to this merger. Actually, technically, this is not a merger; this is an internal reorganization within the SBI family because the logo is the same, the Chairman of the SBI is the Chairman of

the associate banks, senior level appointments are made by the SBI, the treasury operations are common and credit decisions are taken by the SBI. So, technically speaking, this is not a merger; this is an internal reorganization within the large SBI family.

Sir, in the last 25 years, there have been 32 mergers in the private sector banking industry, and the most recent merger was in 2004 when the Global Trust Bank, with which you are very familiar, Sir, was merged with the Oriental Bank of Commerce.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am familiar because of the area.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: No, Sir, familiar because of the fact that it was started by a Hyderabad-based entrepreneur, no other allusion. The Global Trust Bank was merged with the Oriental Bank of Commerce. Now, there is only one merger where a public sector bank had merged with a public sector bank, and that was in 1993 when the New Bank of India was merged with the Punjab National Bank which, of course, has now become a household name. It took almost five years for the Punjab National Bank to deal with the implications of the merger of the New Bank of India. Now, it is very easy to say that mergers must take place, but the reality of the mergers is quite different, and the experience of the Punjab National Bank with the New Bank of India should be a cautionary tale.

Sir, in 2016-17, the net losses of these five associate banks was ₹ 11,800 crore. The net losses of these five associate banks, Travancore, Hyderabad, Mysore, Bikaner and Patiala, were ₹ 11,800 crore. The net profit of the State Bank of India was ₹ 10,500 crore. Sir, look at this — we are merging five banks whose consolidated loss was ₹ 11,800 crore with the mother bank which was making a net profit of ₹ 10,500 crore. Now, the story does not improve in 2017-18. For the first time in 20 years, the State Bank of India reported a quarterly loss in the last quarter, quarter-III, of 2017-18, of ₹ 7,700 crore. It had never reported a loss. The last time SBI reported a loss was in 1999. For the first time, for the quarter ending December, 2017, the State Bank of India reported a loss of ₹ 7,700 crore. Sir, we thought that was a one quarter event. However, for the next quarter, the quarter ending March, 2018, State Bank of India has reported a loss of ₹ 2,400 crore.

Sir, the short point is this. The State Bank of India is the crown jewel of the Indian banking industry. We all hope it will not be privatized under any circumstances. It has stood the country well; it has served the country well. However, the merger of the associate banks into the State Bank of India has created some financial dislocation which will take

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some time to smoothen out and whatever support the State Bank of India requires from the Ministry and from the Government should be readily forthcoming because we need a healthy State Bank of India which is really a global enterprise as far as India is concerned. Sir, there are three or four issues relating to the merger which I want to highlight. First, we do not merge physical entities. Ultimately, merger is about people. People of one bank merge into people in another bank. Today, the State Bank of India's total employees are 2,00,000. The employees' strength of these five banks is 70,000. So, the total employees' strength of the State Bank of India now is going to be increased from 2,00,000 to 2,70,000. The State Bank of India will become the fifth largest employer in the country. Now, the point is that merger involves human resource issues. How do you manage the transition? First of all, managing 2,00,000 people is a challenge, but managing 2,70,000 people is going to be an even bigger challenge. I would urge the Government to pay greater attention to the human resource aspect of the merger and not just the balance sheet aspect of the merger. We tend to get fixated on the balance sheet; we should really be focussed on the people who are being merged. Sir, the second issue is that there will be need for bank rationalisation; not bank lationalisation but branch rationalisation. There may be hundreds of branches which may have to be rationalised because now these five banks are merged with the mother State Bank of India. Of course, in today's age, with electronic banking, internet banking, mobile banking, brick and mortar banking does not have that greater relevance. However, Sir, we are used in this country to going to our bank. Going to our bank is not just to withdraw money; going to our bank is like doing teerth yatra. We go to our bank. It is in-built into our system. I still go to my bank even though I have all the IT tools at my command. So, I think this branch rationalisation aspect is something that the Government has to pay far greater attention to than has been the case so far and particularly because these five banks are now coming into the SBI fold. Sir, the third that I want to make is that these five State associate banks played a very important role in the local areas. Now, take an example from your own State. The State Bank of Hyderabad played a very important role in the growth of the women's Self-Help Group Movement. In fact, the two banks that fuelled the women's Self-Help Group Movement in undivided Andhra Pradesh were Andhra Bank and the State Bank of Hyderabad. The State Bank of Mysore has played a very important role in the development of the districts of Mysore. The State Bank of Travancore has historically played a very important role in the development of Travancore and parts of Travancore. The point is, today everybody looks at banks — the bigger the better. The bigger the bank the better; the bigger the

balance sheet the better. Sir, I want to add a word of caution. Bigger is not always better; bigger is not always efficient. You need global scale, but you need local skills. Banks have to be looking globally but they have to be operating locally. The State Bank of India has all of India and the entire world on its canvas. But the State Bank of Hyderabad or the State Bank of Patiala or the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur had local areas as their focus. Sir, I am afraid that in the name of reforms and in the name of globalisation we are losing the local roots of our banks. Our banks must be global; they must be strong but they must have strong local anchors. I would urge the Government that while they go ahead with this merger, they also pay adequate attention to strengthen the local level operations and see how the local level operations of these big banks like State Bank of India, Bank of India, Bank of Baroda and so on and so forth can be further encouraged. Sir, my final point is this. Sir, I would like to have your undivided attention.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please carry on. You have three more minutes.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, from time to time, we keep hearing that India requires lesser number of banks, that banks should be merged. Sometimes, we hear statements that banks must be re-privatised because ultimately fifty years ago, these banks were public and they were privatised. Sir, I would like the Government of India — today, neither of the two Cabinet Finance Ministers are here, but the Minister of State is here — I would like the Minister of State to give an authoritative statement on behalf of the Government of India that privatisation of banks, de-nationalisation of banks is not on the Government's agenda. This is number one. Number two, Sir, this loose talk that India requires six banks, India requires seven banks. Sir, how do you arrive at six, seven? India is a vast country with 1.3 billion people. We are going to be 1.7 billion people in thirty years' time. We have 29 States, different regions, different requirements. Now, how does somebody, an economist or a civil servant, determine that six banks are enough for India or seven banks are enough for India? These evolve through developmental needs and challenges. And, I would like the hon. Minister to say that these numbers are not being plucked out of a hat, that banks will be strengthened, systems of accountability in banks will be improved and when mergers take place, merger will take place not for the sake of reducing the number of banks but mergers will take place because it makes sense for both banks to come together. It should not be a distressed marriage, it should not be a short-cut marriage, it should be a marriage between two willing partners. Sir, finally, banks have been in the news in the last couple of months. We have all read about the large number of financial frauds, financial scams that have taken place. This is not just in the public sector banks but we are also seeing this in private sector banks. So, clearly, there has been a complete collapse of

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governance system. Within the banks, there has been a collapse of the governance system between the Government and the bank and there has been a collapse of the regulatory system. And, I would urge the Government to use this opportunity to take the people of India into confidence because there is nothing more psychologically devastating to a country when it begins to lose confidence in its banks. Losing confidence in politicians is one thing but losing confidence in banks, in my view, is far more disastrous because in the case of politicians, you can always choose when elections are there but in the case of banks, you cannot. So, I think in order to instil confidence in the people that the banking system is healthy, I think the Government should come out and say these are the steps that we are taking to ensure improvement in governance within the banks, these are the steps that we are taking to improve the regulation of banks, which is done by the Reserve Bank of India and these are steps that the Government is taking to improve its own relationship with the banks.

Sir, with these words, I support the Bill. I wish the Bill had come much earlier. But, I urge the Government to use this opportunity of looking at some of the structural problems of our banking industry and not look at privatisation and de-nationalisation as instant miracles. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Jairam Rameshji. You have made good points. Now, Shri Ram Kumar Vermaji.

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान): चेयरमैन सर, सबसे पहले मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे यह opportunity दी। The State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017 के संबंध में, जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य ने अभी बताया है कि इस बिल का जो प्रभाव और मर्जर होना था, वह 1 अप्रैल, 2017 से शुरू हो गया है। 22 फरवरी, 2017 के गजट नोटिफिकेशन के आधार पर उसने 1 अप्रैल, 2017 से अपना कार्य शुरू कर दिया है और एसबीआई के अंदर ये पांचों सब्सिडियरी बैंक, एसोसिएटेड बैंक्स का मर्जर हो गया है। इस बिल के माध्यम से स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया सब्सिडियरी बैंक्स, 1959 वाला जो ऐक्ट है और स्टेट बैंक ऑफ हैदराबाद का जो 1956 का ऐक्ट है, वह रिपील होगा। जब एसोसिएट बैंकों का मर्जर हो चुका हो, तो उसका रिपील होना बहुत जरूरी है। इसी तरह से सब्सिडियरी बैंक के संबंध में स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया ऐक्ट 1955 के अंदर जो संबंधित प्रोविजन्स हैं, उनमें अमेंडमेंट करना भी जरूरी है, चूंकि अब पांचों बैंक एसबीआई के रूप में जाने जाएंगे। इसके अंदर स्टेट बैंक, बीकानेर और जयपुर, स्टेट बैंक, मैसूर, स्टेट बैंक, पटियाला, स्टेट बैंक, त्रावणकोर और स्टेट बैंक, हैदराबाद आ जाएंगे और हैदराबाद अपने आप अलग से अधिनियम, 1956 के साथ मर्ज हो रहा है। माननीय सदस्य ने एसबीआई बैंक की हिस्ट्री भी बताई और एसबीआई में इन बैंकों का मर्जर क्यों दिया गया, यह भी बताया। यह बात ठीक है कि इंडिपेंडेंस से पूर्व हम अगर देखते हैं और जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य ने भी बताया है कि विभिन्न राज्यों के स्तर पर ज्योग्राफिकल आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति

करने के लिए और रीजनल बेसिस पर और स्टेटवाइज इस तरह के बैंक थे, जिनको प्रेसिडेंशियल बैंक के रूप में जाना जाता था, उसी तरह से यह भी उन्हीं का एक रूप था। अगर हम स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया को देखें, तो 1906, 1908 और 1909 और उसके बाद में यह इम्पीरियल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया के रूप में आया। देश की आज़ादी के बाद इसके लिए 1955 में ऐक्ट बना और स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया के ऐक्ट के तहत इस बैंक का गठन हुआ, जो कि पब्लिक सैक्टर बैंक के अंदर आता है। बैंकों के मर्जर की एक बहुत बड़ी प्रक्रिया होती है, ऐसा नहीं है कि एक दिन के अंदर इस तरह का डिजीज़न हुआ हो। कई बार ऐसा लगता है कि सरकार ने अकस्मात इस तरह का डिजीज़न लिया हो, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं है। इसके लिए एक प्रक्रिया है, एक पद्धति है, एक प्रोसीज़र है, जो कि बहुत लम्बा है। जिस तरह से इन बैंकों का मर्जर हुआ है, अगर पीछे की हिस्ट्री को देखें, तो समय-समय पर रिजर्व बैंक के निर्देशानुसार इसके संबंध में कमेटियां गठित हुयी थीं। उन्होंने देखा था कि किस तरह से हम बैंकों को मजबूत और सुदृढ़ कर सकते हैं, इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए विभिन्न कमेटियां का गठन किया गया। उनमें एक नरसिम्हम कमेटी थी, जिसका 1990 के दौरान गठन हुआ और 1991 में उस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आयी। रिपोर्ट के दौरान यह पाया गया कि हमारे इंडियन बैंकिंग सिस्टम में सुधार के लिए उनको हम फाइनेंशियल तौर से, कैपिटल के तौर पर और कस्टमर की सर्विस को इम्प्रूव करने के लिए जरूरी है कि उसके स्ट्रक्चर में और बड़ी ऑर्गनाइजेशन में चेंज किया जाए। उसकी रिकमंडेशन थी कि तीन बड़े ग्लोबल स्तर के बैंक होने चाहिए, आठ से सद बैंक नेशनल स्तर के होने चाहिए और रीजनल बैंको का भी गठन किया जाए। इससे पूरे भारत के अंदर बैंकिंग सिस्टम में सुधार होगा, लेकिन इस तरह का स्टेप जो उस समय लेना चाहिए था, वह नहीं लिया गया और 2008 के अंदर स्टेट बैंक ऑफ सौराष्ट्र और 2010 में स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंदौर का जरूर मर्जर किया गया, लेकिन बाकी के बैंकों का मर्जर नहीं किया गया। इसके बाद में आरबीआई के द्वारा और एसबीआई एसोसिएट्स बैंको के जो बोर्डर्स हैं, उनके बीच में काफी कंसल्टेशन चला, एक प्रक्रिया चली। आरबीआई की तरफ से बैंकों के मर्जर के लिए एक प्रक्रिया चली। मर्जर से पहले बैंकों की प्रक्रियाओं को बारीकी से देखा जाता है कि जिस बैंक में दूसरा बैंक मर्ज हो रहा है, उसके मर्ज होने से क्या फायदा होगा और क्या नुकसान होगा। ऐसा करने से हमारे बैंकों में किस तरह से सुधार होगा, क्या वह कैपिटल में होगा, कस्टमर्स को होगा, उसकी प्रोडेक्टिविटी पर कितना असर पड़ेगा? हमारा इंडिया पूरा रूरल बेस्ड है, उसकी ग्रामीण एरिया में सर्विसेज में कितना सुधार होगा, यह सब देखा जाता है। इन सब बातों को मद्देनज़र रखते हुए एसबीआई और हमारे पांचों एसोसिएटेड बैंकों के बोर्ड का आरबीआई के साथ एक समझौता हुआ। उन्होंने इस बात के लिए एग्री किया कि हम एसबीआई में मर्जर करने के लिए तैयार हैं। उसी को मद्देनज़र रखकर आरबीआई ने उसे एप्रूव किया और गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया ने, कैबिनेट ने 22 फरवरी, 2017 में एक डिजीज़न लेते हुए, एक गजट नोटिफिकेशन जारी किया। महोदय, दिनांक 1 अप्रैल, 2017 से इस तरह का मर्जर हो चुका है, जो अब लागू हो गया है। आज यदि हम देखें, तो एसबीआई का हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था के अंदर एक महत्वपूर्ण और पूरा-पूरा रोल रहा है। अगर हम उसके कुछ पहलुओं को देखें, तो उससे विदित होगा कि एसोसिएट बैंकों की कैपिटल एडिक्वेसी, एसैट्स और लाएबिलिटीज़, एनपीए और उनकी स्थिति को देखते हुए यह निर्णय लिया गया कि देश का जो लार्जस्ट बैंक है, जिसकी फायनेंशियल स्थिति बहुत साउंड है, उसके अंदर इन्हें मर्ज किया जाए। इसी के तहत उन बैंकों के एसबीआई में मर्ज करने से, हमारे बैंक की कैपिटल एडिक्वेसी बढ़ गई और जब हम सैकंड और थर्ड लैवल के नॉर्म्स को एडॉप्ट कर रहे हैं, तो उसका फायदा हमारे एसबीआई को मिलेगा।

[श्री रामकुमार वर्मा]

महोदय, हमे इसे मर्जर न कह कर रीऑर्गनाइजेशन कह सकते हैं। उसका कारण यह है कि एसबीआई में तो एकाउंट भी है और जो दूसरे तीन बैंक हैं, उनके अंदर भी 90 परसेंट और 75 परसेंट शेयर होल्डिंग है। उन्हें मर्ज करने के बाद आज एसबीआई की वर्ल्ड लैवल पर और ग्लोबल स्थिति देखें, तो दुनिया के जो 50 बड़े बैंक हैं, उनमें यह 45वें स्थान पर है। इसे यदि हम उसकी ब्रांचों के हिसाब से देखें, तो यह लार्जस्ट बैंक है, क्योंकि इसकी 2,00 ब्रांचेज़ हैं, 59,000 एटीएम हैं। इसी के साथ, जैसा कि ऑनरेबल मैम्बर ने भी बताया, यदि स्टाफ, यानी अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों की संख्या के आधार पर देखें, तो आज उनकी 2,72,000 एक्जुअल स्ट्रेंथ है। एसोसिएट बैंकों के मर्ज होने से सबसे बड़ा फायदा यह होगा कि हमारी कैपिटल एडिक्वेसी साउंड होगी। इसके बाद लगभग 26 लाख करोड़ रुपए की पूंजी एडवांसेज़ के लिए रहेगी और जो डिपॉजिट्स होंगे, उनके आधार पर लगभग 18 लाख करोड़ के एडवांसेज़ दिए जा सकेंगे।

महोदय, भारत के प्रधान मंत्री, माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में इस बात पर जोर दिया गया है कि हमारे देश का आम आदमी बैंकिंग सिस्टम से जुड़े। उसके अनुसार काम किया जा रहा है और आपने देखा होगा कि देश में जन-धन एकाउंट्स के माध्यम से 32 करोड़ लोगों को बैंकों से जोड़ा गया है। बैंकों से उन्हें जोड़ने के बाद जितनी भी हमारी कल्याणकारी स्कीम्स हैं, जिनसे डाउनट्राँडन क्लास के साथ-साथ मध्यम क्लास के लोगों को फायदा होता है, उन्हें डिजिटल पेमेंट और उनके खाते में डायरेक्ट एमाउंट ट्रांसफर करने के माध्यम से बैनिफिट मिल रहा है। चूंकि एसबीआई ने अपनी टेक्नोलॉजी के माध्यम से, वर्ष 1990 से कंप्यूटराइज्ड सिस्टम को एडॉप्ट किया, इसलिए हम देखते हैं कि पूरे वर्ल्ड में वह आईटी और कंप्यूटराइजेशन के मामले में सक्षम बैंक है। जब टेक्नोलॉजी इतनी सक्षम होगी, तो निश्चित रूप से हमारे कोर बैंकिंग सिस्टम के माध्यम से, डीबीटी के माध्यम से और डिजिटल माध्यम से हमारे गांव जुड़ेंगे। हम चाहते हैं कि 6 लाख एरियाज़ में जो व्यक्ति रहते हैं, वे जुड़ें। जिनके एकाउंट नहीं हैं, उनके एकाउंट खोले जाएंगे। इन ब्रांचों के माध्यम से वे जुड़ेंगे। जब वे इन ब्रांचों के माध्यम से बैंकिंग सिस्टम से जुड़ेंगे, तो निश्चित रूप से हमारे पास 26 लाख करोड़ रुपए के डिपॉजिट्स होंगे और उसके बाद टेक्नोलॉजी के माध्यम से मैनेजमेंट की कॉस्ट कम आएगी, उसके कारण हमारे फंड को मैनेज करने की कॉस्ट कम होगी। जब हमारी कॉस्ट ऑफ फंड कम होगी, तो हमारे जो इंटररेस्ट रेट्स होंगे, वे कम होंगे।

महोदय, अगर हम भारत में अन्य बैंकों की तुलना में देखें, तो अभी भी एसबीआई का चाहे हाउस लोन है, कार लोन है या एसएमई इंडस्ट्रीज़ को दिए जाने वाले लोन हैं, उनके इंटररेस्ट रेट्स कम हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि आगे चलकर जब इसमें 26 लाख करोड़ रुपए के डिपॉजिट्स हो जाएंगे, तो पोजिशन और अच्छी हो जाएगी। पहले पांच बैंक अपना अलग-अलग मैनेजमेंट करते थे, उनकी तुलना में अब सिर्फ एक मैनेजमेंट होगा, इससे भी फायदा होगा। अब मॉनिटरिंग सिस्टम और अच्छा होगा, क्योंकि हमने देखा कि पिछले दिनों किस-किस प्रकार के फ्रॉड हुए और लोग लोन लेकर देश से बाहर चले गए। उस पर एक बहुत बड़ा कंट्रोल होगा। इसका कारण यह है कि एसबीआई का अपना बैंकिंग सिस्टम है, वह बहुत मजबूत है। आज भी एसबीआई ही, आरबीआई और बैंकिंग रेगुलेशन का जो सिस्टम है, उसे पूरा का पूरा फॉलो करता है। वह उसको और मजबूती से, इन बैंकों की ब्रांचेज़ से कहेगा।

सर, इसको लेकर कई शंकाएं हैं। हमारे कुछ साथी कहते हैं कि मर्जर होने के बाद शायद ये ब्रांचेज बंद होंगी, शायद इससे ग्रामीण एरिया की अर्थव्यवस्था में नुकसान होगा, लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इसमें एक परिवर्तन नाम का हुआ है और उन ब्रांचेज के एक्विजिशन को इस तरह से नहीं लिखा गया है कि उनको abolish कर दिया जाए, उन्हें खत्म कर दिया जाए। यह जरूर है कि अगर कोई ब्रांच वॉयबल नहीं है, उसमें दिक्कत आ रही है, तो उसको मर्ज किया जा सकता है। गाँव में दो की जगह एक ब्रांच की जा सकती है, लेकिन ब्रांचों का विस्तारीकरण, गवर्नमेंट की पॉलिसी में है और वित्त मंत्री जी ने भी बार-बार कहा है कि इस तरह से नहीं होगा। कुछ शंकाएं आती हैं कि जिनका स्टाफ होगा, सबऑर्डिनेट स्टाफ या जो भी स्टाफ आएगा, उसके साथ सैकंडरी व्यवहार किया जाएगा, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं है। जब यह एग्रीमेंट हुआ, तब समझौता हुआ, तब चारों-पांचों बैंकों के जो बोर्ड ऑफ डायरेक्टर्स थे, उनके साथ, आरबीआई के साथ यह तय हुआ कि एसबीआई के स्टाफ को जो फैसिलिटीज दी हैं, उनको जो सुविधाएं दी हैं, उनका जिस तरह का मान-सम्मान होता है, हमारे जो बैंक्स मर्ज हुए हैं, उनका उन बैंकों से भी उसी तरह का ट्रीटमेंट होगा। आज हम देखते हैं कि अप्रैल के बाद कर्मचारियों के द्वारा ऐसी कोई शिकायत नहीं आई है, जिससे कि कोई दिक्कत हो। मैं समझता हूं कि इस तरह से बैंक के मर्ज होने के बाद, इसका जो रूप है, वह कार्यरूप में मूर्त हो गया है।

सर, इस बिल के बाद जो एक्ट बनेगा, उसमें दोनों एक्ट्स की रिपील होगी। इसके साथ-साथ जो इसमें रिलेवेंट प्रोविज़न हैं, जो अनावश्यक हैं, जिनकी नीड नहीं है, उनको हटाने से भी राहत मिलेगी। इसी तरह से देश के हित में, देश की इकोनॉमी, आज जो वर्ल्ड लेवल इकोनॉमी को देखते हैं, उसमें हमारी फास्टेस्ट ग्रोथ रेट की इकोनॉमी है।

सर, भारत में जिस तरह का एक जनकल्याणकारी माहौल बना है, जिस तरह की यह योजना है, उसमें बैंकिंग सिस्टम का एक बहुत बड़ा रोल है और हम एसबीआई के अंदर मर्ज होने के बाद उसको अचीव करेंगे। मैं समझता हूं कि वह कस्टमस के लिए, पूरी जनता के लिए और जो बेनिफिशियरीज हैं, उनके लिए बहुत लाभदायक होगा। इसी तरह से, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि बिल से संबंधित जो भी बातें हैं, जैसा कि मैंने बोला ही है कि उसमें reduction of cost होगी, better profitability होगी, lower cost of funds होगा, better interest rate होगा। इसकी productivity और customer service में improvement होगा, इसका supervision solid होगा, इसका monitoring system वगैरह भी होगा। इन्हीं चीजों को देखते हुए मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इस तरह का मर्जर हमारे देश के हित में होगा, देश की अर्थव्यवस्था के हित में होगा और हमारी ग्रामीण व्यवस्था में वह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण सिद्ध होगा। सर, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shri N. Gokulakrishnan.

SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN (Puducherry): Sir, the State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017 seeks to repeal the two Acts. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh): It is not audible. Perhaps, your mike is not working. ... (Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please use the mike. ...*(Interruptions)*... Are you speaking from your seat? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: It is working now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go ahead.

SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Sir, the State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017 seeks to repeal the two Acts, namely, the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, and, the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956. These Acts established the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Travancore and State Bank of Hyderabad. These banks were subsidiaries of the State Bank of India. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, my mike is not working. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am speaking from my seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): The Display Board is also not working properly. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. That is not working but I am working, don't worry; you work. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: The State Bank of India is India's largest bank with assets of ₹ 30.72 lakh crore and stands at number 64 in the global ranking of banks, as on December, 2015. Upon post-merger, with assets of approximately ₹ 40 lakh crore, it will be among the top 50 banks in the world.

According to the global rating agency, Moody's report, the merger will have limited impact on SBI's credit metrics. The reason is that the State Bank of Hyderabad and the State Bank of Patiala were wholly owned subsidiaries of the SBI and also have majority stakes in the other three associate banks.

Sir, I would now like to address five important issues in detail which will be significant in this merger. They are: asset quality, profitability, technology, branch rationalisation and employee reallocation.

Let me come to the first issues, that is, asset quality. By virtue of being the country's largest lender, the SBI is bound to have bad loans on its books. Moreover, its associate banks also have accumulated large amounts of bad loans. When the entities are merged, these bad loans will become part of one bank. Consolidation would help in better deal with these accounts as there are a number of common accounts among these banks. As such, the SBI would have more capital base and can offer loan of high value more liberally. As

a result, burden on the Central Government to recapitalize the public sector banks would come down to a certain level due to merger.

Then comes the issue of profitability. Typically, due to various transition issues, a merger among banks will bring negative impact as far as profitability of the combined entity is concerned. Associate banks such as the State Bank of Travancore and the State Bank of Mysore have already reported losses owing to asset quality concerns on their books. With the merger of these small banks, their customers would get access to wider financial services like mutual funds and insurance products which are available only with larger banks. The quantum of inter-bank transactions among these banks will drastically come down and thereby both time and labour can be saved in the process of clearing and reconciliation of accounts.

As far as technology is concerned, SBI has been at the forefront in adopting new front-end and back-end technology to be competitive in the market. SBI has an active information technology department that works on a number of innovative solutions for the bank, and this kind of technology will be more useful to the customers. Security of the customer data across these associate banks is also a concern.

Regarding branch rationalisation, in the years of expansion, SBI and its associate banks have opened a large number of branches across the country. With the merger, it is not necessary to have two or three branches next to each other. This principle may also be applicable on ATMs to manage the cost. The combined entity will make the SBI as the largest bank in India with more branches and ATM networks in the country. As far as the negative impacts of the merger go, with the passage of this Bill, the associate banks will lose their local prominence. It is seen that the process of merger of associate banks would always weaken the public sector banks and encourage more private participation in the banking sector. It is learnt that at present, processing of new loans from associate banks has already been stopped, which surely create more inconvenience to the customers. Another important thing is that by the introduction of this Bill, the corporates had to face tough time till they adapt themselves to new norms.

My last point is regarding employee reallocation. In any merger, the rationalisation of the headcount is always a major concern. The promotional opportunities and career growth of senior management level and other employees could attract critical problems which should be resolved amicably. Moreover, seniority related matters among mid-level employees is also an important issue as any pending promotions may now have to wait till

[Shri N. Gokulakrishnan]

the merger is fully completed. The SBI had told that the merger would be done seamlessly as it has the experience of two earlier mergers of State Bank of Saurashtra and State Bank of Indore in 2008 and 2010 respectively.

Sir, I wish to urge the Government to provide adequate compensatory benefits to the employees of the associate banks who may either opt for VRS or continue to serve the SBI.

Sir, before I conclude, I would like to highlight the significance of this merger. The loss incurred by the small banks will be completely taken over by the SBI which will result in accumulation of huge debts. Ultimately, it pushes the SBI to go for abnormal haircut that paves the way for more financial stress to the SBI. It is really a moot question whether SBI will retain 50th rank in the global banking after merger since the whole burden to be borne by the SBI.

With this, I conclude. I welcome the Bill. Thank You, Sir.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, first of all, I thank the Government, for at least this Bill presumably has not been introduced as Money Bill.

Sir, all of us know that five subsidiary banks have been merged with the State Bank of India *vide* Gazette Notification dated 22nd February 2017. When this Bill was introduced in the other House, in its Statement of Objects and Reasons it was stated that for the purposes of rationalisation of resources, reduction of costs, better profitability, lower cost of funds leading to better rate of interest for public at large, improved productivity and customer service, SBI, with the sanction of the Central Government, had decided to merge this. Accordingly, the Government issued the order and the Gazette Notification was published. The Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha and it is now before us for consideration.

My first question is this. How far the objectives of the Bill have been achieved in the meantime? Some 16 or 17 months have elapsed in the meantime. How much rate of interest for the public has been enhanced after the merger of these five subsidiary banks of the SBI? I want the hon. Minister to respond to these questions while replying to this discussion.

Mr. Jairam Ramesh rightly mentioned the background of nationalisation and the new scenario of denationalisation which is coming up. And talks are reportedly going on in the Government that there will be merger of more PSU banks out of 21 PSU banks.

Sir, I would like to cite one example with your kind permission. A news item has been published in The Indian Express today. It says that the Life Insurance Corporation has written to the IDBI to acquire 51 per cent controlling stake as its promoter. Apparently, there should not have been any objection to this. But everybody knows that like many other banks, IDBI was a breeding ground for scamsters. If a sick bank like IDBI is embraced by the LIC, which is a Central Government Organisation, the money of the policyholders will be at stake because IDBI's 51 per cent equity or share will be taken over by the LIC. You know as to what its fate would be. All along we have been raising the issue of mounting NPAs which are more than ten lakh crore rupees. And we have been demanding this, time and again, as to why the names of wilful defaulters, who otherwise should have been treated as economic offenders, have not been published and why actions under criminal law are not being taken against them. The Government so far has not given any reply, not to speak of any satisfactory reply. Therefore, this way, if the Government adopts this merger one after another, by merging so many PSU banks in detrimental to the interest of the depositors and in detriment to the policyholders, if the insurance companies come to the rescue of the defaulting banks or the banks which have large amounts of NPAs, then there will be a severe impact on our economy. It is creating a severe impact and it will further create a severe impact.

Therefore, Sir, I have nothing to say on this particular Repeal and Amendment Bill because already gazette notification has been issued. Lok Sabha has passed it and we are here to merely approve it. Buffaloes are not before the cart; there is a cart before the buffaloes. Parliament was not taken into consideration before taking the decision. Decision was taken by the executive; gazette notification was published. Then, it was brought to the Lok Sabha and now it is before the Rajya Sabha. So, we are almost in a helpless situation. Only thing that we can do is we can criticise but I am not on the blame game. I am asking the Government to have a serious thought on this. If this process continues, there will be a danger to our economy. Nowhere in the world, a Government has adopted this as a solution. This cannot be the solution. There should be threadbare discussions. Several Standing Committees of Parliament have given so many recommendations on this as to how to come out of this situation created over the years. It is not that after this Government has come the situation has cropped up. No. This is a perennial problem. This is a perennial problem and, therefore, whoever or whichever party is in Government, there should be a serious thought over this issue, the recommendations of the Standing Committees should be taken into consideration and larger public view should be adopted to checkmate the situation. Therefore, Sir, through you, this is my humble submission

[Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray]

to the Government. The Government should take serious note in its entirety and not in a piecemeal manner. Don't do this to help those who have looted and plundered the public money from the banks because ultimately they will go scot-free and they will flee away from the country. Some of them have already fled away. More people will flee away and will take shelters in tax havens or in other countries with whom we have no treaty for their deportation. Therefore, I would urge the Government to think over the issue in its entirety and not in a piecemeal manner. Thank you.

श्री हरिवंश (बिहार): सभापति जी, धन्यवाद। सर, मैं The State Bank (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017 पर बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। दरअसल State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 को रिपील करने और State Bank of India Act, 1955 में आवश्यक संशोधन के लिए यह लाया गया है। जैसा हमारे माननीय सदस्यों ने बताया कि 1 अप्रैल, 2017 को State Bank of India में औपचारिक रूप से इन पांच subsidiaries का विलय हो चुका है। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि यह केवल औपचारिक विलय था, क्योंकि इन बैंकों के अधिक से अधिक शेयर स्टेट बैंक के पास पहले से ही थी। मसलन State Bank of Mysore के 90 फीसदी शेयर State Bank of India के पास थे, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ बीकानेर एंड जयपुर के 75 फीसदी शेयर State Bank of India के पास थे, State Bank of Travancore के 79.09 फीसदी शेयर State Bank of India के पास थे और State Bank of Patiala और State Bank of Hyderabad के 100 फीसदी शेयर State Bank of India के पास पहले से थे। इसलिए इन subsidiaries का मर्जर एक formal merger है, लेकिन मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन और देश के सामने यह रखना चाहता हूँ कि जो काम आज से 10, 20 या 25 वर्ष पहले हो जाना चाहिए था, वह आज हो रहा है। यह हमारे बैंकों का वर्क कल्चर ही रहा है, जिसने आज बैंकिंग सिस्टम में यह क्राइसिस पैदा किया है। पिछले चार-पांच दशकों में बैंकों में खास तौर पर अनिर्णय की संस्कृति रही है, राजनीतिक हस्तक्षेप की स्थिति रही है, जिसके कारण आज हालात ये हो गए हैं।

महोदय, मैं आपको बताना चाहूंगा कि 1991 में Narasimhan Committee की रिपोर्ट आई थी, जिसने three-tier banking structure के लिए public sector banks को merge करने का सुझाव दिया था। उनकी यह रिकमंडेशन तीन बड़े बैंकों के लिए थी, लेकिन हमने उस पर कोई कदम नहीं उठाया और बाद में कुछ ऐसे merger हुए, जो छिटपुट थे, जैसे 2004 में रिज़र्व बैंक के instructions पर Global Trust Bank को Oriental Bank of Commerce में merge किया गया, इसी तरह 1993 में New Bank of India को Punjab National Bank में merge किया गया, लेकिन बैंकिंग में बड़े पैमाने पर जो रिफॉर्म होना चाहिए था, वह नहीं हुआ। मैंने यहां श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय जी को सुना। राष्ट्रीयकरण की चर्चा इससे पहले भी हुई है। मैं स्पष्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि जिस एक व्यक्ति ने 1962 में राज्य सभा में प्रवेश करने के साथ-साथ 1969 में तत्कालीन सरकार को फोर्स किया कि वह बैंकों को नेशनलाइज़ करे। उस समय युवा तुर्क, चन्द्रशेखर जी की क्या मांग थी कि बैंक नेशनलाइज़ होने के साथ, बैंकों में काम करने वालों के लिए अलग कैडर हो, कमिटेड कैडर हो, प्रबंधन में निपुण लोग हों,

उनका वर्क कल्चर उत्तम हो, लेकिन उस तरह कभी कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। फिर हालात क्या हुए और बैंकिंग चेयरमैन कैसे नियुक्त होने लगे, वह मैं आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ।

अभी SFIO की एक रिपोर्ट आई, जिसके कुछ अंश मैं आपके सामने क्वोट करना चाहता हूँ। जिस तरह विजय माल्या की आज चर्चा हो रही है, कम से कम इस बात के लिए मैं सरकार को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि कैसे उसकी सम्पत्ति का डिटेल में ब्यौरा इकट्ठा करके और लीगल बैटल के माध्यम से ब्रिटेन में उस पर कानूनी विजय प्राप्त की। SFIO की रिपोर्ट कहती है कि - "A set of officials of the then Banking Division of the Ministry of Finance came to the rescue of Vijay Mallya... Pliable top management of the Public Sector Banks succumbed to the pressure." ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the Minister concerned is not here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर नहीं है, शायद वॉशरूम गए होंगे, लेकिन पॉइंट्स नोट करने के लिए मंत्री जी यहां हैं।

श्री हरिवंश: मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस वर्क कल्चर ने देश के बैंकों को तबाह किया, जिससे आज ऐसे हालात बन गए हैं। इन बैंकों में, सबसिडियरीज़ के माध्यम से, कम से कम 5 चीज़ें करना आवश्यक है, जिसका तत्काल असर होगा और बहुत सरलता से मर्जर होगा, क्योंकि इनकी कॉमन आइडेंटिटी रही है। SBI का लोगो ही इनका लोगो रहा है। स्टेट बैंक का इन बैंकों पर शुरू से ऑपरेशनल कंट्रोल रहा है। स्टेट बैंक के चेयरमैन ही इनके individual Boards को preside करते रहे हैं। ये सभी सब्सिडियरीज़ बैंक एक ही तरह के information technology platform पर काम करते हैं। कई वर्षों से इनके treasury operations स्टेट बैंक से integrate हो चुके हैं। इनके major loans की vetting भी स्टेट बैंक के Centralized Control System के द्वारा होती है, इसलिए यह मर्जर फॉर्मल मर्जर है, लेकिन बड़ा सवाल यह है कि जो हमारा ख़ाब है कि मर्जर के बाद, जैसा हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी ने बयान दिया कि हम दुनिया के बड़े बैंकों में शामिल होना चाहते हैं, इसलिए जब तक हमारे बैंकों का वर्क कल्चर नहीं बदलेगा, जिसके लिए अच्छी शुरुआत कुछ कानून बनाकर हुई है, तब तक ये हालात बदलने वाले नहीं हैं।

मैं पुनः कहना चाहूंगा और आप देखें कि political pressure में किस तरह से चीज़ों को, हालात को बदला गया। अभी हाल में हमने IDBI Bank की खबर पढ़ी कि LIC उसमें पैसे लगाकर, उसे बचाने के लिए शेयर ले रहा है। उस IDBI Bank से किसे लोन finance किया गया - दिल्ली में बैठे तत्कालीन सरकार के लोगों ने विजय माल्या को। ये सारी चीज़ें on record हैं।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय) पीठासीन हुए]

मैं दूसरा उदाहरण भी देना चाहूंगा। भारत सरकार के एक पूर्व IAS सेक्रेटरी, जो SEBI के Chairman थे और किंगफिशर के बोर्ड में भी थे, SFIO की रिपोर्ट में उनके नाम का भी उल्लेख है कि किस तरह ने उनका पक्ष लिया, आपने demonetization में भी देखा कि किस तरह हमारे Public

[श्री हरिवंश]

Sector Banks में भ्रष्टाचार के मामले सामने आए। हमें जो खबरें आ रही हैं, सरकार ने जो सख्त कानून बनाए, उनमें Banking sector के लोग सबसे ज्यादा पकड़े जा रहे हैं, जिन्होंने गलत तरीके से पार्टीज़ को लोन दिए। मैं सिर्फ एक दिन की खबर यहां क्वोट करना चाहता हूं, जो बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है ताकि बैंकिंग सेक्टर के हालात क्या हैं, उसकी सूचना हम सबको मिल सके। दिसम्बर, 2017 के अंतिम दिनों में, एक दिन की खबर है, (1) "CBI books SBI officials for loan fraud." (2) "CBI raids four places, register one more case in Syndicate Bank." (3) "CBI registered a case against two former AGMs and two former Chief Managers of Syndicate Bank and six persons, five executives and businessmen behind ₹ 1000 crore Syndicate Bank Fraud." (4) "ED arrest came on the back of an alleged fraud involving cheating five banks - Punjab National Bank, Syndicate Bank, Canara Bank, United Bank of India and Union Bank. The amount involved was ₹ 966 crores." यह सिर्फ एक दिन की खबर मैं आपको बता रहा हूं। इससे हालात आप समझ सकते हैं। अभी कुछ दिनों पहले मैं एक खबर देख रहा था कि हर सप्ताह कम से कम तीन या चार बैंकों के बड़े अधिकारी पकड़े जा रहे हैं। नेशनलाइजेशन के बाद मकसद था कि बेहतर ढंग से बैंक लोगों के लिए, समाज के लिए और देश के लिए काम करे। हमने पैसा और कैडर बढ़ाकर political interference से उनके सामने ऐसी स्थिति पैदा कर दी कि जो बड़े-बड़े corporate houses हैं, वे कैसे पहले लोन को सिक बनाकर, अपनी जागीरदारी बनाए रखने के लिए, दूसरे मकसद में उपयोग करते थे। महोदय, मैं अन्त में यह कहना चाहूंगा कि हमने आज़ादी मिलने के बाद जमींदारी खत्म होने की बात सुनी। कम से कम 1969 में देश में जो राजनीतिक बदलाव हो रहे थे, उसमें युवा तुर्कों के दबाव में, खास तौर से जो राजे-रजवाड़े थे, उनका प्रिवीपर्स खत्म हुआ। इस सरकार ने ब्लैकमनी कर्ब करने के लिए और एनपीए के लिए जो कानून बनाये हैं, उन कानूनों को institutionalize किया। मैं उम्मीद करता हूं कि सेठों का राज, जो गलत ढंग से सेठ बने थे, उनका राज खत्म होगा। इसी के साथ मैं इस मर्जर का स्वागत करता हूं। मैं इसके पक्ष में खड़ा हूँ, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Now, Shri Anil Desai.

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I rise to support the Bill, the State Bank (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017. This Bill is basically meant to repeal the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 and further to amend the State Bank of India Act, 1955 as passed by the Lok Sabha. Sir, as has been said by our colleagues here in the House that the State Bank of India and its subsidiaries, the associate banks like Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Patiala and State Bank of Travancore and State Bank of Hyderabad, the acquisition of the same is being done. The Gazette Notification has been published in February, 2017. The said Bill has been passed in the Lok Sabha and it is here for passage in the Rajya Sabha. As has been said that the State Bank as such had a substantial control over these

3.00 P.M.

banks as far as their capital is concerned, somewhere it is 75 per cent and somewhere 90 per cent. Accordingly, for the purposes of rationalisation of resources, for reduction of cost, better profitability, lower cost of funds leading to better rate of interest, these are the reasons which have been given and the move has been taken forward. The State Bank of India is known to be the biggest bank in India, not only in India, but internationally also, it has a special standing of its own. Largest bank means larger issues, larger problems. As far as these five acquisitions are concerned, I think all of them, internally, as far as their assets and liabilities are concerned, these nitty-gritties have been tackled with, they have been looked into, they have been accommodated and they have been taken over. As far as technology is concerned, State Bank of India need a lauding that they have been doing extremely well and that is the reason why among all nationalised banks taken together in India, State Bank of India has its own standing. It has a different level as to how we treat in banking or in general parlance also. The State Bank of India will be having these associate banks and the major problems would be, and it was touched upon or raised by one of the colleagues while saying that these banks of which acquisition has taken place, the basic thing is, when the entire set up is taken into, assets and liabilities are different things. Technologically and technically, they get their places as where they should get. But the employees' issue, the officers' issue, as far as the higher top brass of the banks are concerned, that is a problem as far as their seniority is concerned, their fitment is concerned, their promotions are concerned. These are the issues which make a lot of effect as far as the working of the bank is concerned when it becomes one entity. That is what has been seen, if not in the banking sector, but in different public sectors, we have witnessed, we have seen that. That affects the morale of not only the entire top brass but down the line too. That affects the outcome. That affects the output or the performance of the bank. The State Bank of India higher management will take into consideration these aspects which are very important for the State Bank of India to take its move further and grow on a larger scale. As far as the State Bank of India is concerned, of late, we have seen the plight of the banking sector as such. The State Bank of India has also got bad loans. What kind of bad loans from these acquired banks have come, that is also an issue that has not been yet made public. If it is made public, then I would like to know that or if the Minister would enlighten us, it will be better. But as far as banking sector is concerned, after nationalisation, which took place in 1969-70, in the real sense, in India, the middle class has come up. That was the best step which was taken by the then Prime Minister and it really helped the economy to grow.

[Shri Anil Desai]

And the banking sector being the mainstay of Indian economy, proved itself with better and better results, but, in the last decade or so, the way bad loans have come up, the way customers of the banks, be it in the name of industrialists or people who had some ulterior interests or the *malafide* interests, those who are now being defined as wilful defaulters, the way this crop has come up in India, that has really shaken the faith of not only the bankers on a big scale in the higher society, but also middle class and people at the lower strata too, for whom the banks were made open by the Government, their faith is shaken, and if that faith is to be rebuilt, this entire thing needs to be taken care of. Now, different things are coming up that some public sector banks are to be merged together. If in India, big loans are to be catered to big industrialists, then, we do not have that mega bank sort of entity. We need to take a pool of some banks, and then, in a consortium, they lend, and then, the issues arise who the lead bank is, who is supporting whom, and then, the criticism starts. These are the issues about which if we make an empirical study, we get to know. The crux of the problem is that banking sector, public sector banks being a Government entity, need to be strengthened. Not only that we are growing, there is no doubt that we are growing; our economy has a good boost. But, if the issue of unemployment is to be addressed, these are the places which the banking industry in the past has taken care of, and strengthened the middle class. If you go by these years, during these thirty years, really, the Indian middle class has come up and fruits of it we have seen how it grew. Not only employment, but on other fronts also, the mergers which are taking place, the concepts, the ideas which are coming up; now, bad banks, which is again an idea which was floated by the hon. Finance Minister in the last fortnight or so, which was discussed on various forums that all public sector banks which are having bad loans, may be transferred once and for all in the bad banks, and then, their stake will be cleared. On the one side, the Government of India has declared that recapitalisation for the banks will take up; more than rupees two lakh crores that will be pumped into the banks. These are the steps which are being taken. But, I think, these measures will not be enough. Unless we go to the core of it and we really work there, this kind of *malafide* intentioned people they creep in. No political influence should be there.

Every aspect of the customer should be treated on merit. A lot many aspects are there which are being evolved in the banking sector. I think, banking sector's health will be gauged by all aspects, and if it is good, then, it will be better for the Indian economy, and by taking every step that will strengthen the banking industry, it will really be a help for the Indian economy to grow. With this, I support the State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017. Thank you.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Sir. What is the purpose of this Bill? The purpose of this Bill is to ratify the closure of subsidiary banks and their merger with the State Bank of India. Sir, I am sorry to state that Parliament has been reduced to such an extent that it has to fulfil the ritual of giving ratification. That is what we are trying; that is what we are discussing. When the Government decided to close down the five subsidiary banks and merge with the State Bank of India, we were told that this would make State Bank of India a world-class bank, and a stronger bank. What is the story now? The story is different. State Bank of India is making losses. Let the Government say that there is no loss in the State Bank of India branches. Hundreds of branches have been closed down in many parts of the country. The Non-Performing Assets have gone up. Many big NPA accounts have gone to the Insolvency Tribunal. Is it not a fact? Let the Government say, 'No, no; everything is fine with the State Bank of India.' You say and let the people understand, let the Parliament understand. But, I am saying that many NPA accounts have gone to the Insolvency Tribunal. The State Bank of India, I am afraid, will make further losses in the coming days. Subsidiary banks, like the State Bank of Travancore and State Bank of Hyderabad, were doing very well. By closing down these banks and merging with the State Bank of India, what benefit did we get? I find there is no benefit. The people in States like Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Punjab and Rajasthan have lost their regional banks by way of merger of subsidiary banks with the State Bank of India. We find that the Government is in a hurry to do things and then come to Parliament for ratification. Why can't the Government take Parliament into confidence? Why should the Government take decisions behind the back of Parliament bypassing it? After that, you come to Parliament for ratification. Is it good for our democracy? The Government should think over it.

Sir, I can point out that the Government did demonetization overnight. Now the country is facing problems; even today the country is facing problems. The Government hurried with the GST in the name of 'one nation one tax'. Now we see the problems. You understand and I understand the problems.

Sir, the Government brought an ordinance on insolvency action on defaulters. What is the fate of that ordinance? Banks have lost money and no recovery has been made through this measure. If the Government says, 'No, you are saying wrong things', let the Government explain. I am subject to correction. But the banks have lost money and no recovery has been done through this measure. The Government should think over. Sir, the Government should consult Parliament before taking any decision. I wish they reviewed these policies. Merger with the State Bank of India was avoidable. It is my view. But the

[Shri D. Raja]

Government was in a hurry to do it. Now the Government has made it a *fait accompli* because it has been done earlier. Now you ask the Parliament to ratify. The Parliament will ratify it. But why do you do such things? Why should the Government act like that? After all, we are a democracy and we should know how to do things in a democracy. We have Parliament. I consider our Parliament to be a vibrant one. Why do you bypass Parliament? Why do you take decisions without consultations in Parliament?

Sir, finally, I would like to advise the Government to understand that the banks constitute the central nerve system of modern economy. It is not said by me. It was said by the great Lenin. Because he is Lenin, a communist, do not dismiss this statement. Don't dismiss the statement because the banks constitute the central nerve system of modern economy. Don't weaken the central nerve system, don't weaken the banking sector because the economy will collapse. The former Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh and former Finance Minister, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee when they were in this House, they claimed that the fundamentals of Indian economy were strong. When we asked what the fundamentals of Indian economy are, they identified the public sector banks particularly. Now this Government should not try to weaken the banking sector in the name of *sab ka saath, sab ka vikas*, and finally you want to serve the interests of corporate houses and big big business houses. That is what is happening in this country. So, Sir, we are left with *fait accompli*, Parliament has to ratify this, but these are the concerns, my party thinks, the Government will have to take note of and consider. With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Thank you very much, Sir. My party has asked me to speak on the State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017 and mainly about the merger of various banks into the State Bank of India. Sir, it is good that in this Amendment Bill, the Clause 2 says that whatever the agreements have been reached in the past will be honoured by the bank or new bank as if that this merger has not happened. सर, यह बहुत अच्छी बात है, लेकिन मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि merger की जरूरत क्यों पड़ी, क्या कारण थे? वे कारण अभी तक बताए नहीं गए हैं। वे कारण न तो सरकार ने बताए हैं और न ही मिनिस्टर ने बताए हैं। क्या इन बैंकों की liability बढ़ गई थी, इनका लॉस ज्यादा था, इनका स्टाफ सबसे ज्यादा हुआ करता था या इनकी सर्विसेज़ अच्छी नहीं थीं? ऐसे क्या कारण थे कि एक अच्छे-खासे बैंक, जिसकी एक credibility है, उसके साथ इनको merge किया गया है? वे reasons आपने अभी तक नहीं बताए हैं।

सर, मैं एक दूसरी चीज़ की तरफ भी ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। यहाँ पर जो कुछ कहा गया है, उसको मैं रिपीट नहीं करूँगा। सरकार का एक मकसद यह था कि इस देश के अंदर ज्यादा से

ज्यादा आदमी बैंकिंग करे, बैंक के अंदर अपना खाता खुलवाये, वगैरह। इस merger के बारे में at least जो reason और example मेरे पास है, वह मैं बताना चाहता हूँ। मेरे पड़ोस का एक स्टेट बैंक ऑफ पटियाला बन्द हो गया। वहाँ के स्टाफ को दूसरी जगह पर ले जाया गया। अब वह है कि नहीं, यह उसको नहीं पता नहीं है। एक मौका था, एक समय था, जब ज्यादा से ज्यादा रूरल बैंक खोलने पर जोर दिया गया था। उससे रूरल एरियाज़ के अंदर क्या परिस्थिति में बदलाव आया? आज भी हमारे गुजरात के अंदर हालात ऐसे हैं कि कई-कई जगहों पर बैंक 25-30 किलोमीटर दूर पर स्थित हैं। वहाँ पर बैंकिंग सर्विसेज़ के लिए लोगों को एक-एक दिन गिनकर जाना पड़ता है और फिर उनको यह पता चलता है कि आज मैनेजर नहीं है, इसलिए आज पैसा नहीं आया है। आज भी उन इलाकों में बैंकों की यही हालत है। आपके इस merger से क्या उस स्थिति में सुधार होगा और ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा लोग इसके अंदर खाते खुलवाएंगे? सालों पहले जब यह झोंक चली थी, तब गरीब आदमियों और छोटे-छोटे उद्योग-धंधे करने वाले लोगों को बैंकों की तरफ से लोन या ऋण वगैरह दिए जाते थे। क्या उसमें सबसे ज्यादा बढ़ोत्तरी होगी? क्या उसमें तेजी आएगी या फिर वही होगा, जैसा गांधी जी ने एक वक्त यह एक सेंटेंस कहा था कि "मुझे mass production नहीं चाहिए, मुझे production by masses चाहिए?" बैंकिंग का जो concept है, वह लोगों की regional aspirations और rural areas के अंदर उनकी aspirations को satisfy करेगा या फिर देश के जितने भी बड़े-बड़े उद्योगपति हैं, वे ग्रोथ के नाम पर जितना पैसा मांगेंगे, उतना पैसा उनको लोन के रूप में दिया जाएगा और फिर बैंक अपने हाथ फैलाते फिरेंगे कि हमारा पैसा वापस दो? यह पैसा तो बैंक में अकाउंट खोलने वाले कंज्यूमर्स का है। बैंक के मिसमैनेजमेंट से आखिर उन लोगों को क्यों भुगतना पड़े? आप लोग तो बेल आउट का बिल लाने वाले हैं, यानी कि अगर एक बैंक लॉस करता है, तो उसको लॉस में से निकालने के लिए जिनके अकाउंट होंगे, उन अकाउंट होल्डर्स के ऊपर कैप डाले जाएंगे कि आप इतने पैसे से ज्यादा नहीं उठा सकते। गुनाह कोई करे, डिजीज़न कोई ले, पैसा लेकर कोई लेयर करे और उसको भुगतें अकाउंट होल्डर्स। आप उसका क्या करेंगे? इसके जवाब नहीं मिलते हैं। आप उसको एक बहुत अच्छा जामा जरूर पहना सकते हैं कि इससे एफिशिएंसी बढ़ेगी, हमारी कैपिटल बढ़ेगी। लायेबिलिटी कितनी बढ़ेगी, वह नहीं पता। जैसा मैंने आपको बताया कि सेकण्ड क्वार्टर के अंदर मार्च में 24 सौ करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हुआ। उसके पहले सब बैंकों का जो 11 हजार 8 सौ करोड़ रुपये का मुनाफा था, उतना स्टेट बैंक का मुनाफा था। वह तो बिल्कुल ईक्वल हो गया। इन बैंकों का मर्जर करने के बाद स्टेट बैंक एफिशिएंट कैसे हो गया? क्या इसके बारे में कभी किसी ने सोचा, किसी ने कहा और क्या किसी ने हाउस को अवगत कराया है? मैं आपका ध्यान इनकी ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। मेरा जो कंसर्न है, वह यह है कि रूरल एरियाज़ के अंदर इसकी ब्रांचें और खुलेंगी और ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा लोगों के पास जो लोन वगैरह है, वह नीचे जायेगा या नहीं जाएगा?

दूसरा यह कि आपके इस मर्जर से जो नीचे ब्रांचें बंद हो गई होंगी और जो भी एग्रीकल्चर या दूसरे किस्म के लोन वगैरह देती होंगी, वहाँ मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग की एक्टिविटी और बढ़ेगी। ये सब सवाल मर्जर के साथ जुड़े हैं। आज भी बैंकों का, खासकर जो स्टेट बैंक का आउटरीच है, वह सभी एरियाज़ के अंदर नहीं है। आप उसको बढ़ाने के लिए क्या कर रहे हैं? आप सिर्फ इनका लॉस घटाएंगे या कैपिटल बढ़ाएंगे। हम उन सब बातों के साथ सहमत हैं। लेकिन दूसरी ओर देखने जाओ तो जिस तरह से बड़े-बड़े लोगों के पैसे ले जाकर नहीं देना और आप छोटे अकाउंट होल्डर्स की ब्याज दर घटाते जा

[Shri Madhusudan Mistry]

रहे हैं? मैं अपने पैसे जो डिपॉजिट रख रहा हूँ, जितना मेरा ड्यू होना चाहिए, उसकी जगह बैंक मुझे जो सर्विस देते हैं, उसमें आप मुझे पैसा कम दे रहे हैं, क्योंकि आप अपने लॉस की भरपाई हमारे पास से करवा रहे हैं। इन परिस्थितियों के अंदर बैंक के मैनेजमेंट को रिस्पॉन्सिबल व अकाउंटेबल बनाएंगे या आप उसके अंदर एक एक्शन लेंगे और किस तरह बनाएंगे, उसका क्या ढांचा है और किस तरह से आप आगे जाएंगे? आपने आज यहां पर कोई रूपरेखा नहीं दी है। सवाल यह है कि आज भी करोड़ों लोग जो बैंकों का लाभ नहीं ले सकते, इन मर्जर के हिसाब से उनकी परिस्थिति में क्या फर्क आएगा? शायद अब ऐसा हो जाएगा कि मैं बैंकों को भी मैं डायरेक्शन देने लगूंगा कि आप इस शेयर के अंदर पैसा डालिए, आज फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री का एक ऑफिसर बोलेगा कि इसमें नहीं, दूसरे में लेकर डालो, इसके शेयर प्राइसेज नीचे आ रहे हैं तो आप उसको उठाइए। उसको नीचे नहीं जाने दो। बैंकों के पास जितना पैसा डिपॉजिट है, उसको दूसरी जगह पर रखिए। ये सब चीजें अगर होने वाली हैं तो मेरा सवाल यह आता है कि क्या मेरा बैंक के ऊपर विश्वास है? जिस दिन बैंकों के ऊपर से लोगों का विश्वास उठेगा, लोग अपने आप रास्ते खोजेंगे, घर में पैसा रखेंगे, सोना-चांदी खरीदेंगे, ज़मीन के अंदर पैसा डालेंगे। छोटे-मोटे लोग बैंक के अंदर नहीं जाएंगे, वे आज भी नहीं जाते हैं। उस वक्त क्यों जाएंगे? यह स्थिति बहुत असह्य है। आप अपने प्राइम मिनिस्टर को और अपने फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर को यह बताइए कि यह बहुत बड़ा मर्जर है। उसके हिसाब से नीचे के तबकों को आप क्या लाभ देने वाले हैं? ये सवाल हमेशा उनके सामने आता रहेगा। मैं आशा रखता हूँ। मैं दूसरी कोई चीज रिपीट नहीं करना चाहता कि कौन से बैंक का कब मर्जर हुआ और कितना मुनाफा हुआ, उसकी कितनी कैपिटल बढ़ी, उसमें से कितने स्टाफ कम हुए और क्या परिस्थिति आने वाली है? मैं उनमें नहीं जाना चाहता। मैं आपसे केवल इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि बैंकों का यह रुख जो एक बार उस तरफ था बिल cooperative की तरफ था, छोटे cooperatives की तरफ था, individual किसानों की तरफ था, छोटे धंधे वालों की तरफ था, इसको वापस उस तरफ मोड़िए। हज़ारों-करोड़ों रुपए का लोन देने से इस देश में कितनी ग्रोथ होगी, मुझे नहीं पता, लेकिन गरीबी जरूर बढ़ेगी, इतना मैं जरूर जानता हूँ। आज inclusive growth की बात के बजाय ऐसा क्लोज सिस्टम हो गया है, जिसके अंदर एक व्यक्ति का बेटा, वह जिस जगह पर है, उसी जगह पर जा रहा है - नीचे से ऊपर उठने वालों की संख्या बहुत कम है। उस सिस्टम के अंदर बैंकिंग सिस्टम बिल्कुल भी helpful नहीं है, ऐसा मैंने देखा है। आप ये trend बदलेंगे, ऐसी मेरी आशा है। इसी के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश): माननीय महोदय, मैं स्टेट बैंक (निरसन और संशोधन) विधेयक, 2017 के बारे में अपने विचार रखना चाहता हूँ, जिसे लोक सभा ने पहले ही पारित कर दिया है। बैंकों का वित्तीय प्रबंधन अनुशासित हो, व्यवस्थित हो और उसका लाभ उसके खाताधारियों को मिले, उसमें जो विसंगतियां हैं, उन्हें दूर किया जा सके, इस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के लिए इसे राज्य सभा में इसका समर्थन करने के लिए और पारित करने के लिए लाया गया है। हम जानते हैं कि वित्त का प्रबंधन विकसित हुआ तो बैंकों का उदय हुआ। वित्त ही जीवन की प्रणाली को दिशा देता है। हमारे यहां कहा गया है कि "यस्यास्ति वित्तं स नरः कुलीनः।" जिसके पास वित्त है, वह स्वतः ही कुलीन हो जाता है। "यस्यास्ति वित्तं स नरः कुलीनः, स एव वक्ता स च दर्शनीयः।" यदि पैसा है तो वह अपने आप ही दर्शनीय है। "स एव वक्ता" मतलब वह अच्छा वक्ता भी हो जाता है। "सर्वे गुणा कांचनमाश्रयन्ते।" यह जो वित्त है, इसके आने से सभी गुणों का समावेश हो जाता है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप अपनी स्पीच संस्कृत में भी दे सकते हैं।

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया: इसलिए इस बैंकिंग प्रणाली को सुचारु रूप से व्यवस्थित करने के लिए जो उपाय किए गए हैं और बैंकों का विलीनीकरण किया गया है। जो पुराने बैंक थे, जिन्हें अपने अस्तित्व के बारे में बड़ा गर्व हुआ करता था, देश की आजादी से पहले और देश की आजादी के बाद उनकी स्थापना करते समय जिनकी कोई ऐतिहासिक पृष्ठभूमि रही होगी, उनका जब merger होने लगा तो एक तरह से जिन-जिन क्षेत्रीय बैंकों का merger हुआ, उन बैंकों के लोगों का बड़ा आग्रह था कि उन बैंकों का अपना एक स्वतंत्र अस्तित्व है, उसको बनाए रखना चाहिए, लेकिन बड़े कारणों की वजह से, बड़े उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के लिए इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था की गयी है। जैसा कि इस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति में कहा गया है कि "संसाधनों के सुव्यवस्थीकरण, खर्चों की कमी, बेहतर लाभ प्रदाता, निधियों के निम्नतर खर्चों के कारण संपूर्ण जनसमुदाय के लिए ब्याज की बेहतर दर, उत्कृष्ट उत्पादकता और उपभोक्ता सेवा के प्रयोजनों के लिए भारतीय स्टेट बैंक ने केन्द्रीय सरकार की मंजूरी से और भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक के परामर्श से बीकानेर और जयपुर स्टेट बैंक, मैसूर स्टेट बैंक, पटियाला स्टेट बैंक, त्रावणकोर स्टेट बैंक और हैदराबाद स्टेट बैंक के साथ कारोबार अर्जित करने के लिए, जिसके अंतर्गत उनकी आस्तियां और दायित्व भी हैं, बातचीत शुरू की।" इस प्रकार उन सारे बैंकों का विलीनीकरण करने का उपाय किया। इसके लिए एसबीआई के केन्द्रीय बोर्ड और आरबीआई के अनुमोदन के साथ जो क्षेत्रीय बैंक थे, उनके साथ विचार-विमर्श करने के बाद उनके विलीनीकरण का काम हो गया। यह कहा गया कि बैंकों का कारोबार 1 अप्रैल, 2017 से भारतीय स्टेट बैंक अधिनियम, 1955 के अनुसार भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के द्वारा किया जाएगा। बात तो, जो व्यवस्था दी गयी है, जो कुछ कर लिया गया है, उसका अनुमोदन करने की है और अनुमोदन करते समय, चूंकि हम राज्य सभा में हैं तो इन सारी बातों के बारे में सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहेंगे। इस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के लिए, जो बातें कही गई हैं, उन बातों को पूरा करने के लिए, हमें विशेष उपाय करने पड़ेंगे। यह हमारे लिए बड़े गौरव की बात है कि पहले बैंकों के दरवाजे बहुत सीमित लोगों के लिए खुले होते थे। वहां पर जो दरबान खड़ा होता था, वह बड़े चाक-चौबंद रूप में वहां खड़ा होता था। सामान्य जन को उस तरफ झांकने के लिए भी कोई मौका नहीं मिल पाता था। सरकार की अपनी योजनाओं के कारण अब बैंकों का सामान्यकरण हो गया है और आम जन और जनसामान्य के लिए जनधन खाते शुरू हो गए हैं, करीब 31 करोड़ खाते शुरू हुए हैं। इस देश की आबादी में यह अनुमान लगाया जा सकता है कि प्रायः सभी लोगों और सभी परिवारों के बैंक खाते उसमें प्रारम्भ हुए होंगे, तो आज जनसामान्य के लिए बैंक खाते खुले हैं और उनका लाभ भी हुआ है। सरकार की योजनाओं का जितना भी अनुदान जाता था - एक समय यह कहा जाता था कि हम यहां से एक रुपया भेजते हैं, तो उन तक 15 पैसे पहुंचते हैं। अब वह जो सारा अनुदान और जो सारी सहायता है, वह सारी सहायता इन बैंकों में जनसामान्य के खाते खुलने के कारण से सीधे लाभ पहुंचने की व्यवस्था कर दी गई है। किंतु यह काम करने के लिए और इसे समझने के लिए कि हमने जो कहा है, उस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति करने के लिए, हमें और उपाय करने पड़ेंगे। अब जनसामान्य का जो पैसा है, वह जिस तरह से पैसा बचाकर बैंकों में डालता है, उसको जो ब्याज मिलता है, वह बहुत ज्यादा नहीं होता है। उस सीमित ब्याज में भी सुरक्षा प्राप्त करते हुए, वह बैंकों में अपना पैसा रखने की कोशिश करता है। इसके कारण इतना पैसा इकट्ठा होता है। आज एन.पी.ए. के नाम पर और बड़े कारोबारियों के संबंध में देखने में आ रहा है कि उस पैसे का जिस प्रकार से दुरुपयोग हो जाता है तथा जो जनसामान्य का पैसा

[डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया]

है, उसका लाभ उसको नहीं मिल पाता है। जनसामान्य को लाभ बैंकों की ब्याज दरों के बढ़ने से मिलता है और अब ब्याज दर 0.10 परसेन्ट, 0.2 परसेन्ट बढ़ती है। बैंकों से लोन लेते हुए या होम लोन लेते हुए जो रियायतें मिलती हैं या जो उसको सुविधा मिलती है और मैं निश्चित रूप से कहता हूँ कि स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया ने और बैंकों के द्वारा जो होम लोन की बातें हैं या बाकी के लोगों के लिए या वृद्ध नागरिकों को सुविधाएं देने की बात है, उसकी अब शुरुआत की गई है। इस विधेयक में हम कुछ अच्छा देख रहे हैं और हम ऐसी उम्मीद करते हैं कि इस विधेयक के आ जाने के बाद निश्चित रूप से जनसामान्य के जीवन में थोड़ा तो सुधार होगा और बेहतर सुविधा करने के लिए हम एक समय सुनहरे कल की ओर बढ़ रहे थे, वह सुनहरा कल तो आया नहीं, किन्तु यह कहा जा सकता है कि हम बेहतर कल की ओर बढ़ रहे हैं। इसलिए देश की सारी व्यवस्थाओं में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन करने की दृष्टि से भी बैंकिंग की जो प्रणाली है, उसे और अच्छा और चाक-चौबंद बनाने के लिए उपाय किए गए हैं और उससे संबंधित सारे बैंकों के और नियमों के आधार पर विलयनिकरण की जो प्रक्रिया है, उस प्रक्रिया को सुव्यवस्थित बनाने के लिए और उसे विधिक बनाने के लिए, हमें जो भी उपाय करने चाहिए, वह हमने इस विधेयक में किए हैं। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि इस विधेयक का जो उद्देश्य है, वह निश्चित रूप से पूरा होगा और एक नया क्षितिज बनेगा जिससे कि हम कह सकते हैं कि हम बेहतर कल की ओर बढ़ रहे हैं। इतना कहते हुए कि यह जो विधेयक आया है वह अपने उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति करने में सफल होगा, इन पंक्तियों के साथ कि-

"क्षितिज तक प्रत्येक दिश में, हम उठे नव प्राण भरने,
नव सृजन की साध ले, हम उठे निर्माण करने,
साधना के द्वीप शुभ हों, ज्ञान का आलोक छाए,
नष्ट तृष्णा के तिमिर हों, धाम अपना जगमगाए।"

इस बिल के लिए, इस विधेयक के लिए मेरा अभिनन्दन, बहुत-बहुत शुभकामनाएं, धन्यवाद।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): धन्यवाद। श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद जी।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय, उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपने मुझे स्टेट बैंक (निरसन और संशोधन) विधेयक, 2017 पर बोलने का मौका दिया है, इसके लिए धन्यवाद। मान्यवर, इसमें जिन पांच बैंकों का विलय हो रहा है, उनकी सारी सम्पत्तियों का, परिसम्पत्तियों का भी विलय हो रहा है। साथ ही उनके कर्मचारियों और अधिकारियों का भी विलय हो रहा है। इसमें बैंकों के जो संस्थापक थे और बैंकों ने जो क्षेत्रीय स्तर पर विकास किया था, चाहे मैसूर में हो या जयपुर में हो, लोकल स्तर पर हो या ग्रामीण स्तर पर हो। उनकी गांवों में शाखाएं थीं, लोगों का उनके ऊपर बहुत बड़ा विश्वास जम गया था। उनका कारोबार भी अच्छा खासा बड़ा था और उन इलाकों की काफी उन्नति हुई थी, चाहे पंजाब को देख लीजिए या किसी और इलाके को देख लीजिए, लेकिन इन बैंकों का एसबीआई में विलय होने के बाद ये स्टेट बैंक में आ जाएंगे। जो ग्रामीण स्तर के खातेदार थे, उनका क्या हाल होगा, उनकी स्थिति क्या होगी, इसका आप अंदाजा लगा सकते हैं। लोगों की आस्था बैंकों के संस्थापकों में थी। जो लोग देश के महान स्वतंत्रता सेनानी रहे हैं, उन लोगों ने इन बैंकों की स्थापना

की थी। ऐसा करने से उनका नाम खत्म हो जाएगा। लोक सभा में 21 जुलाई, 2017 को माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी बिल लाए, उसके बाद जो बैंकों को जन्म देने वाले थे, उनका नाम विलुप्त हो गया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस बिल पर कई माननीय सदस्यों ने चर्चा की है, चूंकि ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में आज भी बैंकों की आवश्यकता है। आज भी साहूकार के कर्ज से लोग बहुत दबे हुए हैं, लोग बहुत परेशान हैं और उनको बैंकों से ऋण न मिलने के कारण साहूकारों के दरवाजे खटखटाने पड़ते हैं। देश में नोटबंदी हुई, लोगों ने बैंकों में अपना पैसा जमा कर रखा था, लोगों को नोटबंदी के बाद आज भी उनका जमा पैसा वापस नहीं मिल रहा है। अगर वह बैंक से एक लाख रुपया निकालना चाहते हैं, तो बैंक के पास पैसा नहीं है। एटीएम में पैसा नहीं है, इस तरह की तमाम खबरें रोज अखबारों में छप रही हैं। इन पांच बैंकों के एसबीआई में विलय होने से एसबीआई को तो फायदा दिख रहा है कि उसका नाम विश्व स्तर पर पहुंच जाएगा, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ ग्रामीण क्षेत्र का बहुत बड़ा नुकसान होगा। अब एसबीआई के 58000 एटीएम हो जाएंगे, 50 करोड़ से ज्यादा ग्राहक हो जाएंगे, 37 लाख करोड़ से ज्यादा इनकी परिसम्पत्तियां हो जाएंगी और स्टेट बैंक की शाखाएं 22,500 से ज्यादा हो जाएंगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो आंकड़े आए हैं, उनकी तरफ मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा। जब से विलय की चर्चा चली है, तब से भारतीय स्टेट बैंक ने नौकरियां कम कर दी हैं। जो आंकड़े हमारे सामने आए हैं, उनके अनुसार 10,000 से ज्यादा नौकरियां खत्म हो गई हैं। एक तरफ हमारे देश में बेरोजगारी बढ़ रही है, तो दूसरी तरफ बेरोजगारी बढ़ने से टेररिस्ट, नक्सलवादी संगठन बढ़ रहे हैं और तमाम लोग बेरोजगारी के शिकार हो रहे हैं। आज सुबह ही बेरोजगारी का सवाल आया था, उसका माननीय मंत्री जी जवाब नहीं दे पाये। उन्होंने बताया कि नवम्बर, 2016 के बाद से मेरे पास बेरोजगारी के आंकड़े नहीं हैं। देश में बेरोजगारी बढ़ रही है और उसका असर इस पर पड़ेगा। सितम्बर महीने तक 11,382 कर्मचारी सेवानिवृत्त हो जाएंगे और इन्होंने 11,382 के एवज में 789 भर्ती की है। बैंकों के विलय के बाद स्टेट बैंक की शाखाएं तो बढ़ी हैं, लेकिन आज भी नोटबंदी के बाद जो सहकारी बैंक हैं, उनमें पुराना पैसा लोगों का पड़ा हुआ है, वह पैसा गरीबों का है, किसानों का है, अभी तक उसका कोई हल आरबीआई ने नहीं निकाला है। जिन बैंकों को आप मर्ज कर रहे हैं, उनके बड़े-बड़े जो ऋणदाता हैं, उनसे वसूली कैसे होगी, उनके तमाम मामले फिर से फंसेंगे। जिस दौरान विलय की प्रक्रिया चली, लाखों लोगों की ऋण की फाइलें हैं, चाहे वे छात्रों की हों, चाहे शिक्षित बेरोजगार लोगों की हों, जैसे मुद्रा लोन योजना चलाई या तमाम योजनाएं चलाई, वे सारे काम बंद हो गए। उससे लोगों पर बहुत बड़ा असर पड़ा।

महोदय, माननीय सदस्यों ने जहां तक जन-धन खातों की चर्चा की, तो मैंने देखा कि माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के बयान के बाद, देश में बहुत चर्चा हुई कि जन-धन खाता खोलने से लोगों के एकाउंट्स में पैसे जमा होंगे। ऐसा समझकर लोगों ने ज़ीरो बैलेंस पर जन-धन खाता खोल लिया। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा कि 15 लाख रुपए आपके खाते में आएंगे। इसका असर यह हुआ कि लोगों के पास जो अपनी छोटी-छोटी बचत के रु.1,000/-, 2,000/- या रु.3,000/- घरों में थे, वे भी उन्होंने अपने खातों में जमा करा दिए। इसके बाद बैंकों ने नियम बना दिया कि जमा करने, साल में 36 से ज्यादा ट्रांजेक्शन्स करने या कम बैलेंस होने पर भी उनके एकाउंट से पैसा काटा जाएगा। पहले तो ऐसा नियम नहीं था। इसका असर यह हुआ कि लोग असमंजस में पड़ गए और अब जो पैसा उनका एकाउंट में

[श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद]

जमा है, वह भी नहीं निकल रहा है। जन-धन खाते में जिनका पैसा रु.1,000/-, 2,000/- या रु.3,000/- रह गया, उसमें से भी पैसा काटा जा रहा है। गरीब आदमी को जानकारी नहीं है, लेकिन अब पता चला कि नियमों में परिवर्तन करने से कई हजार करोड़ रुपयों का फायदा बैंकों और भारत सरकार को हुआ। यह पैसा इन्हीं गरीब आदमियों का था, जो बैंकों में लैप्स हो गया। इसलिए कुछ लोगों ने कहा कि यही तो काला धन है।

महोदय, दूसरी तरफ अभी हाल ही में कुछ बड़े कारोबारी बैंकों का पैसा लेकर विदेश चले गए। इस प्रकार की तमाम खबरें सोशल मीडिया पर हैं कि फ्लां इतने हजार करोड़ रुपए लेकर देश से बाहर चला गया और फ्लां इतने हजार करोड़ रुपए लेकर देश से भाग गया। इससे बैंकों का बहुत नुकसान हुआ। मैं समझता हूँ कि उन बैंकों में चाहे भारतीय स्टेट बैंक हो या अन्य दूसरे बैंक हों, जिनसे वे पैसा लेकर देश से बाहर चले गए हैं, इसके कारण उन बैंकों की माली हालत खराब हो गई है। जब इन बैंकों का ऑडिट होता है, तो उन्हें पता रहता है कि हमारे बैंक की क्या स्थिति है। उसे देखकर उन बैंकों को खुद ही अपनी माली हालत को ठीक करने का काम करना चाहिए था, लेकिन मैं देख रहा हूँ कि जब किसी का बेटा बीमार होता है और जब वह अपना पैसा निकालने के लिए एटीएम जाता है, लेकिन एटीएम में पैसा नहीं होता, तो वह खाली हाथ लौट आता है। इसके बाद वह साहूकार से पैसा लेने का काम करता है। इससे उसकी हालत बहुत खराब होती है।

महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यही कहना चाहूंगा कि बैंकों के ऊपर से धीरे-धीरे जनता का विश्वास उठता जा रहा है, क्योंकि बैंक ग्रामीण स्तर से उठकर तहसील और ब्लॉक स्तर पर जा रहे हैं। जिन बैंकों की शाखाएं ग्रामों में खोली थीं, वे धीरे-धीरे बंद हो रही हैं और अब उनकी शाखाएं तहसील और ब्लॉक स्तर पर हैं। गरीब आदमी के पास गांव से तहसील और ब्लॉक स्तर पर जाने के साधन नहीं हैं और जब वह बीमार है, तो 10 या 20 किलोमीटर कैसे जाएगा, वह कैसे ट्रांजेक्शन करेगा? इस समय जो हालात हैं, आपके बैंकों का जो नेटवर्क है, उसका अक्सर सर्वर डाउन रहता है। पहले मैनुअली काम होता था, तो आसानी से काम हो जाता था, लेकिन अब सर्वर डाउन होने के कारण जिन विद्यार्थियों को अपनी परीक्षा की फीस जमा करानी है, वे नहीं करा पाते हैं, क्योंकि सर्वर डाउन होता है। किसान या फार्म भरने वाले विद्यार्थी हों, उन तमाम लोगों पर इसका असर पड़ता है। आज मान लीजिए बैंक गए और वहां सर्वर डाउन है, तो कोई कामकाज नहीं होता है। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि इन्हें अपना नेटवर्क ठीक करना होगा और बैंकिंग व्यवस्था ठीक करनी होगी। जो बैंक घाटे में जा रहे हैं, उन्हें भी घाटा दूर करने के प्रयास करने होंगे।

महोदय, नोटबंदी के बाद बैंकों के कितने मैनेजर पकड़े गए, इस बारे में अभी माननीय सदस्य ने चर्चा की और बताया कि सीबीआई ने कितने बैंकों के मैनेजरों और अन्य अधिकारियों को पकड़ा। इन्होंने नोटबंदी के बाद बहुत घपला किया और गरीब लोगों को लूटने का काम काम किया। इस प्रकार की तमाम समस्याएं हैं। इसलिए मैं चाहूंगा कि इसमें जो खामियां हैं, उन्हें दूर किया जाए। चूंकि सरकार ने निर्णय लिया है और 1 अप्रैल से विलय का काम शुरू हो गया है, इसलिए इनकी जो देनदारियां हैं, जो किसानों और ग्रामीणों की देनदारियां हैं, उन पर विचार करना होगा। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to put forth my views on the Bill to Repeal the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959 and the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956. This merger has already taken place. It has been notified in the Gazette and it came into existence eight months earlier. So, the merger has already taken place. Now, a Bill has been brought to repeal the State Bank of India Act, 1955.

Sir, I don't wish to delve very deep into the issues, but there are some apprehensions that need to be addressed. One major issue is the increased number of customers. To give one practical example, when two branches of IOB were merged at my place, all of a sudden, 70,000 customers were added to one branch. Already there were too many customers and suddenly on one day, 70,000 more customers were added to that one single branch. That caused a lot of agony to both the bank employees as well as the customers. We had untold sufferings. Every day that we went there, the staff would shout at us. Practically, it was impossible to handle so many accounts that were added all at once. So, I am very much unhappy about this. I am curious to know as to how five associate banks were merged with the State Bank of India when State Bank is already overloaded with work. Most of the Government employees and pensioners have their accounts with the State Bank of India. People trust the State Bank of India and believe that the State Bank of India is the safest place to deposit their money with. So, it is already over-burdened. Now, one day I visited a nationalized bank. The Manager came up to me and said that a lot of education loans had not been repaid. She asked me to raise the matter with the Finance Minister and tell him that they were not able to perform daily transactions or collect pending loans because people gave some address and when they went there to look for them at the address, they found nobody there. To that I said, 'you have let off all big industrialists and the violators, but are going after small borrowers who may have borrowed one, two or three lakh rupees'. I can give you the example of a farmer at Kilanatham village in my district, who had borrowed ₹ 90,000. He repaid ₹ 70,000, but when he was not able to repay the remaining ₹ 20,000 on time, the Bank Manager, Mr. Perumal, harassed him and asked the farmer to sell off his wife's *mangalsutra* and pay to the bank. The farmer went and borrowed the money, deposited it at the bank and then hanged himself. He was a very small farmer. This is the reality. I wonder whether the merger would cause the bank to flourish overnight. Pensioners and very aged people would be left standing in queues. Many of them have not forgotten the effects of demonetisation. When we enter rural areas, people say that for just ₹ 500 or ₹ 1000, they have stood in long queues during the demonetisation days. So, they have not forgotten that experience. I can say this since

[Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth]

I have travelled deep into rural areas. The same thing is happening now. For instance, the State Bank of Travancore was doing excellent business in my place, but now it has been merged with the State Bank of India, which is already over-burdened. So, what is the practical thing or the strategy which the Government has initiated or taken to organise this pattern of day-to-day transaction? Many people, even I know them, do not know how to use ATMs. Many people have not got ATM cards yet. I am speaking about the rural people, the poorest of the poor. They do not know how to use ATMs. So, they have to stand in queues. During the first week of every month, there are long queues going up to the road near the bus stand. I have seen it practically. So, how will people take out money? Then another thing happened. Suddenly, there was flashing news that four or five banks are going to merge into Canara Bank. People wondered, "What will happen with our money?" They went to their respective banks to take out their money. ...*(Interruptions)*... Suddenly five banks were going to merge together.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please conclude.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Now, the same mind is there with people and they have apprehensions that suddenly banks will be merged and their money will be gone and they will be given bonds in place of their money. Let the Government be very clear to tell people the Government is not going to do anything with their money and the Government is not going to take their money. I seek your indulgence and also seek Government's reply to this question that nationalised banks will not be privatised and our money will be safe. Thank you.

श्री महेश पोद्दार (झारखंड): उपसभाध्य महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस अति महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद करता हूँ। मैं इस बिल के पक्ष में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मैं स्टेट बैंक के साथ मैं कुछ भावनात्मक रूप से भी जुड़ा हुआ हूँ। चूँकि, जिस जमाने में कई बैंक्स, चाहे राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक हो, लेकिन शुरुआती दौर में यदि किसी ने मेरी व्यक्तिगत रूप से मदद की थी, तो वह स्टेट बैंक था। आज से चालीस साल पहले प्राइवेट बैंक्स बहुत ही कम थे। महोदय, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि छोटी जगहों पर, पिछड़े इलाकों में स्टेट बैंक की बड़ी अजीब स्थिति है, इसे लोग सरकार ही मानते हैं। उन लोगों को कानून की परिभाषा का बहुत ज्यादा ज्ञान नहीं है। वे लोग स्टेट बैंक को रिज़र्व बैंक ही मानते हैं। वे मानते हैं कि स्टेट बैंक से काम करना, रिज़र्व बैंक से काम करना या सरकार से काम करना एक जैसा ही है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इनकी ownership का मामला भी बड़ा अजीब-सा है, जैसे मोनालिसा की मुस्कान के बारे में रहस्य है, ऐसे ही कुछ लोग स्टेट बैंक को सरकारी बैंक मानते हैं, कुछ लोग निजी बैंक मानते हैं और कुछ लोग मानते हैं कि यह इतना बड़ा बैंक है, जैसे सारी दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा बैंक हो, लेकिन हकीकत में ऐसा कुछ नहीं है।

महोदय, यह बात सही है कि यह बैंकों के विलय से संबंधित पहला मामला नहीं है। 1927 में अंग्रेजों के जमाने में तीन Presidency Bank — Bank of Calcutta, Bank of Madras और Bank of Bombay को मिलाकर एक Imperial Bank of India बनाया गया था और जब आज़ादी मिली, तब स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया बना। अतः मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि बैंकों के विलय की परंपरा चली आ रही है और दिनोंदिन यह बैंक मजबूत होता जा रहा है। अभी हमारे बहुत सारे साथियों ने कहा और चिंता व्यक्त की कि क्या स्टेट बैंक में विलय के बाद यह बैंक कमजोर हो जाएगा? मैं समझता हूँ कि शायद ऐसी आशंका निराधार है, कमजोर होने वाली कोई बात नहीं है। कुछ लोगों ने यह भी आशंका व्यक्त की कि उनके बैंकों के deposits गायब हो जाएंगे, लेकिन already विलय हो चुका है, काम चल रहा है, deposits भी सुरक्षित हैं, उनके कर्मचारी भी सुरक्षित हैं और सारे stakeholders भी सुरक्षित हैं, कहीं कोई चिंता का विषय नहीं है। मैं तो यह कहूंगा कि आने वाले समय में इन विलयों से शायद हमें एक ऐसी सीख मिलेगी, एक उदाहरण मिलेगा, जब हो सकता है कि विलय के मामले में हम और अधिक निर्णय लेने में सक्षम होंगे कि विलय उचित है या नहीं।

महोदय, रजवाड़े चले गए, लेकिन उनके बैंक्स नहीं गए थे। अब समय आ गया है कि उनके बैंक्स चले जा रहे हैं और स्टेट बैंक में मिल रहे हैं। मैं इस पर ज्यादा डिटेल् में तो नहीं बोलूंगा, लेकिन जयराम रमेश जी ने सही बात कही कि यह पांच बैंक्स के 11,800 करोड़ का नुकसान और स्टेट बैंक का मात्र 10 हजार करोड़ का फायदा, यह बड़ी विडंबना थी कि एक बैंक, जिसकी और सब शाखाएं नुकसान कर रही है और वह खुद profit कर रहा है और उस पर इनकम टैक्स भी दे रहा है। यह एक विडंबना की स्थिति थी और मैं समझता हूँ कि उसको दूर करना बहुत आवश्यक था।

महोदय, consolidation के लिए और बैंक्स की ताकत बढ़ाने के लिए दुनिया भर में प्रयास होते रहे हैं। इन्हीं प्रयासों का नतीजा है कि हम इस विलय के बारे में चर्चा कर रहे हैं। पूरे विश्व में बैंकिंग क्षेत्र में कुछ नई जरूरतें महसूस हो रही हैं। Telecommunication और IT Sector के माध्यम से तकनीक के बहुत सारे नए-नए तरीके निकल रहे हैं, नए-नए आयाम खुल रहे हैं। इसके कारण बैंकिंग करने का तरीका और बैंकिंग सेक्टर से अपेक्षाएं भी बहुत बदल रही हैं। अब जब बैंकिंग क्षेत्र के नियम-कानून बदल गए, तो risk management की जरूरतें भी बदल रही हैं। बैंकिंग का एक मूलभूत सिद्धांत है कि जहां लोन है, वहां खतरा भी होगा। यह banking business का एक हिस्सा है, जिसे हम नकार नहीं सकते हैं। हां, बदलते वक्त के साथ इसका रूप बदलता है, इसकी मात्रा बदलती है, इसका volume बदलता है। इसके framework, architecture और इन सारी चीजों की requirement भी काफी बदल गई है। लेकिन यह भी एक तथ्य है कि सारे विश्व के बैंक्स के 2008 के meltdown के बाद यह स्पष्ट हुआ था कि भारत की banking industry को उस समय भी एक मजबूत banking industry कहा गया था। लोग स्वीकार करते थे कि SBI के risk management का तरीका, क्षमता और उसका architectural framework और बैंकों की तुलना में काफी मजबूत और modern है।

महोदय, स्टेट बैंक इतना बड़ा बैंक है और अगर हम इसके अनुषंगी बैंकों को जोड़ लें, तो हम देखेंगे कि शायद इसकी पहुंच देश के कोने-कोने तक है। इतनी शाखाओं के बावजूद अगर हम यह कहें कि इसमें वर्षों पहले दिल्ली के पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट में एक घोटाला हुआ था कि एक फोन कॉल पर पैसे निकल गए थे, तो स्टेट बैंक में इसके इतने बड़े होने के बावजूद इस तरह के बहुत सारे घोटाले

[श्री महेश पोदार]

कम हुए हैं। यह एक संतोष का विषय हो सकता है, लेकिन चिंता का विषय यह है कि आज के दिन जब बड़े-बड़े लोग defaulters हो रहे हैं, तो हमें यह भी सोचना है कि हम उद्यमिता को भी नहीं मारें। एक blanket रूप में कह देना बहुत आसान है कि बड़े लोगों को लोन मत दो, ये भाग जाते हैं, लेकिन महोदय, लाखों लोगों ने लोन लिया है और भागे हैं चंद लोग। लाखों लोग उद्यमिता का परिचय दे रहे हैं। कृपया हम जब इस पर बात करें, तो उन लाखों लोगों की बात करें, जो अपनी उद्यमिता से इस देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को मजबूती दे रहे हैं, ताकत दे रहे हैं। हम उनकी ओर भी देखें। जब इस तरह से blanket रूप में सबके लिए कहा जाता है, तो उन पर क्या गुजरती होगी, उनकी सदनीयता पर क्या गुजरती होगी, हम इस बात को भी अवश्य देखें।

महोदय, मैं तो समझता हूँ कि आज के परिप्रेक्ष्य में बैंकिंग प्रणाली को मजबूत करने में यह विलय फायदेमंद होगा। यदि हम विश्व के परिप्रेक्ष्य में देखें, तो किसी देश में चार-पांच बड़े बैंक्स होते हैं, जबकि हमारे यहां 27 पब्लिक सेक्टर बैंक्स हैं। हमारे यहां बहुत सारे निजी बैंक्स हैं, non-finance banks हैं, local banks हैं, co-operative banks हैं, बहुत सारे बैंक्स हैं। ये विश्व की अच्छी सुविधाओं को नीचे तक पहुंचाने में कितना सफल हो रहे हैं, इसका आकलन होना चाहिए।

महोदय, जब यह बात होती है कि राज्य के स्वामित्व वाले बैंकों के विलय पर विचार हो रहा है, तो पता नहीं कहां से यह बात हो रही है कि स्टेट बैंक का निजीकरण कर दिया जाएगा। मैं भी कुछ जानने-पढ़ने की कोशिश करता हूँ, तो मेरे ख्याल से आज तक स्टेट बैंक के विषय में निजीकरण का कोई प्रस्ताव या कोई चर्चा कहीं नहीं है, ऐसा मैं समझता हूँ।

महोदय, हमें यह भी समझना होगा कि विलय से एकीकृत SBI की ताकत में क्या इजाफा होगा। विलय के बाद करीब 37 लाख करोड़ की परिसंपत्ति के आधार पर यह दुनिया के Top 50 Banks में शामिल हो जाएगा। इसके ग्राहकों की संख्या तो बढ़ेगी ही, इसके कर्मचारियों की संख्या भी 2 लाख 70 हजार हो जाएगी। And, yes, it is a challenge to manage so many employees. स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया के साथ एक विशेषता और भी है, जैसे अभी स्थानीयता के बारे में बात हो रही थी, तो हर स्टेट में इसके जो लोकल बोर्ड्स होते हैं, वहां स्थानीयता का तड़का ये लोकल बोर्ड्स ही देते हैं, और स्थानीय नीतियों एवं आवश्यकताओं के हिसाब से, लोकल या स्टेट लेवल पर अपनी नीतियों को या अपने local flavor को वहां के बैंकों में introduce करते हैं।

महोदय, कुछ सावधानियों की भी दरकार है, क्योंकि कोई-कोई अपने खर्चों में कटौती और सहयोजन तभी अमल में ला सकती है, जब सहयोगी बैंकों के कोर्स का भी विलय कर दिया जाए और हम सब अपेक्षा करते हैं कि जल्दी ही यह होगा। यह सब इसलिए किया जा रहा है, ताकि स्टेट बैंक में ताकत आ जाए और जो नुकसान हो रहा है, तो अतिरिक्त खर्चा हो रहा है, वह कम हो। अभी हमारे मिस्त्री साहब ने कहा कि स्टेट बैंक ऑफ पटियाला बंद हो गया है, यह बात सही है कि जब खर्चे कम किए जाने की बात हो रही है, तो कुछ ब्रांचेज़ बंद भी होंगी, लेकिन इसके साथ उन्होंने एक बात और भी कही, जिस पर हमें गौर करना चाहिए कि उसके कर्मचारी निकाले नहीं गए, बल्कि उसके कर्मचारियों को कहीं न कहीं ट्रांसफर कर दिया गया। उसके सारे स्टेकहोल्डर्स, डिपॉजिटर्स, ग्राहक

4.00 P.M.

और एम्प्लॉइज़, सब सुरक्षित रहें, ऐसे में केवल विरोध करने के लिए हम विरोध करें, यह उचित नहीं होगा।

महोदय, मैं समझता हूँ कि जब इस देश की आर्थिक व्यवस्था और बैंकिंग व्यवस्था अंदर ही अंदर कमजोर हो रही थी, तो उसे restructuring का नाम दे करके किसी तरह से ढका जा रहा था। मैं समझता हूँ कि अब वह समय आ गया, जब सरकार ने बहुत स्पष्ट निर्णय लिया। Restructuring के नाम पर खराब कर्जों को दबा देने की जो प्रवृत्ति थी, उसको 2015 में रिव्यू करके सरकार सामने लाई है और जब बीमारी सामने आ ही गई है, तो इसका इलाज भी होगा और इसके लिए कुछ कड़े निर्णय भी लिए जाएंगे और लिए जा भी सकते हैं, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKENDU SEKHAR RAY): Now, Dr. Anil Agrawal; this is your maiden speech. You will get 15 minutes as per the rules.

डा. अनिल अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, सर्वप्रथम तो मैं आपको और अपनी पार्टी के वरिष्ठ नेताओं को धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा कि उन्होंने इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का मुझे अवसर दिया। महोदय, आज जिस बिल पर हम सब लोग चर्चा कर रहे हैं, ऑलरेडी बैंकों का मर्जर हो चुका है, यह लागू हो चुका है और विभिन्न बैंकों की ब्रांचें बहुत अच्छे से कार्य भी कर रही हैं। कुछ एक-आध जगह को हम छोड़ भी दें, तो ज्यादातर जगहों पर संतोषजनक कार्य हो रहा है। स्टेट बैंक की ब्रांचेज़ हिन्दुस्तान में सबसे ज्यादा हैं और अब तो इनकी संख्या और भी बेहतर हो गई है। इसकी ब्रांचेज़ ग्रामीण स्थलों में भी हैं। मेरे साथियों ने अभी बताया कि रीजनल बैंक, जैसे स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ त्रावणकोर या स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ हैदराबाद की जो बड़ी ब्रांचेज़ थीं, वे as it is वर्क कर रही हैं, केवल उनका नाम बदल कर स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया हुआ है।

महोदय, मैं एक चीज़ और भी स्पष्ट करना चाहूंगा कि स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया के पास इन पांचों बैंकों के अधिकांश शेयर पहले से ही थे, इसलिए यह केवल एक फॉर्मल मर्जर है। ऑलरेडी इनमें वर्किंग भी शुरू हो चुकी है, इसलिए इसमें कोई बहुत ज्यादा विचार करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। लोक सभा तो इसको पहले ही पास कर चुकी है और हम लोग अधिकांशतः precautions की बातों पर ही चर्चा कर रहे हैं। महोदय, जो बैंक मर्ज किए जा रहे हैं, उनकी धनराशि, बैंक लोन, एनपीए इन सबमें सुधार आएगा। जब ये स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया में मर्ज होंगे, तो परिस्थितियां और भी बेहतर होंगी, उनका एनपीए घटेगा और उनकी कार्य करने की क्षमता बढ़ेगी। अभी तक जितने banking institutions हमारे हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर काम कर रहे हैं, उनमें सबसे बेहतर वर्किंग स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया की रही है। तो मुझे लगता है कि जो छोटे बैंक्स उसमें मर्ज हो रहे हैं, वे उसको फॉलो करेंगे और बेहतर वर्किंग होगी। बैंक का साइज़ बड़ा हो जाने से उसमें कैपिटल की भी ज्यादा सुविधा मिलेगी और मुझे लगता है कि इससे money lending की जो cost है, वह भी better हो जाएगी। हमारे अपने जो depositors हैं, शायद उनको भी हम लोग बेहतर rate of interest दे पायेंगे।

[डा. अनिल अग्रवाल]

महोदय, एक और बात है। मेरे कई दोस्तों ने बैंक के employees के बारे में बताया है। मुझे लगता है कि अभी तक किसी भी employees के बारे में, जैसे कि पोद्दार साहब ने कहा, कहीं भी किसी को हटाने की या उनको किसी भी प्रकार की असुविधा की कोई खबर नहीं है। हर जगह, जो दूसरे बैंक्स के कर्मचारी थे, उनका successfully merger हो गया है और वे स्टेट बैंक के अपने जो दूसरे साथी हैं, मित्र हैं, उनके साथ मिल कर अच्छा काम कर रहे हैं।

मैं इसमें एक बात और भी बताना चाहूंगा। आजकल बैंकिंग में सबसे ज्यादा जो withdrawal है, वह ATM के माध्यम से हो रहा है। जब ये पांचों बैंक्स मिल जायेंगे, तो ATMs की संख्या बहुत अधिक बढ़ जायेगी और जो queue लगने की एक बात कही गयी है, उसमें बहुत कमी आयेगी। आज एक बैंक से दूसरे बैंक में जाने में भी, withdrawal करने के लिए लोग ATM का ही प्रयोग कर रहे हैं।

महोदय, जहां तक बैंक में fraud होने की बात है, तो यह हम सबको विदित है कि कुछ लोगों ने बैंकों में fraud किया, लेकिन जैसा कि सब जानते हैं कि उसका प्रतिशत काफी कम है और अच्छे उद्यमी भी इस देश में हैं, जो बहुत ईमानदारी के साथ तथा बहुत निष्ठा के साथ उनको जो लोन मिलता है, उसका repayment कर रहे हैं। इसके साथ ही ऐसे भी लोग हैं, जिन्होंने शायद जितना लोन लिया है, उससे भी अधिक अब तक ब्याज की धनराशि बैंक को चुका रहे हैं। तो हमें इस बात को भी ध्यान में रखना चाहिए। अगर कुछ खराब लोग हैं, जिन्होंने बैंकिंग व्यवस्था को खराब किया है, तो अच्छे लोग भी हैं। जब तक बैंक का सपोर्ट नहीं बढ़ेगा, इतिहास गवाह है कि किसी भी देश में प्रगति नहीं हो सकती। हमें केवल यह निश्चित करना होगा कि जो बैंक लोन दे रहे हैं, वे उनकी जांच-पड़ताल भली-भांति कर लें और मुझे लगता है कि अगर बैंक इस काम को बखूबी कर लेंगे, तो किसी भी प्रकार से उनके बैंक में NPA नहीं होगा।

महोदय, मैं एक चीज़ और भी बताना चाहूंगा। बैंक का साइज़ बड़ा होने से, employees अधिक होने से, जो आजकल बैंकिंग में additional services शुरू हो गयी हैं, जैसे Insurance, Mutual Funds हैं, उन सब की भी हम better देख-रेख कर सकते हैं। यह बैंक्स का additional source of profit होगा, additional source of services होगा। तो मुझे लगता है कि हर प्रकार से हम लोगों को फायदा ही मिलेगा।

महोदय, अभी जब इस बिल पर चर्चा की शुरुआत हुई, तो श्री रमेश जी ने कहा कि bigger is not always better, लेकिन मुझे लगता है कि सरकार की निष्ठा और सरकार की कार्यप्रणाली बहुत ही पारदर्शी है और यह इस बार definitely prove होगा कि bigger is not always better, but at least in this case, it will be much-much better.

महोदय, स्टेट बैंक की वर्किंग में, जैसा मेरे सभी दोस्तों ने बताया, साथियों ने बताया, उसका प्रॉफिट सबसे अधिक था। लगभग 10,000 करोड़ से ज्यादा का प्रॉफिट स्टेट बैंक का रहा है। तो इसका indirectly मतलब यह है कि स्टेट बैंक की वर्किंग, उनके बाकी पांच subsidiary banks की जो working है, उससे better रही है। जो अधिकांश स्टाफ है, वह originally स्टेट बैंक का ही है, बाकी की संख्या बहुत कम है। तो बड़े बैंक के जो employees हैं, उनकी प्रथाओं को, छोटे बैंक्स जो मर्ज हुए हैं,

जैसे, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ हैदराबाद, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ पटियाला, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ त्रावणकोर, वे उसको follow करेंगे।

महोदय, इस देश में गंगा का एक बहुत अच्छा उदाहरण है कि गंगा में जब छोटी नदियां मिलती हैं, वे भी पावन हो जाती हैं और गंगा बन जाती हैं। तो मुझे लगता है कि जो छोटे बैंक्स इसमें मर्ज हो रहे हैं, वे भी स्टेट बैंक की better practices को follow करेंगे और वे एक better bank के रूप में कार्य कर सकेंगे। मैं इसमें यह भी add करना चाहूंगा कि हमारे जो छोटे बैंक्स हैं, जिनके employees better work कर रहे हैं, मुझे लगता है कि स्टेट बैंक के भी जो employees हैं, वे उनके experiences का फायदा लेंगे और वे भी better work करेंगे।

महोदय, यह एक बहुत बड़े गर्व की बात है कि स्टेट बैंक का साइज़ अब international level पर दुनिया के जो सबसे बड़े 50 बैंक्स हैं, उनके जैसा हो गया है। जब आप internationally business करते हैं, उसमें उसका बहुत बड़ा फायदा होता है। इसे हमारे जो बड़े एक्सपोर्टर्स भाई हैं, बड़े industrialists हैं, वे बखूबी समझ सकते हैं। इसमें एक बात और है, जो दूसरे लेवल पर काम आई कि जो जन धन बैंक एकाउंट या दूसरे बैंक एकाउंट हैं, उनमें जिस प्रकार लोगों को दिक्कत आ रही हैं, मुझे लगता है कि उन सभी दिक्कतों पर बैंक के सीनियर ऑफिसर्स और सरकार मिलकर बहुत कायदे से निगरानी रखेगी और जिस तरह की शंकाएं जताई जा रही हैं, वैसी कोई भी शंका या दिक्कत लोगों के सामने आने नहीं दी जाएगी। मुझे लगता है कि हर प्रकार से इस मर्जर के बहुत अच्छे परिणाम सामने आएंगे। इससे बैंकों की कैपिटल बढ़ जाएगी, उनके ए.टी.एम.स बढ़ जाएंगे और हर प्रकार की सुविधाएं लोगों को मिलेंगी। इससे हमारे देश के नागरिकों, देश के किसानों और देश के मजदूर भाइयों, सभी को बहुत लाभ होगा।

मैं अंत में यही कहना चाहूंगा कि सरकार ने जो मर्जर का निर्णय लिया है, वह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण कदम है, जिसका हम सब स्वागत करते हैं, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Thank you. Now, Shri K. K. Ragesh; not present. Now, hon. Minister to reply. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Excuse me, Sir. I have come. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): One second, Mantriji. The hon. Member, the last speaker, has come. Although I have called you, but if you don't mind, he can be called. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Ragesh, you should have been present here. Last time also, you were not present.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, as many other Members have stated, this particular Bill seeks to repeal two Acts. This is inevitable because the merger that has already taken place, and, five associate banks have already been merged with the State Bank of India. Sir, we did not get any opportunity to discuss the pros and cons of merger that has already taken place. Eventhough, all these banks were set up as a by-product of

[Shri K.K. Ragesh]

this Parliament, as these banks were set up as per the Act of Parliament, we did not get any opportunity to discuss the pros and cons of the merger that has taken place.

Sir, I do not want to speak about whether I support the Bill or not because it is meaningless at this point of time. But it is the right time to assess the outcome of the merger that has already taken place.

Firstly, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to whether any reduction in the staff strength has taken place or not. I have seen a media report that staff strength of 10,584 has already been slashed after the merger. In March, 2017, total number of employees in the SBI was 2.79 lakh, and, in September, it was reduced to 2.69 lakh. What is the reason for that? Yes, recruitment is not taking place *vis-a-vis* retirements. That is the main reason. So, already staff strength has been slashed.

Secondly, Sir, I want to know as to how many employees had opted for VRS. A media report says that more than 3,500 employees had already opted for VRS and they had already taken voluntary retirement. Staff strength is getting reduced. Many employees had to opt for VRS. What was the reason for merger, Sir? Yes, banking sector is facing a severe crisis, as we all know, due to the NPAs that have accumulated in the Public Sector Banks. But why should we try to resolve those issues at the expense of the poor? That is the main question. You are always claiming that you have already offered that many jobs every year and you have made that much of employment generation. It may be in the form of peanut selling or *pakoda* selling. Whatever it is, but you are saying that you have made that much of employment generation. But what about the secured employment, permanent employment? That is getting reduced due to these kinds of policy decisions taken by you, may be in the form of merger or may be in the form of selling out public sector industrial units, etc. So, on the one hand, you are claiming that you are generating employment, at the same time, whatever employment that you have generated is not secured employment. Those are like peanut selling. But, at the same time, all the secured employment is getting dismantled, diminished, which should be an important point that has to be debated. And I want to know from the hon. Minister how many branches have already been closed due to merger. Media reports are saying that already more than thousand branches of associate banks have already been closed. Sir, what is the reason for this merger? It is not for providing more employment to the jobless youth, not for any other purposes, but to address the crisis that has existed in the field of public sector banks. Sir, these associate banks, as Shri Jairam Ramesh said at the very beginning, are treated as the banks of the

concerned States. If I talk about the State Bank of Travancore, it was treated as a bank of the State of Kerala itself because it was playing a vital role in the overall development of the State. If you look at the farmers' loans that are being provided, if you look at the students' loans that are being provided, the SBT was at the highest on all these accounts. But, at the same time, these poor farmers and students don't have any access to the SBI. SBI is mainly concentrating on the richer section, on the corporate. So, these banks, which are treated as their own banks in the concerned States, they are already gone and have become the SBI, which is not accessible to the poor. That is the main issue.

Finally, Sir, I am sorry to say that you are penalising the poor. The crisis that has emerged in the field of banking sector is not because of the farmers of our country, not because of the poor people of our country. If you look at the total figures of the NPAs of the SBI alone, it has got ₹ 1.89 lakh crore of NPAs. The figures say that out of this total amount, 90 percentage of the NPAs is made by the corporate, the big business companies. They are responsible for the crisis. Now, you are going to come up with a new Bill that is pending before the Parliament, the Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance Bill, which has got the provision of merger to address the existing crisis. What is that? ...*(Time Bell rings)*...

Two more sentences, Sir.

One of the measures is merger. That has already taken place in the case of the SBI and the associate banks. And why is this crisis there? It is due to the corporate loans. ...*(Time Bell rings)*... They are not ready to pay back the loans taken by them. They are responsible for the increasing Non-Performing Assets in the banks. You have to penalise them. But, unfortunately, even the SBI is penalising the poor by imposing a penalty on poor account holders who are not in a position to maintain monthly average balance. It is not the rich who are not able to maintain MAB. It is the poor account holders who are not able to maintain Monthly Average Balance. And the SBI alone, in the previous year, had imposed the penalty of ₹ 1,771 crore on the poor, who are not able to maintain Monthly Average Balance. The corporates are mainly responsible for the crisis. And you are trying to resolve the crisis at the expense of the poor. This should be objected and that is what I want to say. Thank you very much, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Before I call the hon. Minister, this is for the information of hon. Members that after this Bill, the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 2017 will be taken up. The Members who want to participate in the debate may kindly give their names. Now, the hon. Minister will reply.

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला: मान्यवर, धन्यवाद। इस बिल पर आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी के साथ ही साथ लगभग 14 लोगों ने अपने बहुमूल्य विचार रखे हैं और निश्चित रूप से वे सारे के सारे बहुमूल्य विचार इस बिल के पक्ष में ही रहे हैं कि कुछ तथ्यों के साथ लोकसभा से यह बिल पास हुआ है और राज्य सभा में विचार करने के लिए आया है, पास करने के लिए आया है। साथ-ही-साथ कुछ ऐसे विचार भी हैं जिनको सरकार के भी विचारार्थ दिया गया है कि नहीं, इन पर विचार करके बैंकों को भी सुझाव दिया जाए, तो दोनों बातें आई हैं। इतने महत्वपूर्ण विचार रहे हैं। मैं उन सब का स्वागत करता हूँ।

मान्यवर, भारतीय स्टेट बैंक में ये जो पांच बैंक हैं..... भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के अधिनियम वर्ष 1959 के स्टेट बैंक ऑफ हैदराबाद अधिनियम और वर्ष 1956 के निरसन और भारतीय स्टेट बैंक वर्ष 1955 जहां तक इसका संबंध भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के अनुषंगी बैंकों से है, जिन्हें भारतीय स्टेट बैंक द्वारा अधिग्रहीत किया गया है, इसमें कुछेक अनुबंधों को संशोधित करने का भी प्रस्ताव है। वर्ष 1959 में स्टेट बैंक ऑफ बीकानेर एंड जयपुर, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ मैसूर, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ पटियाला और स्टेट बैंक ऑफ त्रावणकोर का गठन भी कभी भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के अनुषंगी बैंकों के रूप में हुआ था और देखा जाए तो स्टेट बैंक ऑफ हैदराबाद और स्टेट बैंक ऑफ पटियाला का पूर्ण स्वामित्व भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के पास ही रहा है। जब आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी बोल रहे थे तो उन्होंने एसबीआई के डाटा के साथ पूरे तौर पर उद्धृत किया था, तो हम भी उसी बात को दोहराने जा रहे हैं, उनकी बात में सम्मिलित हो रहे हैं कि स्टेट बैंक ऑफ मैसूर में 90 प्रतिशत शेयर, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ बीकानेर एंड जयपुर में 75.5 प्रतिशत शेयर, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ त्रावणकोर में 79.9 प्रतिशत शेयर। यहां कई चीजें जो चर्चा में आईं, जिनमें कहा गया कि क्यों विलय किया गया.... वास्तव में स्टेट बैंक के पास से इन बैंकों के अधिकांश शेयर्स थे, लेकिन इसके बावजूद स्थानीय स्तर पर यह व्यवस्था थी कि स्टेट बैंक के अतिरिक्त जो बैंक प्रांतों में यह कार्य कर रहे हैं, वे उस कार्य को करते रहें और वे स्टेट बैंक से विभिन्न तरीकों से सम्बद्ध रहें, लेकिन उसके बाद यह विषय आया कि कहीं न कहीं उनमें घाटे की स्थिति बढ़ती जा रही है। आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी ने यह कहा कि जब स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया को 10,000 करोड़ रुपए का फायदा है, तो फिर उस पर 16,000 करोड़ रुपए को क्यों थोपा गया? सर, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि ये सब के सब बैंक जनता के विश्वास के लिए हैं और जब जनता का विश्वास डूबता है, तो किसी भी सरकार का यह महत्वपूर्ण कर्तव्य होता है कि वह जनता के विश्वास को पूरे तौर पर स्थिर रखे। पहले भी सरकारों ने यह किया है और आज की सरकार भी यह कर रही है, क्योंकि किसी भी लोकप्रिय सरकार का यह कर्तव्य होता है कि वह अपने लोगों के साथ, अपनी जनता के साथ जुड़ी रहे, उसको विश्वास दिलाती रहे और उस विश्वास को बल देने के लिए वह स्वयं खड़ी रहे। इस नाते इन बैंकों का स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया में विलय करने का एक निर्णय सभी बैंकों के प्रबंधनों ने मिलकर लिया, जिसका अनुमोदन रिज़र्व बैंक ऑफ इंडिया ने दिया, उस अनुमोदन के बाद इन बैंकों के विलय की बात आई और फिर उसको लोक सभा से पास किया गया। पिछले सत्र में प्रयत्न के बावजूद भी यह पास नहीं हो पाया था, जबकि कई बार ऐसा लगता था कि यह आज पास हो जाएगा, कल पास हो जाएगा। आज वह शुभ अवसर आया है, जब हम सभी लोग एकमत से इस बिल को इस सदन में पास करने जा रहे हैं। इसके लिए भी सभी लोगों को धन्यवाद है।

संसाधनों के युक्तिकरण, लागतों में कमी लाने, लाभप्रदता को बढ़ाने और निधियों की लागत कम करने के नाते भी इन बैंकों का विलय किया गया, ताकि बड़े पैमाने पर लोगों को बेहतर ब्याज दर

प्राप्त हो। उत्पादकता तथा ग्राहक सेवा में सुधार के उद्देश्य से केन्द्र सरकार की स्वीकृति और भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक के परामर्श के उपरान्त स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ बीकानेर एंड जयपुर, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ मैसूर, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ पटियाला, स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ त्रावणकोर और स्टेट बैंक ऑफ़ हैदराबाद के साथ उनकी सारी की सारी आस्तियां, उनके देय सहित उनका सारा का सारा कारोबार आदि के अधिग्रहण के लिए एसबीआई का समझौता हुआ और आज वह पूरा हो चुका है। हम लोग आज इसको राज्य सभा से भी पास करके इसकी पूरी तौर पर पुष्टि करने वाले हैं। ऐसे अधिग्रहणों से संबंधित योजनाओं पर भारतीय स्टेट बैंक के केन्द्रीय बोर्ड और अनुषंगी बैंकों के संबंधित बोर्डों द्वारा सहमति व्यक्त की गई और इस पर भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक ने अपना अनुमोदन प्रदान किया, जैसा कि मैंने पहले भी बताया है। मान्यवर, जब लोग अपने विचार व्यक्त कर रहे थे, तब बैंकों के सुदृढीकरण और नौकरियों के संबंध में बात आई। मैं समझता हूँ कि रोजगार देने का काम जितना इस सरकार ने किया है, शायद किसी ने नहीं किया होगा। जब जन-धन खाते की बात आई थी, तब यह हुआ था कि बिना एक भी नया पैसा जमा किए उन लोगों का बैंक में खाता खुलेगा, जिन लोगों ने कभी यह जाना ही नहीं था कि इस देश में बैंक नाम की कोई चीज़ है, जिन्होंने बैंक का कार्यालय नहीं देखा था, जिन्होंने बैंक का रुख नहीं किया था। इस सरकार ने बैंकों के साथ बैठकर एक महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय किया कि आप लोग जाइए और शाखा खोलिए। बैंकों ने यह नहीं कहा कि आप मेरे पास आइए। पहले लोग बैंक आते थे, बैंक के खातेदारों में से दो लोगों को अपना जमानतदार बनाते थे, अपना पैसा जमा करते थे और पैसा जमा करने के बाद उनको पासबुक मिलती थी कि आपने इतना पैसा जमा किया है। जन-धन खाते में एक भी नया पैसा जमा नहीं किया गया। कुछ लोग आए, अनेक लोग बैंक आए भी नहीं, बल्कि बैंक स्वयं उनके दरवाजे तक गया, किसी जमानतदार की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं हुई, बिना जमानतदार की आवश्यकता के भी इस देश के उन लोगों ने, जिन्होंने बैंक का भवन भी कभी नहीं देखा था, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की सरकार ने उनको पासबुक देकर यह सिद्ध कर दिया कि आप इस देश के सच्चे नागरिक हैं, मालिक हैं। सरकार सेवक के रूप में रहती है, प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अपने को प्रधान सेवक के रूप में प्रस्तुत किया। इस बात को सिद्ध करने का काम इस सरकार ने किया था। जन-धन खाते में जनता के धन का खाता उनको पासबुक के रूप में मिला।

मान्यवर, उस वक्त बहुत मज़ाक उड़ा था, जब जन-धन खाते खोले गए थे। लोगों ने कहा था कि यह क्या है। बैंकों को भी शायद उस समय विश्वास नहीं रहा होगा, लेकिन पूरे तौर पर वार्ता करने के बाद प्रबंधन को जब यह बताया गया कि इस तरह से खाते खोलने हैं, प्रबंधन ने वह काम किया। इस देश में 32 करोड़ जन-धन खाते खुले। 32 करोड़ खाते ऐसे नहीं हैं जो केवल खुलकर रह गए। आज हम इस बात को गर्व के साथ कह सकते हैं कि जो खाता बिना एक पैसा जमा किए भी खुल गया था, आज इस देश में उन खातों में 87 हजार करोड़ रुपए जमा हैं। 87 हजार करोड़ रुपए का जमा होना यह बताता है कि इस देश की उस जनता ने, जिसको हमेशा लोगों ने छला था, जो कुछ नहीं जानती थी, उस जनता ने इस सरकार पर व इस देश के प्रधान मंत्री जी पर विश्वास किया। उस विश्वास के आधार पर बैंकों में अपने पैसे को जमा करने का काम किया।

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप बैठिए। No, no ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला: रागेश जी, आप बाद में बोल लीजिएगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): शुक्ला जी, आप बोलते रहिए।

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला: 87 हजार करोड़ रुपए जमा किया। उन्होंने विश्वास किया। अभी विशम्भर जी जब बोल रहे थे तो उन्होंने बोलने के क्रम में इस बात को कहा कि जन-धन खाते से पैसे कट रहे हैं।

(सभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए)

मैं आपको सूचना दूँ कि पूरे देश में किसी भी जन-धन खाते से एक भी नए पैसे की कटौती नहीं हुई है। उसमें किसी भी बैंक ने कोई कटौती नहीं की है। अगर किसी ने अपने 2 हजार रुपए भी जमा किए थे तो वह इन्टरेस्ट के साथ आज बढ़ा है। कटौती न होने के नाते वह घटा नहीं है। इस नाते मैं आपको पूरे तौर पर सूचना दे दूँ कि वह घटा नहीं है। अभी इसी बात की चर्चा चल रही थी। बैंक के साथ-साथ यह भी एक विषय आ गया था इसलिए इसका स्पष्टीकरण देना मेरे लिए जरूरी है। आदरणीय डी. राजा जी ने यह कहा था कि जीएसटी को जल्दबाजी में लाया गया। नोटबंदी के संदर्भ में भी बात आयी। माननीय विशम्भर प्रसाद जी और डी. राजा जी अगल-बगल में बैठे हुए हैं। आपने कहा कि गलत तौर पर यह बता दिया गया कि बैंकों में पैसा आ गया था। विशम्भर जी, एक लाख करोड़ से अधिक रुपए, जो लोगों की तिजोरियों में बंद थे, यह उसी नोटबंदी का परिणाम था कि उन रुपयों ने देश की अर्थव्यवस्था के साथ जुड़ने का काम किया, वह पैसा बैंकों में जमा हो गया और अब भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था के साथ जुड़कर वह पूरे तौर पर उनको भी लाभ दे रहा है और देश को भी लाभ देने का काम कर रहा है।

आदरणीय राजा जी ने जीएसटी की बात उठायी - जीएसटी को चाहे जल्दबाजी में लाया गया हो या बिना समझे-बूझे लाया गया हो, लेकिन एक साल के अंदर इस पूरे देश के व्यापार से जुड़े हुए लोगों ने उन 17 कानूनों के आधार पर "एक देश, एक कर" जो बना था, 17 कानूनों के आधार पर जो एक कानून बना था, उसकी acceptance यह हुई, उसकी स्वीकार्यता यह हुई कि आज पूरे देश की जनता ने उसको स्वीकार कर लिया है। आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने मध्य रात्रि में - दूसरी बार जब मध्य रात्रि का विषय आया था, सेंट्रल हॉल में हम सभी लोग बैठे थे - यह कहा था कि Goods and Service Tax, जो जीएसटी का नाम है, आगे चलकर अच्छा और सरल कानून बनेगा। आज देश की जनता ने उसकी सरलता को स्वीकार कर लिया है, उसको अच्छा मान लिया है और सबसे बड़ी बात यह हुई है कि जीएसटी ने संघवाद को पूरी तरह से पुष्ट करने का काम किया है। आज तक जीएसटी काउंसिल ने कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया है, जो unanimous न रहा हो। सभी राज्यों के वित्त मंत्री या माननीय मुख्य मंत्री के द्वारा नामित मंत्री उस काउंसिल में आते हैं, आने के बाद अपना पक्ष रखते हैं, उस पर सर्व-विचार होता है, अध्यक्षता आदरणीय वित्त मंत्री जी करते हैं, लेकिन बाद में सभी लोग सहमति बनाकर उस कानून को पास करते हैं, उस रेट का पास करते हैं। इस प्रकार संघवाद का एक सबसे अच्छा नमूना इस जीएसटी ने प्रस्तुत करने का काम किया है। जहां सुन्दर और सरल टैक्स प्रधान मंत्री जी के शब्दों में हुआ, वहीं आज पूरे देश की जनता ने उसे स्वीकार कर लिया है और

संघवाद को सही ठहराया है। इस देश की यही खूबसूरती है कि संघवाद की बात कही जाती है, सभी राज्यों के लोग मिलकर निर्णय लेते हैं।

जीएसटी की एक और खूबी हुई। एक साल में हमने इस देश में जीएसटी को पूरे तौर पर अंगीकृत करा लिया। Indirect Tax की स्थिति को देखिए तो इस देश में 32 परसेंट टैक्स था। 32 परसेंट टैक्स - लगता ही नहीं था कि कहां है, लेकिन हम लोग दिया करते थे। जीएसटी के स्लैब में सबसे अधिक 28 परसेंट का टैक्स है। कहां 32 परसेंट और कहां सबसे अधिक 28 परसेंट! वह 28 परसेंट भी केवल 50 वस्तुओं पर है, शेष में किसी पर 18 परसेंट, किसी पर 12 परसेंट और किसी पर 5 परसेंट है। जैसे-जैसे हमारे राज्यों के वित्त मंत्रियों के यहां से, व्यापारियों से, व्यापारी संगठनों से, उद्यमियों से बात आयी थी कि कोई परेशानी हो रही है तो हम सब लोगों ने उन पर पूरी तरह से विचार किया, हम उसको कम करते गए और आज सब लोगों ने इसे अंगीकार कर लिया है। सिंगापुर कितना बड़ा देश है लेकिन वहां जीएसटी को करने में कई वर्ष लग गए थे, लेकिन भारत की जनता महान है। मैं सभी अधिकारियों, सभी राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्रियों, सभी राज्यों के वित्त मंत्रियों को बधाई देना चाहूंगा कि उन्होंने इसे पास किया, मिलकर सम्मिलित निर्णय लिया। हिन्दुस्तान 125 करोड़ की आबदी वाला देश है और इस देश ने केवल और केवल एक साल के अंदर उसको पास कर दिया है। हमने इसके बारे में लोगों को समझा दिया है और बता दिया है। जब जी.एस.टी. शुरू हुआ था, तो उस समय लोगों को थोड़ी परेशानी आई थी, कहीं रिटर्न फाइलिंग में और कहीं दूसरी चीजों में। जहां पर तीन-तीन रिटर्न की स्थिति थी तो अब हमने एक रिटर्न कर दिया है। अब डेढ़ करोड़ रुपए तक के लिए किसी प्रकार का रिटर्न जमा करने की जरूरत नहीं है। ऐसा हमने कर दिया है।

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I am on a point of order. The Minister is replying to the discussion on the Bill. I don't think there is any such discussion that has taken place.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Some Members seem to have mentioned it.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: There needs to be a separate debate on that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is right. Okay. Some Members have taken up GST or demonetisation, and naturally, the Minister has to respond. Shiv Pratap Shuklaji, you come back to banks.

SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY (Andhra Pradesh): That is to be done at a later stage.

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला: सर, मैं क्षमा चाहूंगा क्योंकि विषय उठा था, इस नाते मैंने कहा है। अगर नहीं कहता, तो उचित नहीं होता। मैं तो शुरुआत की है, आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी हमेशा सदन में बैठे रहते हैं। बैठने के मामले में शायद उनका इस सदन में कोई सानी नहीं है, जिस प्रकार से सवेरे आते हैं और शाम तक बैठे रहते हैं। इस नाते मैंने उनको ही quote किया है, उनके बाद जितने सदस्यों ने भी अपने विचार रखे हैं, सभी सदस्यों ने इस बात को कहा था कि इसका जवाब जरूर दीजिएगा। जब यह कहा कि जवाब जरूर दीजिएगा तो मेरा यह मत बनता है कि उनका जवाब दूं, इस नाते मैंने यह कहा है।

[श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला]

सभापति महोदय, एक बात आई थी, रागेश जी ने कहा था कि समाचार पत्रों में मैंने पढ़ा था कि कर्मचारियों की छंटनी हुई है। रमेश जी, मैं आपको बता दूँ कि इस विलय के बाद अभी तक किसी भी कर्मचारी की कोई छंटनी नहीं हुई है। रिटायरमेंट जिन लोगों का था, वे रिटायर जरूर हुए हैं, लेकिन विलय के बाद भी सारी आस्तियों को स्वीकार किया है। आस्तियों का मतलब यह नहीं है कि उनकी परिसम्पत्तियों को और परिसम्पत्तियों के साथ ही साथ उनका जो स्टाफ था, चाहे वह अधिकारी वर्ग का हो, चाहे clerical हो, क्लास फोर्थ हो, सभी को हमने स्वीकार किया है और स्वीकार करने के बाद फिर इसको स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया का नाम दिया। पहले भी स्टेट बैंक शब्द जुड़ा हुआ था लेकिन कहीं त्रावणकोर था, कहीं कुछ था, कहीं कुछ था और अब वह स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया में बदल गया। मैं आपको बताऊँ कि एस.बी.आई. को 2017-18 में 6547 करोड़ का घाटा हुआ था, जबकि 2016-17 में यह घाटा 1805 करोड़ का था। हम यह नहीं कह सकते हैं कि इनके विलय के बाद हमारा घाटा बढ़ा, यह जरूर है कि उनके घाटे को हमने स्वीकृति दी, उसके साथ आस्तियां भी हैं, तो उसको भी लिया, लेकिन इसके बावजूद भी वित्तीय प्रबंधन, अनुशासन इन सबको लेकर जब हम गए तो 2016-17 में यह घाटा करीब 1800 करोड़ था। घाटे की वजह भी यह थी कि एस.बी.आई. को एन.पी.ए. के लिए, जो आर.बी.आई. के निर्देशानुसार जो प्रोविजनिंग स्थिति थी, उसके नाते यह हुआ था। बैंकों के द्वारा बॉन्ड में जो निवेश किया गया था, उसकी वैल्यू घटती भी है और बढ़ती भी है, जिसकी वजह से 8088 करोड़ का घाटा हुआ था। जिसे हम मार्केट लॉस के रूप में देखते हैं, इस तरह से यह हुआ था।

सभापति महोदय, मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि जो भी सुझाव सदन में आए हैं, हमने उन सब का स्वागत इस नाते से किया है कि सभी सदस्यों ने अपने सुझाव देने के साथ ही साथ इस बिल का पूरी तरह से समर्थन करने का काम किया है। इसका विरोध किसी ने नहीं किया है। एक बात जरूर कही है कि क्या जरूरत थी, ऐसा कई सदस्यों ने कहा है, अब मैं किसी का नाम नहीं लेना चाहूंगा, क्योंकि कहीं इस पर भी आपत्ति न उठ जाए। मैं यह जरूर बताना चाहूंगा कि इस "क्यों" का जवाब मैंने अपने इस उत्तर में देने का प्रयत्न किया है। हम लोग तो नये आए हैं, आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी से बहुत कुछ सीखते हैं। वे बड़े अच्छे-अच्छे सुझाव दिया करते हैं। आज भी उन्होंने बड़े अच्छे सुझाव दिए हैं, बैंकों के हित के लिए हैं, प्रबंधन के लिए है, बैंकों के द्वारा जनता को पूरी की पूरी तौर पर सुविधा मिले, इसके लिए है। हम यह कहना चाहेंगे कि मुद्रा लोन के द्वारा इस देश में लगभग 12 करोड़ लोगों को रोजगार देने का काम किया है। यह इन्हीं बैंकों ने दिया है। दृढ़ता के साथ सरकार उनके साथ खड़ी रही और खड़े रहकर उनको बल दिया, आवश्यकता पड़ी तो उनके सुधार के लिए भी 2 लाख करोड़ रुपए उनको बॉन्ड के रूप में मदद की। आज यहां पर जितने भी लोग बैठे हुए हैं, हम सभी को राष्ट्र के हित में बैंकों के इस विलय को स्वीकार करना चाहिए और इस बिल को पास करना चाहिए। जितने भी सदस्यों ने इसके संबंध में सुझाव दिए हैं, मैं उन सबके सुझावों का आदर करते हुए, उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। आप सब का बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

That the Bill to repeal the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, the State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956 and further to amend the State Bank of India Act, 1955, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 8 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In Clause 1, there is one Amendment (No.2) by the Minister.

CLAUSE 1 - SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला: महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

(2) कि पृष्ठ 1 पंक्ति 6, अंक "2017" के स्थान पर अंक "2018" प्रतिस्थापित किया जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In Enacting Formula, there is one Amendment (No.1) by the Minister.

ENACTING FORMULA

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला: महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

(1) कि पृष्ठ 1 पंक्ति 1, "अड़सठवें" शब्द के स्थान पर "उनहत्तरवें" शब्द प्रतिस्थापित किया जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Minister.

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला: महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

कि संशोधित बिल पारित किया जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

श्री सभापति: इस बिल पर बहुत अच्छी और सार्थक चर्चा हुई। इसके लिए मैं सभी सदस्यों का अभिनंदन करना चाहता हूँ। This proves that whenever we discuss, we take the debate to the higher level. That has been proved once again today on the very first day.

The Armed Forces Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 2012

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): Sir, on behalf my senior colleague, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman, I move for leave to withdraw the Bill to amend the Armed Forces Tribunal Act, 2007.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

**The Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property
(Amendment) Bill, 2017**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): Sir, I move:

That the Bill further to amend the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The question was proposed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Husain Dalwai. He is not here. वे बाहर बैठकर तैयारी कर रहे थे। He can speak later. Shri Mahesh Poddar.

श्री महेश पोद्दार: सभापति महोदय, धन्यवाद।

महोदय, मैं झारखंड क्षेत्र से आता हूं, जहां जमीन के मामले बहुत सारे लोगों के जनजीवन को प्रभावित करते हैं। वहां अधिकांशतः आदिवासी लोगों का जनजीवन प्रभावित होता है। इसमें पिछड़े और गरीब लोग भी हैं। जब उनके जनजीवन को कोई छूता है, तो वे इस मामले में बहुत भावुक हो जाते हैं और कभी-कभी उग्र भी हो जाते हैं।

महोदय, झारखंड की धरती में काफी संपत्ति छिपी हुई है और जब यदा-कदा हम आवश्यकता महसूस करते हैं कि देश के हित में उस सम्पत्ति के दोहन की आवश्यकता होती है, तो उनकी जमीनों को हम लेने की कोशिश करते हैं, फिर चाहे वह कल-कारखानों के लिए हो, किसी अन्य सार्वजनिक उद्देश्य के लिए हो या मिनरल्स के लिए हो। इसका इतिहास बताता है कि लोगों ने अपना हृदय खोलकर काफी समर्थन दिया है, लेकिन फिर भी उनकी गरीबी दूर नहीं हुई और सरकार के लिए भी बहुत सारी परेशानियां खड़ी हुई हैं। इसमें कई विवाद भी हुए और कई हिंसक घटनाएं भी हुईं। यह भी एक तथ्य है कि बहुत सारे विकल्प के काम इन विवादों के कारण रुके।

महोदय, यह एक ऐसा कानून था, जो वर्ष 1952 में बना और उस समय की स्थिति कुछ और थी। आज की राजनीतिक, आर्थिक और अन्य परिस्थितियां भिन्न हैं। विश्व की भी परिस्थितियां बदली हैं और लोग अधिक जागरूक हुए हैं। मीडिया सशक्त हुआ है, संचार के बहुत सारे पैमाने बदल गए हैं। इन सब चीजों में जब इतने बदलाव हुए हैं, तो कोई कारण नहीं है कि एक्वीजीशन और अधिग्रहण के कानूनों में कोई बदलाव नहीं हो या इसमें संशोधन क्यों नहीं हो?

महोदय, जब वर्ष 1952 में यह कानून बना, तो केन्द्र ने कहा कि यदि अधिग्रहण का सार्वजनिक उद्देश्य हो, तो अधिग्रहीत कर सकते थे। इसमें एक अच्छी बात यह थी कि जब वह उद्देश्य पूरा हो जाए,

तो उस संपत्ति को अच्छी स्थिति में, मैं रिपीट करना चाहूंगा, "अच्छी स्थिति में" वापस करने का भी प्रावधान था। उससे एक तसल्ली होती थी, लेकिन समयांतर में कुछ ऐसा हुआ कि अच्छी स्थिति में वापस करने में बहुत सारी दिक्कतें आनी शुरू हुई और यह वापस करना काफी नामुमकिन सा लगने लगा। यदि वापस नहीं करें, तो कुछ स्थितियों में वे उसको अर्जित कर सकते थे और एक्वायर कर सकते थे। उसमें ऐसा प्रावधान था। वे सब कर सकते थे? जब उसमें कोई निर्माण हो, उस निर्माण का उपयोग हो रहा हो और वह उसे वापस देने की स्थिति में नहीं हो या फिर वह स्थिति ऐसी हो, जबकि मूल स्थिति में लाने की कीमत, अच्छी स्थिति में लाने की कीमत बहुत ज्यादा हो और वह उसमें काफी बदलाव नहीं कर सके।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तिरुची शिवा) पीठासीन हुए]

महोदय, इस बिल की विशेषता यह है, जो लोक सभा में 18 जुलाई, 2017 को पेश किया गया था, उसमें यह कहा गया था कि यह पूर्व प्रभाव से लागू होगा। पूर्व प्रभाव से लागू करने का यह प्रावधान इसलिए किया गया है, क्योंकि बहुत सारे डिस्प्यूट्स चल रहे हैं, बहुत सारे विवाद चल रहे हैं। बहुत सारे लोग, अर्थात् सरकार और उसके साथ-साथ जनता, दोनों के बीच काफी रस्साकशी चल रही है। देश के बहुत सारे विकास के काम रुके पड़े हैं। ऐसे बहुत सारे सार्वजनिक काम रुके पड़े हैं। इनको निपटाने के लिए भी यह पूर्व प्रभाव से लागू होगा। अब इसमें एक और विशेषता दी गई है कि यदि पहले कभी एक्वायर किया गया, लेकिन अब ऐसी स्थिति आ गई कि विवाद चलता रहा और जब इसको फिर से निपटाना हो, तो इसलिए भी इसमें प्रावधान किया गया कि उसको इस पर दुबारा नोटिस देना पड़ेगा। क्योंकि पीढ़ियां गुजर गईं, the original owners have died and the new generation has become owners. How to address their concern? It is because today, they are the people on the front. उनको भी सुनने का एक मौका देने के लिए, again, a notice will be given, an opportunity will be given so that they can also place their view to the acquirer, i.e., the Government. लेकिन इसमें यह भी प्रावधान किया गया कि कहीं ऐसा न हो, क्योंकि बहुत सारे केसेज़ में, जहां दस, बीस या पचास साल पहले जमीन ले ली गई थी और people have taken compensation. Now the rates have gone up. Now, compensation policies have changed. Many people want to take advantage of that and they want to go back and claim and the old rate is not sufficient. So, for that also, it is provided that they can't get the revised consideration if they have taken the compensation and accepted the same. Sir, one more good provision has been made. Many times, money was being deposited in the Government treasury, but there was no interest payable and that money was not growing though the value of the land was growing. So, a very good provision has been made that the interest at the rate the State Bank of India is paying on fixed deposit will be paid. Incidentally, Sir, just now, we have passed a Bill, the State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill and let me also share with my colleagues that State Bank of India is one of the banks which gives one of the best rates on fixed deposit. It has been provided that rates will be given as per the State Bank of India so that if there is a dispute, money

[श्री महेश पोदार]

lies with the Government and the treasury, there is no stoppage of the growth of money. सर, इसमें यह भी कहा गया है कि, अगर उसको दुबारा नोटिस दिया जाता है, तो यह बढ़ा हुआ मुआवजा दिया जाएगा। In other words, in case the matter was not closed, it will be reconsidered, re-noticed and whatever is the current policy, accordingly, as per the provisions of the Act, enhanced compensation will be given and also if राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा या रक्षा के लिए लिया गया, तब भी दुबारा लिया जाएगा।

महोदय, इसमें और भी बहुत सारे प्रावधान हैं। This was needed badly, and this Government has come out at the right time to address these issues, because this has become a big issue for acquisition of land for public purposes.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जहां तक acquisition का सवाल है, मेरे ख्याल से यह बिल ठीक है। मुझे लगता है कि इस बिल में कहां-कहां प्रॉपर्टी है, क्या-क्या है, ये सारा ब्योरा देना बहुत जरूरी था। मेरे ख्याल से सिर्फ बिल में अमेंडमेंट लाना ही नहीं चलेगा, बल्कि पूरी तरह से कि कौन सी प्रॉपर्टी है, उसके बारे में किसी कोर्ट में या tribunal में निर्णय तो नहीं हुआ, कितनी प्रॉपर्टी है, क्या है, अगर यह सारा ब्योरा दिया जाएगा, तो ठीक होगा। ये इस बात का जवाब देंगे। मिनिस्टर को ये सारी बातें यहां रखना जरूरी है, यह रिकॉर्ड में आना चाहिए और आगे जाकर इस बारे में क्या करने वाले हैं, अगर यह भी होगा, तो अच्छा होगा, क्योंकि इसमें सबसे बड़ा नुकसान गरीबों का होता है, गरीबों की ही प्रॉपर्टी ली जाती है। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि बड़े लोगों की प्रॉपर्टी के बारे में ऐसा होता है कि अगर गवर्नमेंट को कोई रास्ता निकालना है, तो दूसरी जगह से निकाल देते हैं, लेकिन गरीबों के पूरे घर उजाड़ देते हैं। अभी infrastructure का मामला बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर चला है, इससे बहुत सारे लोगों का बड़े पैमाने पर विरोध भी हुआ है। इस पर सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए। यह बात मैं आपके जरिए सरकार के सामने ला रहा हूं, धन्यवाद।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका आभारी हूं कि आपने मुझे स्थावर संपत्ति अधिग्रहण और अर्जन विधेयक, 2017 पर बोलने के लिए कहा। मैं श्री हुसैन दलवाई साहब से सहमत हूं कि जब इस एक्ट को सामने रखा जा रहा था, तब प्रभावित संपत्तियों की सूची भी साथ दी जानी चाहिए थी। उससे परिस्थितियों को स्पष्ट करने में ज्यादा मदद मिलती। अभी जिस तरीके से एक्ट को in principle रख दिया है, उससे बहुत सारा discretion अधिकारियों के हाथ में रहता है और वे समय आने पर अपने हिसाब से, अपने विवेक के अनुसार उसका इस्तेमाल करते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, भारत सरकार के उपयोग के लिए, उनके interest के लिए, specially defence और national security के लिए जिन प्रॉपर्टीज़ का issue चल रहा है, उन प्रॉपर्टीज़ में किसी को कोई आपत्ति नहीं हो सकती है और उनको litigation और unnecessary delay से बचाने के लिए गवर्नमेंट ने यह अमेंडमेंट किया है। यह स्वागत योग्य है, लेकिन इसके साथ मैं कुछ और बातें भी कहना चाहता हूं। महोदय, भारतवर्ष के सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों में, विशेष तौर पर उत्तर भारत की तरफ जो नेपाल से मिलने वाले क्षेत्र हैं, मैं उनकी ओर आपका ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूं। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि अब

5.00 P.M.

नई परिस्थितियों में ये खबरें आ रही हैं कि अगर चाइना belligerent हो जाए, तो वह हिन्दुस्तान के खिलाफ strategic defence के लिए प्राकृतिक शक्तियों का इस्तेमाल कर सकता है। अगर हम चोट खाने के बाद जायेंगे, तो यह समझ में नहीं आएगा। मुझे लगता है कि समय रहते पहले से ही presume करके वहां पर जो नदियां, रिवर्स या जो vulnerable areas हैं कि कहां-कहां दिक्कत हो सकती है, उन जमीनों के ऊपर अधिग्रहण करके उपयोगी structures खड़े कर लिए जाएंगे, तो उससे बचत करने में बड़ी मदद मिलेगी। यह मैं आपसे और गवर्नमेंट से आग्रह करना चाहता हूं। सर, मैं इसके साथ एक और बड़ी समस्या आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूं। मुझे उम्मीद है कि आप इसका संज्ञान लेंगे। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि पूरे हिंदुस्तान में बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर भूमियों का अधिग्रहण राज्य सरकारें भी करती हैं। कभी colonisation के लिए, कभी सरकारी buildings बनाने के लिए। वहां भी बड़े पैमाने पर बीसियों साल litigations चलते हैं। हम नोएडा में, दिल्ली के आसपास के इलाकों में देखते चले आ रहे हैं। एक तरफ जहां भारत सरकार strategic importance की establishments के लिए अपनी विशेष शक्तियों का प्रयोग कर रही है, मैं यह आग्रह करना चाहता हूं कि पूरे भारतवर्ष के बहुत से किसान, जो भिन्न-भिन्न राज्यों में हैं, उनकी भी स्थिति लगभग ऐसी ही है। मुझे अच्छे तरीके से मालूम है कि पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के बहुत से जिलों में आज से 20-20 साल पहले जमीनें अधिगृहीत की गई थीं, अब उनकी कीमत बहुत ज्यादा हो चुकी है, उन पर निर्माण होने हैं और वे मुकदमों में फंसे हुए हैं। लाखों लोगों की जिन्दगियां इससे प्रभावित हैं। कहीं-कहीं पर तो लोगों ने बगावत भी की, किसानों ने भी इस बात को लेकर झंडा बुलंद किया। उनके प्रति उदासीन बने रहना उचित नहीं है। एक तरफ जब हम राष्ट्रीय महत्व के इस मुद्दे पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं, तो मैं सरकार से आग्रह करना चाहता हूं कि वह राज्य सरकारों से बात करके ऐसा ही कोई कानून उन किसानों के लिए भी बनाने का काम करे, जिससे उनकी परिस्थितियां बदल सकें। चूंकि जमीनें उनके हाथ से निकल चुकी हैं, कम से कम उनको एक respectable life की गारंटी हो सके।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूं और आपका धन्यवाद करता हूं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan, hon. Member not present. Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, this Bill proposes to amend Section 7 of the Act to enable the Central Government to reissue the notice of acquisition to the owner or such other person, having interest in the property, for the purpose of giving opportunity of being heard.

In the preceding paragraph, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is said that there have been instances of persons interested in the requisition of property, challenging the notice of acquisition on the ground that the same has been published without affording

[Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray]

personal hearing to them. And, thereafter, the interested people had challenged the order in the court of law and, in some cases, it went up to the Supreme Court. And, during this prolonged period, the price of the property had increased and, therefore, the quantum of compensation payable to the people had become enormous. That is why, this Bill has been brought forward that notwithstanding any order passed by any court, the Central Government seeks to have a right to reissue a notice. Sir, as a lawyer, you also know that if a person has not been given an opportunity of being heard, it is the denial of Principle of Natural Justice and it also hits, it also contravenes Article 14 of the Constitution of India. So, in that case, the person or persons have a right to challenge that decision of the Government in a court of law. And, if the court sets aside that notification, then, that person is entitled to get the compensation as has already been awarded by the court. But, here, the Government has sought to have that power whether an opportunity of hearing was given or not to the person. Now, the people will again be issued notice. After prolonged litigation, if that person will again have to come to the authority for hearing and after that the authority will decide the quantum of compensation, I think, this is illogical, irrational and also illegal. Here, it is particularly mentioned, I quote, "Further it is proposed that any enhanced compensation, with or without interest, awarded by the court or other authority before the date of commencement of the proposed amendment shall be subject to re-issuance of the proposed notice of acquisition and shall be applicable only to the cases of property being acquired for national security and defence purposes". So, it mentions only the cases of acquisition of property involving national security and defence purposes, what about the other property? Suppose, a property has been acquisitioned for Railways or for National Highways or for Airport or for any other purposes, then, there will be two sets of arrangements, two sets of scheme of law. Sir, according to me, this is highly objectionable. If the Government wants to have a general principle or a general rule to be followed, then, it should be made applicable to all cases. Why is there a discrimination between one set of people and the other set of people? I am fortunate or unfortunate because my property has been acquired for the purpose of Defence or National Security and the other group of people is fortunate or unfortunate if that objective, of Defence or National Security, is not involved in their property. Therefore, Sir, this is absolutely a discrimination in the eye of law. I would request the Government to relook and revisit these provisions. And, without having this matter discussed in a Standing Committee of Parliament, this Bill should not be pressed for passing. That is my submission to the Government, through you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you very much. Now, Shri Somaprasad; not here. Then, Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली): महोदय, आपने मुझे The Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 2017' पर बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। सबसे पहले तो मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि 2018 के अंदर आप यह बिल 1952 से लागू करना चाहते हैं। सरकार ने यह जो अमेंडमेंट बिल पेश किया है, यह 14 मार्च, 1952 से लागू माना जाएगा, लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि इतना पुराना अमेंडमेंट करना सर्वथा अनुचित होगा। कोई भी अमेंडमेंट वर्तमान तारीख के अंदर, वर्तमान स्थिति के हिसाब से होना चाहिए।

दूसरा, इस सारे के सारे अमेंडमेंट में हम यह कह रहे हैं कि गरीब किसान, चाहे वह दिल्ली का है, हरियाणा का है, राजस्थान का है, मध्य प्रदेश का है, छत्तीसगढ़ का है अथवा हिन्दुस्तान के किसी अन्य राज्य का है, यह सभी पर लागू होगा। एक किसान, जो SDM से, Land Acquisition Collector से लड़ते-लड़ते सुप्रीम कोर्ट तक लड़ा और आज इस बिल के माध्यम से उसकी सारी लड़ाई को निरस्त मान लिया जाएगा और उसे, उसी समय के रेट के हिसाब से मुआवजा दिया जाएगा, सिर्फ एक सिम्पल बैंक की एफडी का रेट लगा कर। आज रुपया बहुत devalue हो चुका है। वैसे ही हिन्दुस्तान का किसान बड़ी दयनीय हालत से गुजर रहा है और उस किसान को सरकार 1952, 1955 या 1970 के रेट से मुआवजा देना चाहती है, यह सर्वथा अनुचित है। अगर उसके पड़ोस में, वर्तमान स्थिति के हिसाब से, रेलवे के लिए, हाईवे के लिए, किसी रोड़ के लिए अथवा किसी कॉलोनी के लिए कोई एक्विजिशन हुई, तो उसकी ज़मीन का मुआवजा उस पहले व्यक्ति से कई गुना ज्यादा होगा, इससे तो समाज के अंदर एक तरह से बहुत बड़ी डिस्पैरिटी पैदा होगी। उस भोले-भाले किसान को कहीं ऐसा न लगने लगे कि सरकार ने मेरे साथ धोखा कर दिया कि मेरे पड़ोसी को तो अच्छा मुआवजा मिला और नेशनल सिक्योरिटी के नाम पर, डिफेंस के नाम पर, मेरी ज़मीन को कौड़ियों के भाव ले लिया। इससे तो समाज के अंदर एक तरह की दुर्भावना पैदा होगी। हिन्दुस्तान का आम किसान या गरीब आदमी, जिसकी जमीन को सरकार लेती है, जिस जमीन से उसके दादा-परदादाओं का इतना लगाव रहा है, उस जमीन के इतने सस्ते रेट पर जाने से उसको कितना अधिक दर्द होगा, यह समझा जा सकता है। डिफेंस या नेशनल सिक्योरिटी के इश्यू पर सरकार को जमीन मिलना सर्वथा उचित है, परन्तु उसका मुआवजा वर्तमान रेट के हिसाब से ही दिया जाना चाहिए। माना कि एक व्यक्ति ने 1955 में अपनी जमीन का मुआवजा नहीं लिया, ऐसे में उसका मुआवजा सरकार की ट्रेजरी में ही पड़ा रहा। मान लीजिए उस समय उसको 700 रुपए एकड़ के हिसाब से मुआवजा देना तय हुआ था, उस समय तो इतना ही मुआवजा मिला करता था, तो अगर उस एमाउंट पर इंटररेस्ट लगा कर उसे 5000, 10,000 या 15,000 रुपए एकड़ के हिसाब से मुआवजा मिलेगा, ऐसे में हम लोग डिस्पैरिटी का अंदाजा लगा सकते हैं। वर्तमान Land Acquisition Act लागू है, उसके हिसाब से क्या रेट है और उस समय में क्या रेट रहे होंगे, यह हम सभी समझ सकते हैं।

महोदय, मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि नेशनल डिफेंस के लिए, देश में सुरक्षा के लिए लैंड मिलना बहुत जरूरी है, परन्तु इसके लिए किसानों को बाज़ार भाव से ही मुआवजा मिलना चाहिए।

[श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता]

जिस किसान ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट तक लड़ाई लड़ी है, इस लड़ाई को लड़ने में हो सकता है उसे अपना मकान बेचना पड़ा हो, अपना सब कुछ गिरवी रखना पड़ा हो या कर्ज लेना पड़ा हो, न जाने किस मजबूरी के अंदर एक किसान मध्य प्रदेश से चल कर सुप्रीम कोर्ट तक पहुंचा होगा, लेकिन आज हम उसे यह कह दें कि आपको उसी रेट पर मुआवजा मिलेगा, क्योंकि भारतीय संसद ने आपके लिए कानून बना दिया, यह तो सर्वथा अनुचित होगा। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इसके अन्दर एक और प्रोविजन किया गया है। यदि किसी ने किसी मजबूरीवश, बच्चे की पढ़ाई के लिए, बच्चे की शादी के लिए, बीमारी के इलाज के लिए या किसी भी कारण से मुआवजा उठा लिया, तो इस बिल के अन्दर प्रोविजन है कि उसको बड़े हुए रेट से मुआवजा नहीं मिलेगा, उसी पुराने रेट से मुआवजा मिलेगा। इन disparities को हमें दिमाग में कहीं न कहीं रखना चाहिए। सरकार का दायित्व बनता है कि हिन्दुस्तान के हर गरीब, विशेष कर किसान, जिनकी जमीनें इन acquisitions के माध्यम से जाती हैं, उनको बराबर का दर्जा मिले, उनको बाजार भाव का रेट मिले और उनकी जो लम्बी लड़ाई है, उसको दिमाग में रखे, धन्यवाद।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I am sorry; I was focussing on the SBI Bill and I didn't expect that this Bill would come up. But having read this Bill now, I am completely confused and I would request the hon. Minister to take a little time on this Bill because there seems to be a fundamental contradiction between this Bill and the Bill that Parliament passed in September, 2013 which is, The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act. Sir, that Act which Parliament passed in 2013 and which still continues has four pillars. The first pillar is 'enhanced compensation', the second pillar is 'social impact assessment', the third pillar is 'informed consent' and the fourth pillar is 'resettlement and rehabilitation'. Even after four years of this Government while other changes have been made in the Land Acquisition Act, no change has been made insofar as enhanced compensation is concerned. According to the 2013 law, when land is acquired for public purpose, the land-owner is entitled to get double the compensation in urban areas and four times the compensation in rural areas. That is the law of the land passed by Parliament in 2013, upheld by the High Court and Supreme Court and continued by this Government. Now, I find — maybe, I am wrong — a fundamental contradiction between this Bill and the Act that we have passed because, Sir, to my layman's understanding land is 'immovable' property. Now, if land is immovable property, what the hon. Minister is now saying, he is using the word 'astronomical' increase. Does double the compensation mean 'astronomical'? That is my first question because Parliament has passed a law which is entitling land-owners to double the compensation in urban areas and four times the compensation in rural areas. I don't want to hold up the passage of the Bill. But I just want to ask the hon. Minister

to please clarify that this Bill will, in no way, affect the compensation that land-owners are entitled to get under the 2013 Land Acquisition law. If he can assure that, then, I think, I would be in a position to support it. However, if there is some ambiguity insofar as compensation is concerned, as my hon. colleague, Guptaji, has said, Sir, I am afraid, I will not be able to support this Bill because enhanced compensation was a fundamental feature of the Land Acquisition law which all political parties — all political parties — unanimously and enthusiastically supported in September, 2013. According to that law — and I want to just bring to the hon. Minister's notice — in land acquisition, the 'urgency clause' could be invoked only for national security and defence. That was the change that was made in the urgency clause but compensation was not tampered with. Even for national security and defence, you are entitled to double the compensation. I hope that this Bill, in no way, depresses the compensation that a land-owner is entitled to under the 2013 law. Please give us a categorical assurance. Thank you.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I rise to support The Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 2017. The purpose of the Bill, as I understand it, is because of the litigations, the defect pointed out by the courts and the notice to acquire the property has been set aside or quashed. Under such circumstances, the Central Government has been given the power to re-issue the notice. That is the purpose of this Amendment Bill as I understand it. Secondly, if the notice is re-issued, talking about compensation as per the market value of the property, surely the market value of the immovable property would have increased. So, to that effect, the Government has brought in an amendment stating that the market value of the property as on the date of the first notice issued by the Government alone would be taken into consideration. Also, the rate of interest applicable to the compensation is that which prevailed on the date of the issue of the first notice alone, which is to be given to the land-owner. The third aspect that the Bill seeks to take care of is when any award is settled and finalized, it cannot be reopened on the basis of this new Amendment. These are the three important points that I could gather from this Bill.

Sir, as rightly pointed out by senior colleague, Shri Jairam Ramesh, when this Bill is being applied to land acquired for the purpose of national security and defence, compensation must be paid fairly. There is no doubt about that. When land is especially being acquired for national security and defence purposes, more and more compensation must be given to the owner. This is my humble view. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Mr. Minister, please.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I would like to start by thanking the hon. Members who have taken the floor to address certain aspects of the Bill, Shri Mahesh Poddar, Shri Husain Dalwai, Shri Ravi Prakash Verma, Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray, Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta and, of course, the hon. Jairam Rameshji and Shri Navaneethakrishnanji.

Well, Sir, I am very happy that all Members who have taken the floor are unanimously agreed that a sovereign State must have the right to acquire land for specified national security and defence purposes. Land, as you know, Sir, is a State subject and for the Central Government to acquire land. It has to be very carefully defined and carefully circumscribed. So, this Bill specifically deals with acquisition of land for national security and defence purposes.

Sir, this Act has already been amended on eleven occasions earlier. This twelfth amendment has a very limited purpose, and the limited purpose arises on account of the fact that Section 7 of the Act prescribes a time-limit of 17 years. Now, what happens, in some cases, is that persons whose land is sought to be acquired through the various processes that our democratic system provides through our courts would seek more time because they have not had an opportunity to be heard. Then, finally, let us say after 17 years, when the issue comes to finality, the issue is raised of the amount of compensation to be paid is raised. It is not the Government's intention, Sir, and I can state this on the record, to deprive any person whose land is being acquired, of fair value in terms of what the land earns. That is not the intention. The intention is that the compensation provided for has not been artificially manipulated over an extended period of time so as to reflect unintended increases and the Government has no intention whatsoever of being party to a process, which results in a manipulation of hearings and so on getting postponed to 17 years and then paying a price which is not in effect related to. So, the compromise arrived at is, I think, a fair compromise which is that the notice under the prescribed section would be re-issued taking back to 1952 and the amount of compensation would be calculated on the basis of land value prevailing then along with the amount of interest that is payable on a fixed deposit in the State Bank of India.

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

We did several exercises, Mr. Chairman, Sir, after the Bill was conceived and designed in an earlier period and I had the privilege of working and I satisfied myself completely that the quantum of compensation that would be ultimately payable would be fair to the person whose land is being acquired. Now, the issue arose about Railways

and about other purposes for which State acquires the land. This Bill is specific to land being acquired for the purposes of national security and defence. I want to assure my distinguished colleague and very good friend, Shri Jairam Ramesh, that it cannot be the intention of this Government or any Government to try and introduce a legislation which undermines, in any way, something that was done in 2013 and which deals with the issue of fair compensation for all categories of people. In fact, this Government is committed, if I may be permitted to say so, to providing fair compensation for land so acquired and that is something that is being reiterated through the provisions of this Bill. Mr. Chairman, several hon. Members have raised the issue of our poor citizens being short-changed through the process of land acquisition. Even though that is not the subject of this Bill, Mr. Chairman, let me assure Members that in so far as the Central Government is concerned and in so far as the creation of an ecosystem which enables any action by the Central Government is concerned, we are committed to ensuring that all citizens of the country are fairly compensated. But, at the end of the day, we have to take cognizance of the fact that land is a State Subject and that the State Governments and all have an equal responsibility to ensure that the land being acquired from our citizens is compensated for in fair value. Certain other issues were raised, Mr. Chairman, including relations with a neighbouring State and, you know, an important country. I don't think those issues, Mr. Chairman, are relevant in terms of the word 'belligerence' that was used about that country. Since it is a discussion on land acquisition for national security purposes, I don't think any purpose would be served if I were to focus on that. Mr. Chairman, I want to conclude again by reiterating that this is a Bill which is being amended for the twelfth time. It is about acquisition of land for national security and defence purposes. Its sole purpose is to ensure that compensation which will be paid to those whose land is being acquired is done on a fair, transparent and reasonable basis which is from the date when the acquisition was first notified plus the payment of interest on fixed deposits as payable by the State Bank of India. With that, I conclude and thank the hon. Members for having participated, and I move that the Bill be passed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Bhattacharyaji, please.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Since the land belongs to the State Government, do you not think that the State Government law and this law has contradictions?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is an issue of national security.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: I agree, Sir, but ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, no sovereign State allows a situation where its fundamental prerogative of acquiring land for national security purposes is subject to any limitation. I say this and I did not hear any Member of this House questioning that and I don't think anyone in the nation will allow that right to be questioned because when it comes to national security, it is the prerogative of the Central Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right, right. Now, Sukhenduji please. ...*(Interruptions)*...
Bhattacharyaji, please, your turn is over.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY : Sir, I have only one clarification to seek from the hon. Minister and I would urge upon the hon. Minister to think over the issue very seriously, not to be agitated upon because it is a very important issue. It is said that the owner of the property shall also be entitled to annual rate of interest prevalent at any relevant time on the compensation payable on the date of publication of first notice. Suppose, in a given case, the first notice was issued in the year 1960, and after prolonged notification, when the second notification has been issued or re-issued, then whether it confirms that you are paying, as the rate of first notice was issued in 1960, and the case was disposed of in 1980 after twenty years and Supreme Court says that I am entitled to get market price, double the market price as the 2013 law says. Whether it confirms that provision of the other law? Yes or no, I want to know that.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I am very happy that we are getting into a very specific and pin-pointed discussion on a hypothetical situation which could arise. The intention, as clearly stated in the Bill, is that interest would be paid from the date of the original notification at the rate payable by the State Bank of India for the fixed deposit rate. Now, if a hypothetical situation arises, as Jairamji pointed out, that the amount of compensation, hypothetically or not, indicated definitely in the 2013 Bill, double in one case and four times in the other, if there is a differential, obviously, the State will have to address this thing and honour it. And, I am giving you a clear position in that regard. There cannot be any contradiction. A State through its legislative processes, cannot give one level of compensation on the one hand and another level on the other hand. So, this is clearly in-built and I am making a statement on record.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Husain Dalwai ...*(Interruptions)*... If everybody again rises, how will it be possible? ऐसा नहीं होता है ना। You all know that system.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: सर, बड़े पैमाने पर सिक्योरिटी की लैंड, खासकर डिफेंस की लैंड ऐक्वायर की गई है। मैं मुंबई का उदाहरण दे रहा हूँ। जो लैंड आपके पास है, वही आप नहीं संभाल पा रहे हैं। उसके बारे में क्या आप कुछ सोच रहे हैं?

श्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी: सर, hon. Member कह रहे हैं कि बहुत ज्यादा लैंड ऐक्वायर की गई है और वह भी संभाली नहीं जा रही है, उसके बारे में मुझे थोड़ा ज्ञान है। मैं तीन साल रक्षा मंत्रालय में ज्वाइंट सेक्रेटरी रहा हूँ, इसलिए मैं उसके बारे में कुछ जानता हूँ। मैं Hon'ble Member से यही अर्ज करना चाहूंगा कि इस legislation पर आज जो बिल आपके सामने है, इसका एक बहुत लिमिटेड purpose है और वह यह है कि fair compensation दिया जाए और fair compensation वह होगा, जो original date of notification से fixed deposit interest के साथ होगा। अगर उसमें कोई anomaly आती है या कोई चीज़ सामने आती है, तो We are always ready in a spirit of reasonable, constructive engagement to deal with it.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Minister for clarifying that the compensation will be paid according to the formula fixed in 2013. But, when this circuitous process is indulged in to prolong the litigation period, this law will apply. This is the clarification that he has given. My pointed question to him is this: will this Bill have prospective effect or will it have retrospective effect as well?

श्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी: यह जो prospective और retrospective की परिभाषा है, उसमें मैं थोड़ा कुछ कहना चाहूंगा। I would like to inform Jairamji that the 2013 legislation dealt with compensation in all cases. This one deals specifically with the issue of acquisition of land for national security purposes. In fact, there was an amendment which suggested that we open up all cases. No, we have not done that. Only those cases, where Government has already taken a decision that the land is essentially imperative for national security, we will open that up, only those cases which have been prolonged through the court process up to 17 years. And in paying that compensation, we will be mindful of the fact that we might have a situation where the payment of interest at fixed deposit rate may work out to be higher in some case than what is envisaged in the 2013. I would not ask for it to be paid back.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि पहले rate of compensation बहुत कम होता था। पहले गांव की जमीन का compensation 500 रुपये, 700 रुपये या 1,000 रुपये प्रति एकड़ तक ही होता था। जिसको सुप्रीम कोर्ट तक लड़ाई लड़नी हो, उस किसान को सुप्रीम कोर्ट तक आने के लिए अपना मकान बेचना पड़ता है, अपना सब कुछ बेचना पड़ता है। उसका वह नोटिफिकेशन रद्द हो गया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आपका क्या सुझाव है?

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: सर, मेरा यह सुझाव है कि आप acquisition करें, उसमें कोई बुराई नहीं है, परन्तु आज की जो मार्केट वैल्यू है, उसको वह रेट दें।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है। श्री तिरुची शिवा।

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I have one point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will become a full-fledged double discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, it is very important.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I know that. I think you are aware as to who was the Minister.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, it was you. ...*(Interruptions)*... *

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I must rise to respond to that. When this Bill was conceived, as is done in other pieces of legislation, there was not only due diligence but a lot of micro analysis was done as to how it would work out. So, that last comment of Shri Jairam Ramesh about the original person, I think, is a little unfair. And, believe me, it is out of sheer respect and deference for my distinguished predecessor, but we went through it all over again with a fine tooth comb and, I think, all the issues that have been raised here today by the hon. Members, there should no concern on any provisions of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the lands mostly belong to the poor people and the farmers. It might have been acquired for any purpose, whether for national security or for Defence purpose, but when that is the only source of livelihood for those people, we just would like to know whether the compensation would be given as per the 2013 Act, or, as per the Supreme Court directive, or, again as per the Bill as the price was when the first notice was issued. In that case, Sir, that will be very less because then it would be a very longer period of time. So, it is not only that Government's intention or purpose should be prior, but the interest of the poor people and the farmers of the country should be considered.

Secondly, whatever may be the purpose, I would suggest, kindly never usurp the powers of the State Governments because land is with the State Governments. Without the State Government's cooperation, for any purpose it may be, I request that don't infringe upon the powers of the States.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri D. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA : Sir, my only simple question is about the retrospective effect or prospective effect. For instance, in the last line, the Statement of Objects and Reasons states, “It is proposed to give effect to the Amendments from the date of enactment of the Requisition and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952, namely the 14th March, 1952.” How does the Minister explain this? This is binding.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has explained it, but let him clarify.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: That is when the original Act came into being. Prior to that, I would like to tell the hon. Member that in 1939, before India became independent. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is the original Act.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, this is with effect from 1952. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, the idea is to deal the date of notification as the date on which it commenced. In other words, let us say, the process started in 1975. Like somebody said, in 1975, a certain piece of land was proposed to be acquired for national security and Defence. All that needs to be done. And, then the process is going on through the courts. The courts are also giving directive. It is not as if this Amendment here is going to result in a situation where the courts will not interpret. The courts will go on interpreting. Now, what I would recommend that when 1975 comes, or, 1995 comes, you take the compensation as on value of land operating on that date. Then, you provide interest at the fixed deposit rate of the State Bank, which is the highest. This is also what we looked at. And, then we look at the compensation. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let us presume that there is, at the end of the day, a differential, that is this compensation package works out to be slightly higher than what is envisaged under that 2013 compensation framework, in which case, I suspect what will happen is that the person affected is not going to say, ‘No, give me less.’ But if it is slightly less, he will go and say, “Under that, I would have got this much.” So, I think, this will sort itself out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Navaneethakrishnan.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN : First of all, I am very happy to note that this Bill was moved by the hon. Chairman. Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention to Section 8(3) which says, “The compensation payable for the acquisition of any property under section 7 shall be the price which the requisitioned property would have fetched

[Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan]

in the open market, if it had remained in the same condition as it was at the time of requisitioning and been sold on the date of acquisition.”

Further, in the earlier Sections, it is contemplated that Arbitrator, who is eligible to be appointed as the judge of the High Court, should be appointed. Further, retrospective effect given by this Bill is correct and well within the law because our courts are known for delay. Suppose, the acquisition notice, issued in the year 1990, is challenged and still pending, and, suppose, ultimately, the Supreme Court or any other Court comes to a conclusion the notice is defective, then the entire acquisition proceedings are set aside or quashed. Then, the land owner cannot go back. So, as far as this Amendment is concerned, the Central Government is entitled to reissue the notice, and, of course, the land owner is entitled to get the compensation, a fair compensation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. He was the Advocate General in Tamil Nadu.

The question is:

That the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 2017, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. In Clause 2, there are four Amendments, (Nos. 1 & 2) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. He is absent. Now, Amendments (Nos. 5 & 6) by the Minister.

CLAUSE 2- AMENDMENT OF SECTION 7

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I move:

(5) That at page 2, line 9, *for* the figure “2017”, the figure “2018” be *substituted*.

(6) That at page 2, line 15, *for* the figure “2017”, the figure “2018” be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In Clause 1, there is one Amendment (No. 4) by the Minister.

CLAUSE 1- SHORT TITLE AND COMMENCEMENT

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I move:

(4) That at page 1, line 3, *for* the figure “2017”, the figure “2018” be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In the Enacting Formula, there is one Amendment (No. 3) by the Minister.

ENACTING FORMULA

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I move:

(3) That at page 1, line 1, *for* the word “Sixty-eighth”, the word “Sixty-ninth” be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended, was added to the Bill.

The title was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Minister.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I move:

That the Bill, as amended, be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that the Business Advisory Committee in its meeting held on the 18th of July, 2018, has allotted time for Government Legislative and Other Business, as follows:-

Sl. No.	Business	Time Allotted
1.	Consideration and passing of the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2018 - to replace an Ordinance.	One Hour
2.	Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Ordinance, 2018 (No. 6 of 2018) promulgated by the President on the 6th of June, 2018, admitted in the name of Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.	Three Hours (Sl. No. 2 and 3 to be Discussed Together)

Sl. No.	Business	Time Allotted
3.	Consideration and passing of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code Amendment Bill, 2018 - to replace an Ordinance.	
4.	Consideration and passing of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2018 - to replace an Ordinance.	Four Hours
5.	Consideration and passing of the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Bill, 2018 - to replace an Ordinance.	One Hour
6.	Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the National Sports University Ordinance, 2018 (No. 5 of 2018), promulgated by the President on the 31st of May, 2018, admitted in the name of Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.	One Hour (Sl. No. 6 and 7 to be Discussed Together)
7.	Consideration and passing of the National Sports University Bill, 2018 - to replace an Ordinance.	
8.	Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Fugitive Economic Offenders Ordinance, 2018 (No. 1 of 2018) promulgated by the President on the 21st of April, 2018, admitted in the name of Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy.	Three Hours (Sl. No. 8 and 9 to be Discussed Together)
9.	Consideration and passing of the Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill, 2018 - to replace an Ordinance.	

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Special Mentions. As there is sufficient time, Members can read their Special Mentions. Now, Shri Harnath Singh Yadav.

Demand for policy for allocation of funds to concerned departments for regular maintenance and repairing of rural roads constructed under MPLADS

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे इस अविलम्बनीय लोक महत्व के विषय का सदन में उल्लेख करने की अनुमति प्रदान की, इसके लिए मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ।

उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य में माननीय सांसद एवं विधायक की निधियों द्वारा विभिन्न विभागों, जैसे ग्रामीण अभियन्त्रण विभाग, समाज कल्याण निर्माण निगम, पैक्स फ़ैड इत्यादि द्वारा जनपदों में डिपॉजिट कार्य के रूप में अनेक ग्रामीण मार्गों का निर्माण विगत वर्षों में कराया गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please do not speak or move around in between. Please sit down.

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव: इन मार्गों पर किसी विभाग का स्वामित्व न होने एवं मरम्मत हेतु धन उपलब्ध न होने के कारण मार्गों की स्थिति अत्यंत खराब है, जिससे आम जनमानस को, आवागमन में अत्यंत परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। शासन स्तर पर इन मार्गों की मरम्मत हेतु विभाग नामित करना एवं धन आवंटन कराया जाना अति आवश्यक है। अतः शासन स्तर पर उपरोक्त विषय में नीति निर्धारण कराया जाना जनहित में अपेक्षित है, धन्यवाद।

**Demand to keep 1971 Census as the basis by 15th Finance Commission
for Tamil Nadu and other States**

DR. V. MAITREYAN (Tamil Nadu): It has been reported that the 15th Finance Commission would consider 2011 Census as the basis of its recommendations on how much funds are to be transferred to States from the Central pool. This will deliver severe blow to Tamil Nadu and other southern States, which have performed excellently in containing population. For the Financial Year 2018-19, the Union Government has envisaged a total transfer of over ₹ 12.69 lakh crore to States, largely based on the distribution formula suggested by the Fourteenth Finance Commission. Going by past trends, this will be about a third of all the spending done by the States.

A change in the population base year will mean that some States, particularly, Tamil Nadu will be deprived of huge amounts of resources. In the past few Finance Commission reports, 1971 Census was taken as the base year for considering population of States. There was a general consensus on this. However, in the previous Fourteenth Finance Commission, for the first time, ten per cent weightage was given to 2011 population while 17.5 per cent was retained for 1971 population. This was vehemently opposed by the late Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. To protect States like Tamil Nadu, a 25 year-old freeze on the total number and State-wise distribution of seats in the Lok Sabha till the year 2026 was done through Constitutional amendment.

Therefore, I urge upon the Government to respect the consensus and direct the Fifteenth Finance Commission to keep 1971 Census as the basis for allocation of funds to Tamil Nadu and other States.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with this Special Mention.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with this Special Mention.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with this Special Mention.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with this Special Mention.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, let me inform you that when I saw this news item, as Chairman of Rajya Sabha, the Council of States, I called the Chairman and the Members of the Finance Commission to my chamber. We discussed the issue and they have assured me that performing States will not be penalized at all. They will be adopting a formula of incentives and disincentives. This is the broad approach, and this is what they have told me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, please allow a discussion on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: They have not yet given their Report. How can we do so? ...*(Interruptions)*...

Demand to enhance the food allocation quota for the State of Kerala

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, Kerala is facing crisis due to shortage of food allocation from the Centre. The State which produces cash crops for the country was always facing deficit in food production. The situation was handled through statutory rationing with Central assistance. When Food Security Act was implemented, the State fell into an insecure situation. In the year 2015-16, Kerala was allocated 15,91,860 metric tonnes of rice. But now, the State is getting only 14,25,000 metric tonnes. This huge shortage is staring at the food security of Kerala, where rice is the staple food. Reflecting the agony of the entire population, the Government of Kerala tried to meet the hon. Prime Minister under the leadership of hon. Chief Minister. I am sorry to state that such a meeting could not be held four times. Now, we feel relaxed on learning that the hon. Prime Minister has agreed to meet representatives of Kerala on such pressing issues. We, the people of Kerala, wish to believe that the forthcoming meeting will be fruitful.

I further inform the Council that Kerala is now the home for 30 lakh migrant workers. Making use of portability rationing, Kerala wishes to cover them also under the rationing scheme. Hence, the Union Government may, in the spirit of true federalism, consider the matter and take steps to enhance ration quota for the State of Kerala with immediate effect. Thank you.

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the hon. Member on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 11.00 o'clock tomorrow, on Thursday, the 19th July, 2018.

*The House then adjourned at forty-seven minutes past five
of the clock till eleven of the clock on Thursday,
the 19th July, 2018.*