

Vol. 252
No. 3



Wednesday,
16 September, 2020
25 Bhadra, 1942 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

(FLOOR VERSION)

CONTENTS

Oath or Affirmation (page 1)

Papers laid on the Table (pages 1-3)

Messages from Lok Sabha —

Nomination of Member to Joint Committee on Offices of Profit – *Reported*
(page 4)

The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment)
Bill, 2020 – *Laid on the Table* (page 4)

Passed the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020 – *Laid on the*
Table (page 4)

Reports of the Committee on Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled
Tribes – *Laid on the Table* (page 5)

[P.T.O.]

©

RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ 100.00

Statement by Minister —

Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Two Hundred and Twenty-second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs – *Laid on the Table* (page 5)

Leave of absence – *Granted* (pages 5-6)

Motion for election to the Rubber Board – *Adopted* (page 6)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 7-258)

Matters raised with Permission —

Concern over engineers rendered unemployed due to disbanding of Jammu and Kashmir 'Self Help Group of Engineers Scheme' (pages 259-261)

Continuation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna (pages 261-262)

Need for a National Homoeopathic Helpline (pages 262-263)

Payment towards wheat procurement below the Minimum Support Price (MSP) (pages 263-265)

Need to upgrade digital infrastructure to supplement online learning shortfalls (pages 266-267)

Shortage and rise in prices of oxygen cylinders (pages 267-270)

Closure of Visva Bharati (Central University) since 17th August, 2020 (pages 270-271)

Death and injury due to gas leakage at Baghjan, Assam (pages 271-272)

Need for protection of data of Indian leaders and others from Chinese spying (pages 272-273)

Need to conduct an in-depth study before implementing National Education Policy, 2020 (pages 273-274)

Need to include Punjabi as an official language in UT of Jammu and Kashmir (pages 275-276)

Website : <http://rajyasabha.nic.in>
<http://parliamentofindia.nic.in>
E-mail : rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in

Special Mentions — *Laid on the Table*

Demand for establishment of a Commonwealth sports training centre in Rewa (pages 276-277)

Demand for compulsory disaster management training in schools and colleges (pages 277-278)

Demand to provide rehabilitation and compensation to people living in jhuggi clusters on railway land, in the light of the orders of the Supreme Court (page 278)

Need to craft a robust strategy to tackle mental health issues (pages 278-279)

Need to formulate schemes for the benefit of weaver community (pages 279-280)

Demand to provide sufficient Central assistance to Rajasthan under Jal Jeevan Mission (pages 348-349)

Regarding discussion on Statement of Health Minister on the issue of Management of Covid pandemic (pages 280-283)

Government Bill —

The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill, 2020 – *Passed* (pages 283-306)

Discussion on the Statement made by Minister—

Regarding Covid-19 pandemic and steps taken by Government (pages 306-348)

PUBLISHED UNDER RULE 260 OF RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS
IN THE COUNCIL OF STATES (RAJYA SABHA) AND PRINTED BY PRINTOGRAPH,
KAROL BAGH, NEW DELHI-110005

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 16th September, 2020/25 Bhadra, 1942 (Saka)

The House met at nine of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR (West Bengal)

MR. CHAIRMAN: My good wishes! Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

- I Report and Accounts (2017-18) of the CITCO, Chandigarh and related papers**
- II Reports and Accounts of different years of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi and related papers**
- III Report and Accounts (2018-19) of the NHRC and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI
V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, on behalf of Shri G. Kishan Reddy, I lay on the Table:-

A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section
(1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- I. (a) Forty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Chandigarh Industrial and Tourism Development Corporation Limited (CITCO) Chandigarh, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Place in Library. See No. L.T. 2494/17/20]

- II. (1) (a) First Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2007-08, together with the

Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

[Place in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2491/17/20]

- (b) Second Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2008-09, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (c) Third Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2009-10, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (d) Fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2010-11, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (e) Fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2011-12, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (f) Sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (g) Seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (h) Eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
[Place in Library. For (b) to (h) *See* No. L.T. 2492/17/20]
- (i) Ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (j) Tenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (k) Eleventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
 - (l) Twelfth Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Place in Library. For (i) to (l) and (2) See No. L.T. 2493/17/20]

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

- (a) Annual Accounts of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), New Delhi, for the year 2018-19, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 34 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Place in Library. See No. L.T. 2495/17/20]

Report (2017-18) of the NCSC, New Delhi and related papers

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, I lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under clause (6) of article 338 of the Constitution:—
 - (a) Annual Report of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC), New Delhi, for the year, 2017-18.
 - (b) Explanatory Memorandum on the above Report.
 - (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Place in Library. See No. L.T. 2715/17/20]
-

MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

- I Nomination of Member to Joint Committee on Offices of Profit**
- II The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020**
- III The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020**

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following messages received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:-

(I)

"I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on Tuesday, the 15th September, 2020, adopted the following motion:-

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do elect one Member of Rajya Sabha, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Dr. Keshava Rao from Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the name of the Member so selected by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

I am to request that the concurrence of Rajya Sabha in the said motion, and also the name of the Member of Rajya Sabha appointed to the Joint Committee, may be communicated to this House."

(II)

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th September, 2020."

(III)

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th September, 2020."

Sir, I lay a copy each of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020 and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020, on the Table.

**REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF SCHEDULED
CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कल्याण संबंधी समिति (2020-2021) के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (i) कोयला मंत्रालय से संबंधित 'कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड और इसकी सहायक कंपनियों में अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए आरक्षण नीति का कार्यान्वयन' विषय पर समिति का दूसरा प्रतिवेदन;
- (ii) संचार मंत्रालय (दूरसंचार विभाग) से संबंधित "भारत संचार निगम लिमिटेड के विशेष संदर्भ में सरकारी सेवाओं, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों और स्वायत्त निकायों में निजीकरण, कार्य की आउटसोर्सिंग और संविदात्मक नियोजन के मद्देनज़र अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए आरक्षण सुनिश्चित करने के तरीके और उपाय" विषय पर समिति का तीसरा प्रतिवेदन; और
- (iii) सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय से संबंधित "प्रसार भारती के विशेष संदर्भ में सरकारी सेवाओं, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उपक्रमों और स्वायत्त निकायों में निजीकरण, कार्य की आउटसोर्सिंग और संविदात्मक नियोजन के मद्देनज़र अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए आरक्षण सुनिश्चित करने के तरीके और उपाय" विषय पर समिति का चौथा प्रतिवेदन।

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI
V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, I lay a
statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations/observations
contained in the Two Hundred and Twenty-second Report of the Department-related
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs on 'The Management of Worsening
Traffic Situation in Delhi', pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to inform that letters have been received
from the following Members for grant of Leave of Absence on medical grounds during
the current 252nd Session of the Rajya Sabha:

- (1) Dr. Narendra Jadhav

- (2) Shri Hishey Lachungpa
- (3) Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia
- (4) Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss
- (5) Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta
- (6) Shri V. Lakshmikantha Rao
- (7) Shri Oscar Fernandes
- (8) Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan
- (9) Shri P. Chidambaram
- (10) Dr. Manmohan Singh
- (11) Shri Parimal Nathwani
- (12) Dr. Mahendra Prasad
- (13) Shri K. G. Kenye
- (14) Dr. Banda Prakash

All Members except Dr. Narendra Jadhav, Dr. Banda Prakash and Shri Navaneethakrishnan have sought Leave of Absence for the entire 252nd Session. Dr. Jadhav has sought Leave of Absence from 15th September to 1st October, 2020; Dr. Banda Prakash from 14th September to 26th September, 2020 and Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan from 14th September to 24th September, 2020.

Do they have the permission of the House for remaining absent during the current 252nd Session of the Rajya Sabha?

(No Hon'ble Member dissented)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE RUBBER BOARD

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): Sir, with your permission, I move:—

"That in pursuance of clause (e) of sub-section (3) of Section (4) of the Rubber Act, 1947 (24 of 1947) read with sub-rule (1) of Rule 4 of the Rubber Rules, 1955, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to be a member of the Rubber Board."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Impact of COVID-19 on civil aviation sector**

321. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact of COVID-19 on the civil aviation sector particularly, Ail India;
- (b) to what extent Vande Bharat helps Air India to earn some money;
- (c) the details of percentage of domestic air travel shrunk during COVID-19 and to what extent it could go up since lifting of lockdown;
- (d) whether there is any proposal before the Ministry for some package to aviation sector;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) by when, international travel is going to be permitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Based on the information received from the stakeholders, the impact of COVID-19 on the civil aviation sector are as under:—

1. There have been regulatory restrictions on flight operations in domestic and international sectors leading to severe curtailment in operations and sub-optimal aircraft utilisation.
2. The domestic traffic has reduced from 5,85,30,038 during March-July 2019 to 1,20,84,952 during March-July 2020.
3. The international traffic has reduced from 93,45,469 during March-July in 2019 to 11,55,590 during March-July 2020.
4. The revenue of Indian carriers has reduced from INR 25,517 crore during April-June 2019 to INR 3,651 crore during April-June 2020.
5. The revenue of airport operators has reduced from INR 5,745 crore during April-June 2019 to INR 894 crore during April-June 2020.
6. In respect of Air India, the total revenue has reduced from INR 7,066 crore during April-June 2019 to INR 1,531 crore during April-June 2020.

7. The employment at airlines has reduced from 74,887 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 69,589 as on 31 Jul 2020.
8. The employment at airports has reduced from 67,760 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 64,514 as on 31 Jul 2020.
9. The employment at ground handling agencies has reduced from 37,720 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 29,254 as on 31 Jul 2020.
10. The employment at cargo operators has reduced from 9,555 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 8,538 as on 31 Jul 2020.

(b) The revenue earned by Air India and Air India Express from " Vande Bharat Mission" (VBM) flights upto 31 August 2020 are ₹ 2,021 crores and ₹ 415 crores respectively.

(c) The trend in domestic traffic is as follows:—

1. The domestic traffic has reduced from 5,85,30,038 during March-July 2019 to 1,20,84,952 during March-July 2020.
2. Domestic commercial flights were started from 25 May 2020 in a calibrated manner with flights limited to 33% of the approved summer schedule of the year 2020. This was gradually increased to 45% on 26 June 2020 and then to 60% on 02 September 2020.
3. During the period 25 March 2020 to 31 August 2020, over 70,4 lakh passengers have flown in over 77,547 scheduled domestic flights.
4. The number of departing flights per day have increased from 428 on 25 May 2020 to 1,233 on 6 September 2020.
5. The number of departing passengers have increased from 30,550 on 25 May 2020 to 1,41,992 on 6 September 2020.

(d) and (e) All efforts have been made to reduce the impact of the pandemic on the aviation sector. Some of the measures taken to support the aviation sector include *inter-alia*:

1. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, domestic air services have been restarted in a calibrated manner. Initially only one third (33%) of the summer schedule 2020 was allowed to be operated which was subsequently increased to 45% on 26 Jun 2020 and then to 60% on 02 Sep 2020.

2. Operation of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) flights were allowed without the above-mentioned restrictions.
3. Exclusive air-links or Air Bubbles have been established with countries which include Afghanistan, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Qatar, Maldives, UAE, UK and USA. These are temporary arrangements aimed at restarting international passenger services while regular international flights remain suspended due to COVID-19.
4. Promoted private investments in existing and new Airports through the PPP route.
5. Regularly engaged with foreign aircraft lessors and financiers to ensure that there were no premature withdrawals of leased aircraft from Indian carriers.
6. Adequate care taken to ensure that cargo terminals at all major airports were operational, whenever required.
7. Under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission, GST on Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) has been reduced to 5% and contracting of work to Indian MROs incentivized with zero-rated GST from 01 Apr 2020.
8. Encouraging Indian carriers to increase their share in international air cargo traffic.
9. Route rationalisation in the Indian airspace in coordination with India Air Force for efficient airspace management, shorter routes and reduced fuel burn.

(f) For international travel, exclusive air links or "Air Bubbles" have been established with Afghanistan, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Qatar, Maldives United Arab Emirates (UAE), United Kingdom (UK) and The United States of America (USA). These are temporary arrangements aimed at restarting passenger services while regular flights remain suspended.

Vande Bharat Mission

322. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Vande Bharat Mission undertaken by Air India;

- (b) the number of Indians Air India has been able to bring back under Vande Bharat Mission and lift foreigners from India to their respective countries;
- (c) the revenue that Air India has generated through this Mission;
- (d) whether it is a fact that social distancing has not been followed in Vande Bharat flights; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian and foreign carriers. As on 31.08.2020, the total number of inbound and outbound special repatriation flights undertaken by the Air India group was 4505. Out of a total of about 11 lakh Indian nationals repatriated till 31.08.2020, about 4 lakh passengers were carried by Air India group into India. In addition, Air India group also carried about 1.9 lakh outbound passengers (including foreigners) to foreign destinations from India.

(c) The revenue generated by Air India group from Vande Bharat flights upto 31.08.2020 is ₹ 2556.60 crore.

(d) and (e) Air India/Air India Express have followed all guidelines issued by Government of India in all passenger service processes like Aarogya Setu check, body temperature scanning, social distancing in check-in, boarding, de-boarding, baggage delivery etc. Air India/Air India Express have also provided mask, visor and sanitizer to all its passengers and PPE kit to middle seat passengers.

Air India plane crash at Kozhikode, Kerala

323. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of passengers and crew died and injured in the aircraft crash involving Air India recently at Kozhikode;
- (b) whether the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder were recovered from the crash site, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any enquiry has been ordered, if so, the details thereof;

- (d) by what time, the enquiry report is expected; and
- (e) whether any lesson learnt from the 2010 Mangalore crash, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) M/s Air India Express Ltd aircraft B-737 VT-AXH was involved in an accident on 07.08.2020 at Kozhikode airport. Out of the total of 190 persons on board the aircraft, 21 persons (including the 2 pilots) succumbed to the injuries sustained in the accident. As on 14.09.2020, there are five (5) persons who are still receiving medical attention at hospitals.

(b) The Flight Data Recorder (FDR) and Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) have been recovered from the crash site.

(c) and (d) The Director General, Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) under Rule 11 of the Aircraft (Investigation of Accidents and Incidents) Rules, 2017 has appointed an Investigator-in-Charge assisted by other Investigators to inquire into the circumstances of the Air India Express crash at Kozhikode Airport on 7th August, 2020 by order dated 13.08.2020 and submit the report to AAIB preferably within five months from the date of order. The Investigator-in-Charge will determine the probable cause and contributory factors leading to this accident.

(e) The salient steps taken by DGCA based on the outcome of the investigation of 2010 Mangalore crash include:—

- (i) Mandatory provision of RESA of dimension 240 meters by 90 meters and its periodic maintenance.
- (ii) Emphasis on regular maintenance of the runway strip to prevent the soil erosion.
- (iii) Mandatory friction testing at regular intervals.
- (iv) Deployment of RIV (rapid intervention vehicle) at airports situated in difficult terrain.
- (v) Provision for Window of Circadian low while calculating the Flight duty period has been introduced.
- (vi) In order to manage flight crew fatigue, provision for the controlled rest in seat during the flight with a flight duration of more than three hours has been introduced.

- (vii) Instructions have been issued for the Pilot Monitoring to identify the subtle incapacitation of the Pilot flying and procedure for taking over of the flight controls.
- (viii) For enhancing the operational safety, instructions have been issued for encouraging crew to go-around if for any reason, the approach is unstabilised and same is non-punitive.
- (ix) Instructions have been issued for all the airline operators to establish the tail wind and cross wind limitations based on the aircraft manufacturer guidance taking into consideration the runway surface conditions and weather conditions.

Data on evacuation under Vande Bharat Mission

324. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons who have been evacuated under Vande Bharat Mission; and
- (b) whether Government has any data regarding the number of persons still to be evacuated and till when, the Vande Bharat flight to be continued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian and foreign carriers. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, more than 11 lakh Indians (excluding land border crossings) have returned to India under the Vande Bharat Mission.

The number of persons awaiting repatriation is dynamic and the number of special repatriation flights is planned accordingly. As India enters into Air Bubble arrangements with different countries, the Vande Bharat Mission gets subsumed into this new arrangement.

Funds sought by airline operators

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the losses accrued by the Civil Aviation sector in the country due to the imposition of the lockdown leading to no flight operations and the details thereof;

(b) whether airline operators have sought relief funds from Government and if so, the details of incentives to be provided and if not, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has assessed the possibility of airlines not being able to continue operations due to sustained losses and the impact on the sector and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Based on the information received from the stakeholders, the losses accrued by the major components of the civil aviation sector are as under:—

1. There have been regulatory restrictions on flight operations in domestic and international sectors leading to severe curtailment in operations and sub-optimal aircraft utilisation.
2. The domestic traffic has reduced from 5,85,30,038 during March-July 2019 to 1,20,84,952 during March-July 2020.
3. The international traffic has reduced from 93,45,469 during March-July in 2019 to 11,55,590 during March-July 2020.
4. The revenue of Indian carriers has reduced from INR 25,517 crore during April-June 2019 to INR 3,651 crore during April-June 2020.
5. The revenue of airport operators has reduced from INR 5,745 crore during April-June 2019 to INR 894 crore during April-June 2020.
6. In respect of Air India, the total revenue has reduced from INR 7,066 crore during April-June 2019 to INR 1,531 crore during April-June 2020.
7. The employment at airlines has reduced from 74,887 as on 31 March 2020 to 69,589 as on 31 Jul 2020.
8. The employment at airports has reduced from 67,760 as on 31 March 2020 to 64,514 as on 31 Jul 2020.
9. The employment at ground handling agencies has reduced from 37,720 as on 31 March 2020 to 29,254 as on 31 Jul 2020.
10. The employment at cargo operators has reduced from 9,555 as on 31 March 2020 to 8,538 as on 31 Jul 2020.

(b) and (c) 1. Relief sought by the airline operators to mitigate the hardship faced by them, *inter-alia*, are as under:—

- (i) Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) to be brought under GST.
- (ii) Excise duty on ATF to be reduced from 11% to 0%.
- (iii) ATF price to be set every fortnight instead of on a monthly basis.
- (iv) Government to facilitate an additional unsecured credit of 60 days of consumption of ATF by the oil marketing companies.
- (v) Deferment of tax and other statutory dues for a period of six months.
- (vi) Lending to ground handlers, airlines and MROs by banks and other Financial Institutions to be treated as priority sector lending.
- (vii) Government may facilitate negotiation with lessors in order to persuade them to ease the lease terms.
- (viii) An interest free line of credit to be set up for the aviation sector of at least USD 1.5 billion.
- (ix) Banks and Financial Institutions may be asked to defer repayment of loans to aviation industry by six months and should not be treated as Non Performing Assets (NPA).
- (x) Leave Travel Concession (LTC) for Government and Public Sector Employees to be permitted on private carriers.

2. Some of the measures taken to support the aviation sector are as under:—

- (i) Due to COVID-19 pandemic, domestic air services have been restarted in a calibrated manner. Initially only one third (33%) of the summer schedule 2020 was allowed to be operated which was subsequently increased to 45% on 26 Jun 2020 and then to 60% on 02 Sep 2020.
- (ii) Operation of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) flights were allowed without the above-mentioned restrictions.
- (iii) Exclusive air-links or Air Bubbles have been established with countries which include Afghanistan, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Qatar,

Maldives, UAE, UK and USA. These are temporary arrangements aimed at restarting international passenger services while regular international flights remain suspended due to COVID-19.

- (iv) Promoted private investments in existing and new Airports through the PPP route.
- (v) Regularly engaged with foreign aircraft lessors and financiers to ensure that there were no premature withdrawals of leased aircraft from Indian carriers.
- (vi) Adequate care taken to ensure that cargo terminals at all major airports were operational, whenever required.
- (vii) Under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission, GST on Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) has been reduced to 5% and contracting of work to Indian MROs incentivised with zero-rated GST from 01 Apr 2020.
- (viii) Encouraging Indian carriers to increase their share in international air cargo traffic.
- (ix) Route rationalisation in the Indian airspace in coordination with Indian Air Force for efficient airspace management, shorter routes and reduced fuel burn.

Social distancing norms

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

- (a) the details of social distancing and other safety norms prescribed by Government to airline operators;
- (b) whether airlines have implemented social distancing norms inside aircraft and the details thereof;
- (c) whether complaints have been received that airlines have not followed social distancing norms inside aircraft and the details and penalties imposed thereon; and
- (d) whether Government has capped operations for airlines and the details of losses accrued by the airlines for the same and whether Government has also capped the fares for passengers and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (c) In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued Circular dated 23.03.2020 titled as 'Social distancing measures by airlines and airport operators' and Order dated 31.05.2020 titled as 'Directions for protecting health of persons involved in air travel' for airline operators, airports operators and ground handling agents. DGCA has not received any non-compliance report on the part of airlines, so far.

(d) Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* Order dated 21.05.2020 permitted recommencement of domestic civil flight operations with effect from 25.05.2020 to a limited extent of 1/3rd of their respective approved capacity of Summer Schedule, 2020. Since then, Ministry has been reviewing periodically recommencement of domestic operations, prevailing COVID-19 situation and passenger demand for air travel. Based on the periodical review of operations, Ministry of Civil Aviation have enhanced domestic air operations from 33% to 45% and thereafter to 60% of approved capacity of Summer Schedule, 2020. On account of COVID-19, civil aviation sector including airlines have been affected adversely. Keeping in view the interest of the passengers, financial health of the aviation sector and present crisis of COVID-19, Ministry of Civil Aviation, as a temporary measure, has specified the range of sector-wise air fares for a specified period, presently applicable upto 24th November, 2020.

Induction of Dornier-228 aircrafts under UDAN scheme

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

(a) whether DGCA has issued modification document to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the operation of under UDAN scheme;

(b) if so, the special features of the modified version of Dornier-228 which would make the aircraft worthy of operation;

(c) the number of Dornier-228 which are proposed to be inducted by the Airlines initially; and

(d) whether HAL has built up the capabilities for production of Dornier-228 aircrafts as per the demands and whether the aircraft would be cost-competitive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Directorate General of Civil Aviation

(DGCA) on 3 February 2020 has conveyed its provisional approval for the modifications on the Dornier-228-201 civil aircraft carried out by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) for limiting the weight of the upgraded aircraft upto 5,700 kgs., rendering it certified for air transport operations, including under the Regional Connectivity Scheme- 1 Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik (RCS-UDAN)

(b) Dornier-228-201 is a 19-seater aircraft with short take-off and landing capability and can be operated from short airfields and semi-paved runways. Besides being equipped with fuel efficient engines and 5-bladed composite propellers whose maintenance is cost effective, it is an all-weather aircraft with modern avionics and navigation amenable for multi role operations, viz. passenger and cargo transportation, VIP movement, ambulance services, para-drop and para-troop movements, etc.

(c) 02 Nos. of Dornier-228-201 have been issued the Certificate of Airworthiness by DGCA, while another 07 Nos. are under production by HAL.

(d) HAL envisages production of 10-12 Nos. of Do-228-201 aircraft annually as per their demand estimates. The production rate can be increased by them as per demand requirements in order to harness economies of scale and enhance cost competitiveness.

Registration of drones

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

(a) whether any restriction has been imposed on possession of un-manned civil drones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the registration of drones is compulsory even for those which are used for photography of ceremonial functions; and

(d) whether Government propose to impose any fee for the operation of drones;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) The possession and operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS), commonly known as drones, is regulated by the Aircraft Rules, 1937 and Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 3, Series X, Part 1 issued by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

(c) Under the provisions of CAR Section 3, Series X, Part 1, all RPAS, except nano category (all upweight up to 250 gm), intending to fly up to 50 feet (15 m) above ground level in uncontrolled airspace/enclosed premises for commercial / recreational / R&D purposes, shall require a Unique Identification Number (UIN) from DGCA.

With a view to facilitate the identification of civil drones and drone operators an opportunity for voluntary disclosure of such drones and drones operators has been provided through the online Digital Sky Platform.

(d) Under the provisions of Rule 15A of the Aircraft Rules 1937, the details of fee are as under:—

1. For issue of UIN for RPAS, the fee shall be ₹ 1000 only.
2. For grant and renewal of permit to operate a RPAS:
 - (i) For grant of permit, the fee is ₹ 25,000 only
 - (ii) For renewal of permit, the fee is ₹ 10,000 only

Review of status of domestic operations

329. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has drawn any plan to review the current status of scheduled domestic operations vis-a-vis passenger demands for air travel and bring back to pre COVID-19 level; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Civil Aviation *vide* Order dated 21.05.2020 permitted recommencement of domestic civil- flight operations with effect from 25.05.2020 in a calibrated manner with adoption of public health measures. Initially, the flights operations were allowed upto 33% of approved capacity of Summer Schedule, 2020 of airlines. Since then Ministry has been reviewing recommencement of domestic operations periodically in view of prevailing COVID-19 situation and passenger demand for air travel. Consequently, domestic air operations have been permitted to be enhanced from 33% to 45% from 26th June, 2020 and later on to 60% of approved capacity of Summer Schedule, 2020 with effect from 2nd September, 2020.

COVID-19 test for international passengers

330. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that international passengers who have to take a connecting domestic flights after landing in India will be able to get themselves tested for COVID-19 at the entry airports; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) To facilitate transfer of international passengers, Ministry of Civil Aviation has allowed RT-PCR testing at the entry airport on pilot basis. The salient features of the guidelines include the following:-

- (i) Airport Operator will create Sample Collection cum Waiting Lounge facility for RT-PCR testing.
- (ii) Waiting Lounge should be located away from the Operational area, should follow all sanitization and social distancing related guidelines issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, should have no unauthorized access, should provide necessary amenities to the passengers like Wifi, F&B options, washrooms etc. and should provide cashless options for making payments with regard to testing and various amenities etc.
- (iii) Airport Operator shall provide option to the passengers to either stay at the Waiting Lounge awaiting the test results or to proceed to designated Hotel(s) in order to isolate themselves till the test results are available.
- (iv) Sample collection to be in strict compliance with the protocols established by ICMR and NABL.
- (v) Passengers to do online booking of the RT-PCR test through respective websites or other appropriate online platforms. A well-defined flow to be laid down by airport operators for smooth conduct of testing at airports.
- (vi) Passport of the passenger to be retained by the State authority at the Sample Collection cum Waiting Lounge till the test results are available.

(vii) If the test result is negative, passenger will be permitted to exit the Waiting Lounge and proceed to the Departures to catch the connecting flight. However, if the result is positive, the passenger will be processed in line with applicable ICMR protocols by the State authorities.

(viii) No passenger should be able to make an unauthorized exit.

Privatisation of airports

331. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has drawn an elaborate plan for privatisation of airports; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 8th November, 2018 accorded 'In Principle approval' for leasing of six airports namely, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for Operations, Management and Development under Public Private Partnership (PPP). Airports Authority of India (AAI) has completed the bidding process for all the six airports and with the approval of the Union Cabinet, AAI has issued Letter of Award in respect of Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports on 15.07.2019 and in respect of Jaipur, Thiruvananthapuram and Guwahati airports on 01.09.2020.

Further, AAI Board has recommended six more airports viz. Trichy, Bhubaneswar, Indore, Varanasi, Raipur and Amritsar for Operations, Management and Development through Public Private partnership mode.

Disinvestment of Air India

332. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to postpone disvestment of Air India beyond the current Financial Year 2020-21 due to COVID-19; and

(b) if so, the details and the present status in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The last date for filing the Expression of Interest (EoI) has been postponed to 30.10.2020. The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest for sale of 100% equity share capital of Air India Limited (AIL) including AIL's 100% shareholding in the Air India Express Limited (AIXL) and 50% shareholding in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Limited (AISATS) has been issued on 27.01.2020. Subsequent to issuing of PIM, queries were received from the Interested Bidders. The clarification to the queries raised by the Interested Bidders have been issued. However, in view of prevailing situation arising out of COVID 19, last date for submission of EOIs has been extended to 30.10.2020. Similarly, the date by which intimation to the Qualified Interested Bidders was to be given has been extended to 20.11.2020. Thereafter, the Qualified Interested Bidders would be given time to submit their financial bids.

Expansion of airports in Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether Government has taken note that the air travel has considerably increased in the State of Andhra Pradesh going through the data in the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is taking up the expansion of the airports in the State on priority; if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the airports being expanded along with the funds allocated and released so far; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to speed up the expansion work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The air passenger traffic, both international as well as domestic, in Andhra Pradesh has increased 25% (approx.) from the year 2017-18 to 2019-20.

(c) and (d) Expansion of airports is a continuous process. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken expansion works at Kadapa, Tirupati, Visakhapatnam and

Vijayawada airports in the State of Andhra Pradesh on priority. Details, of the funds allocated and released so far for the above airport projects are given in the Statement (See below).

(e) Considering the traffic growth, AAI regularly monitors and initiates development proposals for augmentation of operational efficiency of airports by upgrading/expanding city side and air side infrastructure.

Statement

Amount ₹ in crore				
Sl. No.	Airport	Work Undertaken	Sanctioned Amount (Administrative Approval & Expenditure Sanction)	Expenditure (Up to 31.08.2020)
1.	Kadapa	Extension & strengthening of Runway, Taxiway and apron alongwith construction of isolation bay and other works	94.44	45.85
2.	Tirupati	Extension & strengthening of Runway including other associated works	177	55.62
3.	Visakhapatnam	Linear expansion of terminal building	54	34.45
4.	Vijayawada	Construction of new terminal building including apron, ATC tower and associated works	611.8	0

Enquiry Committee on Air India Express crash

334. SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the findings of the enquiry conducted on the Air India Express crash at Calicut Airport on 7th August, 2020;

(b) whether the enquiry suggested the extension of the runway and instrument landing system improvement; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to comply with the suggestions put forward by the enquiry committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) The Director General, Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB) under Rule 11 of the Aircraft (Investigation of Accidents and Incidents) Rules, 2017 has appointed an Investigator-in-Charge assisted by other Investigators to inquire into the circumstances of the Air India Express crash at Kozhikode Airport on 7th August, 2020 by order dated 13.08.2020 and to submit the report to AAIB preferably within five months from the date of order. The Investigator-in-Charge will determine the probable cause and contributory factors leading to this accident.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to question (a) above.

Construction of new airports

335. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any plan to construct some new domestic airports across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount earmarked therefor and the steps being taken/proposed to be taken thereon for the early starting of those airports, State-wise details thereof;

(c) the details of the airports which are proposed to be expanded, renovated and upgraded to the international standard across the country along with the present status thereof; and

(d) the detail plan of privatisation of Government assets including Air India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) The Government has granted 'in principle' approval for setting up of domestic Greenfield airports at various locations across the country. The State-wise details and present status of these proposed airport projects alongwith the project cost is given at a Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) Upgradation and development of infrastructure facilities at the airports is a continuous process and is undertaken on the operational requirements for safety of

aircraft operation and demand from airlines, depending upon availability of land and viability, as well as other facilities with reference to intended aircraft operations. AAI has embarked upon a CAPEX plan of ₹ 25000 Crore in next five years for development/upgradation/modernization of various airports in the country to meet the requirement of Air Traffic which includes expansion / modification of existing terminal, new terminals, expansion / strengthening of existing runways, aprons, ANS works like control tower, technical block etc. Details of major projects are given at Statement-II (See below).

(d) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 8th November, 2018 accorded 'In Principle approval' for leasing of six airports namely, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for Operations, Management and Development under PPP. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has completed the bidding process wherein M/s Adani Enterprises Limited (AEL) quoted the highest financial bid for all the six airports.

Accordingly, with the approval of the Union Cabinet, AAI has issued Letter of Award to M/s AEL on 15.07.2019 in respect of Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports and on 01.09.2020 in respect of Jaipur, Thiruvananthapuram and Guwahati airports. The Concession Agreements for Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports have been signed between AAI and M/s AEL on 14.02.2020.

Further, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its Meeting held on 27th October, 2016 had given in-principle approval for Strategic Disinvestment of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) including Pawan Hans Limited (PHL).

In addition, Government has initiated for disinvestment of Air India Limited (AIL). The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest (EOI) for sale of 100% equity share capital of AIL including AIL's 100% shareholding in the Air India Express Limited (AIXL) and 50% shareholding in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Limited (AISATS) has been issued on 27.01.2020. So far, eight corrigenda have been issued in connection with the PIM issued on 27.01.2020. The Expression of Interest in response to PIM by any group or entity will be submitted to the Transaction Advisor. The Government is committed to the disinvestment of Air India.

Statement-I*Domestic Greenfield Airports where 'In principle' approval has been accorded by Government of India*

Sl. No.	Name of the Project/ Date of Receipt of proposal	Name of the Promoters	Cost of Project (₹)	Current Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Sindhudurg Airport, Maharashtra	Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) (State Govt. of Maharashtra)	450 cr in Phase I	'In principle' approval accorded to Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC), a State Govt. of Maharashtra entity for setting up of a Greenfield domestic airport at Sindhudurg in Maharashtra on 29th September, 2008. Trial landing done in September 2018.
2.	Bijapur Airport, Karnataka	State Government of Karnataka	150 cr	'In-principle' approval granted to Government of Karnataka (GoK) for setting up of domestic Greenfield airport at Bijapur on 25th June, 2008. GoK is developing the airport through its own resources.

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Hassan Airport, Karnataka	State Government of Karnataka	592.07 cr	'In-principle' approval conveyed to Govt. of Karnataka for establishment of a Greenfield domestic airport at Hassan on 25th June. 2008. RITES have been commissioned by the State Government for Technical Consultancy services including third party inspection during construction.
4.	Shivamoga Airport, Karnataka	State Government of Karnataka	38.91 cr	'In-principle' approval accorded to Government of Karnataka on 25th June, 2008. Government of Karnataka is developing this airport as a "No Frill" airport on PPP basis.
5.	Datia Airport, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh	M/s Gwalior Agriculture Company Limited	200 cr	'In principle' approval granted to M/s. Gwalior Agriculture Company Limited on 11th December, 2008. After grant of 'In-principle' approval in 2008, there is litigation issues involved regarding land acquisition for the project. The matter is sub-judice.

26

Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

6.	Karaikal in Puducherry	Karaikal Airport Private Limited.	50 cr	'In principle' approval conveyed to M/s Karaikal Airport Pvt. Ltd. for setting up of Greenfield airport at Karaikal region in Puducherry on 24th February 2011. There are legal issues involved regarding land. Matter is sub-judice.
7.	Dagadarthi Mendal, Nellore Dist., Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh Airports Development Corporation Limited	293.11 cr	'In principle' approval accorded for setting up of Domestic Greenfield Airport on 07.10.2016. The State Government had awarded the project to M/s SCL Turbo Consortium Ltd. on 22.09.2017. However, the State Government has cancelled the bid awarded to the selected bidder/ Concession Agreement is to be signed.
8.	Orvakallu in Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh.	Andhra Pradesh Airports Development Corporation Limited	200.49cr	'In principle' approval granted to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for setting up of Orvakallu Domestic Greenfield Airport in Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh on 07.10.2016. The airport terminal was inaugurated in January 2019.

Written Answers to

[16 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

27

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Hollongi, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh	Airports Authority of India	₹ 645 crore recommended by PIB plus ₹ 309.74 crore for land activity to be executed by State Government.	'Site clearance' and 'in principle' approval given for setting up of Domestic Greenfield Airport at Hollongi, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on 18.01.2019. Package-I- Development of operational area work awarded on 07.02.2020.

Statement-II*Details of Major Works*

1. Agartala:

AAI has initiated work for construction of New Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 1.3 MPPA to 3.0 MPPA at a cost of ₹438 crore. PDC Dec. 2020.

2. Chennai:

(a) Modernization of Chennai Airport Phase-II at Chennai Airport to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 23.0 MPPA to 35.0 MPPA at cost of ₹2467 crore. PDC Sept. 2022.

(b) Construction of 2 Nos. Rapid Exit Taxiways (RET) for the Main Runway 07/25 and Straightening of B-Taxiway as parallel Taxi Track suitable for Code-E aircraft at cost of ₹98 crore. PDC March 2021.

(c) Construction of R Taxi track left out portion connecting runway 07/25 & 12/30, N Taxi track (balance portion) connecting runway 07/25 i/c. box culvert at cost of ₹98.36 crore. PDC March 2021.

(d) Construction of Balance Portion of 2 Nos. Rapid Exit Taxiways (RET) for the main runway 07/ 25 merging with B- taxi track (beyond Critical portion of runway) and resurfacing between Taxiway-D and taxiway -M and associated works at cost of ₹66.18 crore. PDC Dec. 2021.

3. Dehradun:

Construction of New Integrated Terminal Building at Dehradun Airport to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 0.4 MPPA to 3.65 MPPA at cost of ₹ 457 crore. PDC - Sept. 2021.

4. Guwahati:

Construction of a New Integrated Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 3.5 MPPA to 12.0 MPPA at cost of ₹ 1232 crore. PDC March 2022.

5. Leh:

Construction of Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 0.25 MPPA to 1.6 MPPA at cost of ₹ 480 crore, PDC - Dec. 2021.

6. Lucknow:

- (a) Construction of New Integrated Passenger Terminal Building at Lucknow Airport to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 5.5 MPPA to 13.6 MPPA at cost of ₹ 1383 crore. PDC - March 2022.
- (b) Construction of additional parking bays at cost of Rs 70.44 crore. PDC March 2021.

7. Patna:

Construction of New Domestic Terminal Building & other allied structures (Ph-I&II) at Patna Airport to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 0.7 MPPA to 8.0 MPPA at cost of ₹ 1217 crore, PDC- Oct 2022.

8. Port Blair:

Construction of New Integrated Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 0.7 MPPA to 4.0 MPPA at cost of ₹708 crore. PDC June 2021.

9. Pune:

Construction of New Integrated Terminal Building at Pune Airport to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 7.0 MPPA to 16.0 MPPA at cost of ₹ 475 crore PDC - March 2022,

10. Tiruchirappalli:

Construction of New Integrated Passenger Terminal Building at Tiruchirappalli Airport to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 1.5 MPPA to 7.5 MPPA at cost of ₹ 951 crore, PDC - March 2022.

11. Mangalore:

- (a) Expansion of NITB (Arrival side) Aerobridges at Mangalore Airport to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 2.75 MPPA to 3.5 MPPA at cost of ₹ 133 crore PDC March 2021.
- (b) Extension of Parallel taxi track -II at a cost of ₹ 121 crore PDC March 2021.

12. Surat:

Extension of Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 0.38 MPPA to 2.5 MPPA at cost of ₹ 353 crore PDC: Dec. 2021.

13. Visakhapatnam:

Linear expansion of terminal building at cost of ₹ 54 crore. PDC March 2021.

14. Goa:

Limited expansion of Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 7.65 MPPA to 9.65 MPPA at cost of ₹ 256 crore, PDC: April 2022.

15. Adampur CE:

Construction of New Civil Enclave with Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 0.03 MPPA to 0.6 MPPA at cost of ₹ 105 crore PDC - March 2021.

16. Bareilly CE:

Construction of New Civil Enclave with Terminal Building for the annual passenger capacity of 0.25 MPPA at cost of ₹ 42 crore, PDC Dec. 2020.

17. Darbhanga CE:

Development of Darbhanga Airport for RCS Operations for the annual passenger capacity of 0.4 MPPA at cost of ₹ 79.00 crore Terminal Building completed in Nov. 2019, Runway Strengthening Work at cost of ₹ 73 crore. PDC - Dec 2020.

18. Kanpur CE:

Construction of New Civil Enclave with Terminal Building for annual passenger capacity of 0.65 MPPA at cost of ₹ 169 crore, PDC: June 2021.

19. Jabalpur:

- (a) Construction of New Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 0.12 MPPA to 1.0 MPPA at cost of ₹ 412 crore PDC Dec. 2021.
- (b) Extension of runway, construction of apron and link taxi track, isolation bay, perimeter road etc. at a cost of ₹ 384 crore PDC Dec. 2021.

20. Kolhapur:

- (a) Construction of New Domestic Terminal Building for the annual passenger capacity of 0.5 MPPA at cost of ₹ 62 crore PDC June 2021.
- (b) Extension of runway, construction of apron, link taxi track, isolation bay, perimeter road, perimeter wall etc. at a cost of ₹160 crore PDC June. 2021.

21. Tuticorin:

Development of Tuticorin Airport extension of Runway with Blast Pad, RESA, Taxiway, Apron, GSE Area, Isolation Bay and miscellaneous Works etc. at a cost of ₹ 186 crore PDC March 2022.

22. Kadapa:

Extension & Strengthening of Existing Runway, Taxiway and Apron along with construction of Isolation Bay, Pavement against Blast Erosion, RESA and Perimeter Road Grading of Strips etc. at Kadapa Airport for the Operation of Code-C Type of Aircraft including electrical works at cost of ₹75 crore. PDC March 2021.

23. Vijayawada:

Construction of New Integrated Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 1.8 MPPA to 5.1 MPPA at cost of ₹ 611 crore, PDC - Sept. 2022.

24. Jammu:

Expansion of Runway at cost of ₹77 crore, PDC March 2021.

25. Tirupati:

Extn. & Strengthening of RWY including other misc. works at cost of ₹177 crore. PDC Dec. 2021.

26. Kolkata:

- (a) Construction of ATC Tower/Technical Block at cost of ₹458 crore. PDC June 2021.
- (b) Airside Capacity Enhancement of NSCBI Airport, Kolkata. SH: Extension of F-Taxi Track from proposed Bay No. C-13 to 19R & from 19R to 19., Construction of 03 nos. RET's, 04 nos. Apron, Shoulders and Box Culvert at different locations of NSCBI Airport, Kolkata (Civil & Electrical Works) at cost of ₹390 crore. PDC Oct. 2022.

27. Bhubaneswar:

- (a) Construction of Parallel Taxi Track & Apron at cost of ₹138 crore. PDC Dec.2020.
- (b) Construction of New Control Tower and tech. block & allied works at cost of ₹ 64 crore. PDC Sept. 2020.
- (c) Construction of Link Building b/w T1 & T2 for Integrated operations using passenger boarding bridge facility & expansion/renovation work of Terminal T2 at cost of ₹ 87.21 crore. PDC March. 2021.

28. Vadodara:

Construction of ATC tower cum terminal block at cost of ₹58 crore. PDC Dec.2021.

29. Indore:

Development of 15 nos. parking bays, parallel taxi track and other associated works at cost of ₹ 63 crore. PDC March 2021.

30. Hyderabad:

Construction of Civil Aviation Research Organization Complex at Begumpet Airport, Hyderabad, Phase-I at cost of ₹ 354 crore. PDC May 2022.

31. Amritsar:

Construction of additional parking bays at cost of ₹ 96 crore, PDC March 2021.

32. Jaipur:

Construction of additional parking bays at cost of ₹ 110 crore. PDC Dec. 2021.

33. Shimla:

Restoration of basic strip at cost of ₹ 124 crore, PDC Dec 2021.

34. Ahmedabad:

Construction of Apron for Domestic & International Phase-I at cost of ₹63.63 crore, PDC Jan. 2021.

Works in Planning Stage

1. Bhubaneswar:

Construction of New Domestic Terminal (T3) Building at Biju Patnaik Airport, Bhubaneswar to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 3 MPPA to 8.8 MPPA at cost of ₹ 935 crore, Award of work Oct 2021, PDC: Oct 2024.

2. Indore:

(a) Construction of New Domestic Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 4.0 MPPA to 9.65 MPPA at cost of ₹ 588 crore, In process (Airport listed in PPP).

(b) Construction of ATC tower & Fire Station at cost of ₹82 crore, Award Of work: Feb 2021, PDC May 2022.

3. Varanasi:

Expansion of existing Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 2.5 MPPA to 6.0 MPPA at cost of ₹ 948 crore, In process (Airport listed in PPP).

4. Imphal:

Construction of New Terminal Building including apron bays at cost of ₹728 crore, Award of work: Nov. 2020, PDC March 2023.

5. Coimbatore:

Construction of New Domestic Departure Terminal Building and Associated works to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 2 MPPA to 4 MPPA at cost of ₹ .146 crore, Award of work: March 2021, PDC: March 2023.

6. Jamnagar:

Extension of Terminal Building Construction of Hangar for AB-321, Aircraft and Allied Works at cost of ₹68 crore, Award of work: March 2021, PDC Sept. 2022.

7. Srinagar:

Construction of New Integrated Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 3.0 MPPA to 5.2 MPPA at cost of ₹ 495 crore, Award of work May - 2021, PDC - May 2025.

8. Agra:

Development of new Civil Enclave for the annual passenger capacity for 2.0 MPPA at a cost of ₹398 crore, Award of work - On hold (Pending clearance of MoEF), Period of completion - 20 Months.

9. Bihta CE:

Development of Joint Use Civil Enclave for AAI & IAF at Bihta, for the .annual passenger capacity of 5.0 MPPA at a cost of ₹ 981 crore, Award of work Oct 2020, PDC: Feb. 2023.

10. Jaipur:

Development of New Integrated Terminal Building at Jaipur Airport to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 3.5 MPPA to 17.0 MPPA at cost of ₹ 1441 crore In process (Airport listed in PPP).

11. Tuticorin:

New Domestic Terminal Building and Miscellaneous works to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 0.07 MPPA to 1.2 MPPA at cost of ₹ 195 crore, Award of work: March 2021, PDC: March 2023.

12. Ahmedabad:

Construction of New Domestic Terminal Building to enhance the annual passenger capacity from 10.84 MPPA to 20.84 MPPA at cost of ₹ 1319 crore In process (Airport listed in PPP).

13. Mumbai:

Construction of New ATS Complex at cost of ₹ 465 crore, Award of work: March 2021, PDC Dec.2022.

14. Port Blair:

Extension of Apron at Port Blair Airport at cost of ₹ 110 crore.

Redevelopment of airports under PPP

336. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently decided to redevelop some of the airports in the country via Public Private Partnership (PPP);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the timeline by which the redevelopment process is likely to be completed;

(c) whether Government had assigned the task of redevelopment of airports to some private players in the past few years; and

(d) if so, what is the status of redevelopment of such airports as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (d) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 8th November, 2018 accorded 'In Principle approval' for leasing of six airports namely, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for Operations, Management and Development under PPP. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has completed the bidding process and has issued Letter of Award on 15.07.2019 in respect of Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports and on 01.09.2020 in respect of Jaipur, Thiruvananthapuram and Guwahati airports. The Concession Agreements for Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports have been signed between AAI and Concessionaire on 14.02.2020.

In addition, Airports Authority of India (AAI) Board has recommended six airports viz. Trichy, Bhubaneswar, Indore, Varanasi, Raipur and Amritsar for Operations, Management and Development through PPP mode.

Revival of Air India

337. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many number of entities shown interest in buying Air India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any renewed efforts to revive the debt ridden Air India;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) The Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest for sale of 100% equity share capital of Air India Limited (AIL) including AIL's 100% shareholding in the Air India Express Limited (AIXL) and 50% shareholding in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Limited (AISATS) has been issued on 27.01.2020. Subsequent to issuing of PIM, queries were received from the Interested Bidders. The clarification to the queries raised by the Interested Bidders have been issued. However, in view of prevailing situation arising out of COVED 19, last date for submission of EOIs has been extended to 30.10,2020. The Expression of interest in response to PIM by any group or entity will be submitted to the Transaction Advisor.

(c) to (e) In order to effectively prepare Air India for disinvestment, a meeting was held on 07.09.2018 under the Chairpersonship of the then Finance Minister wherein the plan to bring operational and financial efficiency in Air India was finalised. The Plan focused on the financial and operational efficiencies so that substantial increase in revenue or cost saving can be achieved. Also, as decided in the meeting, operational and financial performance parameters and milestones were fixed by the Government and are regularly reviewed. The Government remains committed to the disinvestment of Air India.

Flights operated under Vande Bharat Mission

338. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of flights that have been operated under Vande Bharat Mission till now to repatriate stranded Indian nationals from various countries;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government has reduced the number of flights subsequent to announcement of unlock period; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian and foreign carriers. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, a total of 5817 flights (inbound into India) were operated to repatriate Indian nationals.

(b) and (c) The number of persons awaiting repatriation is dynamic and the number of special repatriation flights is planned accordingly. As India enters into Air Bubble arrangements with different countries, the Vande Bharat Mission gets subsumed into this new arrangement.

Privatisation of Thiruvananthapuram Airport

339. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the NITI Aayog recommendations for the privatisation of airports was followed while awarding bids for privatising Thiruvananthapuram airport;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 8th November, 2018 accorded 'In Principle approval' for leasing of six airports namely, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for

Operations, Management and Development under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The whole transaction process for PPP of these airports was carried out through Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) under CEO, NITI Aayog and Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) under Department of Economic Affairs.

- (c) Does not arise in view of the above.

Indians stranded abroad

340. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Indian nationals stranded in various foreign countries have been provided special flights for their safe and quick return to India, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of persons utilised this facility and the number of Indians still stranded in various countries and schedule for their return; and

(c) whether isolation also compulsory for these returnees, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian and foreign carriers. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, more than 11 lakh Indians (excluding land border crossings) have returned to India under the Vande Bharat Mission.

The number of persons awaiting repatriation is dynamic and the number of special repatriation flights is planned accordingly. As India enters into Air Bubble arrangements with different countries, the Vande Bharat Mission gets subsumed into this new arrangement.

(c) As per the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW)'s guidelines dated 02.08.2020 for international arrivals, arriving passengers have to undergo mandatory quarantine for 14 days i.e. 7 days' paid institutional quarantine at their own cost, followed by 7 days' isolation at home with self-monitoring of health. Only for compelling reasons/cases of human distress such as pregnancy, death in family, serious illness and parent(s) with children of the age of 10 years or below, home quarantine may be

permitted for 14 days. Travelers may also seek exemption from institutional quarantine by submitting a negative RT-PCR test report on arrival. This test should have been conducted within 96 hours prior to undertaking the journey.

Flights operated during Vande Bharat Mission

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

- (a) the number of flights scheduled during the lockdown as part of the Vande Bharat Mission, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of countries where these flights operated; and
- (c) the number of Indians who were brought back to India during the lockdown under the Vande Bharat Mission, the country-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian and foreign carriers. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, a total of 5817 flights (inbound into India) were operated to repatriate Indian nationals.

(c) As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), till 31.08.2020, more than 11 lakh Indians (excluding land border crossings) have returned to India under the Vande Bharat Mission. Country-wise details of passengers are enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Country-wise number of repatriated Indians till 31.08.2020

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
1.	Afghanistan	902
2.	Algeria	649
3.	Angola	531
4.	Armenia	720

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
5.	Australia	7110
6.	Azerbaijan	186
7.	Bahrain	22769
8.	Bangladesh	5019
9.	Barbados	115
10.	Belarus	225
11.	Belgium	287
12.	Bhutan	85
13.	Brazil	510
14.	Brunei	272
15.	Bulgaria	499
16.	Cambodia	289
17.	Canada	11384
18.	China	513
19.	Denmark	52
20.	Djibouti	233
21.	Egypt	1890
22.	Ethiopia	6101
23.	Fiji	5
24.	Finland	219
25.	France	12385
26.	Georgia	862
27.	Germany	14108
28.	Ghana	302
29.	Greece	163

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
30.	Hong Kong	762
31.	Indonesia	2585
32.	Iran	3113
33.	Iraq	6661
34.	Ireland	485
35.	Israel	438
36.	Italy	2957
37.	Japan	2699
38.	Jordan	400
39.	Kazakhstan	3685
40.	Kenya	1124
41.	Kuwait	84153
42.	Kyrgyzstan	11142
43.	Laos	427
44.	Latvia	5
45.	Lebanon	893
46.	Madagascar	84
47.	Malaysia	11464
48.	Maldives	6747
49.	Malta	102
50.	Mauritius	900
51.	Mexico	228
52.	Moldova	243
53.	Mongolia	17
54.	Myanmar	659

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
55.	Nepal	332
56.	Netherlands	3330
57.	New Zealand	1835
58.	Nigeria	4398
59.	Norway	267
60.	Oman	75367
61.	Pakistan	671
62.	Philippines	7017
63.	Poland	336
64.	Portugal	54
65.	Qatar	95652
66.	Romania	8
67.	Russia	8471
68.	Saudi Arabia	138459
69.	Scotland	35
70.	Seychelles	864
71.	Singapore	20195
72.	South Africa	1161
73.	South Korea	1081
74.	Spain	1117
75.	Sri Lanka	7208
76.	Sudan	125
77.	Sweden	1270
78.	Switzerland	7
79.	Syria	12

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
80.	Taiwan	108
81.	Tajikistan	1374
82.	Tanzania	1640
83.	Thailand	1824
84.	Tunisia	25
85.	Turkey	1102
86.	Turkmenistan	38
87.	United Arab Emirates	394950
88.	United Kingdom	32645
89.	Ukraine	8205
90.	United States of America	66692
91.	Uzbekistan	636
92.	Vietnam	648
93.	Yemen	76
94.	Zimbabwe	5
95.	Others	1299

Aircraft maintenance hub

342. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Ministry to make India, aircraft maintenance hub;
- (b) how the present maintenance in India is different from other hubs in the world;
- (c) how GST is impacting making India aircraft maintenance hub; and
- (d) how Ministry is planning to use unused airstrips for flight training and maintenance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) The Government had announced a set of policy provisions under the National Civil Aviation Policy 2016 for the: creation of a congenial atmosphere for broad-based development of aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) in India. More recently, the GST Council has substantially rationalized the applicable taxes since April 2020, while a roadmap has been developed towards making India a global hub for MRO in pursuance of the Atma Nirbhar Bharat economic packages announced in May 2020.

(b) The regulatory regime for approval of MRO organizations and for carrying out MRO activities are based on standards laid down by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and are thus similar to those of other countries. In order to reduce costs and remove inhibitors to the provision of MRO services from India, the Government has provided support through lower tax rates and other charges, besides ease of doing business, and higher investment and financing opportunities to local and foreign entrepreneurs for the development of engine and component MRO facilities in the country.

(c) The tax regime has now been substantially rationalized, with GST rates on domestic MRO having been reduced from 18% to 5% and zero-rating of MRO services provided by domestic MROs to Indian airlines under contract from foreign MROs, both w.e.f. 1 April 2020. This would attract MRO business to India which would result in savings for airlines in maintenance and also promote India as an aircraft maintenance hub.

(d) Yes, Sir. In the first phase six airports, viz. Lilabari, Khajuraho, Belagavi, Kalaburgi, Jalgaon and Salem, have been approved on 25 August 2020 for flying training. With regard to maintenance, the aforesaid measures would attract MRO business at unused or under-served airstrips also.

Privatisation of airports in Karnataka

343. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of six airports that have been privatised and time that has been taken to privatise them;

(b) whether it is a fact that Ministry has decided to privatise six more airports as a part of Prime Minister's announcement;

(c) if so, the details of airports that are going to be privatised and time within which they are going to be materialised;

(d) whether there is any airport from Kamataka to be privatised in the second phase; and

(e) what is the impact of COVID-19 on privatisation process and on the sector as whole and how Ministry is planning to address the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 8th November, 2018 accorded 'In Principle approval' for leasing of six airports namely, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for Operation, Management and Development under PPP. Airports Authority of India (AAI) invited tenders for all the six airports on 14.12.2018 through international open competitive bidding process. Bids were opened on 25.02.2019 for all the airports except Guwahati for which bids were opened on 26.02.2019.

With the approval of the Union Cabinet, AAI has issued Letter of Award to M/s Adani Enterprises Limited (AEL) on 15.07.2019 in respect of Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports and on 01.09.2020 in respect of Jaipur, Thiruvananthapuram and Guwahati airports. The Concession Agreements for Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports have been signed between AAI and Concessionaire on 14.02.2020.

(b) and (c) AAI Board has recommended six more airports viz. Trichy, Bhubaneswar, Indore, Varanasi, Raipur and Amritsar for Operations, Management and Development through Public Private partnership mode.

(d) No Sir.

(e) After the outbreak of COVID-19, Concessionaire invoked the force majeure event provision of Concession Agreement and sought extension of time in achieving Commercial Operation Date (COD) for Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports. AAI has accorded extension of time for achieving COD by 03 months i.e. from 12.08.2020 to 11.11.2020. As far as leasing of airport through PPP is concerned, the terms of such leases are for a long period i.e. 30 to 60 years and the situations like COVID-19 may not have long term influence on the bidding process or financial quotes by the bidders, considering the long term nature of PPP concessions. However, as a whole, the aviation

sector has been one of the worst affected sectors due to pandemic COVID-19, as airport sector alone has suffered a revenue loss of around INR 4,851.00 crore during April-June, 2020 as compared to corresponding quarter in year 2019.

Some of the measures taken to support the aviation sector include *inter-alia*:-

- (i) Due to Covid-19 pandemic, domestic air services have been recommenced in a calibrated manner. Initially only one third (33%) of the summer schedule 2020 was allowed to be operated which was subsequently increased to 45% on 26.06.2020 and then to 60% on 02.09.2020.
- (ii) Operation of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) flights were edlowed without the above-mentioned restrictions.
- (iii) Exclusive air-links or Air Bubbles have been established with countries which include Afghanistan, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Qatar, Maldives, UAE, UK and USA. These are temporary arrangements aimed at restarting international passenger services while regular international flights remain suspended due to COVID-19.
- (iv) Promoted private investments in existing and new Airports through the PPP route.
- (v) Regularly engaged with foreign aircraft lessors and financiers to ensure that there were no premature withdrawals of leased aircraft from Indian carriers.
- (vi) Adequate care taken to ensure that cargo terminal at no major airport was shut at any point of time.
- (vii) Under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission, GST on Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) has been reduced to 5% an d contracting of work to Indian MROs incentivized with zero-rated GST from 1st April 2020.
- (viii) Route rationalization in the India airspace in coordination with Indian Air Force for efficient airspace management, creation of shorter routes and reduction in fuel burn.
- (ix) Encouraging Indian carriers to increase their share in Air Cargo traffic.

UDAN scheme in Bihar

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

- (a) the number of places in Bihar from where air traffic is proposed to be started under UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagarik) scheme during this year;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there is a long delay in starting proposed flights from Darbhanga of Bihar under this scheme;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when, all hurdles will be removed and by when, flights from Darbhanga will be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (d) Airports Authority of India (AAI), the Implementing Agency, has awarded the following network to Selected Airline Operator (SAO) for starting air services from Darbhanga in Bihar under Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)- Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN):-

1. Mumbai - Darbhanga - Mumbai
2. Delhi - Darbhanga - Delhi
3. Bengaluru - Darbhanga - Bengaluru

The Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) are obligated to commence RCS flight operations on a RCS-route within a period of six months from the issuance of Letter of Award or within two months from the readiness of airport, whichever is later, unless any extension is granted by the Implementing Agency. Darbhanga is an Indian Air Force airport, where the runway was required to be strengthened for proposed RCS operations. AAI has taken up the works for strengthening of the runway and construction of terminal building. The RCS operations from Darbhanga can be commenced once the runway is strengthened. It is planned to commence operations by early November 2020. Operational and procedural requirements as needed would be completed accordingly.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Modernisation of Faizabad airport

345. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government for upgradation and modernisation of Faizabad airport which is very nearer to Ayodhya in Uttar Pradesh for the devotees, visiting Sri Ram Mandir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds earmarked for the upgradation and modernisation of the Faizabad airport; and

(d) by when, the work will start and by when, it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) On the request of State Government of Uttar Pradesh, a multi-disciplinary team of Airports Authority of India (AAI) visited the existing Faizabad (Ayodhya) airport in December, 2019 for pre-feasibility study to develop the airport further for operations of wide bodied aircraft. As per the Techno Economic Feasibility Study report, the airport is suitable for development in two phases i.e. Phase-I and Phase-II with the expected rise in passenger traffic in Ayodhya.

(c) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that they have earmarked ₹ 525.92 crore for acquiring the land so far.

(d) AAI has projected land requirement of 478.1 acres to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for development of the airport in Phase-1. The timeline for start and completion of an airport project depends upon many factors such as land acquisition, availability of mandatory clearances, financial closure, etc.

Loss of jobs in aviation sector

346. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is going to exit from the airline business;

(b) whether Ministry has taken into consideration the employees' complete dissatisfaction;

- (c) whether Ministry has taken steps to prevent mass loss of jobs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) As per the Allocation of Business Rules, The Ministry of Civil Aviation has primarily been entrusted with the subject of carriage of passengers and goods by air, air navigation, regulation of use of Civil Aircraft, Private Air Transport (including Cargo) Industry, development of Airports etc. The Ministry does not directly run any Airline but it provides the regulatory framework under which the Airlines have to function. The Ministry also supervises Air India Ltd., which is fully owned by the Government.

Further, the Government had decided to disinvest Air India and the Government remains committed to the strategic disinvestment of Air India. In this regard, the Preliminary Information Memorandum (PIM) for inviting Expression of Interest for sale of 100% equity share capital of Air India Limited (AIL) including AIL's 100% shareholding in the Air India Express Limited (AIXL) and 50% shareholding in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Limited (AISATS) has been issued on 27.01.2020.

(b) The interest of the employees of Air India will be safeguarded in accordance with the guidelines of Department of Investment and Public Asset Management, Ministry of Finance on strategic disinvestment of CPSEs and same will be reflected in the Share Purchase Agreement to be signed with new owner, post disinvestment.

(c) and (d) All efforts have been made to prevent mass loss of jobs in the aviation sector. Some of the measures taken to support the aviation sector include *inter-alia*:-

- (i) Due to Covid-19 pandemic, domestic air services have been recommenced in a calibrated manner. Initially Only one third (33%) of the summer schedule 2020 was allowed to be operated which was subsequently increased to 45% on 26.06.2020 and then to 60% on 02.09.2020.
- (ii) Operation of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ode Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) flights were allowed without the above-mentioned restrictions, (hi) Exclusive air-links or Air Bubbles have been established with countries which include Afghanistan, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Qatar, Maldives, UAE, UK and USA. These are temporary arrangements aimed at

restarting international passenger services while regular international flights remain suspended due to COVID-19.

- (iv) Promoted private investments in existing and new Airports through the PPP route.
- (v) Regularly engaged with foreign aircraft lessors and financiers to ensure that there were no premature withdrawals of leased aircraft from Indian carriers
- (vi) Adequate care taken to ensure that cargo terminal at no major airport was shut at any point of time.
- (vii) Under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission, GST on Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) has been reduced to 5% and contracting of work to Indian MROs incentivized with zero-rated GST from 1st April 2020.
- (viii) Route rationalization in the Indian airspace in coordination with Indian Air Force for efficient airspace management, creation of shorter routes and reduction in fuel burn.
- (ix) Encouraging Indian carriers to increase their share in Air Cargo traffic.

Development of Keshod airport

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

- (a) whether Government is planning to revive Keshod airport of Gujarat, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether resurfacing of runways carried out at Keshod is complete, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any feasibility study for revival of Keshod airport is carried out to tap potential tourists for Gir and Somnath nearby, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether there's a plan to set up full fledged Air Traffic Control (ATC) at Keshod, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken revival/development of Keshod Airport under Regional Connectivity Scheme.

The development works also include resurfacing of runway with probable date of completion in November, 2020.

(c) No, Sir. No such study has been carried out by the Government of India/AAI.

(d) Provision of Air Traffic Service is subject to operationalization of the airport.

Flights under the Vande Bharat Mission to Tamil Nadu

348. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of flights that have been sent to bring back Indians stranded abroad under the Vande Bharat Mission Phase-wise;

(b) the details of destination of the journeys made, that is name of country and place of arrival or name of State in India under each phase of the Vande Bharat Mission; and

(c) the total number of fights that have been operated under each phase of the Vande Bharath Mission to the State of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Vande Bharat Mission consists of special repatriation flights operated by Indian carriers and chartered flights operated by both Indian and foreign carriers. As per information provided by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), as on 31.08.2020, a total of 5817 flights (inbound to India) were operated to repatriate Indian nationals. The country-wise details of repatriated Indians along with the state-wise arrival figures are enclosed as Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) As per information submitted by the State Government of Tamil Nadu, a total of 585 Vande Bharat Mission flights have been operated to the State of Tamil Nadu till the end of Phase 5. Phase-wise details are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Country-wise number of repatriated Indians till 31.08.2020

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
1.	Afghanistan	902
2.	Algeria	649
3.	Angola	531

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
4.	Armenia	720
5.	Australia	7110
6.	Azerbaijan	186
7.	Bahrain	22769
8.	Bangladesh	5019
9.	Barbados	115
10.	Belarus	225
11.	Belgium	287
12.	Bhutan	85
13.	Brazil	510
14.	Brunei	272
15.	Bulgaria	499
16.	Cambodia	289
17.	Canada	11384
18.	China	513
19.	Denmark	52
20.	Djibouti	233
21.	Egypt	1890
22.	Ethiopia	6101
23.	Fiji	5
24.	Finland	219
25.	France	12385
26.	Georgia	862
27.	Germany	14108
28.	Ghana	302
29.	Greece	163

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
30.	Hong Kong	762
31.	Indonesia	2585
32.	Iran	3113
33.	Iraq	6661
34.	Ireland	485
35.	Israel	438
36.	Italy	2957
37.	Japan	2699
38.	Jordan	400
39.	Kazakhstan	3685
40.	Kenya	1124
41.	Kuwait	84153
42.	Kyrgyzstan	11142
43.	Laos	427
44.	Latvia	5
45.	Lebanon	893
46.	Madagascar	84
47.	Malaysia	11464
48.	Maldives	6747
49.	Malta	102
50.	Mauritius	900
51.	Mexico	228
52.	Moldova	243
53.	Mongolia	17
54.	Myanmar	659
55.	Nepal	332

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
56.	Netherlands	3330
57.	New Zealand	1835
58.	Nigeria	4398
59.	Norway	267
60.	Oman	75367
61.	Pakistan	671
62.	Philippines	7017
63.	Poland	336
64.	Portugal	54
65.	Qatar	95652
66.	Romania	8
67.	Russia	8471
68.	Saudi Arabia	138459
69.	Scotland	35
70.	Seychelles	864
71.	Singapore	20195
72.	South Africa	1161
73.	South Korea	1081
74.	Spain	1117
75.	Sri Lanka	7208
76.	Sudan	125
77.	Sweden	1270
78.	Switzerland	7
79.	Syria	12
80.	Taiwan	108

Sl. No.	Country	No. of Repatriated Indians
81.	Tajikistan	1374
82.	Tanzania	1640
83.	Thailand	1824
84.	Tunisia	25
85.	Turkey	1102
86.	Turkmenistan	38
87.	United Arab Emirates	394950
88.	United Kingdom	32645
89.	Ukraine	8205
90.	United States Of America	66692
91.	Uzbekistan	636
92.	Vietnam	648
93.	Yemen	76
94.	Zimbabwe	5
95.	Others	1299

State-wise number of repatriated Indians till 31.08.2020

Sl. No.	State	No. of Repatriated Indians
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	45
2.	Andhra Pradesh	31061
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	41
4.	Assam	1005
5.	Bihar	32056
6.	Chandigarh	1593
7.	Chhattisgarh	878
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	40
9.	Daman and Diu	132
10.	Delhi	183923

Sl. No.	State	No. of Repatriated Indians
11.	Goa	9096
12.	Gujarat	22818
13.	Haryana	6423
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1570
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	4963
16.	Jharkhand	2249
17.	Karnataka	51564
18.	Kerala	334523
19.	Ladakh	486
20.	Lakshadweep	866
21.	Madhya Pradesh	3238
22.	Maharashtra	80098
23.	Manipur	393
24.	Meghalaya	87
25.	Mizoram	126
26.	Nagaland	81
27.	Odisha	10590
28.	Puducherry	1085
29.	Punjab	29922
30.	Rajasthan	30367
31.	Sikkim	90
32.	Tamil Nadu	96135
33.	Telangana	56678
34.	Tripura	545
35.	Uttar Pradesh	101384
36.	Uttaranchal	2877
37.	West Bengal	11529

Statement-II*Details of flights arrival in Tamil Nadu upto 31.08.2020*

Phase	Flights
Phase - 1	10
Phase - 2	98
Phase - 3	68
Phase - 4	178
Phase - 5	231
TOTAL	585

Extension of Manpur runway, Abu Road (Rajasthan)

349. SHRI NEERAJ DANGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to extend Manpur runway Abu Road (Rajasthan) to operate 24 hours;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether Government has got any layout prepared for the extension of runway;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any action has been taken for the land acquisition for the extension of the runway; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Abu Road Airport belongs to State Government of Rajasthan. Airports Authority of India has no plan to extend runway at the airport to operate 24 hours.

(b) to (f) Do not arise in view of the (a) above.

Development of airports in Odisha

350. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of development undertaken for the airports in Odisha over the last three years; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred towards these developments in year-wise and airport-wise details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has undertaken development works at various airports in Odisha over the last three years such as construction of Terminal Building, Technical block & Control Tower, Fire Station Building, DVOR Building and Allied works at Jharsuguda Airport, Expansion/strengthening of Apron & additional taxiways, Construction of perimeter road in operational area, Construction of ATC Tower, Technical Block, Fire Station and E & M Workshop and other works at Bhubaneswar Airport and re-carpeting of Runway, Taxiway, Apron and construction of perimeter Road at Rourkela Airport. The year-wise and airport-wise details of the expenditure incurred towards development of various airports in Odisha by AAI over the last three years are following:—

Airports	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
			(Amount ₹ in crore)
Jharsuguda	71.08	37.3	7.22
Bhubaneswar	6.52	34.11	29.1
Rourkela	4.00	2.72	13.61

Revenue from airports

351. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is planning to privatise any more airports currently under the administration of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in the next four years;

(b) if any such plans exist, which airports are going to be privatised;

(c) what is the total revenue that Government has accrued from the airports run by private entities; and

(d) what is the total revenue that Government has accrued from the airports run by the AAI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 8th November, 2018 accorded 'In Principle approval' for leasing of six airports namely, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Lucknow, Guwahati, Thiruvananthapuram and Mangaluru for Operations, Management and Development under Public Private Partnership (PPP). Airports Authority of India (AAI) has completed the bidding process for all the six airports and with the approval of the Union Cabinet, AAI has issued Letter of Award in respect of Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mangaluru airports on 15.07.2019 and in respect of Jaipur, Thiruvananthapuram and Guwahati airports on 01.09.2020.

Further, AAI Board has recommended six more airports viz. Trichy, Bhubaneswar, Indore, Varanasi, Raipur and Amritsar for Operations, Management and Development through Public Private partnership mode.

(c) AAI has accrued ₹ 11161.17 crore and ₹ 18271.82 crore from Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) and Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) respectively from the year 2006-2007 to 2019-2020.

(d) The Government has accrued ₹4330.15 crore from the Airports run by the AAI during the year 2019-2020.

Impact of COVID-19 on aviation sector

352. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has conducted any study on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the aviation sector;

(b) what is the total loss of revenue, employment and assets in the commercial and cargo sectors caused by the pandemic; and

(c) what steps the Ministry has taken to reduce the impact of the pandemic on the aviation sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Based on the information received from the stakeholders, the impact of COVID-19 on the civil aviation sector are as under:—

1. There have been regulatory restrictions on flight operations in domestic and international sectors leading to severe curtailment in operations and sub-optimal aircraft utilisation.
2. The domestic traffic has reduced from 5,85,30,038 during March-July 2019 to 1,20,84,952 during March-July 2020.
3. The international traffic has reduced from 93,45,469 during March-July in 2019 to 11,55,590 during March-July 2020.
4. The revenue of Indian carriers has reduced from INR 25,517 crore during April-June 2019 to INR 3,651 crore during April-June 2020.
5. The revenue of airport operators has reduced from INR 5,745 crore during April-June 2019 to INR 894 crore during April-June 2020.
6. In respect of Air India, the total revenue has reduced from INR 7,066 crore during April-June 2019 to INR 1,531 crore during April-June 2020.
7. The employment at airlines has reduced from 74,887 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 69,589 as on 31 Jul. 2020.
8. The employment at airports has reduced from 67,760 as on 31 Mar 2020 to 64,514 as on 31 Jul. 2020.
9. The employment at ground handling agencies has reduced from 37,720 as on 31 Mar. 2020 to 29,254 as on 31 Jul 2020.
10. The employment at cargo operators has reduced from 9,555 as on 31 Mar. 2020 to 8,538 as on 31 Jul 2020.

(c) All efforts have been made to reduce the impact of the pandemic on the aviation sector. Some of the measures taken to support the aviation sector include *inter-alia*:—

1. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, domestic air services have been restarted in a calibrated manner. Initially only one third (33%) of the summer schedule 2020

was allowed to be operated which was subsequently increased to 45% on 26 Jun 2020 and then to 60% on 02 Sep. 2020.

2. Operation of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik) flights were allowed without the above-mentioned restrictions.
3. Exclusive air-links or Air Bubbles have been established with countries which include Afghanistan, Bahrain, Canada, France, Germany, Qatar, Maldives, UAE, UK and USA. These are temporary arrangements aimed at restarting international passenger services while regular international flights remain suspended due to COVID-19.
4. Promoted private investments in existing and new Airports through the PPP route.
5. Regularly engaged with foreign aircraft lessors and financiers to ensure that there were no premature withdrawals of leased aircraft from Indian carriers.
6. Adequate care taken to ensure that cargo terminals at all major airports were operational, whenever required.
7. Under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission, GST on Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) has been reduced to 5% and contracting of work to Indian MROs incentivized with zero-rated GST from 01 Apr. 2020.
8. Encouraging Indian carriers to increase their share in air cargo traffic.
9. Route rationalisation in the Indian airspace in coordination with Indian Air Force for efficient airspace management, shorter routes and reduced fuel burn.

Modernisation of airports in North Eastern States

353. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to upgrade and modernise airports situated in North Eastern States of the country, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether any such work has been undertaken, if so, how many airports have been upgraded and modernised during the last three years, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) Upgradation/Modernisation of airports is a continuous process and is undertaken by Airports Authority of India (AAI) from time to time depending on the availability of land, commercial viability, socio-economic considerations, traffic demand/willingness of airlines to operate to/from such airports. During the last three years, AAI has undertaken upgradation/modernisation works at Guwahati, Agartala and Imphal airports. AAI has completed construction of Apron & taxi track at Agartala airport and strengthening & extension of runway including construction of one taxi way at Guwahati Airport in the last three years.

VGF under the UDAN scheme

354. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Bhubaneswar in the State of Odisha is being provided any Viability Gap Funding (VGF) under the UDAN scheme as promised by the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the quantum of funding offered under the same;
- (c) if so, the progress under the same in the Financial Year 2020-21; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (d) The primary objective of Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS)- Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik (UDAN) is to facilitate / stimulate regional air connectivity by making it affordable. Promoting affordability of regional air connectivity is envisioned under RCS by supporting Selected Airline Operators (SAOs) through concession by Central Government, State Governments/UTs and airport operators to reduce the cost of airline operations on regional routes and financial (Viability Gap Funding or VGF) support to meet the gap, if any, between the cost of airline operations and expected revenues on such RCS routes. VGF is a financial support to be provided to the SAOs for operation of RCS flight from Regional Connectivity Fund as per their bid document submitted at the time of bidding. Thus, no city/airport is eligible for VGF as per the provisions of scheme document.

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal for revival of existing unserved / underserved airports / airstrips of the State Governments, Airports Authority of India, Public Sector Undertakings and Civil Enclaves at an estimated cost of ₹ 4500 crore. An airport which is included in the awarded routes of RCS-UDAN and

requires upgradation/development for commencement of RCS operations is developed under "Revival of unserved and underserved airports" scheme.

Routes connecting Jeypore, Utkela, Rourkela and Jharsuguda airports in Odisha have been awarded under RCS-UDAN. Development/upgradation of these airports have been undertaken under "Revival of unserved and underserved airports" scheme. Further, VGF disbursed to SAOs for operating RCS flights connecting Jharsuguda airport in Odisha is ₹ 49,53,89,202/- as on 31.07.2020.

However, routes connecting Jeypore, Utkela and Jharsuguda airports were cancelled due to the non compliance of Selected Airline Operator (SAO) Agreement by the SAOs. These airports were offered under second and third rounds of bidding under RCS-UDAN. However, no valid bid was received for Jeypore and Utkela Airport. Under UDAN third round, RCS routes connecting Jharsuguda airport to Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Delhi and Raipur airport were awarded.

Strength of IPS officers in Andhra Pradesh

355. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per the latest position, the sanctioned strength of IPS officers in Andhra Pradesh is 150 and there are 30 vacancies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the efforts being made to fill in 30 vacancies in a time-bound manner; and
- (d) how many IPS officers are going to be allotted to AP in this year's UPSC exam to fill the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) As on 01.01.2020, total 115 IPS Officers are in position against the sanctioned strength of 144 in Andhra Pradesh. There is a shortfall of 29 IPS officers in Andhra Pradesh Cadre out of which 9 are in Direct Recruitment quota and 20 in Promotion quota.

(c) and (d) The filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and every year vacancies of Direct Recruitment quota in the Indian Police Service are filled through Civil Services Examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission. The allocation of officers to the state/cadre is determined, *inter-alia*, on the basis of deficit percentage of the state/cadre and demand of the state/cadre.

Registered cases of crimes

356. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

LT.GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.):

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of murder, loot and rape registered during the last two years;
- (b) the names of the five States which top the list with maximum number of such cases registered; and
- (c) whether Government has formulated any scheme to bring down such cases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (c) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes information on crimes in its publication 'Crime in India'. The published reports are available till the year 2018. The State/UT-wise details of cases reported under murder, robbery, dacoity and rape during 2017 and 2018 are given at Statement (*See below*).

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India; and State Governments are responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through their law enforcement agencies. However, in order to facilitate police in States/UTs to effectively deal with the crimes, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has *inter-alia* taken following measures:—

- (i) A common platform for filing reports, collecting and sharing information on crime and criminal at national level, Crime and Criminal Tracking Networks and Systems (CCTNS) has been implemented.
- (ii) An "Inter-operable Criminal Justice System" has been launched to integrate CCTNS with the court and prison databases, as well as with other pillars of the criminal justice system such as Forensics, Prosecution and Juvenile homes.
- (iii) The Criminal Law (Amendment), Act 2013 was enacted for effective deterrence against sexual offences. Further, the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018

was enacted to prescribe even more stringent penal provisions including death penalty for rape of girls below the age of 12 years. The Act also *inter-alia* mandates completion of investigation and trials within 2 months.

- (iv) A pan-India, single internationally recognized number (112) based Emergency Response Support System has been launched to assist persons in distress.
- (v) National cyber crime reporting portal has been launched to enable citizens to report cyber crimes, including contents about child pornography, rapes/gangrapes.
- (vi) Safe City Projects have been sanctioned in first Phase in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow & Mumbai). These projects have been prepared by State Governments, taking into account the need for identification of hot spots for crimes against women for development of critical assets in various areas including infrastructure, technology adoption and capacity building in community through awareness programmes.
- (vii) The 'National Database on Sexual Offenders' (NDSO) has been prepared to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country.
- (viii) An online analytic tool "Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences" has been launched to monitor and track time-bound investigation in sexual assault cases in accordance with Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018.
- (ix) Steps have been taken to strengthen DNA analysis units in Central and State Forensic Science Laboratories. This includes setting up of State-of-the-Art DNA Analysis Unit in Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Chandigarh.
- (x) Guidelines have been notified for collection of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases and the standard composition in a sexual assault evidence collection kit.
- (xi) Training and skills building programs have been organized for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers.
- (xii) Steps have been taken to spread awareness amongst the citizens, sensitization of police officers at various levels, issuance of advisories for compulsory registration of FIRs and penal provisions for non-registration of FIRs etc.

MHA has also been providing funds to the State Governments for modernization of their Police Forces.

Statement

State/UT-wise Cases Reported (CR) under Murder, Robbery, Dacoity and Rape during 2017 and 2018

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017				2018			
		Murder	Robbery	Dacoity	Rape	Murder	Robbery	Dacoity	Rape
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1054	340	58	988	935	252	51	971
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	79	58	6	59	62	63	5	67
3.	Assam	1144	1092	157	1772	1241	1501	156	1648
4.	Bihar	2803	1594	326	605	2934	1731	280	651
5.	Chhattisgarh	919	356	70	1908	917	420	84	2091
6.	Goa	31	27	2	76	29	18	3	61
7.	Gujarat	970	1277	306	477	1072	1483	334	553
8.	Haryana	1046	572	196	1099	1104	502	194	1296
9.	Himachal Pradesh	99	8	3	249	99	9	1	344
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	152	57	2	296	181	83	9	320
11.	Jharkhand	1487	526	179	914	1712	557	152	1090

12.	Karnataka	1384	2152	304	546	1334	2024	246	492	Written Answers to [16 September, 2020]
13.	Kerala	305	807	63	2003	292	867	71	1945	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1908	1581	98	5562	1879	1361	91	5433	
15.	Maharashtra	2103	6451	652	1933	2199	7430	769	2142	
16.	Manipur	63	8	1	40	52	6	0	52	
17.	Meghalaya	87	64	28	119	95	56	27	87	
18.	Mizoram	21	5	0	25	27	5	1	50	
19.	Nagaland	36	30	4	10	31	17	3	10	
20.	Odisha	1267	2048	462	2070	1378	2125	480	918	
21.	Punjab	659	122	27	530	684	131	47	831	
22.	Rajasthan	1473	972	47	3305	1508	1022	75	4335	
23.	Sikkim	13	3	0	17	12	8	0	16	Unstarred Questions
24.	Tamil Nadu	1560	1841	97	283	1569	2295	100	331	
25.	Telangana	805	790	73	552	786	576	52	606	
26.	Tripura	124	17	4	95	137	25	10	97	
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4324	4089	263	4246	4018	3218	144	3946	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
28.	Uttarakhand	181	253	16	374	211	180	10	561
29.	West Bengal	2001	369	68	1084	1933	291	56	1069
	TOTAL STATE(S)	28098	27509	3512	31237	28431	28256	3451	32013
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9	8	0	13	11	2	4	30
31.	Chandigarh	25	54	10	65	20	58	5	86
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3	4	4	1	7	1	3	7
33.	Daman and Diu	6	1	0	7	5	3	0	3
34.	Delhi	487	3147	36	1229	513	2444	25	1215
35.	Lakshadweep	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
36.	Puducherry	25	18	13	7	29	58	4	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	555	3293	63	1322	586	2566	41	1343
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	28653	30742	3575	32559	29017	30822	3492	33356

Note: Clarifications are pending from West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya & Sikkim for the year 2018.

Source: Crime in India.

Handling of COVID-19 cases in the country

357. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of efforts made by Government including National Disaster Management Authority by bolstering the activities to contain the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country, especially in the worst affected States and Delhi;

(b) whether the surge in the number of cases is due to lack of planning, deficiency in surveillance, non-adoption of latest technology, inefficient monitoring and ineffective coordination among various agencies;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the series of steps taken to minimise the growth of COVID-19 cases in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (d) Central Government has been keeping a close watch on the situation since the first case of COVID-19 was reported in China. Soon after the outbreak of novel coronavirus on 7th January, 2020, several measures like progressive tightening of international travel, issuing advisories for members of the public, setting up quarantine facilities etc. were taken by the Central Government to contain the spread of COVID-19. World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as pandemic on 11th March, 2020. Experts, keeping in view the global experiences of countries which have been successful in containing the spread of COVID-19, unlike some others where many people died, have recommended that effective measures for social distancing should be taken to contain the spread of this pandemic.

In terms of Section 6 (2) (i) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (DM Act, 2005), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), on being satisfied that the country is threatened by the spread of COVID - 19 pandemic, has been directing Union Home Secretary, being the Chairperson of the National Executive Committee (NEC), to take measures and to issue necessary guidelines so as to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the country. Accordingly, NEC as per directions of NDMA has been issuing guidelines about the Lockdown and Unlock phases in the country from time to time. NDMA has

been regularly reviewing and monitoring the evolving situation, so that timely action could be taken as the situation demands. A brief note about various measures taken by the Central Government is given at Statement (*See below*).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Public Health Response to COVID-19 - Status note

Government of India has taken a series of actions to prevent, control and mitigate the impact of COVID-19. India followed a whole of Government and whole of society approach. Hon'ble Prime Minister, a High level Group of Ministers (GoM), Cabinet Secretary, Committee of Secretaries and senior officers in MoHFW continue to monitor public health response to COVID-19 in the country.

The public health actions were taken in a pre-emptive, pro-active, graded manner based on the evolving scenario. A number of travel advisories were issued restricting inflow of international travelers, till such time, commercial flights were suspended on 23rd March, 2020. Till then, a total of 14,154 flights with 15,24,266 passengers have been screened at these airports. Screening was also done at 12 major and 65 minor ports and land border crossings. In the initial part of the pandemic, India evacuated a large number of stranded passengers from then COVID affected countries (China, Italy, Iran, Japan, Malaysia) and again in the un-lockdown phase, a total of 12,43,176 passengers have been brought back (as on 9th September, 2020) and followed up.

Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) is conducting contact tracing through community surveillance. In the earlier part of the pandemic, this was done for travel related cases and subsequently for cases being reported from community as a part of containment strategy. As on 10th September 2020, a total of about 40 lakh persons have been kept under surveillance. There are 1697 laboratories conducting COVID-19 Testing. India is testing is about 1 million samples a day. A total of 5.4 crore samples have been tested so far (as on 10th September 2020).

As on 10th September, 2020, a total of 15,290 COVID treatment facilities with 13,14,171 dedicated isolation bed without Oxygen support have been created. Also, a total of 2,31,269 oxygen supported isolation beds and 62,694 ICU beds (including 32,241

ventilator beds). Guidelines on Clinical management of COVID-19 have been issued and are being updated regularly.

States are being supported in terms of supply of logistics. So far 1.39 crore of PPE Kits, 3.42 crores N-95 masks, 10.84 crore tablets of Hydroxychloroquine and 29,779 ventilators and 1,02,400 oxygen cylinders have been supplied to States/UTs/ Central Government hospitals so far (as on 10th September, 2020).

Various cadres of personnel and volunteers across sectors and departments for COVID related works and maintenance of other essential medical services have been worked out, trained through resources made available on the website of MoHFW, iGOT online platform (<https://igot.gov.in/igot/>).

MoHFW website is being updated daily to provide general public with information on current status of COVID-19 spread in India. Communication material is also being hosted on MoHFW website and through social media. A dedicated call centre / helpline (1075) has been started to guide community at large which are being used by the citizens very effectively and on a regular basis.

More than 30 vaccine candidates have been supported which are in different stages of development, 3 candidates are in advanced stage of Phase I/II/III trials and more than 4 are in advanced pre-clinical development stage. A National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 has been constituted on 7th August, 2020, under NITI Ayog. Thirteen clinical trials of repurposed drugs have been undertaken to build a portfolio of therapeutic options for Covid-19 patients.

Excessive police measures to enforce lockdown

358. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any instance of excessive police measures leading to harassment/injury/death of individuals in enforcing the COVID-19 lockdown across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what action has been taken against such policemen who have harassed or assaulted individuals unnecessarily in the name of lockdown;

(d) whether Government has any plan to ensure that police officials do not harass individuals in the name of implementing lockdown measures; and

(e) if so, the details of the plans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (e) Police and Public order are State subjects as per 7th schedule of constitution of India. Hence, the actions are taken by the respective State Governments. Data pertaining to complaints and cases registered/First Information Report (FIR) regarding harassment/injury/death of individuals in enforcing the COVID-19 lockdown across the country is not maintained centrally.

Funds under SRE scheme

359. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh is identified as Maoist affected district by Government;

(b) if so, whether this district is covered under Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme;

(c) if so, the details of funds allocated, sanctioned, released and spent under the above scheme during the last five years and the current year, year-wise; and

(d) the details of special emphasis being made by Government to bring Maoists and their sympathisers to join the mainstream?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh is covered under Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme and is considered as Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected district.

(c) The funds released to the State of Andhra Pradesh under SRE Scheme during the last 05 years are as under:—

2015-16 - ₹ 12.54 crore

2016-17 - ₹ 13.06 crore

2017-18 - ₹ 21.04 crore

2018-19 - ₹ 11.60 crore

2019-20 - ₹ 37.23 crore

2020-21 - Nil

(d) 'Police' and 'Public order' being State subjects and the State Governments have their own surrender and rehabilitation incentives to bring Left Wing Extremist cadres into the mainstream. In order to supplement the efforts of the State Governments, the Government of India through the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme for Left Wing Extremist (LWE) affected States, reimburses the claims made by the State Governments on the rehabilitation of surrendered LWE cadres subject to a ceiling of ₹ 5 lakh for higher ranked and ₹ 2.5 lakh for middle/ lower ranked LWE cadres. The additional incentives given for surrender with weapons/ ammunition are also reimbursed which range from ₹ 10 to ₹ 35,000 per weapon depending on type of weapon surrendered. In addition, a monthly stipend up to ₹ 6,000 per month per surrenderee is reimbursed for a maximum period of 3 years for training in a trade/ vocation.

Submission of recommendations on Assam Accord

360. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recommendations on Assam Accord has been submitted by the Panel to Government;
- (b) what are the broad recommendations of the Panel;
- (c) how much time Government is likely to take to examine and accept the recommendations; and
- (d) whether any timeline is proposed to be set for implementation of the recommendations, if accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (d) The High Level Committee constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs on Clause 6 of Assam Accord has submitted its report to Government of Assam and its recommendations are under examination of the State Government.

Augmentation of strength of CISF

361. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently sanctioned 2000 posts to the existing strength of 1.8 lakh personnel for CISF to share the increased responsibilities;
- (b) if so, the detailed break-up of sanctioned posts;
- (c) whether CISF has any provision already in place to upgrade the efficiency to become one of the best internationally; and
- (d) if not, whether any such proposal is under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) No post has been sanctioned beyond the existing ceiling strength of 1,80,000 posts authorized for CISF.

(c) and (d) Upgradation in efficiency in Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) including CISF, is an ongoing continuous process. To modernize and improve efficiency of CAPFs, the Government has approved Modernization plans for equipping them with latest technology, modern weaponry and vehicles. Further, CISF is providing training to force personnel through in-service specialized courses in order to upgrade the efficiency of the Force.

Damage due to cyclone

362. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a severe cyclone 'Amphan' and 'Nisarga' has struck several parts of the country;
- (b) if so, impact of cyclone on farmers/fishermen and the details of losses suffered and the names of States that have been severely affected along with the report of damage to property, crops, fishing equipment and the number of people killed, injured and missing, State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government has taken/ proposes to take any concrete steps to provide a permanent solution with the latest technological support and financial support to farmers to combat the wrath of cyclones which affects the States every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Cyclone 'Amphan' affected two States namely Odisha and West Bengal, and Cyclone 'Nisarga' affected two States namely Maharashtra and Gujarat and one UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. As per the assessment of Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) / memoranda received from the affected State Governments, details of reported losses/ damages are given as under:—

State	Human lives lost	Houses/huts damaged (in lakh)	Cattle lost	Cropped area affected (in lakh ha.)	Fishermen's Boats & nets damaged
Odisha-Cyclone 'Amphan'	0	0.49	38	0.11	28 boats
West Bengal - Cyclone 'Amphan'	99	5.52	23927	5.71	8007 boats & 37711 nets
Maharashtra-'cyclone Nisarga'	15	2.48	540	0.33	1362 boats & 596 nets

No damage was reported from other States and UT in this regard.

(c) The National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC), headed by Cabinet Secretary, monitors and coordinates the situation with the affected States and Central Ministries/ Agencies concerned during major disasters. Indian Metrological Department (IMD) issued regular and precise forecasts & warning bulletins to all the affected States.

There are well established institutional mechanisms at the National, State & District levels in the country to develop appropriate preparedness and prompt response mechanisms for effective management of natural disasters. Central Government has established a robust early warning system and has significantly enhanced the accuracy of weather forecasts. Mock exercises and community awareness programmes are being regularly conducted to educate farmers/ people at the time of natural calamities.

The measures taken by the Central and State Governments have significantly improved the disaster management practices, preparedness, prevention and response mechanisms resulting in significant reduction in casualties during natural calamities, including cyclones, in the country. Further, strengthening of the disaster management is a continuing and evolving process of the governance.

Steps to check maoist/ naxal activities

363. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether maoist/ naxal activities of killing innocent people/ paramilitary forces are on the rise in the country;
- (b) how many persons have been killed by maoists/ naxals during each of the last three years, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken to check the activities of maoists/ naxals in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) There has been a steady decline in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) related violence and geographical spread of LWE influence in the country. The number of deaths (civilians and Security Force personnel) in LWE related violence has reduced consistently from 1005 in 2010 to 202 in 2019. In 2020 (till 15.08.2020), deaths have further reduced from 137 to 102 in comparison with the corresponding period of 2019.

(b) Number of deaths (civilians and Security Force personnel) in LWE related violence in last three years, State-wise is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) To combat the LWE menace, the Government of India has formulated National Policy and Action Plan in 2015, which consists of a multi-pronged approach comprising security measures, development initiatives and ensuring rights & entitlements of local communities.

MHA is supporting the State Governments extensively by way of deployment of CAPF Battalions, provision of helicopters and UAVs and sanction of India Reserve Battalions (IRBs)/ Special India Reserve Battalions (SIRBs) etc. Funds are provided under Modernization of Police Force (MPF), Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme and Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS) for modernization and training of State Police.

Apart from flagship infrastructure schemes of the Central Government, several development initiatives have been implemented for construction of roads, installation of mobile towers, skill development, improving network of banks and post offices, health and education facilities. Funds for development are also provided to most LWE affected districts under Special Central Assistance (SCA) scheme.

Resolute implementation of National Policy and Action Plan has resulted in consistent decline in the LWE violence and its geographical spread.

Statement

State-wise deaths (civilians and security force personnel) in LWE related violence in last three years

State	2017	2018	2019	2020 (Till 15.08.20)
Andhra Pradesh	7	3	5	2
Bihar	22	15	17	2
Chhattisgarh	130	153	77	63
Jharkhand	56	43	54	22
Madhya Pradesh	1	0	2	1
Maharashtra	16	12	34	7
Odisha	29	12	11	5
Telangana	2	2	2	0
Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0	0
West Bengal	0	0	0	0
Others	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	263	240	202	102

Proposal to include scheduled languages as official language

364. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to amend Official Languages Act to include Scheduled languages other than Hindi and English as its official languages, as suggested by the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, how the people in the South and the Northeast, especially villagers could understand the communications, rules and regulations published by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) No Sir.

(c) There is provision of three language formulae (Hindi, English and Regional Language) as per point no. 3 of Official Language Resolution, 1968 which have been

prepared in consultation with the State Governments. The order of usage of languages in the name-boards/notice-boards to be displayed for the information of the public by Central Government Offices which are located in non-Hindi speaking areas is to be in the order of (1) Regional Language, (2) Hindi, (3) English.

Terrorist incidents after revocation of Article 370

365. SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of terrorist incidents in the country after revocation of Article 370 in Kashmir till date; and

(b) the various measures taken by Government to deal with the terrorist menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) After 5th August, 2019, the number of terrorist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir have reduced significantly as under:—

Before 5th August, 2019 from 29.06.2018 to 04.08.2019 (402 days)	After 5th August, 2019 from 05.08.2019 to 09.09.2020 (402 days)
455	211

No major terror attack took place in the hinterland of the country during the period from 05.08.2019 to 09.09.2020.

(b) The Government has adopted a policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism and has taken various measures, such as strengthening of security apparatus, strict enforcement of law against anti-national elements, intensified cordon and search operations to effectively deal with the challenges posed by the terrorist organisations. Security Forces keep a close watch on persons who attempt to provide support to terrorists and initiate action against them.

Restrictions on movement of people and goods

366. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that in many States/UTs, local level restrictions on movement of people and goods still exist, causing difficulties to manufacturers of goods and also to farmers;

- (b) if so, the details of such local level restrictions in different States/UTs;
- (c) whether the Union Government's guidelines on inter-State and intra-State movement of goods are openly violated by some of the States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (d) In terms of the guidelines dated 29.08.2020 issued by National Executive Committee, the States/ Union Territories shall not impose any local lockdown (State/District/Sub-Division/City level), outside the containment zones without prior consultation with the Central Government. Further, the State/ Union Territories Governments shall not dilute these guidelines issued under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 in any manner and all the District magistrates shall strictly enforce the same. The implementation of these guidelines at the State/UT level is monitored regularly, and any deviation/violation, as and when reported, is brought to the notice of the concerned State/UT, for immediate corrective action.

Visit of inter-ministerial central teams to States

367. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of visits of Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) to various States, State-wise;
- (b) the purpose of the visit of IMCTs;
- (c) whether on the spot assessment has been made and remedial measures have been suggested to the Central Government by IMCTs, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reasons for not sending high level multi-disciplinary teams initially to States for assistance instead of IMCTs; and
- (e) the details of work and measures suggested by multi-disciplinary teams to various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) deputed Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs)/ Central Teams to *inter alia* review the preparedness measures of the State Health

Departments and the implementation of the lockdown guidelines, issued by the National Executive Committee, by the States/UTs. Details of visits of IMCTs deputed by MHA and MoHFW to various States/UTs are given at Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See below*).

(c) On the basis of reports/recommendations submitted by these IMCTs/Central Teams, necessary directions were issued to concerned State Governments to take corrective action.

(d) and (e) The IMCTs/ Central Teams deputed by Central Government comprised of domain experts/ members from concerned Ministries/Departments since initial phase of the pandemic. These teams have supported States in terms of: (i) strengthening surveillance and containment measures, (ii) following testing strategy as advised by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) from time to time, (iii) early identification of cases and admission to health care facilities of all cases who require hospitalized care, (iv) adequate provisioning of oxygen supply, (v) ambulance services referral of cases to higher centres for better care, (vi) compliance with infection prevention and control guidelines issued by MoHFW, (vii) clinical management protocol issued/updated by MoHFW (viii) implementation of lockdown measures as per guidelines issued under the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

Statement-I

Details of IMCT teams deputed by MHA to States

State	IMCT	Duration
Madhya Pradesh	Indore	20 - 27 April, 2020
Rajasthan	Jaipur	20- 25 April, 2020
Maharashtra	Mumbai	20-24 April, 2020
Maharashtra	Thane	25-26 April, 2020.
Maharashtra	Pune	20-25 April, 2020
West Bengal	Kolkata, Howrah, 24 Parganas North, Medinipur East.	20th April-04th May, 2020
West Bengal	Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Kalimpong	20m April-04th May, 2020

State	IMCT	Duration
West Bengal	Kolkata, North 24 Paragana, Howrah, Hoogly	8th June- 12th June, 2020
Gujarat	Surat	24th April-03rd May, 2020
Gujarat	Ahmedabad	24th April-03rd May, 2020
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	24th April- 03rd May, 2020
Telangana	Hyderabad	24th April- 03rd May, 2020

Statement-II*Inter-Ministerial Teams deputed by MoHFW*

Sl. No.	State	Date of Deployment
1.	Assam	31st May 2020 and 4th August 2020
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4th August 2020
3.	Bihar	31st May 2020 and 4th August 2020
4.	Delhi	28th April and 31st May 2020
5.	Gujarat	10th June 2020 and 26th June 2020
6.	Haryana	4th June 2020
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	4th August 2020
8.	Ladakh	4th August 2020
9.	Karnataka	10th June 2020 and 4th August 2020
10.	Maharashtra	6th May 2020 and 27th June 2020
11.	Madhya Pradesh	31st May 2020
12.	Odisha	31st May 2020
13.	Rajasthan	31st May 2020 and 4th August 2020

Sl. No.	State	Date of Deployment
14.	Tamil Nadu	31st May 2020 and 9th July 2020
15.	Telangana	29th June 2020 and 9th August 2020
16.	Uttar Pradesh	31st May 2020
17.	Uttarakhand	31st May 2020 and 4th August 2020
18.	West Bengal	10th June 2020

Atrocities on SCs/STs

368. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the atrocities on SCs/STs are increasing;
- (b) if so, the State-wise and year-wise details of atrocities on SCs/STs during the last five years;
- (c) whether any spurt in the number of atrocities on SCs/STs was witnessed in the last six months; and
- (d) if so, the State-wise details of atrocities on SCs/STs occurred during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (d) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and publishes information on crime in its publication "Crime in India". Published reports are available till the year 2018. As per the published information, State/Union Territory - wise details of cases registered under total Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes during 2014 to 2018 are at given Statement (*See* below). The data does not show any uniform trend.

Statement

State/UT-wise Cases Registered (CR) under Total Crime/Atrocities against Scheduled Castes (SCs) & Scheduled Tribes (STs) during 2014-2018

Sl. No.	State/UT	CR under Total Crime/Atrocities against SCs					CR under Total Crime/Atrocities against STs				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2113	2263	2335	1969	1836	390	362	405	341	330
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0
3.	Assam	2	5	4	10	8	1	0	1	65	6
4.	Bihar	7886	6367	5701	6747	7061	77	5	25	80	64
5.	Chhattisgarh	359	216	243	283	264	475	373	402	399	388
6.	Goa	13	13	11	10	5	6	8	11	2	5
7.	Gujarat	1094	1010	1322	1477	1426	223	248	281	319	311
8.	Haryana	475	510	639	762	961	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	119	94	116	109	130	3	6	2	3	1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir*	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	84
11.	Jharkhand	903	736	525	541	537	402	266	280	237	224	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
12.	Karnataka	1865	1852	1869	1878	1325	397	386	374	401	322	
13.	Kerala	712	696	810	916	887	120	165	182	144	138	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3294	3546	4922	5892	4753	1577	1358	1823	2289	1868	
15.	Maharashtra	1768	1804	1750	1689	1974	443	482	403	464	526	
16.	Manipur	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
20.	Odisha	1657	1823	1796	1969	1778	533	691	681	700	557	
21.	Punjab	123	147	132	118	168	0	0	2	0	0	Unstarred Questions
22.	Rajasthan	6735	5911	5134	4238	4607	1681	1409	1195	984	1095	
23.	Sikkim	3	3	1	5	5	1	IT	0	6	1	
24.	Tamil Nadu	1494	1736	1291	1362	1413	18	25	19	22	15	
25.	Telangana	1427	1293	1529	1466	1507	333	386	375	435	419	
26.	Tripura	1	1	0	1	1	0	3	3	1	0	

27.	Uttar Pradesh	8066	8357	10426	11444	11924	24	6	4	88	145
28.	Uttarakhand	60	80	65	96	58	1	6	3	11	7
29.	West Bengal	130	150	119	138	119	107	84	83	122	101
TOTAL STATE(S)		40300	38613	40743	43122	42748	6815	6270	6556	7114	6524
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	6	2	1
31.	Chandigarh	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli**	0	0	0	0	1	3	3	2	5	3
33.	Daman and Diu**	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi	86	51	54	48	36	2	0	2	4	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
36.	Puducherry	14	3	3	32	7	1	0	1	0	0
TOTAL UT(S)		101	57	58	81	45	12	6	12	11	4
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		40401	38670	40801	43203	42793	6827	6276	6568	7125	6528

* Now UTs of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

** Now UTs of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and UT of Daman and Diu have merged as one UT.

Note: Clarifications are pending from West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya & Sikkim for the year 2018.

Source: Crime in India.

Voting rights to West Pakistan and Bangladesh returnees

369. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of people have taken shelter in India following atrocities on Hindus residing in Pakistan and Bangladesh;

(b) whether Government has provided all facilities to them for their comfortable stay in the country;

(c) whether their names have also been included in the voters lists; and

(d) if so, the number of these people settled in Kashmir and elsewhere?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) A large number of persons belonging to minority communities in Pakistan and Bangladesh, namely, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians have come to India and are staying on Long Term Visa (LTV).

Government has extended various facilities to such persons living in India on LTV. These include grant of LTV for a period of 5 years at a time, allowing children of such LTV holders to take admission in schools, colleges, universities, technical/ professional institutions etc. without any specific permission from the State Government/UT Administration, permitting them to engage in employment in private sector, purchase of dwelling unit & accommodation for carrying out self employment, Re-entry in India (Return Visa) after going to their native country/ third country, allowing free movement within the State/UT of stay, reduction of penalty on non-extension of LTV on time, opening of bank accounts, issuance of Driving License, PAN card and Aadhaar number etc.

(c) Only Indian citizens are eligible to be included in the voter list.

(d) State-wise details of Pakistani and Bangladeshi nationals staying in India on LTV are not centrally maintained.

Comprehensive police reforms

370. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the plan of Government for comprehensive police reforms in the country to meet the emerging challenges keeping in view the technology driven world and increased global connectivity and radical change in nature of crime;

(b) the plan to modernise police stations and to change the manual of police training;

(c) how many police stations in the country lack facilities like phone, wireless and computer system;

(d) how many officials at police station level are connected with any of the social media platforms; and

(e) whether there is any examination conducted to check the computer proficiency of the police station level officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) and (b) Police reforms is an ongoing process. "Police" is a State subject falling in List-II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations to implement police reforms measures to make the police force efficient & capable and its functioning more effective, transparent and accountable. The Centre also issues advisories to the States to bring in the requisite reforms in the Police to meet the expectations of the people.

In order to improve the functioning of the police, the Union Government has set up various Commissions/Committees *i.e.* National Police Commission (1977), Ribeiro Committee (1998), Padmanabhaiah Committee (2000), Malimath Committee on Criminal Justice (2002).

Further, the Government constituted a Review Committee headed by Shri R.S. Mooshahary to review the recommendations of the previous Commissions and Committees on Police Reforms in December 2004, The Committee submitted its report in March 2005. The Committee shortlisted 49 recommendations. The recommendations of the Review Committee have been sent to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for taking appropriate action.

A component of "incentives for police reforms" has been included in the implementation structure of the scheme of "Assistance to States for Modernisation of Police". It has been decided to keep certain amount each year for providing incentive/grants to State Government for implementation of Police Reforms. To incentivize the implementation of police reforms as recommended by various committees, originally a provision of keeping up to 10% of the total annual allocation of the scheme was made.

This incentive component has been increased to 'up to 20%' of the total allocation from the year 2019-20.

The Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) developed a concept paper regarding revised standards of Model Police Station Building in 2016. The revised standards have laid due emphasis on community policing, citizen centric approach, participation of women in policing and latest technology etc. The revised norms are basic guidelines for planning and constructing a new police station building.

Earlier there was a separate scheme of fortified police stations in 10 LWE affected States for construction of 400 police stations. Currently there is special infrastructure scheme for construction of 250 fortified police stations in LWE affected areas in districts of 07 states namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana.

Ministry of Home Affairs has introduced a system for ranking of Police stations in 2018. It is a two stage process where 3 Police Stations from States having more than 750 police stations, 2 each from all other States and Delhi and 1 each from Union Territories are selected from more than 15,000 Police Stations in the country on the basis of rate of conviction in cases of crimes against women, crimes against SCs/STs and property offences. In the second stage, performance measurement is done based on parameters like crime prevention and proactive measures, disposal of cases, maintenance of public order, infrastructure assessment and citizens feedback. Personal visits are made by the surveying team to the selected police stations for this purpose.

The guidelines provide for awarding two sets of awards *i.e.* one for the top 3 best police stations in the country and another for the best police station in each State/ Union Territory. In the last DsGP/IsGP Conference held in December 2019 at Pune, Maharashtra, the best 3 police stations in the country were awarded Shields. Certificates have been provided to the top police stations of the State/UT.

This initiative has worked as a demonstration effect for Police Stations in the country to raise their standard of performance.

(c) As per data on Police Organisations compiled by BPR&D, there are only 3.2% police stations having no telephone and 1.20% police stations having no wireless/mobiles, as on 01.01.2019, excluding States of Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal. The details of number of police stations having telephones and wireless/mobiles as on

01.01.2019, is given at Statement-I (*See* below). The States/UTs wise details relating to number of servers, computers and laptops as on 01.01.2019, is given at Statement-II (*See* below).

(d) No such information is maintained with the Central Government as it is a State subject.

(e) It is responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations to assess the computer proficiency of the police station level officials.

Statement-I

Details of number of police stations having telephones and wireless/mobiles as on 01.01.2019

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total number of actual police station	Police Stations having			
			Telephone	No Telephone	Wireless/ Mobiles	No Wireless/ Mobiles
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,023	NP	NP	NP	NP
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	93	35	58	86	7
3.	Assam	34T	203	140	343	0
4.	Bihar	1,027	1,027	0	1,027	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	446	425	21	446	0
6.	Goa	43	43	0	43	0
7.	Gujarat	710	710	0	710	0
8.	Haryana	361	361	0	361	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	129	128	1	129	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	240	234	6	240	0
11.	Jharkhand	548	548	0	548	0
12.	Karnataka	1,048	1,043	5	1,048	0
13.	Kerala	541	541	01	541	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1,117	1,117	0	1,058	59
15.	Maharashtra	1,163	1,163	0	1,163	0
16.	Manipur	79	20	59	54	25
17.	Meghalaya	73	16	57	58	15
18.	Mizoram	38	12	26	38	0
19.	Nagaland	78	45	33	64	14
20.	Odisha	620	620	0	620	0
21.	Punjab	422	355	67	404	18
22.	Rajasthan	890	890	0	890	0
23.	Sikkim	29	29	0	29	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	2,019	1,969	50	1,964	55
25.	Telangana	815	815	0	815	0
26.	Tripura	81	66	15	75	6
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1,532	1,532	0	1,532	0
28.	Uttarakhand	158	158	0	158	0
29.	West Bengal	601	NP	NP	NP	NP
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	24	24	0	24	0
31.	Chandigarh	17	17	0	17	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2	2	0	2	
33.	Daman and Diu	5	5	0	5	0
34.	Delhi	209	209	0	209	
35.	Lakshadweep	9	9	0	NP	NP
36.	Puducherry	54	53	1	53	1
TOTAL		16,587	14,424	539	14,754	200

NP: Not provided.

Source: BPR&D.

Statement-II

State/UT-wise details relating to number of servers, computers and laptops as on 01.01.2019

Sl. No.	State/UT	Servers		Personal computers		Laptops	
		As on 31.12.2017	Added during the year 2018	As on 31.12.2017	Added during the year 2018	As on 31.12.2017	Added during the year 2018
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12	2	5,707	30	13	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	0	1,009	57	27	5
3.	Assam	1	0	137	0	4	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	1,809	0	152	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	40	12	2,525	186	52	22
6.	Goa	25	0	420	35	1	288
7.	Gujarat	27	63	4,568	6,118	212	0
8.	Haryana	138	0	3,710	0	243	11
9.	Himachal Pradesh	102	1	1,536	239	106	15
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	29	0	2,397	100	92	2
11.	Jharkhand	24	10	2,402	191	454	27
12.	Karataka	195	0	10,462	109	1,994	8
13.	Kerala	16	0	6,770	550	588	1,647
14.	Madhya Pradesh	123	0	10,862	2,224	1,667	4
15.	Maharashtra	86	18	14,894	1,120	805	216
16.	Manipur	31	0	329	6	20	5
17.	Meghalaya	13	1	205	60	31	3
18.	Mizoram	0	2	391	49	0	5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Nagaland	1	0	266	268	1	0
20.	Odisha	121	0	4,495	35	63	0
21.	Punjab	32	0	1,626	445	622	153
22.	Rajasthan	22	6	5,333	1,368	109	80
23.	Sikkim	9	0	250	15	60	9
24.	Tamil Nadu	73	1	8,141	321	306	25
25.	Telangana	27	0	3,557	135	217	60
26.	Tripura	5	1	620	11	24	126
27.	Uttar Pradesh	10	0	9,710	0	462	0
28.	Uttarakhand	NP	0	NP	20	NP	2
29.	West Bengal	146	1	5,886	742	287	113
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	338	21	7	0
31.	Chandigarh	16	0	554	20	62	1
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	72	9	4	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	72	9	4	0
34.	Delhi	85	7	4,288	443	65	3
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	41	1	0	0
36.	Puducherry	81	0	643	0	7	0
TOTAL		1,423	125	116,025	14,937	8,761	2,830

NP: Not provided.

Source: BPR&D.**Islamic terrorists in southern States**

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

- (a) in furtherance of reports of the presence of Islamic terrorists in southern

states of India, what steps have been taken to nab them and what are the details in this regard;

(b) the details of States in which these Islamic State terrorists are most active; and

(c) whether Government has any information on how these people are being funded and whether they are getting any foreign funding to activate their terror activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) Some instances of individuals from different States, including Southern States, having joined Islamic State (IS) have come to the notice of Central and State Security Agencies. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has registered 17 cases related to the presence of IS in Southern States of Telangana, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu and arrested 122 accused persons. Islamic State/ Islamic State of Iraq and Levant/ Islamic State of Iraq and Syria/ Daish/ Islamic State in Khorasan Province (ISKP)/ ISIS Wilayat Khorasan/ Islamic State of Iraq and the Sham-Khorasan (ISIS-K) and all its manifestations have been notified as Terrorist Organization and included in the First Schedule to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 by the Central Government. IS is using various internet based social media platforms to propagate its ideology. Cyber space is being closely watched in this regard by the agencies concerned and action is taken as per law.

(b) Investigations by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) have revealed that the IS is most active in Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Inadequate number of forensic science laboratories

372. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Human Rights Commission and others have raised concerns over the inadequate number of Forensic Science Laboratories in the country that delays evidence gathering, leading to cases pending in courts and undertrial prisoners remaining behind bars;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken to overcome such situation in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (c) Disposal of case depends on several factors such as category of the case (Civil or Criminal), complexity of the facts involved, nature of evidence and co-operation of the stakeholder. 'Police' and 'Public order' are State subjects under the Seventh schedule to the Constitution of India including strengthening of State Forensic Science Laboratories. However, in order to assist strengthening in State Forensic Science Laboratories, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has taken the following initiatives:—

- (i) Projects approved for strengthening DNA analysis, Cyber-forensics and related facilities in 16 States/UT at a total cost of ₹157.98 crore under Nirbhaya Fund.
- (ii) Total of ₹195.97 crore has been approved to the States for strengthening Forensic Science Laboratories in financial years 2019-2021 under the scheme for Modernization of Police Forces.
- (iii) To ensure quality and standardization in forensic examination, the Directorate of Forensic Science Services, MHA, has issued the following guidelines:—
 - Quality Manuals for accreditation of laboratories as per NABL standards (ISO 17025) and Working Procedure Manuals in nine disciplines of Forensic Sciences.
 - Quality Manuals and Working Procedure Manuals for Biology and DNA Division.
 - Guidelines for collection, preservation & transportation of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases for Investigation Officers and medical Officers. More than 15000 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection kits have been distributed to the States/UTs to ensure that evidence is collected and stored in proper manner.
 - Standard list of Equipment for establishing/upgrading of Forensic Sciences Laboratories.

Provision of additional IRB to States

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

(a) the details of Impact Assessment Study on India Reserve Battalions (IRB) commenced by the Ministry;

(b) the existing status of assessment of the same and likely time by which study will be completed;

(c) whether it is a fact that many States are requesting for additional India Reserve Battalions, including Karnataka; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Ministry to grant additional battalions to such States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) Government of India is getting an Impact Assessment Study done on the India Reserve Battalions Scheme through IIM, Rohtak. A presentation on draft report was made and thereafter, the report is under finalization.

(c) and (d) The proposals for additional IR Bn from 5 States including Karnataka have been received. Sanction of new India Reserve Battalion is dependent on the outcome of the Study.

Overcrowding of prisoners in jails

†374. SHRIMATI PHULO DEVI NETAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is overcrowding of prisoners in the jails of the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the number of prisoners who have completed half of their sentence period and can be released on bail or parole, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the number of the prisoners who are still in jails even after the completion of the sentence period, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) the number of undertrial prisoners in jails, the details thereof, State-wise; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (e) the number of prisoners released during lockdown period, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles prison statistics reported to it by States and Union Territories (UTs) and publishes it in its annual report "Prison Statistics India". The latest published report is of the year 2019. State/UT-wise capacity of prisons and number of inmates lodged in the prisons as on 31st December, 2019 are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

- (b) This information is not maintained by NCRB.

(c) State/UT-wise number of convicts in jails, after completion of sentence, due to non-payment of fine amount as on 31st December, 2019 are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) State/UT-wise number of undertrial prisoners as on 31st December, 2019 are given in Statement-III (*See below*).

- (e) This data has not been collected by NCRB.

Statement-I

*State/UT-wise number of prisons, available capacity and inmate population
as on 31st December, 2019*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Available Capacity	Number of Prison Inmates
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8789	7579
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	233	247
3.	Assam	8888	9226
4.	Bihar	42222	39814
5.	Chhattisgarh	12063	18112
6.	Goa	624	518
7.	Gujarat	13762	15089
8.	Haryana	19306	20423

1	2	3	4
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2146	2373
10.	Jammu and Kashmir @	2910	3689
11.	Jharkhand	16795	18654
12.	Karnataka	14315	14515
13.	Kerala	6841	7499
14.	Madhya Pradesh	28718	44603
15.	Maharashtra	24095	36798
16.	Manipur	1272	876
17.	Meghalaya	650	1023
18.	Mizoram	1601	1698
19.	Nagaland	1450	446
20.	Odisha	19291	17563
21.	Punjab	23488	24174
22.	Rajasthan	22952	21599
23.	Sikkim	260	400
24.	Tamil Nadu	23392	14707
25.	Telangana	7785	6717
26.	Tripura	2174	1103
27.	Uttar Pradesh	60340	101297
28.	Uttarakhand	3540	5629
29.	West Bengal #	21772	23092
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	309	244
31.	Chandigarh	1120	984
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli *	70	46
33.	Daman and Diu *	60	62

1	2	3	4
34.	Delhi	10026	17534
35.	Lakshadweep	64	4
36.	Puducherry	416	263
TOTAL		403739	478600

@ Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are now Union Territories. This is consolidated data of both UTs - Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Due to non-receipt of data from West Bengal for the year 2018 & 2019, data furnished for 2017 has been used.

* Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu have since been merged into one UT.

Statement-II

State/UT-wise number of convicts lodged in jails after completion of their sentence due to non-payment of fine amount as on 31st December, 2019

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of convicts lodged in jails after completion of their sentence due to non-payment of fine amount
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
3.	Assam	106
4.	Bihar	8
5.	Chhattisgarh	15
6.	Goa	0
7.	Gujarat	13
8.	Haryana	22
9.	Himachal Pradesh	10
10.	Jammu and Kashmir @	0
11.	Jharkhand	6
12.	Karnataka	21
13.	Kerala	111

1	2	3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	78
15.	Maharashtra	22
16.	Manipur	0
17.	Meghalaya	1
18.	Mizoram	114
19.	Nagaland	0
20.	Odisha	6
21.	Punjab	67
22.	Rajasthan	66
23.	Sikkim	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0
25.	Telangana	2
26.	Tripura	28
27.	Uttar Pradesh	192
28.	Uttarakhand	42
29.	West Bengal #	56
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2
31.	Chandigarh	2
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli *	0
33.	Daman and Diu*	0
34.	Delhi	41
35.	Lakshadweep	0
36.	Puducherry	0
TOTAL		1031

@ Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are now Union Territories. This is consolidated data of both UTs - Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Due to non-receipt of data from West Bengal for the year 2018 & 2019, data furnished for 2017 has been used.

* Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu have since been merged into one UT.

Statement-III*State/UT-wise number of undertrial prisoners in Jails as on 31st December, 2019*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Undertrial prisoners
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4769
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	106
3.	Assam	6130
4.	Bihar	31275
5.	Chhattisgarh	9829
6.	Goa	369
7.	Gujarat	9799
8.	Haryana	13160
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1425
10.	Jammu and Kashmir @	3075
11.	Jharkhand	12759
12.	Karnataka	10500
13.	Kerala	4330
14.	Madhya Pradesh	24157
15.	Maharashtra	27557
16.	Manipur	758
17.	Meghalaya	861
18.	Mizoram	1097
19.	Nagaland	314
20.	Odisha	13803
21.	Punjab	15949
22.	Rajasthan	15378
23.	Sikkim	255

Sl. No.	State/UT	Undertrial prisoners
24.	Tamil Nadu	9244
25.	Telangana	4384
26.	Tripura	568
27.	Uttar Pradesh	73418
28.	Uttarakhand	3373
29.	West Bengal #	16478
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	132
31.	Chandigarh	580
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli *	46
33.	Daman and Diu *	46
34.	Delhi	14382
35.	Lakshadweep	4
36.	Puducherry	177
TOTAL		330487

@ Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are now Union Territories. This is consolidated data of both UTs - Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Due to non-receipt of data from West Bengal for the year 2018 & 2019, data furnished for 2017 has been used.

* Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu have since been merged into one UT.

Performance of VCF-SC

375. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Venture Capital Fund Scheme for Scheduled Castes was launched in 2014-15 to promote entrepreneurship among SCs;

(b) if so, the performance of the scheme during the last four years and beneficiaries, year-wise and district-wise details thereof;

(c) the reasons that the rate of interest is fixed at 8 per cent for women and 7.75 per cent for physically challenged entrepreneurs and higher rate of interest for other SCs;

(d) whether this scheme has been extended to OBCs in 2017; and

(e) if so, how many OBCs have benefited so far, district-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India through Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment in order to promote entrepreneurship among the Scheduled Castes and to provide concessional finance to them has, under Social Sector Initiatives, started "Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes" in FY 2014-15. The fund is operational and applicable throughout the country.

(b) The overall performance of VCF-SC is mentioned as below:—

Particulars till 08th September 2020	Details
Total Sanctions	₹444.14 Crore
No. of Sanctioned Cases	118 Companies
Total Disbursements	₹253.82 Crore
No. of Disbursed Cases	81 Companies

The performance of the scheme in last 4 years are as below:—

FY	No. of Companies Sanctioned Funds	Total Sanctioned Funds in ₹ Cr.	No. of Companies Disbursed Funds	Total Disbursed Funds in ₹ Cr.
2017-18	17	56.73	18	51.55
2018-19	26	92.15	11	34.11
2019-20	20	88.59	17	45.78
2020-21	12	46.84	1	5.89

The details of beneficiaries year wise and district wise are as below:—

Sanction FY	State	Name of the Company	Location
1	2	3	4
2014-15	Gujarat	Vera Net Synthetics Pvt Ltd	Bhavnagar
	Punjab	Janagal Exports Pvt Ltd	Ludhiana

1	2	3	4
2015-16	Andhra Pradesh	Abhyudaya Green Economic Zone Pvt Ltd	Telangana
		Palnadu Solar Power Pvt Ltd	Vijayawada
		Rathnam Pharmaceuticals Pvt Ltd	Tirupati
	Delhi NCR	Chandan and Chandan Industries Pvt Ltd	Ghaziabad
		Krispylicious Foods Pvt Ltd	Ghaziabad
	Gujarat	Rainbow Packaging Pvt Ltd	Ahmedabad
	Haryana	Dona Doni Fashion Pvt Ltd	Bahadurgarh
	Karnataka	Mallur Flora and Hospitality Pvt Ltd	Bangalore
	Maharashtra	20th March Venture Pvt Ltd	Pune
		Harshraj Oil and Foods Industries Pvt Ltd	Aurangabad
		Kuchekar Fitness Management Pvt Ltd	Pune
		TGN Corporate Advisors Pvt Ltd	Nagpur
	Puducherry	Metal Tech Construction Pvt Ltd	Puducherry
	Punjab	MGM Infra Development Solutions Pvt Ltd	Ropar
	Tamil Nadu	AabonSmit Alloys Pvt Ltd	Chennai
		GD Foods & Beverages Pvt Ltd	Ariyalur
		Harshamitra Oncology Pvt Ltd	Trichy
	Telangana	Dartyens Power Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
		MML Medical and Health Services India Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
		Waken India Network Advertising Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
	Uttar Pradesh	BP Sons Pvt Ltd	Lucknow

1	2	3	4
		Duku Innovates Pvt Ltd	Lucknow
2016-17	Assam	Green Belt Industries Pvt Ltd	Guwahati
	Chhattisgarh	Steeledge Pipes and Scaffold Pvt Ltd	Bhilai
	Himachal Pradesh	Hortitech Foods Pvt Ltd	Baddi
	Karnataka	JK Softech Pvt Ltd	Belgaum
	Maharashtra	Bhagyalaxmi Ferro Alloys Pvt Ltd	Nagpur
		Jay Plast Pack Pvt Ltd	Solapur
		NGP Agro Buildcon Pvt Ltd	Nagpur
		Onegreendiary Software Pvt Ltd	Pune
		Shevantabai Distillery and Fabrications Pvt Ltd	Solapur
		Shilpa Dal & food Industries Pvt Ltd	Aurangabad
		Veracity Natural Resources Pvt Ltd	Nagpur
		Yash Cottyarn Pvt Ltd	Akola
	Punjab	Nishant Bioenergy Pvt Ltd	Zirakpur
	Tamil Nadu	Meenakshi Devi Hi-Tech Agro Industry Pvt Ltd	Chennai
	Telangana	Daksha Garments Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
		Omega Roofing Inds. Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
		Srimedha Pharmaceutical Pvt Ltd	Nalgonda District
		SSV Graphics Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
	Uttar Pradesh	PJS Construction Pvt Ltd	Basti
		Ram sab Industries Pvt Ltd	Gaziabad
2017-18	Andhra Pradesh	Dhivalokam Industries Pvt Ltd	Vijayawada

1	2	3	4
		Greenizone Hi-tech & Cold Care Pvt Ltd	Guntur
		Gundlathoti Ready Mix Cement Industry Pvt Ltd	Guntur
		Prapan Inns Hotels Pvt Ltd	Vijaywada
	Bihar	Laxmi Barter Pvt Ltd	Patna
	Gujarat	Heli Electro Solutions Pvt Ltd	Navsari
	Haryana	Antartic Cold Chain Pvt Ltd	Shehzadpur
	Maharashtra	BA Rathod Poultry Pvt Ltd	Latur
		J'yani Fabrics Pvt Ltd	Satara
		Kamani Tubes Ltd	Mumbai
		Prowess Industries Pvt Ltd	Nagpur
		Radhakrushna Micro Milk & Milk Products Pvt Ltd	Solapur
	Puducherry	Nalla Farm House Pvt Ltd	Puducherry
	Telangana	Marigold Bio Extracts Pvt Ltd	Warangal
	Uttar Pradesh	Sunheri Rice Mill Pvt Ltd	Bijnor
	West Bengal	Coeval Crafts Pvt Ltd	Kolkata
		Green Rick Tea Pvt Ltd	Jalpaiguri
2018-19	Andhra Pradesh	Amanecer Multi Speciality Hospital Pvt Ltd	Kurnool
		Aric Healthcare Pvt Ltd	Visakhapatnam
		Myogen Pharma Pvt Ltd	Visakhapatnam
		Swarnakaruna Princeton Rubber Industries Pvt Ltd	Vishakapatnam
	Bihar	Midas Moulders Pvt Ltd	Muzzafarpur
	Gujarat	Vian Power Pvt Ltd	Hiirimatnagar

1	2	3	4
	Karnataka	Mahaloth Melodies Pvt Ltd	Bangalore
	Maharashtra	Chittalax Construction Pvt Ltd	Solapur
		Global Revolution Agroservices Pvt Ltd	Mumbai
		GTech Application Intellegence Pvt Ltd	Mumbai
		Hiranya Packaging Pvt Ltd	Kolhapur
		Lumbini Cotton Industries Pvt Ltd	Nagpur
		Millenium Gateway Infra Pvt Ltd	Aurangabad
		Ranshoor Plastics Pvt Ltd	Aurangabad
		Sankalp Apparels Pvt Ltd	Baramati
		Shri Bediwale Enterprises Pvt Ltd	Nagpur
		Simexperts Solutions Pvt Limited	Aurangabad
		VS Plastics Marathwada Pvt Ltd	Aurangabad
	Punjab	Dhir Food and Dine Pvt Ltd	Patiala
	Telangana	Amida Educational Services Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
		Hensar Enterprises Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
		Jivanta Enterprises India Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
		Smart waves Technologies Pvt Ltd	Hyderabad
	Uttar Pradesh	Awadhesh Dairy Products Pvt Ltd	Basti
		MLP Facilitators Pvt Ltd	Mathura
	Uttarakhand	Pratap Tower Pvt Ltd	Haldwani
2019-20	Andhra Pradesh	CPR Laboratories Pvt Ltd	Visakhapatna m
		Hisus Kristos Modern Rice Industries Pvt. Ltd	Guntur
		Janata Agro Products Private Limited	Guntur

1	2	3	4
		Lactofresh Milk Products Pvt Limited	Nellore
		Missi Multi Colour Offset Printers Private Limited	Vijayawada
		Shalom Industries Pvt Ltd	Guntur
	Chhattisgarh	Sat Guru Healthcare Pvt. Ltd	Raipur
	Delhi NCR	Saudaya Jewellers Pvt Ltd	Karol Bagh
	Maharashtra	Janmagal Packaging Private Limited	Pune
		Khemanand Dudh and Krishi Producer Comp any Limited	Ahmednagar
		Nathsanvidha Agro Processing Pvt Limited	Kolhapur
		NirmikAviations Pvt Ltd	Aurangabad
		Panacea Research Institute of Medical Science Pvt Ltd	Nagpur
		Ripedrip Agroplastic Private Limited	Aurangabad
		Samyak Food & Beverages (I) Pvt Ltd	Amravati
		Subhedar Ramoji Agro Processing Pvt Ltd	Beed
	West Bengal	Samvastraa Solutions Pvt Ltd	Jalpaiguri
		Singimari Tea & Agro Pvt Ltd	Jalpaiguri
		TT Distilleries Pvt Ltd	Alipurduar
	Madhya Pradesh	Shivmangal Mining and Projects Pvt Ltd	Rewa
2020-21	Andhra Pradesh	Agrium Industries Private Limited	Guntur
		Shreshtha Industries Pvt Ltd	Krishna District
	Karnataka	M/s SPD Granites and Polymers Private Limited	Raichur

1	2	3	4
		Manthana Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Tumakuru
	Maharashtra	M/s Marathwada Fabric Hub Pvt. Ltd.	Beed
	Tamil Nadu	AKB Fabrication Pvt. Ltd.	Villupuram
		Hemarubini Coconut Industries Pvt. Ltd.	Ariyalur
		Pandimadevi Hitech Agro Industry Pvt. Ltd.	Tiruchirappalli
		Venkata Beverages Pvt. Ltd.	Kancheepuram
	Telangana	Oberon Impex Private Limited	Hyderabad
	Rajasthan	DHRUM Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.	Alwar

(c) Yes, Sir. As per the scheme guidelines the returns / Coupons/ Interest for Financial Assistance by way of Debt/Convertible Instruments shall be @ 8% p.a. (For women/disabled SC entrepreneurs- 7.75% p.a.). In order to support, promote and encourage entrepreneurship amongst the women / disabled SC entrepreneurs, the coupon rate / rate of interest has been kept less @ 0.25% than the rates offered to other SC entrepreneurs.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Venture Capital Fund for Backward Classes (VCF-BC) was included as a separate scheme under the ongoing scheme of Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes (VCF-SC).

(e) The overall performance of VCF-BC is mentioned as below:—

Particulars till 08th September 2020	Details
Total Sanctions	₹43.19 crore
No. of Sanctioned Cases	15 Companies
Total Disbursements	₹5.15 crore*
No. of Disbursed Cases	2 Companies

Note: * Fund Corpus was below the threshold limit of ₹20 cr. till Sept'19.

The district-wise details are as below:—

State	Location	No. of Companies Sanctioned Financial Assistance
Andhra Pradesh	Kadapa	1
Assam	Guwahati	1
Delhi NCR	Greater Noida	1
Kerala	Kannur	1
	Ernakulam	1
Madhya Pradesh	Indore	1
	Dhar	1
	Indore	1
Maharashtra	Solapur	1
	Nashik	1
	Alwar	1
Rajasthan	Sojat	1
	Jaipur	1
Tamil Nadu	Dindugul	1
Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	1
TOTAL		15

Steps to restore peace in Kashmir

376. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of death of civilians and security personnel post revocation of Article 370; and

(b) the steps taken and proposed to restore peace in Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) The number of civilians killed and security personnel got

martyrdom during the period 05.08.2019 to 10.09.2020 in Jammu and Kashmir are as under:—

Description	Terrorist related incidents	Ceasefire violations
Civilians killed	45	26
Security personnel martyred	49	25

(b) The Government has adopted a policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism and has taken various measures, such as strengthening of security apparatus, strict enforcement of law against anti-national elements, intensified cordon and search operations to effectively deal with the challenges posed by the terrorist organisations. While keeping a close watch on persons who attempt to provide support to terrorists and initiating action against them, other steps by Law enforcing agencies include enhanced interaction between police and public at various levels, sharing of intelligence inputs on real time basis amongst all security forces operating in Jammu and Kashmir, intensified area domination of militancy affected areas by deployment of additional Nakas and patrolling by security forces etc.

In order to bring about overall development for the benefit of people of Jammu and Kashmir, Prime Minister had also announced a package of ₹ 80,068 crores under PMDP-2015. This package consists of 63 major development projects in Road sector, Power generation and transmission, health infrastructure, establishment of 2 AIIMS, IITs, IIMs and tourism related projects etc. These projects are at various stages of implementation. Training and employment opportunities for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir are also provided under many schemes such as HIMAYAT and PMKVY.

In order to mainstream the youth, special emphasis is being given to Watan Ko Jano program, student exchange program, sports as well as civic action program of CAPFs.

Misuse of Sedition Law

377. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether saying/chanting 'Long live all Nations' or 'Zindabad' to other countries amounts to sedition;

- (b) whether it is a fact that there has been increasing instances of misuse of sedition law and is even being used to muzzle voice of dissent;
- (c) the steps taken by Government to stop gross misuse of sedition law;
- (d) whether Government is mulling to scrap sedition law which is a colonial-era law applicable on free citizens of the Republic; and
- (e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (c) Sedition has been defined in Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. The responsibility of maintaining law and order, including investigation, registration and prosecution of crimes, protection of life and property, etc., rests primarily with the respective State Government. However, National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles and Publishes information on crimes in its publication "Crime in India". Published reports are available till the year 2018. No clear trend is evident from the State-wise data received from NCRB on number of cases reported under the offence of Sedition (Section 124A of the IPC) during the period from 2014-2018.

- (d) and (e) Amendment of laws is an ongoing process.

Infiltration by Pakistani militants/ terrorists

378. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and number of infiltration by Pakistani militants/ terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir during the last two years and till date;
- (b) whether it is a fact that cases of infiltration has increased in the year, 2020;
- (c) the number of militants/ terrorists killed and caught during the last two years and till date, month-wise;
- (d) the number of army personnel lost their lives during the said period; and

- (e) the steps taken by Government to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) and (b) The details of infiltration by Pakistani militants in Jammu and Kashmir during the last two years and the current year (upto July, 2020) are as under:-

Year	Number of Estimated Infiltration Attempts	Number of Estimated Net Infiltration
2018	328	143
2019	219	141
2020 (upto July)	47	28

- (c) The number of terrorists killed and arrested during the last two years and the current year (upto 09.09.2020), month-wise, in Jammu and Kashmir in terrorist violence incidents is given at Statement (*See* below).

- (d) The army personnel who lost their lives during last two years and the current year are as under:-

2018	2019	2020 (upto 09.09.2020)
37	21	18

- (e) Government of India has adopted a multi-pronged approach to contain cross border infiltration. This includes multi-tiered deployment along the International Border / Line of Control, border fencing, improved intelligence and operational coordination, equipping Security Forces with advanced weapons and taking proactive action against infiltrators.

Besides, all necessary precautions and preventive steps including Cordon and Search Operations (CASO) are undertaken by the security forces in a proactive manner to flush out terrorists.

Statement

The number of terrorists killed and arrested during the last two years and the current year (upto 09.09.2020), month-wise, in Jammu and Kashmir in terrorist violence incidents

Month	Terrorists killed			Terrorists arrested		
	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
January	8	17	17	2	1	3
February	8	23	8	-	1	2
March	22	22	7	-	2	-
April	20	11	28	2	1	2
May	19	28	15	1	2	-
June	23	24	49	-	3	1
July	12	6	21	1	2	-
August	25	5	18	3		
September	33	7	5	1	-	1
October	30	9	4	1		
November	38	5	5	1		
December	19	-	1	3		
TOTAL	257	157	168	17	20	9

Cases of infiltration from Pakistan and China

379. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the cases of infiltration from Pakistan and China has increased during the last six months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to deal with this problem with China and Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) The number of cases of attempted infiltration along Indo-Pakistan border during the last six months are as under:

Sl. No.	Month	Indo-Pakistan Border
1.	Feb, 20	-
2.	Mar, 20	04
3.	Apr, 20	24
4.	May, 20	8
5.	Jun, 20	-
6.	Jul, 20	11

No infiltration has been reported along Indo-China border during last six months.

(c) The Government has adopted a multi-pronged approach to contain cross border infiltration, which *inter-alia* include multi-tiered deployment along the International border/ Line of Control, improved intelligence and operational coordination, border fencing, deploying technological solutions and taking pro-active action against infiltrators.

Central team to evaluate losses due to floods

380. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sent any Central team to evaluate the losses in the recent monsoon flood affected States *i.e.* Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and other States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether State Governments have demanded any package/ assistance to help the affected people; and

(d) whether any financial assistance have been released in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (d) The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments. The concerned State Governments undertake assessment/ evaluation of losses and provide relief measures according to the magnitude of the ground situation, in the wake of natural calamities, including flood, from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal, in accordance with

Government of India approved items and norms. For calamity of a severe nature, additional financial assistance is provided by Government of India from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per the laid down procedure, which is based on the assessment of an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT).

In the instant cases, Ministry of Home Affairs, even before the receipt of memorandum from State Governments, has constituted separate Inter-Ministerial Central Teams (IMCTs) for 9 flood affected States *viz.* Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Sikkim, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh.

In order to support the affected people of States, the Central Government has released the Central Share of State Disaster Risk Management Fund (SDRMF) amounting to ₹ 11,565.92 crore, in advance, for the year 2020-21, to all the State Governments including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Assam for management of relief necessitated by notified natural disasters including floods in the affected areas.

Loss of life and property due to floods

†381. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to havoc created by flood, various States have suffered large loss of life and property in this year;
- (b) whether due to Corona, the ministry has provided less aids to flood affected people;
- (c) the details of States which received aids for compensating loss due to flood and types of aids provided to them;
- (d) the year-wise amount spent for damage due to flood during last five years; and
- (e) whether any study has been conducted to know the deficiency in water storage due to unauthorized possession of water bodies and whether this is the reason behind widespread flooding every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) Yes Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments. Financial assistance is provided to the affected States from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per the laid down procedure. The State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural disasters including floods, from the SDRF already placed at their disposal. The financial assistance from SDRF/ NDRF is towards relief and is not for compensation of loss as suffered/ claimed.

During the year 2020-21, Central Government has allocated an amount of ₹ 28,983 crore in SDRF (now named as State Disaster Risk Management Fund) as against ₹ 13,465 crore allocated during 2019-20.

(d) Flood management comes under the purview of the States, and works for flood control are formulated and implemented by the concerned State Governments. The role of the Central Government is of a technical, catalytic and promotional nature. However, the Central Government supports the Plan Scheme of Flood Management Programme (FMP), which is implemented by the State Governments. The FMP and "River Management Activities and Works related to Border Areas (RMBA)" under operation during Twelfth Five Year Plan, have now been merged as "Flood Management and Border Areas Programme (FMBAP)" for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20 and further extended upto March, 2021. Under FMP component of FMBAP scheme, Central Government has released ₹ 264.00 crore during 2015-16, ₹ 149.99 crore during 2016-17, ₹ 562.67 crore during 2017-18, ₹ 428.20 crore during 2018-19 and ₹ 546.01 crore during 2019-20 to State Governments.

(e) No such study has been conducted by the Central Government.

Criminal Law Reform Committee

382. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a five-member Criminal Law Reform Committee has been set up by the Ministry of Home Affairs at the National Law University, Delhi to recommend reforms in the criminal laws;

(b) whether it is a fact that it is an all-male member Committee;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are no members from minority Community in the Committee; and

(d) whether this is to be the final composition of the Committee and no women or minority member will be accommodated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (d) A Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Vice Chancellor, National Law University, Delhi to suggest reforms in the Criminal laws. The Ministry of Home Affairs have also sought suggestions from Governors, Chief Ministers of States, Lieutenant Governors (LGs) and Administrators of Union Territories, Hon'ble Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Chief Justices of various High Courts, Bar Council of India, Bar Council of various States and various Universities/Law Institutes on comprehensive amendments in Criminal laws. The suggestions received and the Report of the Committee are subject to examination by the Ministry of Home Affairs in consultation with all stakeholders.

Data security of census

383. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of technical manpower hired to manage data security of the census;
- (b) the safeguards taken to prevent theft of data, leakages and other forms of data loss including smartphone and other physical data infrastructure of the enumerators;
- (c) the steps taken to ensure that data privacy of citizens is maintained at both the data infrastructure/servers and also from collection agents (enumerators) level;
- (d) the total number of publicity campaigns conducted till date; and
- (e) the total number of enumerators empanelled and total number of smartphone enumerators empanelled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (c) Multiple Layered Security approach has been adopted for security and safety of Census data. Data collection is to be done on registered devices of the enumerators appointed by the State/UT Governments. Data is encrypted at the device, during the transmission and at servers/storage. The services of System Integrators have been hired for developing the Mobile Apps, Management of Census portal and related activities.

(d) and (e) The publicity campaigns are part of Census operations. All the enumerators are to be registered on the portal before undertaking enumeration work. However, the first phase of Census operations and other related field activities have been postponed due to outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic.

Emergency response centres

384. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of operational Emergency Response Centres (ERCs) in States/UTs, provide a list of the same;
- (b) the number of ERCs operationalised since March, 2020 till present;
- (c) the total number of awareness campaigns conducted since March, 2020; and
- (d) whether Government has taken any additional measures to ensure the safety of women during the COVID-19 imposed lockdown, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Home Affairs is implementing 112 Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) under the Nirbhaya Fund to provide for a single, internationally recognized number 112 based assistance in emergencies. ERSS has been implemented in 29 States/Union Territories (UTs) and involves identifying a Public Safety Access Point and designating it as the Emergency Response Center for the State/UT concerned. List of States and UTs where ERSS has been operationalized is at Annexure. ERSS services and along with its Emergency Response Centre, has commenced in two States since March 2020.

(c) States and UTs concerned undertake awareness campaigns on ERSS from time-to-time. Details are not maintained centrally. However, the Ministry has been sharing creative designs and content for undertaking awareness campaigns with the States/UTs.

(d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens, including safety of women, is the primary concern of the States/ Union Territories (UTs) in their respective jurisdictions. The States/UTs are also competent to deal with all offences in such matters under the extant provisions of laws. However, Ministry of Home Affairs has issued advisories to States/ UTs.

Statement*States/UTs where ERCs have been made operational*

Sl. No.	State	Sl. No.	State
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16.	Tamil Nadu
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.	Telangana
3.	Chhattisgarh	18.	Tripura
4.	Goa	19.	Uttar Pradesh
5.	Gujarat	20.	Uttarakhand
6.	Himachal Pradesh	21.	West Bengal
7.	Jharkhand	22.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands
8.	Karnataka	23.	Chandigarh
9.	Kerala	24.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
10.	Madhya Pradesh	25.	Jammu and Kashmir
11.	Maharashtra	26.	Lakshadweep
12.	Mizoram	27.	Delhi
13.	Nagaland	28.	Puducherry
14.	Punjab	29.	Ladakh
15.	Rajasthan		

Portal for reporting of cyber crimes

385. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has created a 24x7 portal for reporting of cyber crimes, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the National Cyber Forensic Laboratory is accessible to all States /UTs and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has a State-wise list of all operational State Cyber Forensic Training Labs, and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total number of State Cyber Forensic Training Labs operationalised since March, 2019, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) The Government has launched National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, www.cybercrime.gov.in to enable citizens to report complaints pertaining to all types of cyber-crimes, on 24x7 basis.

(b) Some States have set up their own cyber forensic labs. The National Cyber Forensic Laboratory established by the Central Government is accessible to all States/UTs.

(c) and (d) "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects as per Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India; and States/UTs are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution of crimes and capacity building of their Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs). Ministry of Home Affairs has provided financial assistance to all the States and UTs under Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC) Scheme to support their efforts for setting up of cyber forensic-cum-training laboratories, training, and hiring of junior cyber consultants. Cyber forensic-cum-training laboratories have been commissioned in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Mizoram, Kerala, Karnataka and Odisha.

Shortage of IPS officers in the country

386. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge shortage of IPS officers in the country especially in Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(b) whether there is any legal hurdle involved behind this shortfall, especially for induction of officers of Armed forces and paramilitary forces and state police officers into the IPS;

(c) what actions are being initiated by Government to clear the legal hurdle;

(d) whether it is a fact that some Armed forces officers are facing problem in getting 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC) from Ministry of Defence in this regard; and

(e) what actions are being contemplated by Government to resolve the above issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) No Sir. As on 01.01.2020, the authorized strength of Indian Police Service (IPS) in the country including Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat is 4982 against which 4074 officers are in-position. In Andhra Pradesh Jharkhand and Gujarat, 115, 121 and 169 IPS officers respectively are in-position as on 01.01.2020.

(b) No Sir. There is no such proposal in this Ministry for induction of officers of Armed Forces and Paramilitary Forces into Indian Police Service (IPS). However, the induction of State Police Service Officers into IPS is conducted on the yearly basis under sub-rule (1) of rule 9 of the Indian Police Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, read with sub-regulation (1) of regulation 9 of the Indian Police Service (Appointment by Promotion) Regulations, 1955.

(c) and (d) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.

(e) In order to reduce the shortage of IPS officer, the batch-size of IPS (direct recruit) has been increased from 88 to 103 from Civil Service Examination (CSE), 2005, 130 from CSE, 2008 and 150 from CSE, 2009. Besides the above, the process of appointments to the Indian Police Service by promotion from State Police Service has been accelerated.

Use of drones as weapon

387. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any guidelines in the light of the possibilities of drones being used as a weapon of attack on high security installations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware of the increased sale of Chinese made drones in the Indian market;

(d) whether there is any regulatory agency that observes the usage of drones in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) and (b) In order to counter the threat of drones in the country, necessary guidelines have been issued, which include measures to be taken by the Central and the State Governments, in consultation with the security agencies.

(c) to (e) Ministry of Civil Aviation and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) regulate the operation of drones in the country. On 22-08-2018, DGCA had notified the Civil Aviation Requirements for operation of Civil Remotely Piloted Aircraft System, laying down the norms for the import, sale and operation of drones.

Caste based census

388. SHRI NEERAJ DANGI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Caste based Census has been done by Government;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to make its figures public;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (d) Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC) 2011 was conducted by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) and the then Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA) in rural and urban areas respectively. The SECC 2011 data excluding the caste data have since been finalized and published by MoRD and HUPA. The Office of the Registrar General, India had provided logistic and technical support in conducting the SECC-2011. The raw caste data have been handed over to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for classification and categorization of data.

Arrests made under National Security Act

†389. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that cases of violation of human rights of some of the social workers jailed under National Security Act (NSA) have come to light;
- (b) the State- wise details of arrests made under National Security Act during last five years, the details of charges imposed thereupon;
- (c) the number of persons who are still in jail under said Act, the State-wise details thereof;
- (d) the number of cases withdrawn out of total cases filed under NSA in last five years; and
- (e) the number of accused acquitted under NSA cases filed in last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) to (e) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are 'State' subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) compiles data reported to it by States/Union Territories (UTs) and publishes the same in its annual publication 'Crime in India'. The latest published report is of the year 2018. The details are enclosed for 2017 and 2018 as Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

*Statement**State/UT-wise details under National Security Act during 2017-2018*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017				2018			
		Number of GD Entries Made	Persons Detained	Persons Released by Board	Persons in Custody or in Detention	Number of GD Entries Made	Persons Detained	Persons Released by Board	Persons in Custody or in Detention
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Haryana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<i>Written Answers to [16 September, 2020] Unstarred Questions</i>	125
11.	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
12.	Karnataka	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
13.	Kerala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
14.	Madhya Pradesh	300	300	133	167	492	495	333	162		
15.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
16.	Manipur	6	6	1	5	0	0	0	0		
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
19.	Nagaland	11	23	2	21	15	17	0	17		
20.	Odisha	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
21.	Punjab	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
22.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	0	15	15	14	1		
25.	Telangana	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
26.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
27.	Uttar Pradesh	169	171	93	78	161	167	57	110
28.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29.	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL STATE(S)	487	501	229	272	686	697	406	291
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	487	501	229	272	686	697	406	291

Note: Clarifications are pending from West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Sikkim for the year 2018.

Source: Crime in India.

Funds for anti-maoist operations in the country

390. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred towards anti- Maoist operations in the country, provide State-wise details thereof for the past three years; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred by States towards anti-Maoist operations in the country, if available or informed by the States to the Central Government, provide State-wise details thereof for the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) The counter-LWE operations are conducted by the States. The Gol supplements efforts of States by way of providing support in terms of CAPF Battalions, Helicopters, UAVs, training and building capacity of the State Police Forces.

The funds released to States under Security Related Expenditure (LWE) scheme, Special Infrastructure Scheme and Special Central Assistance in past 03 years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) This data is not maintained by MHA.

Statement

Funds released to States under SRE (LWE) Scheme, Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS) and Special Central Assistance Scheme (SCA) for past 03 years.

Security Related Expenditure (SRE)			(₹ in crore)
State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Andhra Pradesh	21.04	11.60	37.23
Bihar	30.63	14.14	17.70
Chhattisgarh	92.75	54.53	120.81
Jharkhand	93.37	64.54	123.52
Kerala	-	2.94	2.83
Madhya Pradesh	2.90	1.94	1.23
Maharashtra	31.86	13.12	21.11
Odisha	125.82	12.72	12.81

State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Telangana	17.22	6.26	16.12
Uttar Pradesh	7.29	7.15	4.45
West Bengal	22.12	11.07	9.44
TOTAL	445.00	200.00	367.26

Special Infrastructure Scheme (SIS)			(₹ in crore)
State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Andhra Pradesh	3.00	-	9.83
Bihar	8.00	-	12.38
Chhattisgarh	13.00	-	23.63
Jharkhand	14.00	-	24.66
Maharashtra	3.00	-	7.50
Odisha	6.00	-	11.61
Telangana	3.00	-	10.11
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	0.71
Kerala	-	-	0.90
Uttar Pradesh	-	-	1.35
TOTAL	50.00	0.00	102.67

Special Central Assistance (SCA)*			(₹ in crore)
State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Andhra Pradesh	5.00	33.33	20.00
Bihar	30.00	133.33	133.32
Chhattisgarh	40.00	266.67	266.64
Jharkhand	80.00	433.33	433.29
Maharashtra	5.00	33.33	20.00

State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Odisha	10.00	66.67	66.66
Telangana	5.00	33.34	33.33
TOTAL	175.00	1,000.00	973.24

* Funds under SCA are provided to most LWE affected districts to fill critical gaps in infrastructure and services.

Status of FCRA accounts and its funds

391. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) accounts in the country, provide State-wise details thereof;

(b) the details of funds deposited in those FCRA accounts, along with the sources of funds and intended use; and

(c) what action has been initiated by Government where these funds have been found to be misused over the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) There are approximately over 22400 associations/NGOs which are registered under the FCRA, 2010. Each such association/NGO has opened atleast one FCRA account in bank. It can also open one or more utilization accounts in any bank of its choice. State-wise details in this regard are available on the FCRA Portal www.fcraonline.nic.in

(b) An NGO is registered under the FCRA, 2010 or granted Prior Permission by Central Government for receiving and utilising foreign funds/contribution. It can receive and utilize such contribution for a definite cultural, economic, educational, religious or social programme as provided under Section 11 of the Act. Details of foreign contribution received and utilized are available in the Annual Returns of the association/NGO which have been uploaded on the FCRA Portal www.fcraonline.nic.in

(c) When foreign contribution is found to be misused, The FCRA, 2010 provides for cancellation of certificate of the NGO/association under Section 14. Cases of serious

nature where any offence punishable under the Act is *prima-facie* made out, the matter may also be referred to an investigating agency under Section 43 of The FCRA, 2010.

Details of action taken by Central Government where funds have been found to be misused during the last three years are given below:—

Year	Cancellation of FCRA registration for misuse of FC	Case referred to CBI/State Crime Branch for misutilization of FC
2017	02	02
2018	Nil	Nil
2019	Nil	01

Lockdown in light of corona cases

†392. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sudden lockdown was imposed in the country when the number of Corona cases were less and due to this lakhs of people could not reach their destinations;

(b) difference between initial Corona disease and present Corona disease and the reasons for strict lockdown when cases were in hundreds and almost full relaxation in lockdown when lakhs of cases are there;

(c) whether many decisions of Government failed in prevention of Corona disease due to which economy of the country collapsed and citizens died on streets; and

(d) number of people died while walking on roads or due to starvation after lockdown?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) No Sir. Soon after the outbreak of novel corona virus on 7th January, 2020, several measures like progressive tightening of international

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

travel, issuing advisories for members of the public, setting up quarantine facilities etc. were taken by the Central Government to contain the spread of COVID-19. Experts, keeping in view the global experiences of countries which have been successful in containing the spread of COVID-19, unlike some others where many people died, have recommended that effective measures for social distancing should be taken to contain the spread of this pandemic. Between 16-23 March, 2020, most of the States Governments/UTs resorted to partial or full lockdown in their respective State/UT based upon their assessment of the situation. COVID-19 is a highly infectious disease. Any mass movement of people would have spread the disease very fast amongst people in all parts of the country. Taking into consideration the above facts, the global experience and the need for consistency in the approach and implementation of various containment measures across the country, a Nationwide lockdown was announced on 24th March, 2020 to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the country.

(b) The strict lockdown was effective in containing the impact of disease. It helped the country in bringing down the growth rate of infection leading to reduced transmission of disease. This had a direct impact on reduction in case load, morbidity, and mortality. In addition, the slowing down of the pandemic helped the country in augmenting the health infrastructure. Guidelines for Phased Re-opening (Unlock- 1 to 4) were issued for opening more activities (in a graded manner) in areas outside the containment zones only.

(c) and (d) Central Government has been very proactive in the prevention, containment, and control of the disease. Extensive measures were taken, including issuing a number of guidelines for citizens, hospitals, States, Departments, Ministries, employees, etc. Training material and webinar series for physicians, nurses, AYUSH professionals, technicians, etc. was also prepared and issued. Specific Integrated Government Online Training (IGOT) online courses were made available. Training manuals for surveillance teams and supervisors were also prepared and uploaded. Hospital infrastructure was upgraded and Covid dedicated health infrastructure was created to manage the cases. The Government has announced a special economic and comprehensive package of ₹ 20 lakh crores - equivalent to 10 per cent of India's GDP - to combat the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in India. With the phased unlocking of the Indian economy since June 1, 2020, high frequency economic indicators like PMI Manufacturing, index of eight core industries, E-way bills, Kharif sowing, power consumption, railway freight, cargo traffic and passenger vehicle sales have recovered

and indicate growing convergence with previous year's activity levels. However, data referred to in part (d), is not centrally maintained.

Political prisoners lodged in jails

393. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of political prisoners that are currently under trial in jails across the country; and

(b) the total number of convicted political prisoners currently lodged in jails across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) This information is not maintained by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), which compiles prison statistics reported to it by States and Union Territories, and publishes it in its annual report 'Prison Statistics India'.

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

Cases registered under anti-terror laws

394. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases that have been registered under Anti-terror laws in the past three years;

(b) the total number of people arrested under anti-terror laws in the past three years;

(c) the total number of cases under Anti-terror laws where the trial has commenced; and

(d) the total number of cases under Anti-terror laws where one year has elapsed since registration of FIR but Chargesheet in yet to be filed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) and (b) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. However, National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) is the Central Agency which compiles the data on crimes as reported

by States and Union Territories and publishes the same in its annual publication "Crime in India". The latest published report is of the year 2018. As per report, a total of 922, 901 and 1182 cases were registered and a total of 999, 1554 and 1421 persons were arrested under the Anti-terror law *i.e.* Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA) in the country during the year 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively.

(c) and (d) As per information received from NCRB, there are a total of 232, 272 and 317 cases, wherein chargesheet has been filed by the security agencies with respect to the cases registered under Anti-terror law *i.e.* Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA) in the country during the year 2016, 2017 and 2018 respectively. Further, in the year 2017 and 2018, the number of chargeheests submitted in one to two years are 92 and 52 and after two years are 31 and 10 respectively.

Use of Government buildings for ARHCs in Bangalore

395. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the Government buildings which are being used under the Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) scheme for migrants workers/ urban poor in the city of Bangalore;

(b) how many new ARHCs' construction has been started in Bangalore;

(c) the total number of migrant workers/urban poor residing in each Complex in the city of Bangalore; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure that adequate social distancing is followed in such Complexes to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (d) Scheme for Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs), a sub-scheme under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U), for providing accommodation at affordable rent to urban migrants/ poor has been launched on 31.07.2020 after approval, of the Union Cabinet. It's Operational Guidelines along with other implementation framework have been circulated to all States/Union Territories (UTs) for planning and implementation. A draft Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) has been circulated to all States/UTs to sign with Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Karnataka is one of the 17 States/UTs, which

have already signed the MoA with MoHUA to implement the Scheme. At present no ARHC has been made operational in the city of Bangalore or anywhere.

However, States/UTs have initiated actions to select concessionaire on Repair/Retrofit, Operate and Transfer Model to convert available Government funded housing complexes in to ARHCs. Actions on utilising available vacant sites with Public/Private bodies in to ARHCs is to be taken up after MoAs have been signed.

Rental housing for the poor

396. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps been taken to implement the scheme of providing rental housing for the poor in urban areas;
- (b) the outlay for the scheme; and
- (c) how many rental houses will be built under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Scheme for Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs), a sub-scheme under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U), for providing accommodation at affordable rent to urban migrants/ poor has been launched on 31.07.2020 after approval of the Union Cabinet. Following steps have been taken to implement the scheme of ARHCs for urban migrants/poor:—

- (i) Operational Guidelines of ARHCs along with other implementation framework have been circulated to all States/Union Territories (UTs) for planning and implementation. E-copy of the guidelines has been uploaded on the websites of ARHC, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) and Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- (ii) A draft Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) has been circulated to all States/UTs to sign with MoHUA.
- (iii) A model Request for Proposal (RFP) has been shared with States/UTs for selection of Concessionaire to develop existing Government funded vacant housing complexes to be used as ARHCs for a period of 25 years under Repair/Retrofit, Develop, Operate and Transfer (RDOT) on Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode.

- (iv) Expression of Interest (Eoi) has been prepared for shortlisting of Public/Private Entities for construction of ARHCs on their own vacant land.
- (v) A sustained and focused Information Education and Communication (IEC) strategy for outreach and off take of ARHCs has been prepared. A whiteboard animation on ARHCs along with various brochures, leaflets and other communication materials have been designed and shared with the stakeholders.
- (b) An estimated amount of ₹ 600 crore has been envisaged as total outlay of the Scheme till the Mission period of PMAY-U *i.e.* March 2022.
- (c) A total of 2.95 lakh beneficiaries have been envisaged to be benefitted by this Scheme, initially. Through Model-1, approximately 75,000 existing Government funded vacant housing complexes in various cities are targeted to be converted into ARHCs. In Model-2, new construction of 40,000 single/double bedroom houses and 1,80,000 dormitory beds are targeted to be operationalized using innovative and alternate technologies.

Impact of reverse labourers migration on real estate projects

397. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact of reverse migration of labourers and breakdown of construction material supply chains on the real estate projects in particular and sector in general; and
- (b) the details of incentives/relief offered by Ministry of Finance as a part of ₹20 lakh crores package to real estate sector and how this relief will help pull this sector out of crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) and (b) In view of the situation created by the global pandemic COVID-19 (Corona Virus), reverse migration of labourers and breakdown of construction materials supply chains, the construction activities of real estate projects were affected adversely across the country.

To protect the interest of all stakeholders including homebuyers, Central Government issued an advisory to all States / UTs and their Real Estate Regulatory

Authorities to treat COVID-19 pandemic as *force majeure* and automatically extend the registration/completion date of all projects registered under RERA for a period of 6 months where completion date expires on or after 25th March, 2020 and to allow further extension of 3 months, if the situation so demands, for the reasons to be recorded in writing and also extend concurrently the timelines of other statutory compliances under RERA.

Further, as part of 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan', various other incentives/reliefs have been provided for the Real Estate Sector such as; special refinancing facility of ₹10,000 crore at Reserve Bank of India's Policy Repo Rate to National Housing Bank for supporting Housing Finance Companies (HFCs); ₹45,000 crore **Partial Credit Guarantee Scheme** for Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and **₹30,000 crore** Special Liquidity Scheme for Microfinance Institutions, NBFC and HFCs; extension of Credit Link Subsidy Scheme under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana- Urban till 31st March 2021; Scheme for Affordable Rental Housing Complexes for migrant labours and urban poor.

All these measures aim to address the issue of liquidity disruptions to augment the flow of funds to the real estate sector.

ULB grants pending to Andhra Pradesh

398. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any performance grants pertaining to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are pending for payment to the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the year-wise details thereof during the period of 14th Finance Commission;

(c) whether Ministry has submitted its recommendation to the Ministry of Finance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and efforts being made by the Ministry to release the funds to the State of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. 14th Finance Commission Performance Grants (PG) amounting to ₹ 183.25 crore for the year 2018-19 and ₹ 239.95

crore for the year 2019-20 to the State of Andhra Pradesh have not been released. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has submitted its recommendations to Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance on 26.06.2019 for the year 2018-19 and on 30.12.2019 for the year 2019-20.

(d) Ministry has expedited for release of PG to all the States *vide* DO letters dated 21 March, 2020 and 16 April, 2020, and letter dated 02 July, 2020 to Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

National Bus Rejuvenation Program

399. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is considering a National Bus Rejuvenation Program to boost bus based public transport for cities across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and by when, the program will be launched; and
- (c) whether the States have been or shall be consulted in the framing of the program?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Improvement of Urban Bus Systems in cities

400. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) total number of buses operated by public agencies (State/ Municipal Transport Undertakings/ under contract of ULB) in cities in country;
- (b) whether Ministry has any service level benchmarks for evaluation of public transport facilities in cities;
- (c) if so, the level of service of public transport facilities in all million plus cities and smart cities in country;
- (d) whether Ministry has any existing or proposed scheme for the provision of urban bus system in cities;

(e) if not, reasons therefor; and

(f) total budget spent by Ministry for provision of Metro Rail and 'for provision of Urban buses (including depots and terminals for buses) in the last 5 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Urban Transport is intertwined with Urban Development and it is a State subject. As such data of buses operated by public agencies are maintained by the State Governments / Union Territories/ Urban Local Bodies.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has published a Handbook/Guidance document on Service Level Benchmarks (SLBs) for Urban Transport, which provides methodology and parameters to enable Urban Local Bodies and other city level parastatal agencies including million plus cities and smart cities to implement systems for measuring, reporting and monitoring the performance of different transport facilities and to identify gaps and problems in service levels. Therefore, it is for the Cities/Urban Local Bodies including million plus cities and smart cities to take necessary measures for improvement wherever necessary.

(d) and (e) At present Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs does not have any scheme for supporting bus transport. It is for the States/Cities to organize this based on the requirement.

(f) The total budget of ₹74,402.47 crore for construction of Metro Rail Projects and ₹352.74 crore for procurement of urban buses was spent by the Ministry in the last 5 years.

National Clean Air Program (NCAP) under the SCM

401. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) list of cities in the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) that are non-attainment cities under National Clean Air Program (NCAP);

(b) details of projects for mitigation of air pollution and status of their implementation under Smart City Proposal of these cities;

(c) directives issued to smart cities for monitoring and improvement of air quality and number of air quality monitors installed in each smart city;

(d) whether there has been any improvement in the quality of smart cities over last three years and manner in which this is ascertained; and

(e) whether status of air action plan in smart cities is available in public domain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (e) The Central Government launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a long-term, time-bound, national level strategy to tackle the air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner with targets to achieve 20% to 30% reduction in Particulate Matter concentrations by 2024 keeping 2017 as the base year for the comparison of concentration. Under NCAP, 122 non-attainment cities have been identified across the country based on the Air Quality data from 2014-2018. A list of Smart Cities under the Smart Cities Mission, which are non-attainment cities under National Clean Air Program (NCAP), is enclosed at Statement (*See below*).

The city specific action plans have been prepared which, inter-alia, include measures for strengthening the monitoring network, reducing vehicular/industrial emissions, increasing public awareness etc. Implementation of the city specific action plans are regularly monitored by Committees at Central and State level namely Steering Committee, Monitoring Committee and Implementation Committee.

Air quality of cities is monitored by State Pollution Control Boards which publishes their results from time to time. Some Smart Cities have established Integrated Command and Control Centres (ICCCs) which are also connected to Air Quality Monitors (AQMs) for effective monitoring.

Statement

List of cities in the Smart Cities Mission (SCM) that are non-attainment cities under the National Clean Air Program (NCAP)

State/Union Territory	Smart Cities
Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam
Assam	Guwahati
Bihar	Muzaffarpur, Patna
Chandigarh	Chandigarh

State/Union Territory	Smart Cities
Chhattisgarh	Raipur
Delhi	Delhi (N.D.M.C.)
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara
Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu, Srinagar
Karnataka	Bengaluru, Devanagere, Hubli-Dharwad
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal, Gwalior, Indore, Sagar, Ujjain
Maharashtra	Aurangabad, Nagpur, Nashik, Pune, Solapur, Thane
Nagaland	Kohima
Odisha	Bhubneshwar, Rourkela
Punjab	Amritsar, Jalandhar, Ludhiana
Rajasthan	Jaipur, Kota, Udaipur
Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirapalli, Thoothukudi
Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Prayagraj (Allahabad), Bareilly, Jhansi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Moradabad, Varanasi
Uttarakhand	Dehradun
West Bengal	Kolkata (New Town Kolkata)

Revival of realty sector

402. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any step to revive the Realty Sector which is considered as second-largest employment generator in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (c) In order to boost real estate sector, the Government has taken various initiatives such as reduction in Goods and Services

Tax (GST) on under-construction Affordable Housing project from existing 8% to 1% without Input Tax Credit (ITC) and in case of other housing projects from 12% to 5% without ITC; increase in Priority Sector Lending for Affordable Housing Project from ₹ 28 lakh to ₹ 35 lakh in metros and from ₹ 20 lakh to ₹ 25 lakh in non-metros; Setting up of Affordable Housing Fund in National Housing Bank; additional Deduction of ₹ 1.5 lakh on account of Home Loan Interest in addition to the deduction of ₹ 2 lakh for affordable housing, Extension of 100% deduction on profits for construction of affordable housing projects under section 80-IBA of the Income Tax Act till 31.03.2021 and widening the scope of section 80-IBA from 30 to 60 square meters in metros regions and 60 to 90 square meters in non-metros cities.

In order to give relief to homebuyers of stalled projects, a Special Window for Completion of Affordable and Mid-Income Housing (SWAMIH investment fund) has been created for funding stalled projects that are net-worth positive, including those projects that have been declared as Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) or are pending proceedings before the National Company Law Tribunal under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code. SWAMIH investment fund will provide last mile funding to the stressed affordable and middle-income housing projects in the country,

Recently, in view of global pandemic of COVID-19, to protect the interest of all stakeholders, Central Government has issued the necessary advisory to all States/ Union Territories and their Real Estate Regulatory Authorities for issuance of requisite orders/ directions under enabling provisions of Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016 (RERA) to invoke force majeure clause to automatically revise / extend completion date for all real estate projects registered under RERA for a period of 6 months, where completion date expires on or after 25th March, 2020 and to allow further extension of 3 months, if the situation so demands, for the reasons to be recorded in writing and also extend concurrently the timelines of other statutory compliances under RERA.

Safe urban residential facilities during COVID-19 pandemic

403. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any concrete proposal to ensure safe urban infrastructure and residential facilities is under consideration in the background of COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any special scheme for Low Income Group (LIG) and slum dwellers is also under consideration as part of such proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (d) Yes Sir, in the background of COVID-19 pandemic, Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs), a sub-scheme under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-U) has been launched on 31.07.2020 for providing accommodation at affordable rent to urban migrants/ poor of the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG) category. This Scheme will be implemented through following two Models:

Model-1: Utilising existing Government funded vacant houses in cities by converting them into ARHCs under Public Private Partnership mode or by public agencies.

Model-2: Incentivising Private/Public Entities to construct, operate and Maintain ARHCs on their own vacant land.

Fulfilling basic requirements of slum dwellers

404. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of slum households in the four metropolitan cities *viz.* Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai;

(b) the comprehensive plan to facilitate the minimum requirements based on human dignity for these slum dwellers who could also be called as urban poor;

(c) whether the Ministry has been preparing to establish a separate wing to deal with the socio-economic problems of such urban poor (slum dwellers); and

(d) if so, the time frame to establish the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) As per Census of India - 2011, the number of slum households in metropolitan cities *viz.* Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai is given at Statement (*See below*).

(b) 'Land' and 'Colonisation' are State subjects and therefore, it is the responsibility of the State/ Union Territory (UT) Governments to frame policies and implement schemes to facilitate the minimum requirements based on human dignity for slum dwellers. However, Government of India through its programmatic interventions viz. Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Swachh Bharat Mission - Urban (SBM-U) and Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban (PMAY-U) Mission, has been assisting States/ UTs both technically and financially in providing housing with basic civic amenities to eligible urban poor including slum dwellers.

AMRUT focuses on providing basic amenities including water supply, sewerage and septage management in 500 cities selected across the country, including Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai. The main priority under AMRUT is to ensure that every household has access to a tap with assured supply of water and enhanced coverage under sewerage/septage.

The objective of SBM-U is to make all urban areas including slums of the country Open Defecation Free (ODF) and 100% scientific processing of its Municipal Solid Waste. Under SBM-U, Individual Household Toilets (IHHT) are provided to beneficiaries irrespective of whether they live in authorized/unauthorized colonies or notified/non-notified slums. Central Government provides incentive under SBM-U for construction of Community Toilets (CT) where people practice open defecation and construction of Individual Toilet is not feasible.

In pursuance to Government's vision of 'Housing for All by 2022', PMAY-U Mission is being implemented since June 2015 for providing all weather pucca houses with basic civic infrastructure like water, sanitation, sewerage, road, electricity etc. to all eligible urban households including slum dwellers. "In-situ Slum Redevelopment (ISSR)" component of PMAY-U Mission mandates to use land as a resource by leveraging the locked potential of land under slums for constructing houses to eligible slum dwellers and bringing them into the formal urban settlement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of slum households in metropolitan cities viz. Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai and Chennai as per Census-2011

Sl. No.	Area	No. of slum households
1.	National Capital Territory of Delhi	3,67,893
2.	Chennai Municipal Corporation	3,29,827
3.	Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation	48,577
4.	Greater Mumbai Municipal Corporation	11,35,514
5.	Kolkata Municipal Corporation	3,00,755

Employment opportunities through projects during lockdown

405. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Ministry to provide employment opportunities to people, through its projects, during the last five months since the nationwide lockdown;

(b) if so, the amount spent by the Ministry for the same, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether any employment has been generated since Unlock 1.0, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) assists States/Union Territories (UTs) through its flagship Missions/ Schemes - Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Smart Cities Mission (SCM), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) (PMAY-U), Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U), Deendayal Anthyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY - NULM) and Urban Transport projects to improve urban infrastructure. The projects are identified, approved and executed by the States/UTs. MoHUA extends financial assistance under these Missions /Schemes/Projects as per approved scale under the operational guidelines. The execution of the projects, which generate labour employment is an ongoing process and were monitored by MoHUA during the lockdown. It has gradually resumed post unlock 1.0. No data on employment generation is

maintained by the Ministry in respect of Urban Infrastructure projects being implemented by the States/UTs. Details of amount spent are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). Prime Minister Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PMSVANidhi) helps in employment generation through micro credit facility to Street Vendors affected due to lockdown. The State-wise number of applications received, number of loans sanctioned and sanctioned amount is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

(All Amount ₹ in crore)

State	Central Assistance Released during last 5 months		
	PMAY-U	AMRUT	Metro Rail/ RRTS Projects
1	2	3	4
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	395.44	-	-
Arunachal Pradesh	0.69	-	-
Assam	113.53	-	-
Bihar	306.52	200	100
Chandigarh	6.39	-	-
Chhattisgarh	96.14	199	-
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	12.21	-	-
Daman and Diu	-	-	-
Delhi	53.49	-	750(Delhi/UP)
Goa	8.82	-	-
Gujarat	819.27	-	108
Haryana	96.29	-	-
Himachal Pradesh	3.65	-	-
Jammu and Kashmir	5.60	-	-
Jharkhand	60.03	-	-

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	315.84	-	1,093
Kerala	48.65	-	-
Lakshadweep(UT)	-	-	-
Ladakh(UT)	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	501.39	-	-
Maharashtra	968.39	500	545
Manipur	0.04	33.03	-
Meghalaya	-	-	-
Mizoram	1.45	45.27	-
Nagaland	0.01	-	-
Odisha	65.67	-	-
Puducherry	2.69	-	-
Punjab	100.86	-	-
Rajasthan	291.71	293.27	-
Sikkim	0.33	-	-
Tamil Nadu	270.95	278.84	-
Telangana	182.06	175.35	-
Tripura	53.09	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	516.20	545.00	-
Uttarakhand	40.16	53.39	-
West Bengal	223.43	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	5,560.99	2,323.15	2,596.00

Statement-II

*State-wise details of applications received and loan sanctioned under
PM SVANidhi scheme as on 15-09-2020*

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of applications received	No. of Loans sanctioned	Sanctioned amount (Rupees in crore)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	128	83	0.083
2.	Andhra Pradesh	63,927	17,661	17.622
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	731	324	0.323
4.	Assam	2,868	216	0.216
5.	Bihar	23,921	4,732	4.296
6.	Chandigarh	512	266	0.266
7.	Chhattisgarh	8,363	2,067	2.058
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	775	262	0.261
9.	Delhi	7,949	1,008	1.000
10.	Goa	323	155	0.155
11.	Gujarat	95,849	39,411	39.240
12.	Haryana	16,767	4,822	4.784
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1,027	536	0.535
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	574	56	0.056
15.	Jharkhand	15,934	7,217	7.149
16.	Karnataka	38,488	10,097	10.032
17.	Kerala	7,766	3,820	3.811
18.	Ladakh	4	0	0.000
19.	Madhya Pradesh	272,154	162,261	161.632

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Maharashtra	87,976	15,773	15.730
21.	Manipur	2,740	526	0.524
22.	Meghalaya	25	1	0.001
23.	Mizoram	353	179	0.179
24.	Nagaland	39	4	0.004
25.	Odisha	21,532	5,051	5.032
26.	Puducherry	975	80	0.079
27.	Punjab	5,243	1,361	1.217
28.	Rajasthan	28,983	7,043	7.015
29.	Sikkim	3	0	0.000
30.	Tamil Nadu	36,767	11,905	11.811
31.	Telangana	219,744	75,783	75.575
32.	Tripura	1,357	130	0.130
33.	Uttar Pradesh	228,260	44,557	44.195
34.	Uttarakhand	2,958	860	0.855
35.	West Bengal	1,404	180	0.179
TOTAL		1,196,419	418,427	416.044

Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi)

406. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) and Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission implementation of portal for a loan scheme for street vendors as part of the economic package for sectors affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, providing small loans to street vendors to restart their operations; and

(b) the implementation status and State-wise response received, and loan distributed so far, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Consequent on the announcement of the Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan package, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has, on June 01, 2020, launched 'Prime Minister Street Vendor's Aatma Nirbhar Nidhi Scheme (PM SVANidhi). It aims at facilitating collateral free working capital loans upto Rs 10,000 of 1 year tenure, to about 50 lakh street vendors across the country. It provides for incentives in the form of interest subsidy @ 7% per annum on regular repayment of loan and cash-back upto ₹ 1,200 per annum on undertaking prescribed digital transactions. Further, on timely or early repayment, the vendors will be eligible for the next cycle of working capital loan with an enhanced limit. For the purpose of scheme administration, an end-to-end solution through an IT platform has been developed in collaboration with Small Industries Development Bank of India. The loan processing under the Scheme has commenced on July 02, 2020.

(b) State / Union Territory-wise number of loan applications received, sanctioned and disbursed, as on 14 September, 2020, is given at Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of applications received and loan sanctioned under PM SAVNidhi (as on 14-09-2020)

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of applications received	No. of Loans sanctioned	No. of Loans disbursed
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	121	83	15
2.	Andhra Pradesh	63076	17327	1728
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	705	311	95
4.	Assam	2822	208	12
5.	Bihar	22166	4515	199
6.	Chandigarh	504	264	102
7.	Chhattisgarh	7546	1955	660
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	763	259	53

1	2	3	4	5
9.	Delhi	7920	990	74
10.	Goa	316	152	10
11.	Gujarat	90718	38410	1668
12.	Haryana	16057	4559	337
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1014	528	120
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	536	28	2
15.	Jharkhand	15833	7062	1104
16.	Karnataka	37216	9788	1151
17.	Kerala	7648	3593	1170
18.	Ladakh	3	0	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	268942	160490	85004
20.	Maharashtra	83301	15305	1345
21.	Manipur	2596	501	85
22.	Meghalaya	25	1	0
23.	Mizoram	348	172	22
24.	Nagaland	39	4	0
25.	Odisha	21085	4750	622
26.	Puducherry	937	78	6
27.	Punjab	5034	1310	45
28.	Rajasthan	28334	6773	499
29.	Sikkim	4	0	0
30.	Tamil Nadu	36069	11272	1488
31.	Telangana	216070	73249	4575
32.	Tripura	1195	120	16
33.	Uttarakhand	2887	844	104
34.	Uttar Pradesh	216532	41757	2048
35.	West Bengal	1401	177	3
TOTAL		1159763	406835	102616

Airport metro line in Bangalore

407. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of request made by the Chief Minister of Karnataka for approving 56 kms outer ring road to airport metro line in Bangalore;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the Asian Development Bank has agreed to fund the above project;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government of Karnataka has agreed for equal equity sharing mode as per Metro Rail Policy of 2017;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the likely date of approving the project and taking up other works such as Detailed Project Report (DPR) etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (e) The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, *vide* letter dated 18.01.2020 and again on 04.09.2020 requested to arrange for early approval of the proposal along with Detailed Project Report (DPR) forwarded by Government of Karnataka (GoK) in November, 2019 for implementation of Phase 2A and 2B of Bangalore Metro Rail Project, for a length of about 58 kms (from Central Silk Board Junction to Kempegowda International Airport) on equal equity sharing model as per Metro Rail Policy, 2017. Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation has informed that Asian Development Bank has agreed to partially fund this project for a value of 500 Million USD.

Metro rail projects are cost intensive which require extensive Inter-Ministerial consultations and their approval depends on feasibility of projects and availability of resources. No time limit can be specified for sanction of the project.

AMRUT scheme in West Bengal

408. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the cities of West Bengal selected under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) Scheme;
- (b) the funds allocated, sanctioned and released under this Scheme to the State of West Bengal during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the details of authority/entity entrusted with the responsibility to monitor the utilization of these funds; and

(d) the city-wise details of the completion status of these scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) 60 cities of State of West Bengal were selected among the 500 cities for implementation of Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT). Out of these, 5 cities were merged with others, namely Bally was merged with Howrah Municipal Corporation, Jamuria, Kulti and Raniganj were merged with Asansol Municipal Corporation and Rajarhat Gopalpur was merged with Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation. Thus, present list of 55 AMRUT cities is given at Statement.

(b) Total approved State Annual Action Plan (SAAP) of State of West Bengal for AMRUT projects for the entire mission period is ₹4,035 crore, which includes committed Central Assistance of ₹ 1,929 crore.

Funds sanctioned/released to the State of West Bengal, during the last three financial years, are given in the table below:—

Financial Year	Funds sanctioned /released (in rupees crore)
2017-18	238.16
2018-19	474.78
2019-20	164.36
TOTAL	877.30

(c) State Government has been entrusted with the responsibility of implementing the Mission in the State. Mission is monitored by the "State Level High Powered Steering Committee (SHPSC)" constituted under the chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary of the State. Urban Development Department of the State is responsible for implementation of the Mission and monitoring the utilization of funds in the State.

(d) Against the total approved SAAP of ₹ 4,035 crore of State of West Bengal, Government of West Bengal has awarded 460 projects worth ₹ 3,925 crore; of these 340 projects worth ₹ 474 crore have been completed. Another 19 projects worth ₹ 110 crore are under tendering process and one project worth ₹ 0.3 crore is to be tendered. The city-wise status of projects is given at enclosed Statement.

Statement*City-wise status of AMRUT projects in State of West Bengal*

(All Amounts ₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	City	Work Completed		Under Implementation		NIT* Issued		NIT to be issued		Total	
		Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount	Nos.	Amount
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Asansol	23	149.28	1	200	-	-	-	-	24	349.28
2.	Ashoknagar Kalyangarh	3	0.45	4	102.55	-	-	-	-	7	103
3.	Baharampur	7	1.3	1	24	-	-	-	-	8	25.3
4.	Baidyabati	5	0.95	1	50	-	-	-	-	6	50.95
5.	Balurghat	5	1.01	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1.01
6.	Bankura	8	101.18	1	15.89	-	-	-	-	9	117.07
7.	Bansberia	8	0.96	2	74.02	-	-	-	-	10	74.98
8.	Baranagar	2	0.35	3	10.4	-	-	-	-	5	10.75
9.	Barasat	6	1.61	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1.61

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	154
10.	Barddhaman	9	1.28	3	204.38	2	73.42	-	-	14	279.08	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
11.	Barrackpur	5	0.25	2	0.78	-	-	-	-	7	1.03	
12.	Basirhat	2	0.21	3	100.47	1	30.99	-	-	6	131.67	
13.	Bhadreswar	5	0.62	2	25.36	-	-	-	-	7	25.98	
14.	Bhatpara	5	1.55	2	102.49	-	-	-	-	7	104.04	
15.	Bidhan Nagar	9	4.03	1	116	5	2	-	-	15	122.03	
16.	Bongaon	4	0.74	2	99.99	-	-	-	-	6	100.73	
17.	Champdani	3	0.69	1	0.28	-	-	-	-	4	0.97	
18.	Chandannagar	5	1.16	4	20.64	-	-	-	-	9	21.8	
19.	Darjiling	1	0.25	2	205.24	-	-	1	0.3	4	205.79	
20.	Dum Dum	4	0.99	1	31.99	-	-	-	-	5	32.98	Unstarred Questions
21.	Durgapur	10	3.29	1	0.27	-	-	-	-	11	3.56	
22.	English Bazar	9	0.96	2	0.37	-	-	-	-	11	1.33	
23.	Habra	4	0.95	2	101.36	-	-	-	-	6	102.31	
24.	Haldia	6	1.24	2	80.02	-	-	-	-	8	81.26	

25.	Halisahar	3	60.55	3	65.99	-	-	-	-	6	126.54	Written Answers to [16 September, 2020]
26.	Haora	7	3.7	2	70.3	5	1.89	-	-	14	75.89	
27.	Hugli-Chinsurah	4	0.91	1	74.99	-	-	-	-	5	75.9	
28.	Jalpaiguri	4	1	3	148.85	-	-	-	-	7	149.85	
29.	Jangipur	3	1.15	1	81.12	-	-	-	-	4	82.27	
30.	Kalyani	6	0.55	2	0.39	-	-	-	-	8	0.94	
31.	Kamarhati	14	1.41	3	50.2	-	-	-	-	17	51.61	
32.	Kanchrapara	8	1.08	1	50	-	-	-	-	9	51.08	
33.	Kharagpur	8	0.76	2	0.4	-	-	-	-	10	1.16	
34.	Khardaha	5	0.95	1	75	-	-	-	-	6	75.95	
35.	Kolkata	7	3.43	13	124.73	1	0.57	-	-	21	128.73	
36.	Krishnanagar	3	56.15	3	15.2	2	0.49	-	-	8	71.84	
37.	Madhyamgram	7	0.82	2	25.22	-	-	-	-	9	26.04	
38.	Maheshtala	8	1.67	2	102.67	-	-	-	-	10	104.34	
39.	Medinipur	8	1.17	2	181.29	-	-	-	-	10	182.46	
40.	Nabadwip	3	0.53	2	0.4	-	-	-	-	5	0.93	
41.	Naihati	6	0.34	4	0.78	-	-	-	-	10	1.12	Unstarred Questions 155

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
42.	North Barrackpur	3	0.55	2	0.39	-	-	-	-	5	0.94
43.	North Dum Dum	9	1.34	4	98.08	-	-	-	-	13	99.42
44.	Panihati	8	1.04	5	30.64	-	-	-	-	13	31.68
45.	Puruliya	3	0.66	2	0.32	-	-	-	-	5	0.98
46.	Raiganj	3	0.7	-	-	2	0.44	-	-	5	1.14
47.	Rajpur Sonarpur	12	1.93	2	515.43	-	-	-	-	14	517.36
48.	Rishra	5	0.74	1	0.21	-	-	-	-	6	0.95
49.	Santipur	6	1.28	1	24.42	-	-	-	-	7	25.7
50.	Serampore	5	0.94	1	69.96	-	-	-	-	6	70.9
51.	Siliguri	12	0.77	2	0.25	-	-	-	-	14	1.02
52.	South Dum Dum	5	15.76	6	1.37	-	-	-	-	11	17.13
53.	Titagarh	2	0.25	2	0.55	-	-	-	-	4	0.8
54.	Uluberia	7	3.44	1	75	-	-	-	-	8	78.44
55.	Uttarpara Kotrung	8	33.05	1	0.13	1	0.14	-	-	10	33.32
TOTAL		340	473.92	120	3450.78	19	109.94	1	0.3	480	4034.94

*NIT - Notice Inviting Tender.

156 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Allocation of funds to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs)

409. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Central Government has any criteria for allocation of funds to Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, particularly for state of Maharashtra; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Yes Sir, as per the Fifteenth Finance Commission (15th FC) recommendation for the year 2020-21, for allocation of 15th FC grants the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are divided into two categories namely (i) Million Plus cities/Urban Agglomerations, (ii) Other than Million Plus cities. The ULB grants under 15th FC are allocated in two parts *viz.* tied grants and untied grants. For Million-Plus cities/Urban Agglomerations, 15th FC has allocated tied grants for ambient air quality and water & solid waste management. For other than Million Plus cities, ULB grants consist of two equal parts - 50 per cent basic grants and 50 per cent grants tied to (a) drinking water (including rainwater harvesting and recycling) and (b) solid waste management. 15th FC has also recommended the States, to make allotment of grants on population basis for the Cantonment Boards (59 no.) within their territories.

As per the recommendations of the Commission, for other than Million-Plus cities, the grants should be distributed to each ULB on the basis of accepted recommendations of the latest State Finance Commission (SFC) suitably modified to accommodate the Cantonment Boards. In case of non-availability of SFC recommendation for distribution within a particular category, the allocations should be on the basis of population and area in the ratio of 90:10.

(b) A total Grant of ₹ 29,250 crore for urban local bodies has been allocated under 15th FC. The total Grants for Million Plus cities/Urban Agglomerations and other than Million Plus cities is ₹ 9,229 crore and ₹ 20,021 crore respectively. The State-wise details of allocation of funds to ULBs for year 2020-21 is at Statement (*See* below).

For Million Plus cities/Urban Agglomerations (50 no.), out of ₹ 9,229 crore, ₹ 4,400 crore is earmarked for improving ambient air quality and ₹ 4,829 crore is earmarked for water supply and solid waste management.

In case of Maharashtra, ₹ 2,806 crore have been allocated as ULB grant under 15th FC for the year 2020-21, out of which ₹ 1,586 crore have been allocated for Million Plus cities/Urban Agglomerations and ₹ 1,220 crore for other than Million Plus cities.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Aggregate Grants to Urban Local Bodies for 2020-21

(₹ in crore)

State	Million-Plus Cities	Non Million- Plus Cities	Total Grants
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	270	994	1264
Arunachal Pradesh	0	111	111
Assam	0	772	772
Bihar	408	2008	2416
Chhattisgarh	214	486	700
Goa	0	36	36
Gujarat	810	728	1538
Haryana	96	513	609
Himachal Pradesh	0	207	207
Jharkhand	318	495	813
Karnataka	558	991	1549
Kerala	339	445	784
Madhya Pradesh	598	1320	1918
Maharashtra	1586	1220	2806
Manipur	0	85	85
Meghalaya	0	88	88
Mizoram	0	45	45

1	2	3	4
Nagaland	0	60	60
Odisha	0	1087	1087
Punjab	180	488	668
Rajasthan	562	1297	1859
Sikkim	0	20	20
Tamil Nadu	556	1181	1737
Telangana	468	421	889
Tripura	0	92	92
Uttar Pradesh	1428	3267	4695
Uttarakhand	0	278	278
West Bengal	838	1286	2124
TOTAL	9229	20021	29250

Implementation of Affordable Rental Housing Complexes Scheme

410. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the time-frame and details of the roll-out of the first phase of the Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs) scheme, State-wise details thereof;

(b) how Government intends to undertake and expedite the beneficiary mapping process;

(c) the extent to which existing protections against tenant eviction and provisions for rent control shall apply to properties under the scheme; and

(d) the scope for purchase of property rented under the scheme by beneficiaries at a given point in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) Scheme for Affordable Rental Housing Complexes (ARHCs), a sub-scheme under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban (PMAY-

U), for providing accommodation at affordable rent to urban migrants/ poor was launched on 31.07.2020. There is no provision of phase-wise implementation of ARHCs. A draft Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) has been circulated to all States/Union Territories (UTs) to sign with Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). A model Request for Proposal (RFP) has been shared with States/UTs for selection of Concessionaire to develop existing Government funded vacant housing complexes to be used as ARHCs for a period of 25 years under Repair/Retrofit, Develop, Operate and Transfer (RDOT) on Public Private Partnership (PPP) Mode. Shortlisting of Public/Private Entities for construction of ARHCs on their own vacant land is to be done through concerned States/UTs/ULBs through Expression of Interest (EoI).

(b) As per the Scheme Guidelines of ARHCs, mapping and identification of beneficiaries is the responsibility of selected Concessionaires/Entities. Concessionaire/ Entity may tie up with local industries/ manufacturers/ service providers/ educational/ health institutions/ market associations/ others employing urban migrants/ poor to provide accommodation in-block and remit rent by deducting directly from their salary/ fees/ any kind of remuneration, as feasible. States/UTs/ULBs/Parastatals will facilitate tie up between Entity/Concessionaire and Public/Private bodies for migrants in factories, industries/ institutions requiring rental accommodation for ensuring occupation and continued revenue.

(c) In order to safeguard the interest of stakeholders and avoid conflict, Operational Guidelines provide that ARHCs is to be kept outside the purview of existing State Rental Laws by States/UTs. These will be governed by the new law of the State which will be legislated on the line of Model Tenancy Act (MTA) or modification of their existing law in the line of MTA for speedy resolution.

(d) No such provision has been made under the scheme for ARHCs.

Hardships to migrant labours during the lockdown

411. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian migrant workers are facing multiple hardships like loss of income, food shortages due to factories and workplaces shut down after the lockdown imposed in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and what is Government's response thereto; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to support millions of migrant workers in the country millions of migrant workers, who are facing livelihood crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) India, as a Nation, has responded through the Central Government, State Governments, Local Bodies, Self-help Groups, Resident Welfare Associations, Medical Health Professionals, Sanitation Workers as well as non-governmental organizations in the Nation's fight against the unprecedented crisis due to the outbreak of Covid-19 and country-wide lockdown.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment has set up control rooms across the country to receive and address the grievances of workers regarding wages etc. during the national lockdown.

80 crore beneficiaries are being provided additional 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses, free of cost every month till November, 2020 under provisions of National Food Security Act. To empower millions of migrant workers/labourers working in various organized and unorganized sectors to seamlessly receive their food security entitlements under National Food Security Act (NFSA), irrespective of their physical location in the country the Government has started the implementation of One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) Plan. With the implementation of this plan the migrant beneficiary can get food security from any fair price shop of his choice anywhere in the country.

Around 1.83 crore Building and Other Construction (BOC) workers have been given cash assistance of ₹ 5000 crore (approx.) from the cess fund.

30 lakh BOC workers have been given food package relief also from cess fund.

Apart from above, various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry of Labour and Employment as part of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana(PMGKY) and Atmanirbhar Bharat which, *inter-alia*, include (i) payment of 12% employers' share and 12% employees' share under Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% by the Government of India for six wage months from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having up to 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹15,000 monthly wage; (ii) reduction in PF contribution from 12% to 10% of wages for the wage months of May, June and July, 2020; (iii) non-refundable Covid advance from the PF by amending the EPF Scheme, 1952.

To boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Government of India has launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan on 20th June 2020. The Abhiyaan focuses on durable rural infrastructure and providing modern facilities like internet in the villages. Skill Mapping of the rural migrant labour is being done to help them work closer home. The Abhiyaan involves intensified and focused implementation of 25 target driven works to provide employment and create infrastructure in the rural areas of 116 districts of 6 States with a resource envelope of ₹ 50,000 crore. Apart from this, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched various schemes for migrant workers who have returned to their native places. One of the schemes is Anganwadi services which has been extended to children of migrant workers.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries have sanctioned 700 food processing/preservation and infrastructure projects in which migrant labourers will get employment.

To provide employment to the migrant workers Ministry of Transport and Highways has identified the ongoing works/new works for the road construction. Ministry of Steel assisted migrant workers and their families with food packets and face mask, milk powder etc.

National register for inter-State migrant workers/unorganised workers

412. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to create national register for migrant workers/unorganised workers with the facilities of portability and data transfer to help them get employment and other assistance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reason therefor;
- (d) whether the data base of migrant workers in various States was collected to monitor the requirements of migrant workers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) Ministry of Labour and Employment envisages development of a National Database for Unorganized Workers (NDUW) seeded with Aadhaar for all unorganized workers. The project will enroll Unorganized Workers including Migrant Workers to help them get employment and other assistance.

Job loss to daily wage labourers during COVID-19 lockdown

413. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of daily wage labourers who have lost their jobs during the COVID-19 lockdown;
- (b) what measures Government is taking to provide relief to such labourers;
- (c) whether there has been any death of any labourer due to loss of job during the lockdown;
- (d) if so, what is the total number of such deaths; and
- (e) what steps are being taken by Government to protect daily wage labourers from exploitation by private employers in times of COVID-19?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) In order to contain the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, a nationwide lockdown was imposed resulting in closure of all industries except essential services.

In order to mitigate the financial crisis of the migrant workers and protect them against the economic disruptions due to the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic and Country-wide lockdown the Central Government has taken numerous measures to provide them financial assistance, food packages ration and other benefits.

The Central Government has issued comprehensive Advisory Guidelines on 27.07.2020 to all the States/UTs for the welfare of the migrant workers returning to the destination States in the backdrop of Covid-19. In order to ensure relief measures not only for the poor people and migrant workers but also their families/dependents in a sustainable manner, the Central Government announced ₹ 1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) for the poor people to help them

fight the battle against corona virus. In order to provide employment to migrant workers at their native places the Government has launched a number of schemes like Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan to boost employment and livelihood opportunities, Anganwadi Service, employment in Food Processing Industries, Prime Minister Employment Generation Program, Scheme for regeneration of Traditional Industries, Gram Udyog Vikas Yojana, identification of ongoing works/new works for road construction. In addition, the Government has set up 30 Biotech — Kisan hubs in the country covering all Agroclimatic zones, 150 Districts including 101 aspirational districts which will help migrant workers to earn their livelihood through farming and expose them to the innovative methods of farming of high value crops.

Job losses in organised and unorganised sector

414. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

DR. SASMIT PATRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any details of the job that is lost in both organised and unorganised employment sector due to COVID-19;
- (b) if so, the details therefor;
- (c) what effort has been made by Government to contain the job losses in both the organised and unorganised sector, the measures undertaken thereof;
- (d) whether Government has any plan of action to support the people who have lost their job due to COVID-19; and
- (e) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) The global spread of the corona virus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. Government is taking several steps to ensure that the country is well prepared to face the challenges and threats posed by Covid-19. Government of India has announced an economic package of ₹ 20 Lakh Crore and Aatmanirbhar Bharat which focuses on Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand to create jobs for the youth has also been launched.

Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) for the poor to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. Measures are intended at reaching out to the poorest of the poor, with food and money in hands, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential supplies and meeting essential needs.

Under PMGKY, Government of India is contributing both 12% employer's share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% of wages for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹ 15000/-.

Statutory PF contribution of both employer and employee has been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for three months.

The unemployment benefit under the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana being implemented by the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has been enhanced to 50% from 25% of the average wage, payable upto 90 days alongwith relaxation of eligibility conditions to claim the benefit.

To boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Government of India has launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan on 20th June 2020. The Abhiyaan focuses on durable rural infrastructure and providing modern facilities like internet in the villages. Skill Mapping of the rural migrant labour is being done to help them work closer home.

Government of India has launched PM- SVANidhi Scheme to facilitate collateral free working capital loan upto ₹10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately, 50 lakh street vendors, to resume their businesses.

Under AatmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan, the Government has earmarked an additional ₹ 40,000 crore under MGNREGS. It will help generate nearly 300 crore person days in total addressing need for more work including returning migrant workers in Monsoon season as well.

To provide relief to the business, additional working capital finance of 20% of the outstanding credit as on 29th February, 2020, in the form of a Term Loan at a concessional rate of interest is being provided. The units will not have to provide any guarantee or collateral of their own.

Support to migrant labourers during the pandemic

415. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what has been done to support migrant labourers during the pandemic;
- (b) how much food has been given free to migrant labourers since March; and
- (c) whether Government has provided any other facilities to them during the pandemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The global spread of the corona virus (Covid-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. Covid-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places.

Twenty control rooms were set up by Ministry of Labour and Employment across the country to receive and address the grievances of workers regarding wages etc. during the national lockdown.

Approximately 80 crore beneficiaries are being provided additional 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses, free of cost every month till November, 2020 under provisions of National Food Security Act.

Around 1.83 crore Building and Other Construction (BOC) workers have been given cash assistance of ₹5000 crore (approx.) from the cess fund.

30 lakh BOC workers have been given food package relief also from cess fund.

Apart from above, various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry of Labour and Employment as part of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana(PMGKY) and Atmanirbhar Bharat which, *inter-alia*, include (i) payment of 12% employers' share and 12% employees' share under Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% by the Government of India for six wage months from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having up to 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹ 15,000 monthly wage; (ii) reduction in PF contribution from 12% to 10% of wages for the wage months of May, June and July, 2020; (iii) non-refundable Covid advance from the PF by amending the EPF Scheme, 1952; (iv) extension in the date of filing of

returns; (v) issuing advisory to promptly attend to distress calls of workers /employees and also guide them in temporary shelters; (vi) using Building and other construction workers (BOCW) cess fund for transfer of adequate funds in the bank account of construction workers affected by COVID-19 outbreak; (vii) supporting employees and workers by not terminating them and not cutting their wages; and (viii) for taking preventive measures to contain the spread of COVID-19.

To boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Government of India has launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan on 20th June 2020. The Abhiyaan focuses on durable rural infrastructure and providing modern facilities like internet in the villages. Skill Mapping of the rural migrant labour is being done to help them work closer home. The Abhiyaan involves intensified and focused implementation of 25 target driven works to provide employment and create infrastructure in the rural areas of 116 districts of 6 States with a resource envelope of Rs 50,000 crore. Apart from this, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched various schemes for migrant workers who have returned to their native places. One of the schemes is Anganwadi services which has been extended to children of migrant workers.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries have sanctioned 700 food processing/preservation and infrastructure projects in which migrant labourers will get employment.

To provide employment to the migrant workers Ministry of Transport and Highways has identified the ongoing works/new works for the road construction. Ministry of Steel assisted migrant workers and their families with food packets and face mask, milk powder etc.

The Department of Bio Technology has set up 30 Biotech -Kisan hubs in the country covering all Agroclimatic zones, 150 Districts including 101 aspirational districts which will help migrant workers to earn their livelihood through farming and expose them to the innovative methods of farming of high value crops.

Employment rate

416. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly unemployment rate in the country in the last twelve months and the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has assessed the impact of lockdown imposition on employment status in the country, and the details thereof; and

(c) the number of people who have lost jobs due to pandemic induced restrictions in the last six months and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) on employment and unemployment is conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. As per the PLFS 2018-19, the estimated unemployment rate to the extent available based on such survey for persons of all ages on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis in the country was 5.8%. The Corona Virus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. COVID-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places. Government has taken initiatives for creating jobs at local levels through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Aatmanirbhar Bharat & Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhayan (PMGKRA). Aatmanirbhar Bharat is based on Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand to create jobs for the youth. It encompasses an economic package of ₹ 20 Lakh Crores *inter-alia* facilitating creation of employment opportunities in the country.

Employment to construction workers

417. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the building and other construction workers (BOCW), the most vulnerable segment of the unorganised sector workers in the country have suffered severely during lockdown which was announced due to COVID-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the cash assistance disbursed and the criteria fixed for transfer of cash assistance;

(c) whether Government has taken steps to provide employment to these construction workers who are migrant labourers working in different States far away from their native places; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) In order to mitigate the financial crisis of the construction workers and protect them against the economic disruptions due to the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic and Country-wide lockdown the Central Government has taken numerous measures to provide them financial assistance, food packages and other benefits. Advisory guidelines have been issued on 24.03.2020 under Section - 60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996 to all the States/ UTs Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Boards to frame a scheme for transfer of adequate funds in the bank account of construction workers through direct benefit transfer (DBT mode) from the cess funds collected by the States/ UTs. In response the State Welfare Boards have cumulatively disbursed around ₹5,000/- Crores, through DBT, to the bank accounts of 1.83 Crores (approx.) BOCW Workers during lockdown and thereafter. Food relief packages have also been provided by the States/UTs to around 30 lakh workers from the cess fund. Under Section 60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996 the Central Government has issued on 06.07.2020 a Mission Mode Project (MMP) and advised all the States/UT Governments to implement the Mission Mode Project (MMP) immediately to register all the left out BOC workers who have not been registered with the State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Boards which will ensure that all the registered BOC workers get all the benefits of welfare schemes of the State Welfare Boards and social security schemes of the Central/State Governments like Health Insurance Scheme through PM-JAY (Ayushman Bharat), Life and Disability Cover through PM-Jivan Jyoti Beema Yojana, PM-Suraksha Beema Yojana and Life-long Pension after 60 years through PM-Shram Yogi Mandhan Yojana and subsistence allowance during unemployment, illness, epidemics, natural calamities by using cess fund for the welfare of BOC workers. The time-bound Mission Mode Project relies on easing out the processes, doing away with the physical presence of workers for registration and renewals, reposing trust on workers by self-certification and giving due benefits to all eligible workers in terms of universal social security and welfare schemes by optimally utilizing cess fund. This would provide BOC workers much needed financial help to mitigate the crisis and empower them to withstand the onslaught of calamities in future.

The Central Government has enacted the Inter-state Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 to safeguard the interest of the migrant workers which *inter-alia* provides for registration of establishments employing Inter-State Migrant workers, Licensing of contractors etc. Migrant workers employed

with such establishments are to be provided statutory wages as per the rule in force, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc. The Central Government has issued comprehensive Advisory Guidelines on 27.07.2020 to all the States/UTs for the welfare of the migrant workers returning to the destination States in the backdrop of Covid - 19. The States/UTs have been advised to take adequate steps to streamline the migration of the workers to mitigate the hardships of migrant workers returning to the destination States/UTs. The States/UTs have been advised to implement the advisory guidelines by quickly gearing up their labour Law enforcement machinery and ensuring statutory compliance by all the stake-holders which could provide migrant workers much needed help to mitigate the financial crisis and empower them to deal with the pandemic. The States/UTs have also been advised to maintain updated data of the migrant workers to facilitate the administration to extend benefits of the welfare schemes of the Government to the migrant workers.

Medical benefit under ESIS

418. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the labourers working on construction sites can avail medical benefits under the Employee State Insurance Scheme (ESIS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is planning to strengthening the labour protection in terms of job security, wages, working conditions, social security and welfare; 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 ESI Scheme was extended to construction site workers of construction companies covered under the ESI Act, 1948 with effect from 01.08.2015. Construction site workers are eligible to avail the benefits provided under the Act as per their entitlement. However, more than 20 construction companies from Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Delhi, Gujarat, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana have disputed the coverage and have moved the Court. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has granted stay in the matter *vide* its order dated 06.07.2018.

(c) and (d) The Government has been taking steps to undertake reforms including strengthening of social security, working conditions, wage security in various existing Labour Laws by codifying the existing Labour Laws into 4 Labour Codes. Out of the 4 Labour Codes, the Code on Wages, 2019, was notified on 8th August, 2019 in the Gazette of India. The Code on Wages universalises right of minimum wages to all workers. The rest 3 Codes *i.e.* the Occupational Safety Health & Working Conditions Code, 2019; the Industrial Relations Code, 2019 and the Code on Social Security, 2019 had been introduced in the Lok Sabha in the year 2019 and referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour for examination. After receipt of the reports of the Standing Committee, the requisite steps have been taken for reintroduction of all these Codes.

Shortage of medicine in ESI hospitals

419. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the ESI hospitals are facing the shortage of medicines even regular medicines like BP and sugar tablets are also not available in the hospitals;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any study has been conducted into the facts of the matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the remedial measures being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Generally, there is no shortage of regular medicines, including BP or sugar medicines at ESI hospitals in the country. Beneficiaries are provided all prescribed medicines which are procured through Director General (DG) ESIC Rate Contract (RC), State Govt. Rate contract, etc. If any particular medicine is not available through the rate contract, the same is made available by purchase through locally empaneled chemist(s).

(c) to (e) The Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) monitors various services provided by ESI hospitals including availability of medicines.

However, ESIC Headquarters has issued guidelines to all ESIC user units & State ESI Scheme to procure medicines through ESIC Rate Contract as per its terms & conditions. The medicines which are not available in ESIC Rate Contract, may be procured by ESIC/ Employees' State Insurance Scheme (ESIS) user units through State/ Public sector Rate Contract. Medicines which are not available in these Rate Contracts and which are necessary for treatment of the patient may be procured by the units from empanelled Local Chemist(s) or as per guidelines/ provisions of General Financial Rules.

Welfare of migrant labour/workers

420. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has identified the total numbers of migrant Labour/workers in the country during this pandemic period;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) what are the steps initiated by the Central Government for the welfare of the migrant workers during this pandemic period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) A Statement regarding number of migrant workers who returned to their home state is enclosed as Statement (*See* below). The information in the statement is based on data collected from the State Governments.

(d) The Ministry of Labour and Employment had set up control rooms across the country to receive and address the grievances of workers regarding wages etc. during the national lockdown in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic.

Various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry of Labour and Employment as part of Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) and Atmanirbhar Bharat which, *inter-alia*, include (i) payment of 12% employers' share and 12% employees' share under Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% of the wages by the Government of India for six wage months from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having up to 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹15,000 monthly wage; (ii) reduction in PF contribution from 12% to 10% of wages for the wage

months of May, June and July, 2020; (iii) non-refundable Covid advance from the PF by amending the EPF Scheme, 1952; (iv) extension in the date of filing of returns; (v) issuing advisory to promptly attend to distress calls of workers /employees and also guide them in temporary shelters; (vi) using Building and other construction workers (BOCW) cess fund for transfer of funds in the bank account of construction workers affected by COVID-19 outbreak.

In addition to above, measures have also been taken by other Ministries/ Departments under PMGKY to support the poor including migrant workers, such as, provision of food grains, gas cylinders free of cost, direct transfer of financial assistance into bank account of the beneficiaries etc.

Government has also taken initiatives for creating jobs at local level and supporting migrant workers through Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyaan.

Statement

Sl. No.	State	No. of Migrant workers who have returned to their home State*
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32571
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2871
4.	Assam	426441
5.	Bihar	1500612
6.	Chandigarh	-
7.	Chhattisgarh	-
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	43747
9.	Delhi	-
10.	Goa	-
11.	Gujarat	-
12.	Haryana	1289

1	2	3
13.	Himachal Pradesh	-
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	48780
15.	Jharkhand	530047
16.	Karnataka	-
17.	Kerala	311124
18.	Ladakh	50
19.	Lakshadweep	456
20.	Madhya Pradesh	753581
21.	Maharashtra	182990
22.	Manipur	12338
23.	Meghalaya	4266
24.	Mizoram	-
25.	Nagaland	11750
26.	Odisha	-
27.	Puducherry	1694
28.	Punjab	515642
29.	Rajasthan	1308130
30.	Sikkim	-
31.	Tamil Nadu	72145
32.	Telangana	37050
33.	Tripura	34247
34.	Uttar Pradesh	3249638
35.	Uttarakhand	-
36.	West Bengal	1384693
TOTAL		10466152

*As per information received from State Governments.

Unemployment rate during COVID-19

421. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last six months the country has recorded an average to over 24 per cent unemployment rate and highest at 27.11 per cent in August 2020;

(b) whether it is also a fact that joblessness is the most serious concern of the country; and

(c) the action proposal of Government and urgent sector-wise revival package to reanimate therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) on employment and unemployment is conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. As per the PLFS 2018-19, the estimated unemployment rate to the extent available based on such survey for persons of all ages on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis in the country was 5.8%.

(b) and (c) The global spread of the corona virus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. COVID-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places. Government has taken initiatives for creating jobs at local levels and supporting migrant workers through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Aatmanirbhar Bharat & Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhayan (PMGKRA). Aatmanirbhar Bharat is based on Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand to create jobs for the youth. It encompasses an economic package of ₹ 20 Lakh Crores *inter-alia* facilitating creation of employment opportunities in the country.

Under PMGKY, besides providing food grains, ex-gratia payments directly in the accounts of beneficiaries, EPF contribution for employees working in certain establishments was also made by the Government to support the Industry particularly MSME Sector. Further the wage under MGNREGA has also been increased from Rs 182 per day to Rs 202 which has benefitted about 13.62 Crore families.

Government of India, under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan (PMGKRA), has taken various initiatives to boost rural infrastructure and rural economy to provide local employment opportunities particularly to the migrant returnees. It covers 116 districts of 6 States with a resource envelope of Rs 50,000 crore and is being implemented in a mission mode campaign of 125 days through Ministry of Rural Development.

Government has also announced the measures to strengthen Infrastructure Logistics, Capacity Building, Governance and Administrative Reforms for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Processing Sectors.

Government of India has launched PM SVANidhi Scheme to facilitate collateral free working capital loan upto ₹10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately, 50 lakh street vendors, to reinstate their businesses.

Tweaking of labour laws

422. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has issued any advisory to the State Governments to tweak labour laws for global firms to extend working hours and to change other labour welfare laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of State Governments which have altered labour laws either through executive notification or Ordinance; and

(d) whether any protest has come from labour unions and if so, the response of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The Central Government has been in correspondence with the state Governments to undertake various legislative and governance reforms. Under the Factories Act, state Governments are empowered to issue notification to extend the working hours without any reference to the Central Government. Some of the State Governments have notified increase in working hours to address the issues of limited availability of workers during Covid-19, pandemic. As far as issue of ordinances are concerned, the State Governments require to refer the proposal to Central Government for effecting changes in the labour laws enacted by

the Parliament. This Ministry has received proposal through the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, from the various State Governments including Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh to effect changes in either one or all of these Central Acts *viz.*, the Industrial Disputes Act, the Factories Act or the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act.

(d) Amendment in the labour laws is a continuous and ongoing process. This Ministry receives communications from the labour unions expressing their opinions. Any amendment in the labour law is drafted after following the process of tripartite consultation involving various stakeholders *i.e.*, trade unions, employers representatives and State Governments.

Child labour

423. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the recent joint report by UNICEF and International Labour Organisation (ILO) that millions of children would be pushed to work due to Covid, leading to increase in child labour;

(b) if so, whether Government conducted any survey to find out the position of child labour in the country, in view of job losses and rising poverty;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the mechanism to detect child labour in the country and to take appropriate action in coordination with the State Governments with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Formally, the Government has not received any communication from ILO or UNICEF in this regard. However, a report titled "COVID-19 AND CHILD LABOUR: A TIME OF CRISIS, A TIME TO ACT" prepared by ILO and UNICEF is available on the website of ILO.

(b) In view of above, the question does not arise.

(c) In view of above, the question does not arise.

(d) Government is implementing the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme for rehabilitation of child labour. Survey for identification of working children is the immediate starting point for launching and implementing the NCLP Scheme. The NCLP

Societies headed by District Magistrate/Collector, are required to conduct survey within three years since the last survey for which an amount of ₹ 4.00 Lakh per survey per district is provided by Government of India. Children in the age group of 9-14 years, rescued/withdrawn from work are enrolled in the NCLP Special Training Centres, where they are provided with bridge education, vocational training, mid day meal, stipend, health care, etc. before being mainstreamed into formal education system. Children in the age group of 5-8 years are directly linked to the formal education system through a close coordination with the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA).

Rehabilitation of unorganised sector workers

424. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any immediate measures have been taken to ensure basic necessities to the unorganized sector workers who lost their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any cash relief measures to them is under consideration;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether any long term strategies and support for their rehabilitation is under consideration; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (f) In order to protect the unorganised workers affected due to the outbreak of Covid 19 pandemic and country wide lockdown the Central Government has taken numerous measures to provide them financial assistance, food packages and other necessary benefits. The Central Government announced ₹1.70 Lakh Crore relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) for the poor. Further, Government of India has also launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA) on 20th June, 2020.

The GKRA focuses on providing livelihood opportunities to returning migrants and similarly affected rural citizens, provide infrastructure and create livelihood assets. The Abhiyaan involves intensified and focused implementation of 25 target driven works to provide employment and create infrastructure in the rural areas of 116 districts of 6 States with a fund of ₹ 50,000 crore. Government issued advisory on 24.03.2020

under section-60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996 to all the States/UTs to provide financial assistance to Building and Other Construction Workers from the cess funds collected by the States/UTs. In response the State Welfare Boards have cumulatively disbursed around ₹5000/- crore, to approx. 1.83 crore BOCW Workers during lockdown and thereafter. Government of India has also launched SVANidhi Scheme for the benefit of about 50 lakh street vendors to provide them collateral free working capital loan upto ₹ 10,000/- to resume their lost livelihood.

Data of casual workers

425. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of number of casual workers working in centrally sponsored/controlled industrial and non industrial units;
- (b) if so, what is their total number;
- (c) whether Ministry is maintaining a regular dynamic data of such casual workers; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to give them stability in their employment and minimum facility required for stable and dignified life?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) As per Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) report 2018-19, the percentage distribution of casual workers in usual status was 29.3% for rural and 10.7% for urban all India level.

(d) The Ministry of Labour and Employment has revised minimum rates of wages for employees engaged in Scheduled employment in the Central Sphere *vide* its Notification dated 19th January, 2017. A statement showing comparison of old and revised Basic Minimum Wages for various categories under the Scheduled Employment is given at Statement-I (*See* below). In addition to the above, variable dearness allowance (V.D.A.) is revised every six months on the basis of Consumer Price Index. V.D.A. was last revised w.e.f. 01.04.2020. A Statement showing Minimum rates of wages in the Central Sphere is given at Statement-II (*See* below).

Under Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the enforcement is secured at two levels. In the Central Sphere, the enforcement is secured through the inspecting officers of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) commonly designated as Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) and the compliance in the State Sphere is ensured through the State Enforcement Machinery.

Statement-I

Comparison showing Old and Revised Basic Minimum Wages for various Categories under the Scheduled Employment

(Wages in ₹ per day) w .e f. 19.01.2017

Scheduled Employment	Category of Workers	Area A		Area B		Area C	
		Old	Revised	Old	Revised	Old	Revised
Agriculture	Unskilled	237	333	216	303	214	300
	Semi-skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	259	364	239	335	219	307
	Skilled/Clerical	281	395	259	364	238	334
	Highly-skilled	312	438	289	407	259	364
Sweeping and Cleaning	Unskilled	374	523	312	437	250	350
Watch and Ward	Without Arms (Upgraded to skilled with training)	414	637	353	579	293	494
	With Arms (Upgraded to highly skilled for supervision)	456	693	414	637	353	579
Loading & Unloading	Unskilled	374	523	312	437	250	350

Construction	Unskilled	374	523	312	437	250	350	Written Answers to
	Semi-skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	414	579	353	494	293	410	
	Skilled/Clerical	456	637	414	579	353	494	
	Highly-skilled	495	693	456	637	414	579	
		old			Revised			
Workers engaged In	1. Excavation & removal of over burden with 50 meters lead/1.5 meters lift:*							[16 September, 2020]
Stone Mines for Stone	(a) Soft Soil		252.00				351	
Breaking and Stone	(b) Soft Soil with Rock		380.00				531	
Crushing	(c) Rock		503.00				703	
	2. Removal and Staking of rejected stones with 50 metres lead/1.5metres lift*		203.00				283	Unstarred Questions
	3. Stone breaking or Stone Crushing for the stone size of category**							
	(a) 1.0 inch to 1.5 inches		1553.00				2171	
	(b) Above 1.5 Inches to 3.0 Inches		1329.00				1857	
	(c) Above 3.0 Inches to 5 Inches		778.00				1088	
	(d) Above 5.0 inches		639.00				893	181

Non - Coal Mines		Above Ground		Below Ground	
		Old	Revised	Old	Revised
	Unskilled	250	350	312	437
	Semi-skilled/Unskilled Supervisory	312	437	374	523
	Skilled/Clerical	374	523	436	610
	Highly-skilled	436	610	495	683

*Per 2.831 cubic meters or 100 cubic feet

** Per truck load of 5.662 cubic meters or 200 cubic feet

Statement-II*Area-wise Rates of Minimum Wages for Scheduled Employments in the Central Sphere as on 01.04.2020*

Name of Scheduled Employment	Category of Worker	Rates of wages including V.D.A per day (in ₹)			
		Area A	Area B	Area C	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Agriculture	Unskilled		400	365	362
	Semi-Skilled/Unskilled Supervisory		438	402	369
	Skilled/Clerical		475	438	401
	Highly Skilled		526	489	438
2. Workers engaged in Stone Mines for Stone Breaking and Stone Crushing	1. Excavation & removal of over burden with 50 meters lead/1.5 meters lift:				
	(a) Soft Soil		424		
	(b) Soft Soil with Rock		637		
	(c) Rock		844		
	2. Removal and Staking of rejected stones with 50 metres lead 1.5 metres lift		340		
	Stone breaking or Stone Crushing for the stone size				
	(a) 1.0 inch to 1.5 inches		2600		
	(b) Above 1.5 Inches to 3.0 Inches		2224		
	(c) Above 3.0 Inches to 5 Inches		1305		
	(d) Above 5.0 Inches		1071		
3. Sweeping and Cleaning	Unskilled		629	525	420

1	2	3	4	5	6
4. Watch and Ward	Without Arms		764	695	593
	With Arms		831	764	695
5. Loading and Unloading	Unskilled		629	525	420
6. Construction	Unskilled		629	525	420
	Semi-Skilled/Unskilled Supervisory		695	593	492
	Skilled/Clerical		764	695	593
	Highly Skilled		831	764	695
7. Non-Coal Mines			Above Ground	Below Ground	
	Unskilled		420	525	
	Semi-Skilled/Unskilled Supervisory		525	629	
	Skilled/Clerical		629	733	
	Highly Skilled		733	819	
Name of Scheduled Employment		Nomenclature			
1			2		
1. Agriculture		Agriculture			
2. Workers engaged in Stone Mines for Stone Breaking and Stone Crushing		Workers engaged in Stone Mines for Stone Breaking and Stone Crushing			
3. Sweeping and Cleaning		Employment of Sweeping and Cleaning excluding Activities prohibited under the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993			
4. Watch and Ward		Employment of Watch and Ward			

1	2
5. Loading and Unloading	Employment in Loading and Unloading in (i) Goods Sheds, Parcel Offices of Railways; (ii) Other Goodssheds, Godowns, Warehouses etc. and; (iii) Docks and Ports
6. Construction	Construction or maintenance of Roads or Runways or in Building Operations including laying down Underground Electric, Wireless, Radio, Television, Telephone, Telegraph and Overseas Communication Cables and similar other Underground Cabling Work, Electric Lines, Water Supply Lines and Sewerage Pipe Lines
7. Non-Coal Mines	Employees engaged in the employment of Gypsum, Barytes, Bauxite, Manganese, China Clay, Kyanite, Copper, Clay, Magnesite, White Clay, Stone, Steatite (including the mines producing Soap Stones and Talc), Orchre, Asbestos, Fire Clay, Chromite, Quartzite, Quartz, Silica, Graphite, Felspar, Laterite, Dolomite, Red Oxide, Wolfram, Iron Ore, Granite, Rock Phosphate, Hematite, Marble and Calcite, Uranium, Mica, Lignite, Grave, Slate and Magnetite Mines

Classification of Area

Area - "A"

Ahmedabad	(UA)	Hyderabad	(UA)	Faridabad complex
Bangaluru	(UA)	Kanpur	(UA)	Ghaziabad
Kolkata	(UA)	Lucknow	(UA)	Gurgaon
Delhi	(UA)	Chennai	(UA)	Noida
Greater Mumbai	(UA)	Nagpur	(UA)	Secunderabad
Navi Mumbai		Pune	(UA)	

Area - "B"

Agra	(UA)	Gwalior	(UA)	Port Blair	(UA)
------	------	---------	------	------------	------

Ajmer	(UA)	Hubli-Dharwad	(M. Corpn)	Puducherry	(UA)
Aligarh	(UA)	Indore	(UA)	Raipur	(UA)
Allahabad	(UA)	Jabalpur	(UA)	Raurkela	(UA)
Amravati	(M. Corpn)	Jaipur	(M. Corpn)	Rajkot	(UA)
Amritsar	(UA)	Jalandhar	(UA)	Ranchi	(UA)
Asansol	(UA)	Jalandhar-Cantt.	(UA)	Saharanpur	(M. Corpn)
Aurangabad	(UA)	Jammu	(UA)	Salem	(UA)
Bareilly	(UA)	Jamnagar	(UA)	Sangli	(UA)
Belgaum	(UA)	Jamshedpur	(UA)	Shillong	
Bhavnagar	(UA)	Jhansi	(UA)	Siliguri	(UA)
Bhiwandi	(UA)	Jodhpur	(UA)	Solapur	(M. Corpn)
Bhopal	(UA)	Kannur	(UA)	Srinagar	(UA)
Bhubaneswar	(UA)	Kochi	(UA)	Surat	(UA)
Bikaner	(M. Corpn)	Kolhapur	(UA)	Thiruvananthapuram	(UA)
Bokaro Steel City	(UA)	Kollam	(UA)	Thrissur	(UA)
Chandigarh	(UA)	Kota	(M. Corpn)	Tiruchirappalli	(UA)
Coimbatore	(UA)	Kozhikode	(UA)	Tiruppur	(UA)
Cuttack	(UA)	Ludhiana	(M. Corpn)	Ujjain	(M. Corpn)
Dehradun	(UA)	Madurai	(UA)	Vadodara	(UA)
Dhanbad	(UA)	Malappuram	(UA)	Varanasi	(UA)
Durgapur	(UA)	Malegaon	(UA)	Vasai- Virar City	(M. Corpn)

Durg-Bhilai Nagar	(UA)	Mangalore	(UA)	Vijayawada	(UA)
Erode	(UA)	Meerut	(UA)	Vishakhapatnam	(M. Corpn)
Firozabad		Moradabad	(M. Corpn)	Warangal	(UA)
Goa		Mysore	(UA)	Gorakhpur	(UA)
Nanded Waghala	(M. Corpn)	Greater Visakhapatnam	(M. Corpn)	Nasik	(UA)
Gulbarga	(UA)	Nellore	(UA)	Guntur	(UA)
Panchkula	(UA)	Guwahati	(UA)	Patna	(UA)

Area 'C' will comprise all areas not mentioned in this list.

NB: U.A. stands for Urban Agglomeration.

Job loss due to lockdown

426. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.):

DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many people have lost their jobs during last six months due to total lockdown in the country;

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

(c) the effective measures taken by Government to provide jobs to the persons who have lost their jobs during the total lockdown in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The global spread of the corona virus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected global economies including India. Covid-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places. In order to mitigate the adverse impact of COVID-19. Government of India has announced an economic package of ₹ 20 Lakh Crore. Aatmanirbhar Bharat which focuses on Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand to create jobs for the youth has also been launched.

Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) for the poor to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. Measures are intended at reaching out to the poorest of the poor, with food and money in hands, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential supplies and meeting essential needs.

Under PMGKY, Government of India is contributing both 12% /employer's share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% for the wage month from March-August, 2020 for all the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹ 15000/-.

Statutory PF contribution of both employer and employee has been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for three months.

In order to mitigate the challenges in the labour market due to Covid-19 and the consequent lockdown of the economy, online job fairs are being organized through National Career Service (NCS) portal, Ministry of Labour and Employment to bridge the gap between job aspirants and employers where the complete cycle from job posting to selection of candidate can be completed on the portal.

To boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages, in the wake of Covid-19 outbreak, Government of India has launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan on 20th June 2020. Abhiyaan focuses on developing rural infrastructure and providing modern facilities like internet in the villages.

Under Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan, the Government has earmarked an additional ₹ 40,000 crore under MGNREGS. It will help generate nearly 300 crore person days in total addressing need for more work including returning migrant workers in Monsoon season as well.

To provide relief to the business, additional working capital finance of 20% of the outstanding credit as on 29th February 2020, in the form of a Term Loan at a concessional rate of interest is being provided. The units will not have to provide any guarantee or collateral of their own.

Government of India has launched PM- SVANidhi Scheme to facilitate collateral free working capital loan upto ₹ 10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately, 50 lakh street vendors, to resume their businesses.

Increase job opportunities in agriculture and tourism sector in Bihar

†427. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to encourage strategically labour intensive manufacturing, agriculture and tourism sectors and to increase job opportunities in industries based thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the State-wise scheme to establish/encourage agriculture and tourism based industries in current year and in next three years and the number of persons proposed to be employed in these sectors in Bihar, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) National Manufacturing Policy notified by Ministry of Commerce and Industry in 2011 identifies employment intensive industries like textiles and garments, leather and footwear, gems and jewellery and food processing, etc. as special focus attention sectors. The policy provides special attention for Small Scale Industries as they offer employment opportunities both for self-employment and jobs across diverse geographies.

The list of Agri Tourism Projects under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare to the extent available is enclosed Statement.

Statement

*List of Agri Tourism Projects under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) of
Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Name of the Project	Amount (in crore)	Year
1.	Odisha	Establishment of Model Agri-tourism Centre at Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK), Mayurbhanj-II, Jashipur.	2.500	2018-19
2.	Rajasthan	RAJHANS Centre for floriculture, landscaping, ornamental horticulture and agro-tourism in Mount Abu, Sirohi	10.00	2018-19

Note: based on the data entered by the concerned State Govt on RKVY portal.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Amendment in Minimum Wages Act

428. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to amend the rules on Minimum Wages Act to help labourers in getting minimum wages; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when steps will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The Code on Wages, 2019 has been notified on 8th August, 2019. This code has subsumed The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, The Payment of Wages Act, 1936, The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 and The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976. The Code on Wages, 2019 has universalized the provision of Minimum Wage and timely payment of wages to all employees irrespective of the class of work and wage ceiling. The Draft rules made under the Code on Wages, 2019 have been notified on 07.07.2020 for seeking suggestions of all stakeholders.

Jobs to unemployed youths

†429. SHRIMATI PHULO DEVI NETAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of youths promised by Government to give jobs every year;

(b) the number of youths provided jobs yearly during the last five years;

(c) whether it is a fact that unemployment has increased after the Corona crisis;

(d) if so, the rate of unemployment in villages and cities; and

(e) the measures taken by Government to give two crore employment to the youths every year, the details thereof with achievements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (e) Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority 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 such as Prime Minister's Employment

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) which is a placement based skill development programme for wage employment, skill development through Rural Self Employment and Training Institutes (RSETI) enabling a trainee to take bank credit and start her/his own enterprise and Deendayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) with components of employment through skill training & placement and assistance for individuals/groups/SHGs of urban poor for setting up gainful self-employment ventures or micro enterprises. The scheme-wise details are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme/ Programme	Employment Generated
1.	Estimated number of employment generated under PMEGP during 2016-17 to 2020-21 (upto 31.08.2020)	20,25,728
2.	Persondays generated under MGNREGA during 2016-17 to 2020-21 (upto 08.09.2020) (No. in Crore)	1199.01
3.	(a) Candidates placed under DDU-GKY during 2016-17 to 2020-21 (upto August, 2020) (No. of Persons)	5,34,278
	(b) Total no. of candidates settled under RSETI	15,93,109
4.	Number of Skill trained candidates under DAY-NULM during FY-2015-16 to 2019-20	5,23,759
	Number of Beneficiaries assisted for setting up Individual/ Group micro-enterprises under DAY-NULM during FY-2015-16 to 2019-20	5,08,026
	Number of loans disbursed to SHGs under SHG-Bank Linkage programme of the Mission under DAY-NULM during FY-2015-16 to 2019-20	5,33,101

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) has been initiated by Government *inter alia*, for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY collateral free loans upto ₹ 10 lakh, are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities. As on 04.09.2020, over 25.32 crore loans amounting to ₹ 12.91 lakh crore have been extended under the Scheme, since its inception.

Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) was launched in 2016 with the objective to incentivise employers for creation of new employment with social security benefits. Under the scheme, Government of India is paying Employer's full contribution *i.e.* 12% towards Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) both (as admissible from time to time) for a period of three years to the new employees through EPFO w.e.f. 01.04.2018. The terminal date for registration of beneficiary through establishment was 31st March 2019. The beneficiaries registered upto 31st March, 2019 will continue to receive the benefits for 3 years from the date of registration under the scheme. As on 14th September, 2020, 1.21 crore beneficiaries have been benefitted through 1.52 lakh establishments.

The global spread of the corona virus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe, including India. Covid-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places. Government has taken initiatives for creating jobs at local levels & supporting migrant workers through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Aatmanirbhar Bharat & Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhayan (PMGKRA). Aatmanirbhar Bharat is based on Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand to create jobs for the youth. It encompasses an economic package of ₹ 20 Lakh Crores *inter-alia*, for facilitating creation of employment opportunities in the country.

Under PMGKY, Government of India is contributing both 12% employer's share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% of the wage for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹ 15000/-.

Statutory PF contribution of both employer and employee has been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for three months.

Besides these initiatives, flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Digital India, Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart City Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Housing for All, Infrastructure development and Industrial corridors have the potential to generate productive employment opportunities. Ministries/ Departments/ States run skill development schemes across various sectors to improve the employability of youth and also facilitate placements. Schemes such as the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) wherein Government reimburses 25 percent of the stipend payable to apprentices also enhances employability of the youth to access employment.

Unemployment allowance to unemployed

‡430. SHRIMATI PHULO DEVI NETAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the rate of unemployment in the country along with female/male-wise and rural/urban area-wise, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the unemployment has increased rapidly during lockdown period, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to give unemployment allowance to unemployed separately, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) on employment and unemployment is conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. As per PLFS 2018-19, the estimated unemployment rate to the extent available based on such survey for persons of all ages on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis in the country is given below:—

Unemployment Rate			
Rural		Urban	
Male	Female	Male	Female
5.6%	3.5%	7.1%	9.9%

(b) and (c) The global spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. Covid-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places. Government has announced relief package under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) for the poor, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential commodities and meeting essential needs. This included foodgrains, gas cylinders free of cost, *ex-gratia* payments directly in the accounts of beneficiaries, EPF contribution for employees working in certain establishments. Further the wage under MGNREGA has also been increased from ₹ 182 per day to ₹ 202 which has benefitted about 13.62 crore families.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Government of India, under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyaan (PMGKRA), has taken various initiatives to boost rural infrastructure and rural economy to provide local employment opportunities particularly to the migrant returnees. It covers 116 districts of 6 States with a resource envelope of ₹ 50,000 crore and is being implemented in a mission mode campaign of 125 days through Ministry of Rural Development.

Government of India has launched PM- SVANidhi Scheme to facilitate collateral free working capital loan upto ₹10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately, 50 lakh street vendors, to resume their businesses.

The unemployment benefit under the Atal Beemit Vyakti Kalyan Yojana being implemented by the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) has been enhanced to 50% from 25% of the average wage, payable upto 90 days, alongwith relaxation of eligibility conditions to claim the benefit.

New labour laws

431. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is bringing new labour law amalgamating existing 44 Central Labour Laws;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of likely dates of implementation of new labour laws;
- (d) whether Government is taking care of rights of labourers and their social security in the process; and
- (e) whether there has been many instances of misuse of existing labour laws by industries and business firms across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) In pursuance to the recommendations of Second National Commission on Labour, the Ministry has taken steps for drafting four Labour Codes on Wages, Industrial Relations, Social Security and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions respectively, by simplifying, amalgamating and

rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. The Code on Wages, 2019 has been notified on 08.08.2019. The draft Code on Wages (Central) Rules, 2020 has been pre published for comments of all the Stakeholders/General Public on 07.07.2020.

The Occupational Safety Health and Working Conditions Code, 2019, the Industrial Relations Code, 2019 and the Code on Social Security, 2019 had been introduced in the Lok Sabha and referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour for examination. After receipt of the reports of the Standing Committee, the requisite steps have been taken for reintroduction of all these Codes. The entire edifice of labour laws is in place which takes care of rights of labour and their social security.

(e) Labour is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution of India, therefore, the Centre and the States have separate enforcement machinery to conduct inspections from time to time to ensure effective implementation of labour laws. The enforcement in the Central Sphere is done through the officers of the Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) in order to protect interest of the workers in respect of establishments falling under the Central Sphere to ensure that statutory provisions are implemented. Legal actions are initiated as per law in case of any violation.

Job for migrant workers

432. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a mass homeward migration of migrant workers took place in the country during the COVID-19 related lockdown;

(b) if so, how many migrant workers have been forced to return back to their native States; and

(c) whether the Ministry has any data to show if they are being provided with jobs in their native States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) A table showing information homeward migrant workers State-wise is given in the Statement (*See* below). This information is based on data collected from the States.

(c) To boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning to villages, in the wake of COVID-19 outbreak, Government of India has launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan on 20th June, 2020. The Abhiyaan focuses on durable rural infrastructure and providing modern facilities like internet in the villages. Skill Mapping of the rural migrant labour is being done to help them work closer home. The Abhiyaan involves intensified and focused implementation of 25 target driven works to provide employment and create infrastructure in the rural areas of 116 districts of 6 States with a resource envelope of ₹ 50,000 crore. As per the data available, total employment generated (in days) under Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan from 20th June, 2020 till date is 26,34,23,281 days with a total expenditure of ₹ 22,761 crore. Apart from this, the Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched various schemes for migrant workers who have returned to their native places. One of the schemes is Anganwadi services which has been extended to children of migrant workers.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries have sanctioned 700 food processing/preservation and infrastructure projects in which migrant labourers may get employment.

To provide employment to the migrant workers Ministry of Transport and Highways has identified the ongoing works/new works for the road construction. Ministry of Steel assisted migrant workers and their families with food packets and face mask, milk powder etc.

The Department of Bio Technology has set up 30 Biotech-Kisan hubs in the country covering all Agro-climatic zones, 150 districts including 101 aspirational districts which will help migrant workers to earn their livelihood through farming and expose them to the innovative methods of farming of high value crops.

Statement

State-wise details of homeward migrant workers

Sl. No.	State	No. of Migrant workers who have returned to their home State*
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32571
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-

1	2	3
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	2871
4.	Assam	426441
5.	Bihar	1500612
6.	Chandigarh	-
7.	Chhattisgarh	-
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	43747
9.	Delhi	-
10.	Goa	-
11.	Gujarat	-
12.	Haryana	1289
13.	Himachal Pradesh	-
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	48780
15.	Jharkhand	530047
16.	Karnataka	-
17.	Kerala	311124
18.	Ladakh	50
19.	Lakshadweep	456
20.	Madhya Pradesh	753581
21.	Maharashtra	182990
22.	Manipur	12338
23.	Meghalaya	4266
24.	Mizoram	-
25.	Nagaland	11750
26.	Odisha	-
27.	Puducherry	1694

1	2	3
28.	Punjab	515642
29.	Rajasthan	1308130
30.	Sikkim	-
31.	Tamil Nadu	72145
32.	Telangana	37050
33.	Tripura	34247
34.	Uttar Pradesh	3249638
35.	Uttarakhand	-
36.	West Bengal	1384693
TOTAL		10466152

*As received from States till date.

Data on migrant labour

433. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the details of State-wise and district-wise data with respect to the migrant labourers based on the data compiled by Chief Labour Commissioner whilst issuing directions to regional heads based in 20 centres across the country to enumerate every migrant worker stranded due to the lockdown?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): The State-wise data to the extent available is given in the Statement [Refer to the statement appended to answer to USQ No. 432 (Part a and b)].

Unemployment rate in unorganised sector

434. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the unemployment rate for the months March, April, May, June, July, August 2020 month-wise;

(b) the estimated number of workers who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 in the unorganised sector; and

(c) the estimated percentage of the workforce belonging to the unorganised sector and organised sector who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) on employment and unemployment is conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on annual basis. As per PLFS 2018-19, the estimated unemployment rate to the extent available based on such survey for persons of all ages on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis in the country was 5.8%. Further, the global spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. COVID-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places.

National database for migrant workers

435. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry will formulate a National database for documenting migrant workers;

(b) if so, then from when will such a database come into existence and scheme proposed to record data on migrant workers; and

(c) the total number of migrant workers who have lost their jobs owing to the COVID-19 pandemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Ministry of Labour and Employment has envisaged development of a National Database for Unorganized Workers (NDUW) seeded with Aadhaar for all unorganized workers. The project will enroll all Unorganized Workers including Migrant Workers. As per data available till date from various States more than one crore migrant workers returned to their home States during Covid-19 related lockdown. State-wise details of such migrant workers are given in the statement [Refer to statement appended to answer to USQ No. 432 (part A and B)].

Fixation of minimum wage

436. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the difficulty of work and geography considered while setting the minimum wage; and

(b) if so, what factors are considered to map the difficulties of the job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The factors of difficulty of work and geography are taken into account while fixing the rates of minimum wage. As per the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the appropriate Government shall fix the minimum rates of wages payable to employees employed in an employment specified in the schedule. In fixing or revising minimum rates of wages different minimum rates of wages may be fixed for:—

(i) different scheduled employments;

(ii) different classes of work in the same scheduled employment; and

(iii) different localities.

Rate of migration due to employment opportunity

437. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of migration due to employment opportunity in last financial year; and

(b) which sector attract most migrant workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) According to the Economic Survey 2016-17, the size of the migrant workforce can be estimated to be over 100 million in 2016 in absolute terms. Construction, manufacturing, services and agriculture and allied works are the sectors attracting most migrant workers.

Registered workers under AABY scheme

438. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana (AABY) has been implemented in urban areas; and
- (b) what are the major sector's workers registered under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector, Government enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. This Act stipulates formulation of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers on matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover, (ii) health and maternity benefits, (iii) old age protection, and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government. Life and disability cover is provided through Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) to the unorganised workers depending upon their eligibility. The benefit of Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana (AABY) converged with PMJJBY and PMSBY has been extended to the workers in the unorganised sectors such as agricultural workers, constructions workers beedi workers, handloom workers, leather workers, non-coal mines workers, cine workers etc.

Data on unemployed youths

†439. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of youth who completed their school education in last five years and got employment and that of those who are unemployed, rural/urban, female/male-wise separate details thereof;
- (b) the number of youth who completed gradation and higher education in last five years and have employment and that of those who are unemployed in rural/urban, female/male-wise separate details thereof; and
- (c) the details of measures being taken to reduce unemployment rate?

†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) and (b) The quinquennial labour force surveys on employment and unemployment were conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The last such survey was conducted during 2011-12. Now, NSO has switched to the annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which has been initiated from 2017-18. As per the result of Surveys, the estimated unemployment rate and worker population ratio on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis for educated person age 15 years and above in the country to the extent available is given at Statement (*See* below). The NSO surveys (the earlier quinquennial survey and the present PLFS) published survey results in percentages.

(c) Government of India has taken various steps to reduce unemployment in the country through schemes such as 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 Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

Government has taken initiatives for creating jobs at local levels and supporting migrant workers through Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyaan (PMGKRA). Aatmanirbhar Bharat is based on Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand to create jobs for the youth. It encompasses an economic package of ₹ 20 lakh crores *inter alia* facilitating creation of employment opportunities in the country.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) has been initiated by Government *inter alia* for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY collateral free loans upto ₹ 10 lakh, are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities.

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 for job seekers.

Statement

Details of Worker Population Ratio and Unemployment Rate among persons with different level of educational attainments according to usual status (principal status+subsidiary status) basis to the extent available

Worker Population Ratio among persons with different level of educational attainments

(in %)

Region	Gender	Literate & upto primary	Middle	Secondary	Higher secondary	Graduate	Post graduate & above
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2018-19 (PLFS)*							
Rural	Male	85.6	74.7	60.5	55.8	69.1	75.4
	Female	29.8	21.0	17.2	13.8	18.4	31.5
Urban	Male	80.2	73.1	60.6	52.3	69.5	79.9
	Female	20.6	15.9	9.9	9.5	23.1	36.8
2017-18 (PLFS)							
Rural	Male	85.1	73.3	61.0	54.4	66.2	75.9
	Female	26.0	18.3	15.6	12.5	18.6	31.1
Urban	Male	80.2	73.8	62.1	51.5	71.1	77.6
	Female	21.7	13.8	10.6	9.9	22.8	35.7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2011-12 (NSS 68th round)							
Rural	Male	89.2	77.0	66.8	61.8	76.9	82.8
	Female	36.1	27.6	22.2	17.6	26.7	41.6
Urban	Male	84.7	76.5	65.1	58.3	77.1	84.4
	Female	22.3	15.8	11.0	10.8	23.7	39.5

*For comparability, the results of the PLFS with earlier rounds of NSS surveys need to be understood in the context with which the survey methodology and sample selection has been designed.

Source: Employment and Unemployment Survey 2011-12 and annual report PLFS, 2017-18 and 2011, MoS&PI.

Unemployment Rate among persons with different level of educational attainments

(in %)

Region	Gender	Literate & upto primary	Middle	Secondary	Higher secondary	Graduate	Post Graduate & above
2018-19 (PLFS)*							
Rural	Male	2.7	5.3	5.6	8.7	17.0	16.3
	Female	0.6	1.7	3.7	11.9	33.9	36.8
Urban	Male	3.4	5.4	5.5	8.0	12.9	7.3

	Female	1.5	4.3	8.7	16.0	20.5	18.6
2017-18 (PLFS)							
Rural	Male	3.1	5.7	5.6	9.5	18.1	13.3
	Female	0.6	3.7	4.4	14.4	32.7	36.8
Urban	Male	3.6	6.0	5.8	9.2	11.7	8.6
	Female	1.3	5.1	10.6	17.2	24.4	19.5
2011-12 (NSS 68th round)							
Rural	Male	1.0	1.8	1.9	3.1	7.2	
	Female	0.3	2.5	5.5	8.8	19.0	
Urban	Male	1.9	2.2	2.3	4.6	5.1	
	Female	1.3	3.0	6.8	8.4	12.7	

*For comparability, the results of the PLFS with earlier rounds of NSS surveys need to be understood in the context with which the survey methodology and sample selection has been designed.

Source: Employment and Unemployment Survey 2011-12 and annual report PLFS, 2017-18 and 2019, MoS&PI.

Recreation of lost jobs

‡440. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that lacs of people lost their jobs and salaries of lacs of people were reduced during lockdown, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is a fact that during this period lacs of private and Government jobs have been lost, if so, the State-wise details along with numbers thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has any master plan to re-create the lost jobs, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The global spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) followed by lockdowns has affected economies across the globe including India. COVID-19 has resulted in large number of migrant workers going back to their native places. Government is taking several steps to ensure that the country is well prepared to face the challenges and threats posed by COVID-19. Government of India has announced an economic package of ₹ 20 lakh crore. Aatmanirbhar Bharat which focuses on Economy, Infrastructure, System, Vibrant Demography and Demand to create jobs for the youth has also been launched.

Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) for the poor to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. Measures are intended at reaching out to the poorest of the poor, with food and money in hands, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential supplies and meeting essential needs.

Under PMGKY, Government of India is contributing both 12% employers' share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% of the wage for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹ 15000/-.

Statutory PF contribution of both employer and employee has been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO for three months.

Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like increasing public expenditure on schemes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Self employment is being facilitated under Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY). Under PMMY collateral free loans upto ₹ 10 lakh, are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities.

Government of India has also launched PM SVANidhi Scheme to facilitate collateral free working capital loan upto ₹10,000/- of one-year tenure, to approximately, 50 lakh street vendors, to resume their businesses.

Changes in labour laws in States during lockdown

†441. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many States including Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat have made changes in labour laws through ordinances or executive orders during lockdown;

(b) if so, what are the laws related to labourers in which changes have been made and details of such changes and the period of effectiveness of said changes, State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether States have obtained the necessary approval from the Central Government, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) The subject of 'labour' is in the concurrent list of the Constitution of India where both the Central and State Governments are competent to enact legislation subject to certain matters being reserved for the Centre. Reforms in labour laws is a continuous process, therefore, Central and State Governments strive on regular basis to update the legislative system as per the need of the hour. Under the Factories Act, State Governments are empowered to issue notification to extend the working hours without any reference to the Central Government. Some of the State Governments have notified increase in working hours to address the issues of limited availability of workers during COVID-19, pandemic. As far as issue of ordinances are concerned, the State Governments are required to refer the proposal to the Central Government for effecting changes in the existing Central Labour Laws enacted by the Parliament. This Ministry has received proposal through the Union

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Ministry of Home Affairs, from the various State Governments including Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Tripura, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh to effect changes in one or all of these Central Acts viz., the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the Factories Act, 1948 or the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970.

Salaried job loss in the country

442. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the recent report of Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) 18.9 million salaried job loss have been reported in the country during April to July, 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, month-wise, State-wise and sector-wise;
- (c) the reasons for failure of Government to check salaried job loss in the country; and
- (d) the steps Government would take to provide salaried jobs to youths of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) For framing Government policies only official data are used and data captured by Non-Government agencies are not referred.

(d) Employment generation coupled with improving employability of the youth 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 such as 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 Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

Government has also implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project as a Mission Mode Project for transformation of the National Employment Service to

provide a variety of employment related services like job matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, apprenticeship, internships, etc.

Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) was launched in 2016 with the objective to incentivise employers for creation of new employment with social security benefits. Under the scheme, Government of India is paying Employer's full contribution *i.e.* 12% towards EPF and EPS both (as admissible from time to time) for a period of three years to the new employees through EPFO w.e.f. 01.04.2018. The terminal date for registration of beneficiary through establishment was 31st March, 2019. The beneficiaries registered upto 31st March, 2019 will continue to receive the benefits for 3 years from the date of registration under the scheme. As on 31st August, 2020, 1.21 crore beneficiaries have been benefitted through 1.52 lakh establishments.

Ministry of Labour and Employment is also implementing PMGKY through EPFO under PMGKY, Government of India is contributing both 12% employers' share and 12% share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% for the wage month from March - August, 2020 for all the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹ 15,000/-.

Schemes for job creation

443. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various schemes under the Ministry which have been implemented, nearing completion or yet to be started during the last two years; and

(b) the number of persons who have been benefitted in getting jobs due to implementation of various schemes, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Ministry of Labour and Employment is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) since 2016 with the objective to incentivise employers for creation of new employment with social security benefits. Under the scheme, Government of India is paying Employer's full contribution *i.e.* 12% towards Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) both (as admissible from time to time) for a period of three years to the

new employees through EPFO w.e.f. 01.04.2018. The terminal date for registration of beneficiary through establishment was 31st March, 2019. The beneficiaries registered upto 31st March, 2019 will continue to receive the benefits for 3 years from the date of registration under the scheme. As on 14th September, 2020, 1.21 crore beneficiaries have been benefitted through 1.52 lakh establishments.

Government has also implemented the National Career Service (NCS) Project as a Mission Mode Project for transformation of the National Employment Service to provide a variety of employment related services like job matching, career counselling, vocational guidance, information on skill development courses, apprenticeship, internships, etc.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojna (PMGKY) launched in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Government of India is contributing both 12% employer's share and 12% employee's share under Employees Provident Fund (EPF), totalling 24% of the wage for the wage month from March to August, 2020 for all the establishments having upto 100 employees with 90% of such employees earning less than ₹ 15000/-.

Statutory PF contribution of both employer and employee has been reduced to 10% each from existing 12% each for all establishments covered by EPFO, for three months.

The above initiatives are in addition to various employment generation schemes being implemented by other sectoral Ministries and Departments.

Projects in oil and gas sector

444. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 8,363 projects worth ₹5.88 lakh crore have been initiated in the oil and gas sector since 20th April, 2020 in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of offshore projects and international ventures in this sector;

(c) the details of oil and gas sector projects currently ongoing in State of Maharashtra indicating the current status thereof; and

(d) how much employment will be generated through this projects over the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Oil and gas CPSEs and their Joint Ventures/subsidiaries have started/resumed over 8000 economic activities/projects, progressively since 20.04.2020. These include projects and activities in upstream, midstream and downstream sector. The State-wise breakup of major ongoing projects of oil and gas CPSEs/JVs including offshore projects is given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) There are a total of 744 ongoing projects costing ₹ 39,496 crore which are being implemented in the State of Maharashtra. These 8000 projects in general make available employment opportunities in direct as well as indirect forms during the construction and operational phase.

Statement

List of major ongoing projects of oil and gas CPSEs/JVs resumed since 20.4.2020

Sl. No.	Name of project	Company	State
1.	Rajasthan Refinery and Petrochemical Limited	HRRL	Rajasthan & Gujarat
2.	Visakh Refinery Modernisation	HPCL	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Poly Addition Project	HMEL	Punjab
4.	Barauni Refinery Capacity Expansion	IOCL	Bihar
5.	Ennore - Thiruvallur - Bengaluru - Puducherry -Nagapattinam - Madurai - Tuticorin Natural Gas Pipeline	IOCL	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry
6.	Kochi-Koottanad-Bangalore-Mangalore Project	GAIL	Karnataka, Kerala & Tamil Nadu
7.	Ethylene Glycol Project at Paradip Refinery	IOCL	Odisha
8.	Propylene Derivative Petrochemical Project, Kochi	BPCL	Kerala

Sl. No.	Name of project	Company	State
9.	Mumbai Refinery Expansion Project	HPCL	Maharashtra
10.	30" Crude Oil Pipeline in H-B section of PHBPL and Conversion of existing 18" twin pipelines in H-B section from Crude to Product and Gas	IOCL	Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Odisha
11.	Paradip - Hyderabad Pipeline	IOCL	Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, & Telangana
12.	Motor Spirit Block Project at Kochi Refinery	BPCL	Kerala
13.	Exploratory Drilling in Western Offshore Basin-SW	ONGC	Western Offshore
14.	Dobhi-Durgapur Pipeline Project (Section 2 B)	GAIL	Bihar, Jharkhand, & West Bengal
15.	Mumbai High South Redevelopment Phase-IV	ONGC	Western Offshore
16.	Life Extension of well platforms	ONGC	Western Offshore
17.	BS VI Project	CPCL	Tamil Nadu
18.	BS VI Project	MRPL	Karnataka
19.	2 G Ethanol plant (Bio Refinery), Assam	NRL	Assam
20.	NCU(Phase-I) expansion along with revamp of MEG & BEU unit and C2-C3 at Panipat Refinery	IOCL	Haryana
21.	Development Drilling in Mumbai High Asset	ONGC	Western Offshore
22.	Development Drilling in Neelam & Heera Asset	ONGC	Western Offshore
23.	Infrastructure facilities at Gujarat Refinery and Dumad for Koyali-Ahmednagar-Solapur Pipeline	IOCL	Gujarat

Sl. No	Name of project	Company	State
24.	LPG Import Facility at Paradip	IOCL	Odisha
25.	Development of Surface Facilities for Production and Evacuation of Crude Oil and Natural Gas from Nadua and East Khagorijan	OIL	Assam

Oil well fires

445. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:
SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fires occurred in the oil wells in the country during the last three years, details thereof;

(b) whether any enquiry is ordered into the fire at Tinsukia oil well in Assam owned by Oil India Ltd.;

(c) if so, the findings of the preliminary enquiry;

(d) whether any damage is caused to the wetland nearby oil fields, if so, the details thereof;

(e) the loss of revenue to the company due to oil fire; and

(f) the steps taken to ensure plugging leakage and control the pressure effectively, to prevent such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Number of fires occurred in oil well installations in the last three years reported to Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), are given below:—

Sector	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Number	01	03	00
Location	Well Hapjan-28, Hapjan, Assam	1. NKH 640 & 637 under OCS-4, Assam 2. Cambay 57, well site 3. ONGC workover rig, Akash# 4. Ahmedabad	Nil

(b) and (c) Ministry has constituted a three Member Inquiry Committee to inquire into this incident. In addition, Inquiry Committees have also been set up by Directorate General of Mines and Safety (DGMS), and Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), Government of India. The report submitted by OISD suggests that pulling out of drill pipe and nipple down Blowout Preventer before complete settling of cement is the root cause of incidence.

(d) There has been impact on the nearby areas because of the heat and noise generated from the blowout well of Baghjan field. M/s The Energy Research Institute (TERI) has been engaged for Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) monitoring and Bio-remediation, North East Institute of Science and Technology (NEIST) for Seismological Study and IIT, Guwahati for heat impact through Thermal Imaging.

(e) The well was producing gas @80,000 MMSCMD before the well was put under work over. The blowout at well resulted in closure of number of producing oil and gas wells in and around Baghjan due to protest staged by local people. The closures of producing wells has resulted in an estimated revenue loss of about ₹ 148 crore to the company during the period from 27.05.2020 to 08.09.2020. The revenue loss due to gas burning uncontrollably into the atmosphere from the blowout well could not be ascertained as no measurement was possible due to fire and extreme heat.

(f) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas regularly monitors and reviews various safety measures in the oil and gas sector and directs the companies from time to time to take suitable measures to ensure safety in these installations. OISD, a technical Directorate of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas formulates safety standards for the entire Oil and Gas Industry. The Directorate carries out regular safety audits to check and review whether the safety standards and norms are being followed by the industry. The audits include External safety Audits and Surprise safety Audits at periodic intervals to cover all the existing installations; pre-commissioning safety audit of all new facilities being added to the existing installation and new installation being set up, before commissioning of the facilities. In order to prevent such accidents in future, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are also being re-visited for making improvements, if any.

Srikakulam-Angur natural gas pipeline

446. SHRI V. VIJAYSAI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of status of Srikakulam-Angur natural gas pipeline;

(b) when was the project started and whether there is any time and cost overrun, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the project is set to be completed and the details of villages and number of households that are going to benefit through the proposed line?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) GAIL is executing 690 km long Srikakulam-Angul natural gas pipeline to cater the Natural gas requirements for the Industrials/Domestic Households consumers passing through ten districts viz. Angul, Dhenkanal, Cuttack, Khordha, Nayagarh, Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput, Kalahandi in the state of Odisha and one district viz. Srikakulam in the State of Andhra Pradesh en-route of the pipeline. It is informed that Project Management Consultant (PMC) has been appointed on 03.01.2020. Order for 24" line pipe length of 80 km has been awarded on 03.01.2020 and the same is under manufacturing and delivery stage. The detailed route survey for mainline has been completed.

(b) Srikakulam-Angul Natural Gas Pipeline (SAPL) has been authorized by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) on 23.07.2019. At present, the project is going as per schedule and is expected to be completed within the prescribed schedule.

(c) The target completion date is July, 2022. 367 villages are expected to be benefitted through the proposed pipeline. PNGRB has authorized five Geographical Areas (GAs) en-route of the pipeline for development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network. As per minimum work programme submitted to PNGRB, the authorized CGD entities have committed to provide 10.59 lakh Piped Natural Gas (PNG) domestic connections to household in these five GAs.

Reduction in price of oil

447. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of oil has decreased during the last six months due to global lockdown restrictions induced by the COVID-19 pandemic, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has reduced the price of petrol in the country during the last six months, the details thereof; and

(c) the percentage increase in the monthly average price of petrol during the last twelve months, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The monthly average price of Indian Basket of Crude Oil during March to September 2020 is given below:—

Period	Indian Basket of Crude Oil (\$/bbl)
March-2020	33.36
April-2020	19.90
May-2020	30.60
June-2020	40.63
July-2020	43.35
August-2020	44.19
September-2020 (till 9th September 2020)	42.42

(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. The prices of petrol and diesel are revised on a daily basis on the basis of international prices of these products, exchange rate, tax structure, inland freight and other cost elements. The details of increase/decrease in prices of petrol during the last six months are available at the website of Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) *i.e.* www.ppac.gov.in.

(c) The percentage increase in the monthly average price of petrol at Delhi during the last twelve months is given below:—

Months	Petrol (₹/litre)	% Increase
Aug-19	72.10	
Sep-19	72.71	0.9%
Oct-19	73.46	1.0%
Nov-19	73.69	0.3%
Dec-19	74.81	1.5%
Jan-20	75.01	0.3%

Months	Petrol (₹/litre)	% Increase
Feb-20	72.23	-3.7%
Mar-20	70.15	-2.9%
Apr-20	69.59	-0.8%
May-20	71.04	2.1%
Jun-20	76.10	7.1%
Jul-20	80.43	5.7%
Aug-20	80.95	0.6%
Sep-20	82.07	1.4%

Note: As provided by IOCL

Gas leakage and fire breakout

448. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of incidents of gas leakage and fire break out in underground natural gas pipelines, refineries and oil fields/wells have gone up;

(b) if so, the details along with number of such incidents and the loss of revenue reported as a result thereof during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(c) whether the oil companies/persons and other agencies have been found responsible/involved in such incidents and if so, the details thereof along with action taken by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Major onsite incidents in the last three years reported to Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD), are given below:—

Sector	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (till August 2020)
Pipelines	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Refineries	06	10	07	01
Oil Fields/ Wells	08	06	03	01
TOTAL	14	16	10	02

In most incidents of gas leakages in any installation e.g. pipeline, the oil and gas wells, etc. are closed immediately to prevent fire/loss of oil and gas and after carrying out leakage rectification job, operations are normalized and production is restored. Concerned Companies upon inquiry of the incident initiate the necessary action against the officers/persons found responsible/involved as per the extant rules and regulations of the Company.

Studies to examine natural gas and petroleum extraction

449. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken studies to examine the extraction of natural gas and petroleum potential in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the studies have proven any positive result, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether any such study has been conducted in Andhra Pradesh, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Hydrocarbon Resource Re-Assessment Project (HCRRP) was undertaken in 2017. The project has assessed total un-risked conventional hydrocarbon in-place volume of 42 Billion Ton Oil-Equivalent (BTOE) as compared to earlier estimate of 28 BTOE. National Seismic Programme was launched in 2016 to carry out 2D seismic survey in un-appraised on land areas. Till 31.07.2020, data for 44916 line kilometer has been acquired.

(d) HCRRP has assessed 9.55 BToE in Krishna Godavari (KG) basin. The Project brought out that most prospective onland areas in Andhra Pradesh for oil and gas exploration are East Godavari, West Godavari and Krishna district.

CNG network in all metros and cities

450. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of import and in-house production of PNG and CNG in the country; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up direct CNG network in all metros and cities of the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) As per information provided by Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC), approximately 9,228 MMSCM of Natural gas has been produced domestically and approximately 9,966 MMSCM of LNG has been imported in the country during the period April-July, 2020. This gas also caters to demand of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

(b) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is the authority to grant authorization to the entities for the development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network in Geographical Areas (GAs) as per PNGRB Act, 2006. PNGRB identifies the GAs for the development of CGD network depending on the natural gas pipeline connectivity/natural gas availability and techno-commercial feasibility. At present PNGRB has authorized 232 GAs covering 407 districts for development of CGD network across the country.

Import and in-house production of PNG and CNG

451. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of import and in-house production of PNG and CNG in the country;

(b) the detail of progress of Paradip -Haldia-Barauni oil pipeline and Jagdishpur-Dhamra project with current development of Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL) for North-East therein;

(c) whether Government proposes to setup gas storage terminal in Assam with the supply of gas by Bangladesh Government towards business development; and

(d) if so, the agreement details thereof, if any and if not the reason behind therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) As per information provided by Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC), approximately 9,228 MMSCM of Natural gas has been produced domestically and approximately 9,966 MMSCM of LNG has been imported in the country during the

period April-July, 2020. This gas also caters to demand of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

(b) IOCL is executing 517 km long Paradip-Haldia-Barauni Oil 30" capacity augmentation pipeline project. IOCL has informed that physical progress of 43.4% has been made as of 31.08.2020.

Further, GAIL is executing Jagdishpur-Haldia-Bokaro-Dhamra Pipeline (JHBDPL) with extension of Barauni-Guwahati Pipeline (BGPL) and spur line to Dhamra-Haldia (DHPL) to connect the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha and Assam. GAIL has informed that out of about 2,655 km of pipeline, approximately 1,401 km has been lowered as of now.

With respect to current development of Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL), it is submitted that Government of India has approved Viability Gap Funding (VGF) of 60% of project cost *i.e.* ₹ 5,559 Cr. on 08.01.2020. M/s MECON engaged as Project Management Consultant (PMC). Competent Authorities have been appointed for Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Manipur under P&MP Act, 1962 for acquisition of land. Publication of section 3(1) notification under PMP Act, 1962 has been completed in Assam and Tripura. Various other pre-project activities are being undertaken.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal under consideration in this Ministry at present.

Crude oil stockpiling in American strategic reserves

452. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started stockpiling crude oil in American strategic reserves;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for creating oil reserves in the US;

(c) the present situation of crude oil reserves in the country;

(d) whether those crude oil reserves are sufficient to meet India's energy demands; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) No Sir.

(c) to (e) Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL), a Government of India Special Purpose Vehicle, has established Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR) facilities with total capacity of 5.33 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT). As per the consumption pattern of 2019-20, it is estimated to provide for about 9.5 days of national crude oil requirement. Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in the country have storage facilities for crude oil and petroleum products for 64.5 days, thus the current total national capacity for storage of crude oil and petroleum products is 74 days.

Rise in petrol and diesel prices

453. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.):

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the rise in petrol and diesel prices during the last one year;
- (b) whether Government has reasons for increase in petrol and diesel prices, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to control the petrol and diesel prices, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The details of increase/decrease in prices of petrol/diesel during the last one year are available at the website of Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) *i.e.* www.ppac.gov.in.

(b) and (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 their international product prices, exchange rate, tax structure, inland freight and other cost elements. The OMCs have not only increased but also decreased the prices accordingly.

Extra pricing for supplying BS-VI fuel

454. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the oil refiners push for extra pricing for supplying BS-VI fuel; and
- (b) if so, the details and the present status 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 their international product prices, exchange rate, tax structure, inland freight and other cost elements.

Further, JOCL has informed that BS VI fuels are superior quality fuels in terms of low Sulphur content (10 PPM Max) besides other improved quality parameters. The production of BS VI fuels entailed huge investment for Indian Refiners. The pricing has been modified accordingly *w.e.f.* 01.04.2020 to partly compensate towards the investment cost incurred.

Increasing price of LPG cylinders

455. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the rates of domestic LPG cylinder have increased tremendously during the last two years including a tremendous recent hike of more than ₹140 in the month of February;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether government has any plan to increase subsidy provided on LPG cylinder to BPL families amid recent price hike;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government has any mechanism to control the increasing price of LPG cylinders?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) No Sir. The prices of petroleum products in the country are

linked to the price of respective products in the international market. The price of non-subsidized domestic LPG cylinder as on 01.09.2018 and 01.09.2020 is ₹820/14.2 kg cylinder and ₹ 594/14.2 kg cylinder respectively at Delhi market. Further, there was no such increase of ₹ 140 in the effective cost of the subsidized domestic cylinder in the month of February, 2020. The Government continues to modulate the effective price to consumer for Subsidized Domestic LPG. As Government is modulating the retail price of subsidized domestic LPG, the subsidy on these products increase/ decrease with the corresponding increase/ decrease in the prices of these products in international market. The prices of non-subsidized domestic LPG during the last two years are available at the website of IOCL i.e. www.iocl.com

(c) and (d) A scheme for providing free of cost LPG cylinders for three months to Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries was started under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana w.e.f. 01.04.2020. The scheme has now been extended till September 30, 2020 for those beneficiaries who have been credited with the advance for buying first/Second cylinder, but not able to buy the free cylinders till 30th June 2020. OMCs have delivered 1,332.66 lakh refills to PMUY beneficiaries under this Scheme as on 1 1.09.2020.

(e) As stated in reply to part (a) and (b).

Fluctuation in crude oil prices

†456. 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 details and reasons for price hike of diesel and petrol during lockdown period;

(b) the details of crude oil price fluctuation in international market during last three years and lockdown period;

(c) the details of amount of tax collected per litre by States and Central Government on diesel and petrol; and

(d) whether it is a fact that with the price hike of petrol and diesel the tax collection of Government also increases?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Prices of petrol and diesel have been made market-determined by the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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 details of increase/decrease in prices of petrol/diesel are available at the website of Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) i.e. www.ppac.gov.in.

(b) The average price of Indian Basket of crude oil during the last three years and current year is given as under:—

Period	Indian Basket of Crude Oil (\$/bbl)
2017-18	56.43
2018-19	69.88
2019-20	60.47
2020-21	
April-2020	19.90
May-2020	30.60
June-2020	40.63
July-2020	43.35
August-2020	44.19

(c) The Central government levies central excise duty on petrol and diesel. The details of total central excise duty are as under:—

Product	Excise Duty (₹ per litre)			
	Basic Excise Duty	Road and Infrastructure Cess	Special Additional Excise Duty	Total Central Excise Duty
Petrol (unbranded)	2.98	18	12	32.98
Petrol (branded)	4.16	18		34.16
Diesel (unbranded)	4.83	18	9	31.83
Diesel (branded)	7.19	18		34.19

The details of State wise actual rates of VAT on petrol and diesel as on 1st September 2020 are given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) Petrol and diesel attract Central Excise duty that is specific in nature *i.e.* on the basis of quantity. Presently, unbranded petrol and unbranded diesel attract total central excise duty of ₹ 32.98 per litre and ₹ 31.83 per litre respectively. The excise duty is not *ad-valorem* and therefore, the revenue collection of the Government is not dependent on the market price of the petrol and diesel.

Statement

State wise actual rates of VAT on petrol and diesel as on 1st September 2020

State/UT	Sales Tax/VAT	
	Petrol	Diesel
1	2	3
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6%	6%
Andhra Pradesh	31% VAT + ₹4/litre VAT	22.25% VAT + ₹4/litre VAT
Arunachal Pradesh	20.00%	12.50%
Assam	32.66% or ₹22.63 per litre whichever is higher as VAT	23.66% or ₹17.45 per litre whichever is higher as VAT
Bihar	26% or ₹ 16.65/Litre whichever is higher (30% Surcharge on VAT as irrecoverable tax)	19% or ₹ 12.33/Litre whichever is higher (30% Surcharge on VAT as irrecoverable tax)
Chandigarh	₹10/KL cess +22.45% or ₹12.58/Litre whichever is higher	₹10/KL cess + 14.02% or ₹7.63/Litre whichever is higher
Chhattisgarh	25% VAT + ₹2/litre VAT	25% VAT + ₹1/litre VAT
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	20% VAT	20% VAT
Delhi	30% VAT	₹250/KL air ambience charges + 16.75% VAT

1	2	3
Goa	25% VAT + 0.5% Green cess	22% VAT + 0.5% Green cess
Gujarat	20.1% VAT+ 4% Cess on Town Rate & VAT	20.2% VAT + 4 % Cess on Town Rate & VAT
Haryana	25% or ₹15.20/litre whichever is higher as VAT+5% additional tax on VAT	16.40% VAT or ₹9.20/litre whichever is higher as VAT+5% additional tax on VAT
Himachal Pradesh	25% or ₹ 15.50/Litre- whichever is higher	14% or ₹ 9.00/Litre- whichever is higher
Jammu and Kashmir	24% MST+ ₹5/Litre employment cess, Reduction of ₹0.50/Litre	16% MST+ ₹1.50/Litre employment cess
Jharkhand	22% on the sale price or ₹ 17.00 per litre, which ever is higher + Cess of ₹ 1.00 per Ltr	22% on the sale price or ₹ 12.50 per litre, which ever is higher + Cess of ₹ 1.00 per Ltr
Karnataka	35% sales tax	24% sales tax
Kerala	30.08% sales tax+ ₹1/litre additional sales tax + 1% cess	22.76% sales tax+ ₹1/litre additional sales tax + 1% cess
Ladakh	24% MST+ ₹5/Litre employment cess, Reduction of ₹2.5/Litre	16% MST+ ₹1/Litre employment cess, Reduction of ₹0.50/Litre
Lakshadweep	Nil	Nil
Madhya Pradesh	33 % VAT + ₹4.5/litre VAT+ 1% cess	23% VAT+ ₹3/litre VAT+1% cess
Maharashtra - Mumbai, Thane & Navi Mumbai	26% VAT+ ₹10.12/Litre additional tax	24% VAT+ ₹3.00/Litre additional tax
Maharashtra (Rest of State)	25% VAT+ ₹10.12/Litre additional tax	21% VAT+ ₹3.00/Litre additional tax

1	2	3
Manipur	36.50% VAT	22.50% VAT
Meghalaya	31% or ₹ 17.60/Litre- whichever is higher (2% surcharge leviable only on <i>advalorem</i> tax)	22.5% or ₹12.50/Litre- whichever is higher (2% surcharge leviable only on <i>advalorem</i> tax)
Mizoram	25% VAT	14.5% VAT
Nagaland	25.00% VAT +5% surcharge + ₹2.00/Litre as road maintenance cess + ₹6.00/ Litre as Covid cess	14.50% VAT+ 5% surcharge + ₹2.00/Litre as road maintenance cess+ ₹5.00/ Litre as Covid cess
Odisha	32% VAT	28% VAT
Puducherry	28% VAT	19.75% VAT
Punjab	₹2050/KL (cess)+ ₹0.10 per Litre (Urban Transport Fund) +24.79% VAT+10% additional tax on VAT	₹1050/KL (cess) + ₹0.10 per Litre (Urban Transport Fund) + 15.94% VAT+10% additional tax on VAT
Rajasthan	38% VAT+ ₹ 1500/KL road development cess	28% VAT+ ₹1750/KL road development cess
Sikkim	25.25% VAT+ ₹3000/KL cess	14.75% VAT + ₹2500/KL cess
Tamil Nadu	15% + ₹13.02 per litre	11% + ₹9.62 per litre
Telangana	35.20% VAT	27% VAT
Tripura	25% VAT+ 3% Tripura Road Development Cess	16.50% VAT+ 3% Tripura Road Development Cess
Uttar Pradesh	26.80% or ₹ 18.74/Litre whichever is higher	17.48% or ₹10.41/Litre whichever is higher
Uttarakhand	25% or ₹ 19 Per Ltr whichever is greater	17.48% or ₹ 10.41 Per Ltr whichever is greater

1	2	3
West Bengal	25% or ₹13.12/litre whichever is higher as sales tax+ ₹1000/ KL cess- ₹17/KL exemption (20% Additional tax on VAT as irrecoverable tax)	17% or ₹7.70/litre whichever is higher as sales tax + ₹ 1000/KL cess - Rs 290/KL sales tax rebate (20% Additional tax on VAT as irrecoverable tax)

Notes: VAT/Sales Tax at applicable rates is also levied on Dealer's commission in Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan Chandigarh, Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar, Meghalaya, Dadar Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu.

Source: PPAC.

Piped Natural Gas (PNG) in Maharashtra

457. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cities in the country where Piped Gas Natural (PNG) is made available, State/ UT-wise; and

(b) whether Government proposes to provide domestic and industrial piped gas in various cities/districts of Maharashtra, specially in Aurangabad district during the next two years and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is the authority to grant authorization to the entities for developing of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network in Geographical Areas (GAs) as per PNGRB Act, 2006. PNGRB identifies GAs for authorizing the development of CGD network in synchronization with the development of natural gas pipeline connectivity and natural gas availability. Details of GAs authorized in the country which includes state of Maharashtra are available at PNGRB's website www.pngrb.gov.in.

(b) So far PNGRB has authorized 232 GAs for development of CGD network across the country covering more than 400 districts in the country in 27 States/UTs including the state of Maharashtra which covers around 71% of India's population and 53 % of area. Aurangabad district in the state of Maharashtra has already been covered in Ahmednagar and Aurangabad Districts GA.

Reduction in import of crude oil

458. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate any project to reduce the import of crude oil and also a project for production of biofuel in view of surging prices of crude oil in international market;

(b) if so, whether any system for the same is proposed in collaboration with any other country and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the import of petroleum products during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes Sir. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has identified a basket of strategies *inter-alia* including primarily increasing domestic production of oil and gas and promoting biofuels/alternate fuels with a view to achieve reduction in import of crude oil. Government has also taken a number of initiatives to encourage the use of alternative fuels like ethanol and bio-diesel through Ethanol Blending in Petrol (EBP) Programme and Bio-diesel blending in diesel. Government has formulated a National Bio Fuel Policy 2018 to boost availability of biofuels in country. To give a major thrust to Ethanol Blending Programme, Oil CPSEs are establishing twelve 2G Ethanol plants across 11 States of the country.

(b) Government of India has joined International Energy Agency's Technology Collaboration Programme on Bioenergy (IEA Bioenergy TCP) on 25th January, 2019. This is an international platform for cooperation and information exchange among countries that have national programmes in bio-energy research, technology development, demonstration and policy analysis.

(c) The year-wise details of the import of petroleum products during the last three years is given below:—

Year	In Million Metric Tonnes	in ₹ crore
2017-18	35.5	88374
2018-19	33.3	113665
2019-20	43.3	126954
2020-21 (Apr-July) (P)	14.5	29640

P = Provisional

Cylinders distributed under PMUY during Corona crisis

‡459. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) increased early during the past six years;

(b) the number of the gas cylinders distributed during the Corona crisis from March to August, 2020 under PMUY and the amount spent on the same, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to extend the PMUY and relax its eligibility conditions to make any special provision for the hill States like Jharkhand keeping in view the Corona crisis and problems of migrated labourers?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) commenced *w.e.f.* 01.05.2016 to provide deposit free LPG connections to adult woman of poor households. The target of the same was achieved on 7th September, 2019. Year-wise details of LPG connections released under the Scheme are as under:—

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
No. of connections released	200.3 lakh	155.7 lakh	362.9 lakh	82.64 lakh

(b) State/UT-wise details of refill issued and amount spent from April, 2020 to August, 2020 under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana to the PMUY beneficiaries are given in Statement.

(c) No Sir. At present, no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

State	Amount spent by Industry on Free Refill Scheme under PMGKY (₹ in cr)	Refills delivered against PMGKY Advance given to the Beneficiaries
1	2	3
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.57	20,769
Andhra Pradesh	5163	7,33,230
Arunachal Pradesh	5.18	65,998
Assam	362.57	42,61,952
Bihar	1,111.71	1,44,39,342
Chandigarh	0.02	246
Chhattisgarh	324.16	31,71,197
Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu	1.69	22,600
Delhi	12.63	1,94,869
Goa	0.14	2,024
Gujarat	325.92	44,31,673
Haryana	99.02	14,90,015
Himachal Pradesh	19.65	2,85,947
Jammu and Kashmir	145.74	18,36,761
Jharkhand	375.20	47,15,844
Karnataka	378.31	54,48,255
Kerala	33.22	4,78,410
Ladakh	1.66	17,039
Lakshadweep	0.03	460
Madhya Pradesh	773.78	98,07,942

1	2	3
Maharashtra	505.13	73,24,831
Manipur	21.20	2,51,990
Meghalaya	14.08	1,47,750
Mizoram	4.20	51,690
Nagaland	5.93	75,654
Odisha	571.72	77,26,387
Puducherry	2.03	30,613
Punjab	163.51	24,33,890
Rajasthan	738.58	1,01,62,602
Sikkim	1.65	21,055
Tamil Nadu	413.90	58,28,658
Telangana	130.36	17,65,085
Tripura	37.47	3,79,414
Uttar Pradesh	1,817.28	2,58,12,057
Uttarakhand	50.15	7,29,948
West Bengal	1,169.38	1,65,21,610
TOTAL	9,670.41	13,06,87,807

Training programmes at Skill Development Institute, Kochi

460. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of training programs for prospective oil and gas sector employees offered at the Skill Development Institute (SDI) in Kochi;

(b) the name of private and public sector oil and gas companies involved in the setting up of the Skill Development Institute;

(c) the total amount invested in the project thus far by Government and oil and gas CPSEs, PSUs and others; and

(d) whether Government plans to set up such vocational training centres for prospective oil and gas sector employees in other states as well, if so, the roadmap and proposed sources of investment for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Skill Development Institute, Kochi offers training programmes to the prospective oil and gas sector employees in 4 Job Roles *viz.* Industrial Welder (Oil Gas), Industrial Electrician (Oil & Gas), Fitter Fabrication and Technician Instrumentation with a course duration of 6 months each. The training is provided to the unemployed youth from the nearby region to meet skill manpower requirement in the Oil and Gas industry.

(b) Oil and Gas companies involved in the setting up of the Skill Development Institute (SDI), Kochi are Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Limited, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited [HPCL], Oil India Limited (OIL), Engineers India Limited (EIL) and Balmer Lawrie and Co. limited (BL).

(c) The details of percentage / amount of initial contribution for setting up of Skill Development Institute, Kochi and contribution received towards operational requirements are given at below:—

Sl. No.	Oil PSU	Contribution for setting up Kochi SDI (in Percentage)	Contribution for setting up Kochi SDI Amount (in crore)
1	2	3	4
1.	BPCL	30%	4.50
2.	ONGC	15%	2.25
3.	GAIL	15%	2.25
4.	IOCL	10%	1.50

1	2	3	4
5.	HPCL	10%	1.50
6.	OIL	10%	1.50
7.	EIL	5%	0.75
8.	BL	5%	0.75
TOTAL			15

Financial Year	Contribution for operational requirement Amount (in crore)
2017-18	5.00
2018-19	5.00
2019-20	4.85
TOTAL	14.85

(d) Skill Development Institutes (SDIs) have also been set up by the Oil and Gas PSUs under MoP&NG at Bhubaneswar (Odisha), Vishakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Guwahati (Assam) and Raebareli (Uttar Pradesh).

There are no further plans to set up more such vocational training centres for prospective oil and gas sector employees in other States.

People skilled and trained by SDI, Bhubaneswar

461. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of people skilled and trained by the Skill Development Institute (SDI), Bhubaneswar under the Hydrocarbon Sector Skill Council (HSSC) as on date; and

(b) the total number of people placed from the Skill Development Institute (SDI), Bhubaneswar as on date?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The total number of people skilled and trained by the Skill Development Institute (SDI), Bhubaneswar under the Hydrocarbon Sector Skill Council (HSSC) as on date is 1595.

(b) The total number of people placed from the Skill Development Institute (SDI), Bhubaneswar as on date is 876.

Status of the PCPIR at Paradip, Odisha

462. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress in developing the Petroleum Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Region (PCPIR) at Paradip, Odisha; and

(b) the details of companies/PSUs who have evinced interest for investing in the PCPIR and the status of their intent?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Odisha PCPIR was approved in December, 2010 and Memorandum of Association was signed between Government of India and Government of Odisha in November, 2011 and various project activities like site studies and surveys, preparation of base maps and existing land use, draft master plan have been completed.

Several companies have shown their interest for investing in PCPIR viz. Exxon Mobil, CPC-Taiwan, Hanwha Chemicals, BASF, Kothari Petrochemicals, Vedanta-Mitsubishi, Ravi Vinyls, Vopak, Chiripal Polymers, IVL Dhunsheri and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL).

IOCL has invested more than ₹ 41000 crores in various projects such as 15 MMTPA Refinery, 680 KTA Polypropylene plant, etc. and further investment of ₹ 19500 crore has been approved by IOCL for new projects.

Feedstock subsidy to BPCL for Odisha

463. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to give feedstock subsidy to BPCL for Odisha, as it has given to the North-Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has planned supply of feedstock from farmers and aggregators for its 2G ethanol plant at Bargarh, Odisha and hence not sought feedstock subsidy from Government of India.

Chandikhol oil reserve

464. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the oil reserve to be built at Chandikhol in Odisha;

(b) how long would this reserve last; and

(c) the amount of funds to be spent on the same?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The crude oil reserve to be built at Chandikhol in Odisha with a storage capacity of 4 MMT would roughly cater to 7.5 days of India's crude oil requirement based on national consumption pattern of 2019-20, and estimated to cost about ₹ 6,129 crore.

Creamy Layer Limit for OBCs

465. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has prepared a proposal to increase the creamy layer limit for OBCs to ₹12 lakhs, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the process of calculating annual income is being under consideration of the Ministry, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the OBC Commission has opposed inclusion of 'salary' in calculation of gross annual income; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor and how Ministry is planning to go ahead?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (d) The matters pertaining to revision of limit of creamy layer and modalities of its implementation are under examination of Government.

Assistance to old age homes

466. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what assistance does Government provide for running of Old Age Homes; and

(b) whether any special assistance has been provided to these institutions during the pandemic, since their source of funding would have got dried up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) This Ministry is implementing National Action Plan for Senior Citizens (NAPSrC) which has a component of Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSr.C) under which grants in aid is given for running and maintenance of, *inter alia*, Senior Citizens Homes (Old Age Homes) to Implementing Agencies (IAs) such as State Governments/Union Territory Administrations (through Registered Societies)/Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)/Local bodies; Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)/Voluntary Organizations.

In view of the ongoing pandemic and considering the fact that the Implementing Agencies may not have sufficient funds, the Ministry has decided for release of advance grant to them. A total of ₹ 83.74 crore has already been released to the IAs during 2020-21, till date.

Awareness of VCF-SC

467. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many of Scheduled Caste entrepreneurs

have not availed Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes (VCF-SC) due to less awareness, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard;

(b) the details of asset management companies involved in this initiative alongwith details of revenue and/or profits generated under this initiative;

(c) whether few women entrepreneurs have benefited under the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the number of women entrepreneurs benefited under the scheme during the last three years and the types of projects supported during the said period, State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes was started in January 2015 under the aegis of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India. Since inception, in order to create awareness about the scheme in the country and increase the number of Scheduled Castes (SC) entrepreneurs to avail benefit under the VCF-SC, the following steps have been taken:—

- Meets have been conducted across various states in locations like Phagwara (Punjab), Raipur (Chhattisgarh), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Kochi (Kerela), Udaipur (Rajasthan), Haldwani (Uttarakhand), Ranchi (Jharkhand), Patna (Bihar), Kota (Rajasthan), Chandigarh UT, Mohali (Punjab), Ludhiana (Punjab), Hyderabad (Telangana), Bhubaneswar (Odisha), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Jaipur (Rajasthan), Jammu (Jammu and Kashmir UT), Guwahati (Assam), and Kolkata (West Bengal).
- Attended Conferences / exhibitions organized by leading Associations/ Institutions/ Industry Associations.
- Presence in Expo's, Composite Camps, Credit Camps, Fairs, and other events organized by MOSJ&E, Banks and various associations.
- Advertisements have been published in leading and local Newspapers across the country.

- Use of social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter and Linked In for spreading the awareness of the scheme.
- Exclusive website (www.vcfsc.in) for promoting the scheme and for acceptance of online applications.
- Promotion of scheme through State SC development Finance corporations, industry associations, IIMs and IITs across the country.

(b) The Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes (VCF-SC) is managed by IFCI Venture Capital Funds Ltd, the Investment Manager of the Fund. IFCI Venture Capital Funds Ltd is the subsidiary of IFCI Ltd (a Government of India Public Sector undertaking). IFCI Venture is located at 16th Floor, IFCI Tower, 61, Nehru Place, New Delhi - 19. Website: www.ifciventure.com, www.vcfsc.in;

Email: funds@ifciventure.com; Phone: 011 - 4173 2507/81/90/70/67/18/76

For managing and acting as Investment Manager of the Fund, IFCI Venture gets a fee @1.50% p.a. on the fund corpus.

(c) About 30% of the entrepreneurs assisted are women.

(d) and (e) The details on number of women entrepreneurs benefited under the scheme with State wise and project wise information are as below:—

State	Sector	Industry	Ind-Sub	No. of Women SC Entrepreneurs	No. of companies with 51% women ent.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	Service	Health Care	Multispeciality Hospital	1	
	Manufacturing	FMCG	Herbal Beauty Care Products	1	
	Manufacturing	Pharmaceuticals	Cancer Drug Manufacturing	1	
	Manufacturing	Power Plant	Solar Energy	1	
	Service	Hospitality	Hotel	2	
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Rubber Powder	1	
	Service	Printing Services	Printing and Xerox Unit	2	
Bihar	Service	Auto	Commercial Vehicle Showroom	1	
	Manufacturing	Plastic	Plastic Furniture Items	1	
Delhi NCR	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Plastic Meter Boxes	1	
Gujarat	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Plastic Packaging Items	1	
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Synthetic Net	2	

240 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Haryana	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Automobile Battery Manufacturing	1		Written Answers to
	Manufacturing	FMCG	Ladies Footwear	1		
Karnataka	Service	IT/ITES	Aadhar Centre	1		[16 September, 2020]
	Service	Entertainment	Event Management Services	1		
Maharashtra	Manufacturing	Health Care	Ayurvedic Medicines Manufacturing	2	1	Unstarred Questions
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Aluminium Castings	1		
	Manufacturing	FMCG	Broom and Wipers	1		
	Manufacturing	Food Processing	Edible Oil Manufacturing	1		
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Corrugated Boxes	1		
	Manufacturing	Textile	Terry Towel Manufacturing	1		
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	MS /SS Pipes, tubes, lancing tubes and scaffolding	1	1	
	Service	Health Care	Fitness Centre	1		
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	RMC Plant	1		
	Manufacturing	Food Processing	Tomato Pulp Processing	3		
	Manufacturing	Textile	Terry Towel Manufacturing	1		241

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Manufacturing	Food Processing	Grain Mill	1	
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Manufacturing of Manganese Oxide	1	
	Manufacturing	Textile	Yarn Manufacturing	1	
	Service	Health Care	Multispeciality Hospital	2	
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Corrugated Boxes	1	
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	PVC Pipes and HDPE Pipes	1	
	Manufacturing	Food Processing	Onions	1	
	Service	Infrastructure	Shopping Complex	1	1
	Manufacturing	Textile	Cotton Ginning and Pressing	2	
Puducherry	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Pre-fabricated Building Structure Manufacturing	1	
Punjab	Service	Hospitality	Hotel	1	
Rajasthan	Service	Entertainment	Amusement Park	1	1
Tamil Nadu	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Welding Electrodes and Weir Plates	1	
	Manufacturing	Food Processing	Coffee	1	
	Service Centre	Health Care	Oncology Treatment	1	
	Service	Infrastructure	Cold Storage Facility	1	

242 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Telangana	Service	Infrastructure	Cold Storage Facility	65	7	Written Answers to [16 September, 2020]
	Manufacturing	FMCG	Coconut Products	1		
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Fabrication of Roofing Sheets	1	1	
	Service	IT/ITES	Software Development - Education Services	1		
	Manufacturing	Textile	Garment Manufacturing	2	1	
	Manufacturing	Power Plant	Solar Energy	4		
Uttar Pradesh	Manufacturing	Textile	Garment Manufacturing	2	1	Unstarred Questions
	Service	Health Care	Diagnostic Centre	1		
	Manufacturing	Industrial Products	Fabrication of Roofing Sheets	1		
	Service	Printing Services	Printing and Xerox Unit	1		
	Manufacturing	Food Processing	Flour and allied products	2		
	Service	Entertainment	Amusement Park	1		
West Bengal	Service	IT/ITES	Software Development - POS System	1		243
	Manufacturing	Food Processing	Rice Mill	1		
	Manufacturing	Textile	Garment Manufacturing	1	1	
	Manufacturing	Food Processing	Rice Mill	1	1	
	Manufacturing	Food Processing	Tea Products	2	1	

Enhancement of income limit for OBC creamy layer

468. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Government appointed Committee has recommended to raise the income ceiling for the creamy layer of Other Backward Classes (OBCs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any final decision on the recommendation of the Committee pertaining to raise the income ceiling for creamy layer of OBCs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (d) The Government has not appointed any Committee to review the income ceiling of Other Backward Classes (OBCs).

Schemes implemented through NGOs

469. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any schemes of the Ministry implemented through NGOs, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of NGOs involved in implementing these schemes, the scheme-wise details thereof; and
- (c) what has been the monitoring mechanism of these schemes implemented through NGOs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Yes Sir, the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment implements following Schemes under which financial assistance is provided to the NGOs/VOs:—

1. Central Sector Scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary and other Organizations working for Scheduled Castes under which financial assistance is provided to the NGOs/VOs working for Scheduled Castes for running projects related to Residential, Non-Residential Schools and Hostels for SC students.

2. National Action Plan for Senior Citizens (NAPSrC) which has a component of Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC). Under IPSrC grant in aid is given for running and maintenance of Senior Citizens Homes/ Senior Citizen Homes for 50 elderly Women /Continuous Care Homes etc. to Implementing Agencies such as State Governments/Union Territory Administrations (through Registered Societies)/Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)/Local bodies; Non-Governmental (NGOs)/Voluntary Organizations for improving the quality of life of destitute Senior Citizens.
3. National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR):- The scheme aims for reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy. The activities under the NAPDDR, *inter-alia*, include awareness generation programs in schools/colleges/Universities, workshops/seminars/ with parents, community based peer-led interactions intervention programs for vulnerable adolescent and youth in the community, provisioning of treatment facilities and capacity building of service providers. For prevention of alcoholism and substance abuse, financial assistance is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations for running Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts. Outreach and Drop-in Centres (ODIC), Community based Peer Led Interventions (CPLI) to provide composite/integrated services for the rehabilitation of addicts including adolescents.

(b) Scheme wise numbers of NGOs are as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Number of NGOs
1.	Central Sector Scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary and other Organizations working for Scheduled Castes	134
2.	National Action Plan for Senior Citizens (NAPSrC)	569
3.	National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR)	638

(c) Monitoring of the Schemes to ensure proper implementation across the country, is done as per monitoring mechanisms of respective schemes, by way of inspections, sample checks, through performance review, field visit by the officers, National/Regional review meetings specific to the States/ UTs and stronger information technology interface. The Department established Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) to

closely monitor the implementation at the ground level. The Department also undertake periodic review of the schemes through third party evaluation studies.

Senior citizens below poverty line in Bihar

†470. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has data regarding total number of senior citizens below poverty line and suffering from age related disability, if so, State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether the focus of Ministry is on any specific field for the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY); and

(c) the number of camps organised in Bihar since 2018, the district-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing a scheme namely, "Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)" for providing physical aids and Assisted Living Devices to the Senior Citizens belonging to BPL category. Data regarding total number of senior citizens below poverty line and suffering from age related disability is not maintained in the Ministry. As per Census 2011 the number of senior citizens suffering from any disability in their old age is 53,76,619, which is 5.18% of total population of senior citizens (10.38 crore). The objective of the Scheme is to restore near normalcy in the bodily functions of the senior citizens, who are suffering from age related disabilities/infirmities, by providing physical aids and assisted living devices such as Walking Sticks, Elbow Crutches, Walkers/ Crutches, Tripods/Quad pods, Hearing Aids, Wheelchairs, free of cost. The Scheme is being implemented through the "Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)", a Public Sector Undertaking under this Ministry. ALIMCO, in coordination with the State Governments, identifies the beneficiaries through assessment camps. Details of camps organised in Bihar since 2018 are given in Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement*Details of Distribution Camps held in Bihar under RVY since 2018*

Sl. No.	District	No of Beneficiaries	No of Appliances	Value of Appliance (₹ in Lakh)
1.	Bhojpur Ara	1665	3842	71.35
2.	Buxar	261	590	8.62
3.	Gaya	251	746	14.09
4.	Begusarai	245	922	23.14
TOTAL		2422	6100	117.2

Educational empowerment of SC and OBC students

471. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of SC and OBC students enrolled under coaching classes for different competitive examinations, State-Wise details thereof;

(b) the total number of SC and OBC students who have passed in the examinations for which they enrolled in coaching class, State-Wise details thereof; and

(c) the total number of SC students provided with a pre-matric scholarship since 2016 till present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) This Ministry implements the 'Free Coaching Scheme for SC and OBC students' under which financial assistance is provided for the candidates to undertake coaching for various examinations. Under the Scheme, the Ministry empanels coaching institutes with a prescribed number of slots, to provide coaching to SC and OBC students. A total of 11742 students were coached by the empaneled coaching institutes from 2016-17 to 2019-20. As per the information provided by coaching institutes up to 12.9.2020, 1300 students have been selected in the examinations for which they were coached. The state wise details of number of students coached by empaneled coaching institutes and the number of successful students as reported by coaching institutes, from 2016-17 to 2019-20 is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) The number of students provided with scholarships under the scheme of 'Pre-Matric Scholarship for SC Students studying in class IX & X' being implemented by this Ministry are as under:—

Year	Beneficiaries (Actuals as reported by States/UTs upto 12.9.2020)
2016-17	20,20,663
2017-18	22,82,254
2018-19	26,30,366
2019-20	28,09,542

Statement

Sl. No.	State	Total number of slots in empanelled coaching institutes from 2016-17 to 2019-20	Total number of successful students as reported by coaching institutes up to 12.9.2020
1	2	3	4
1.	Assam	300	31
2.	Bihar	300	10
3.	Chandigarh	600	57
4.	Delhi	2050	204
5.	Gujarat	900	74
6.	Haryana	300	5
7.	Himachal Pradesh	400	*
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	300	117
9.	Karnataka	600	180
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1100	*
11.	Maharashtra	700	11
12.	Manipur	300	115
13.	Meghalaya	300	11

1	2	3	4
14.	Odisha	292	*
15.	Punjab	900	93
16.	Rajasthan	900	143
17.	Tamil Nadu	600	35
18.	Tripura	300	0
19.	Uttar Pradesh	600	214
TOTAL		11742	1300

(*) Not reported.

Deaths of safai karamcharis during COVID-19

472. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government maintains data on the number of Safai Karamcharis who have died due to health and safety hazards related to cleaning hospitals and medical waste during COVID-19 pandemic;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to conduct a study in this regard; and

(d) the measures in place to protect the health and safety of Safai Karamcharis cleaning medical waste?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE): (a) to (c) Hospitals and dispensaries being a State subject, no data is maintained in the Union Government about Safai Karmachari, who have died due to health and safety hazards related cleaning hospitals and medical waste during Covid-19 pandemic.

(d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued guidelines on Rational use of PPEs for healthcare workers including other field level workers.

The guidelines prescribe the type of PPEs to be used in Commensurate with their risk to contract the disease in work-place settings.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has also provided guideline on Infection Prevention and Control practices to the State Governments. States were requested to train the hospital functionaries on infection prevention and control practices.

Training on Infection Prevention and Control was also made available for all categories of healthcare workers on the iGoT platform.

Further States were asked to constitute Infection Prevention and Control Committees. Hospitals were also to identify a nodal officer who will monitor the healthcare workers and review their exposure status. High risk exposures are placed under quarantine for 7 days. Based on their exposure/clinical profile such doctors, nursing officers and other health workers, to take a decision by the Nodal Officer/Head of the Department (or his appointed Sub-committee) for further period on one week. An advisory for managing health working in COVID and Non-COVID areas of the hospital was issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on 18th June, 2020.

Commission for sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes (OBCs)

473. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved the extension of the term of the Commission set up to examine the issue of sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes (OBCs); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the extension of the term therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Term of Commission set up to examine the issue of sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) is extended upto 31st January 2021. The Commission was unable to complete the task assigned to it before 31st July, 2020 due to the CORONA pandemic. It was due to have consultations with every State/UT Government but this could not happen during the pandemic. Hence the extension.

**Special Schemes for disabled, transgender and senior citizens
during COVID-19**

474. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry propose to formulate schemes for the welfare of disabled, transgender community and senior citizens affected by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(b) whether such schemes have been formulated, if so, the details of allocation of funds for such schemes for each of the above mentioned categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) and (b) There is no proposal for developing any new scheme for Divyangjan at this stage. However, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities implements various schemes and programmes for empowerment of persons with disabilities. Some of the major schemes of the Department in this regard are:—

- (i) Grant-in-aid is provided under 'Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)' to NGOs/voluntary organisations for projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to reach their optimal, physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional level.
- (ii) Assistance is provided to persons with disabilities under 'Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP)' for procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhancing their economic potential. The scheme also has a provision to provide cochlear implant to hearing impaired children upto 5 years of age at a cost of up to ₹6.00 lakh per child.
- (iii) The Government provides scholarships for students with disabilities such as Pre-matric (for classes IX & X), Post-matric (from class XI up to Post Graduate degree/diploma level), Top Class Education (Post graduate degree/

diploma in notified Institutes), National Fellowship (M.Phil and Ph.D courses), National Overseas Scholarship (for Overseas education at P.G./Doctorate level) under Scholarship schemes.

- (iv) The National Action Plan for Skill Training of persons with disabilities aims at imparting skills to persons with disabilities for enhancing their employability.
- (v) The Scheme for Implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities aims at providing assistance for creating barrier free environment in Government offices, promoting research and awareness, etc.

As regards senior citizens, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment, *vide* D.O. letter 13.04.2020, has issued an advisory for protection of senior citizens of the country, through States and Union Territories. The Advisory is particularly for those senior citizens who suffer from medical conditions like chronic respiratory disease, chronic heart disease, chronic kidney disease, diabetes, hypertension, etc. The advisory contains "Do's and Don'ts" for senior citizens who are mobile, and also for their mental well being. Caregivers of dependent senior citizens have also been advised for taking care of the elderly. A copy of the advisory is at Annexure. All the States and UTs have also been requested to issue necessary directions to District Administrations/concerned authorities so that the senior citizens may not face hardships during the pandemic in respect of provision necessary medicines, masks, sanitizers; timely payment of Old Age Pension and priority in admission to Government Hospitals. For issuing of directions to concerned authorities in respect of Old Age Pension and priority in admission in Govt Hospitals the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have been requested separately.

Besides this Ministry is implementing National Action Plan for Senior Citizens (NAPSrC) which has a component of Integrated Programme for Senior Citizens (IPSrC) under which grants in aid is given for running and maintenance of, *inter alia*, Senior Citizens Homes (Old Age Homes) to Implementing Agencies (IAs) such as State Governments/Union Territory Administrations (through Registered Societies)/ Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)/Local bodies; Non-Governmental (NGOs)/Voluntary Organizations. In view of the ongoing pandemic and considering the fact that the Implementing Agencies may not have sufficient funds, the Ministry has decided for release of

advance grant to them. A total of ₹ 83.74 crore has already been released to the IAs during 2020-21, till date.

As regards transgender, the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment has prepared a concept note for a comprehensive scheme for transgender persons. For the year 2020-21, an amount of Rs 10.00 crore has been allocated for Welfare of Transgender Persons.

National council for transgender persons

475. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the exact mechanisms *via* which stakeholder perspectives will be incorporated in impact assessments of policies by the National Council for Transgender Persons;
- (b) the avenues for grievance redressal open to transgender persons in cases of discrimination; and
- (c) the avenues through which the National Council for Transgender Persons shall receive funding to carry out its operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) The Ministry has enacted "The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights), Act, 2019. As per Chapter VII of the Act in the Council along with other members, five representatives of transgender community from the State/UTs by rotation and five experts to represent Non-Governmental Organizations or associations working for the welfare of transgender persons are to be nominated by the Central Government. The Council will assess the impact of various policies and they are free to decide on the modalities.

(b) Clause 18 of the Act, prescribes offences against transgender persons along with the penalties. Also, one of the functions of National Council for Transgender Persons is redressal of their grievances. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to, and not in substitution of, any other law for the time being in force.

(c) As per clause of 19 of the Act, the Central Government shall, from time to time, after due appropriation made by the Parliament by law in this behalf, credit such sums to the National Council as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Accessibility of online education to specially abled students

476. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to take steps to ensure that online education is accessible to disabled students across the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps proposed thereof;
- (c) if not, the reason therefor; and
- (d) whether there is any plan to launch a specific platform for disabled students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (c) Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education has informed that the following steps have been taken to ensure that the online education is accessible to students with disabilities across the country:—

- Study material has been developed in Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY), a technical standard for digital audio books, periodicals and computerized text.
- The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has also developed more than 270 Videos in Sign Language in 7 subjects to provide educational access to learners at secondary level and Yoga course. These videos are available at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXBn5q8Zv4Bz-LZXWWD7Jxw/playlists>
- NIOS is continuously providing one hour live video session in Indian Sign Language every day at secondary level on PM e Vidya D2H channel from 1st September 2020, to benefit deaf and hard-of-hearing learners. These live sessions are delivered by Deaf teachers who have expertise in related subjects and sign language.
- NIOS has developed an Indian Sign Language (ISL) Dictionary to facilitate communication and education of hearing impaired persons. 36 Videos of about 2000 words and basic sentences have already been developed, which are available in the link https://www.youtube.com/_watch?v=a3iXyDXvhRQ&list=PLUuOqp8QaNB0IG-GOV_8wzKFsjL7v3iLIG

- Talking books/e-Pub is already developed in 10 subjects at Secondary level. These are available on NIOS Website in the link <https://nios.ac.in/online-course-material/secondary-courses.aspx>
- Initiative of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) on 'Accessibility in School Curriculum' can be found at <https://ciet.nic.in/pages.php?id=accesstoedu&In=en&ln=en>
- The recorded content is sent to learners with hearing impairment on DVD.
- Ministry of Education has issued Pragyata Guidelines which *inter-alia* focus on supporting Online Learning of Children with Special Needs (CwSN).

(d) A Working Group on 'e-Content for Children with Special Needs and Inclusive Education' has been formed by the Ministry of Education with representation from Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and important associations working for Divyang students. Further, DIKSHA, an integrated platform of the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education is managed by NCERT, which constantly works on principles of inclusivity and developing contents for all students.

Initiatives taken to open new steel units in AP

477. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has initiated any Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Programmes in the state of Andhra Pradesh in the past one year to open up new opportunities for employment generation, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Ministry has proposed setting up of any steel units to generate direct and indirect employment opportunities in the newly formed state of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), a CPSE under Ministry of Steel has trained 887 number of people in the state of Andhra Pradesh during the past one year under skill development/vocational training programme as part of Corporate Social Responsibility and Corporate Environment Responsibility.

(b) No, Sir. Steel being a deregulated sector, decisions relating to setting up of steel units are taken by individual steel producers in private or public sector, based on commercial consideration and market dynamics.

Challenges faced by steel industry

478. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steel industry in the country is grappling with certain challenges to become a USD 5 trillion economy in five years as per the last National Steel Policy;

(b) whether fiscal slowdown of the country has showed negative steel consumption thereof;

(c) whether the mining leases of some 38 working iron ore mines is going to lapse soon and SAIL has been awarded 25 per cent of commercial mining which may boost the steel scenario of the country thereof; and

(d) the policy of Government to disinvest steel sector in India and the modernization and expansion of SAIL subsidiaries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The National Steel Policy envisages achievement of 300 MTPA crude steel capacity by 2030-31. Towards achievement of this goal Ministry of Steel has taken several initiatives namely:—

- (i) Domestically Manufactured Iron & Steel Products Policy for promoting procurement of Made in India steel by Government agencies.
- (ii) Steel Scrap Policy for enhancing availability of domestically generated scrap.
- (iii) Issuance of Steel Quality Control Orders for stopping non-standardized steel import and manufacturing. 113 SQCOs have so far been issued.
- (iv) Steel Import Monitoring System (SIMS) for advanced registration of steel imports.
- (v) Draft Framework Policy to promote setting up of steel clusters having manufacturing units for value added steel, ancillaries, capital goods etc.

- (vi) To ensure availability of raw material to the steel sector, Ministry of Steel has worked closely with Ministry of Mines and Ministry of Coal for auction and restart of expiring iron ore mines, extension of mining leases with Steel CPSEs, setting up of coking coal washeries by CIL/BCCL, auction/allotment of coking coal mines and diversification of coking coal imports etc.

(b) Finished steel consumption for the period from April-July 2020 in comparison to the corresponding period last year is as following:—

Month	Total Finished Steel (non-alloy + alloy/stainless) consumption in thousand tons	
	Year 2019	Year 2020
April	7333	1092
May	8850	4720
June	8589	6234
July	8573	7405

(c) 6 iron ore mining leases are due to expire in 2021. Ministry of Mines *vide* its order dated 16.09.2019 has permitted Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to sell fresh iron ore fines to the extent of 25% of last year's production for a period of 2 years, as well as 70 MT dump iron ore fines, from its captive mines.

(d) There is no specific policy of government to dis-invest steel sector in India. The Government is following a policy of disinvestment through minority stake sale and Strategic disinvestment. SAIL currently has no plan for modernization and expansion of its subsidiaries.

Enhancement of steel production in Eastern India

479. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made by Government to enhance the production of steel in Eastern India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Steel has launched 'Purvodaya' initiative, encompassing development of Integrated Steel Hubs in Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh with a view to focus on development of the Eastern region by setting up greenfield and brownfield steel plants for capacity addition, development of steel clusters near Integrated Steel Plants as well as demand centres and transformation of logistics and utilities infrastructure.

Accidents in steel plants

480. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the total number of hazardous incidents that took place in last two years in steel plants; and

(b) the total number of deaths of labourers involved in steel industry in the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) There are two steel manufacturing Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in the country, namely, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) & Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL). The details of total number of hazardous incidents and deaths in the last two years in steel plants of SAIL and RINL are indicated in the statement below:—

Sl. No.	Name of CPSE	FY 2018-19		FY 2019-20	
		Number of hazardous incidents*	Number of deaths	Number of hazardous incidents*	Number of deaths
1	SAIL	24	21	20	8
2	RINL	8	1	9	3

*Hazardous incidents include Fatal, Reportable Accidents and Dangerous Occurrences reported to the statutory authority concerned under the Factories Act 1948.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is my voice clear, Dineshji, Jayaji?

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Yes, Sir.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Yes, Sir.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Some Members are saying that my voice is not clear. That is why I just want to be sure. Now, matters to be raised with the permission of the Chair.

Concern over engineers rendered unemployed due to disbanding of Jammu and Kashmir 'Self-Help Group of Engineers Scheme'

नेता विरोधी दल (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): सभापति जी, मैं जम्मू-कश्मीर के unemployment के बारे में आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूँ। तकरीबन 13 महीने से, जब से स्टेट का division हुआ और यू.टी. में downgrade हो गई, तब से tourism खत्म हो गया, सारी employment opportunities खत्म हो गई और वहाँ पर किसी तरह की कोई भी economic opportunities पिछले 13 महीनों से नहीं है।

महोदय, पुरानी सरकारें, जब elected Government होती थी तो unemployment खत्म करने के लिए प्रयास करती थीं। 2003 में, जब कांग्रेस और पीडीपी की coalition Government थी, तो unemployment खत्म करने के लिए जो educated लोग थे, जिन्होंने technical education प्राप्त की थी, जो engineers थे, जिनकी संख्या हज़ारों में थी, उन्हें employment देना असंभव था, इसलिए सरकार ने एक 'Self Help Group of Engineers' की Scheme बनाई। पूरे देश में महिलाओं के Self-Help Groups थे, लेकिन शायद जम्मू-कश्मीर एक ही स्टेट था, जहाँ 'Self Help Group of Unemployed Engineers' था। इनके लिए वे as contractor काम करें, क्योंकि basic knowledge तो उनके थी ही, इसलिए उनके लिए पूरे कामों के लिए 10 per cent reservation रखा गया था। जो सारे developmental works थे, वे उनको allot किए जाते थे। पहले एक ग्रुप 5 लाख से ज्यादा का काम नहीं कर सकता था, लेकिन जैसे-जैसे उन ग्रुप्स को experience होता गया, यह बढ़ाकर 5 से 10, 15, 20, फिर 50 लाख तक किया गया। बाद में, जिनको ज्यादा experience हो गया, वे 1 करोड़ तक का contract ले सकते थे। इस तरह से 15 हजार unemployed engineers इस Self-Help Group में काम करते थे। इतने सालों के बाद, 2003 से लेकर जो 15 हजार unemployed engineers थे, वे contractor बन गए थे, अपनी रोज़ी-रोटी कमाते थे, लेकिन चार दिन पहले सरकार ने उस Self-Help Group system को ही खत्म कर दिया। और जो 15 हजार इंजीनियर्स थे, वे अब सड़क पर आ गए हैं।

मैं केन्द्र सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाता हूँ कि उन 15 हजार इंजीनियर्स के लिए दोबारा वह Self-Help Group Scheme शुरू की जाए।

[شری غلام نبی آزاد]

†قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد): سبھاپتی جی، میں جموں و کشمیر کے unemployment کے بارے میں آپ کی توجہ مبذول کرانا چاہتا ہوں۔ تقریباً 13 مہینے سے، جب سے اسٹیٹ کا division ہوا اور یوٹی۔ میں downgrade ہو گئی، تب سے ٹورزم ختم ہو گیا، ساری employment opportunities ختم ہو گئیں اور وہاں پر کسی طرح کی کوئی economic activity بھی پچھلے 13 مہینے سے نہیں ہے۔

مہودے، پرانی سرکاریں، جب elected Government ہوتی تھی تو unemployment ختم کرنے کے لیے پریس کرتی تھی۔ 2003 میں، جب کانگریس اور پی ڈی پی coalition Government تھی، تو unemployment ختم کرنے کے لیے جو educated لوگ تھے، جنہوں نے ٹیکنیکل ایجوکیشن حاصل کی تھی، جو انجینئرس تھے، جن کی تعداد ہزاروں میں تھی، انہیں ایمپلائمنٹ دینا ناممکن تھا، اس لیے سرکار نے ایک 'Self-Help Group of Engineers' کی اسکیم بنائی۔ پورے دیش میں مہیلاؤں کے 'Self-Help Group' تھے، لیکن شاید جموں و کشمیر ایک ہی اسٹیٹ تھا، جہاں 'Self-Help Group of Unemployed Engineers' تھا۔ ان کے لیے وہ as contractor کام کریں، کیوں کہ basic knowledge تو ان کی تھی ہی، اس لیے ان کے لیے پورے کاموں کے لیے دس فیصد ریزرویشن رکھا گیا تھا۔ جو سارے developmental works تھے، وہ ان کو allot کیے جاتے تھے۔ پہلے ایک گروپ پانچ لاکھ سے زیادہ کام نہیں کر سکتا تھا، لیکن جیسے جیسے ان گروپس کو ایکسپیرینس ہوتا گیا، یہ بڑھ کر پانچ سے دس، پندرہ، بیس پھر پچاس لاکھ تک کیا گیا۔ بعد میں، جن کو زیادہ ایکسپیرینس ہو گیا، وہ ایک کروڑ تک کا کانٹریکٹ لے سکتے تھے۔ اس طرح سے پندرہ ہزار unemployed engineers اس Self-Help Group میں کام کرتے تھے، لیکن چار دن پہلے سرکار نے اس Self-Help Group system کو ہی ختم کر دیا۔ اور جو پندرہ ہزار انجینئرس تھے، وہ اب سڑک پر آگئے ہیں۔

میں کیندر سرکار کا دھیان اس جانب دلانا چاہتا ہوں کہ ان پندرہ ہزار انجینئرس کے لیے دوبارہ وہ Self-Help Group Scheme شروی کی جائے۔

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

मीर मोहम्मद फ़ैयाज (जम्मू-कश्मीर): सर, मैं स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

†جناب میر محمد فیاض (جموں-کشمیر): سر، میں خود کو ماننیے سڈسنیے کے ذریعہ اٹھائے گئے اس موضوع کے ساتھ سمبڈ کرتا ہوں۔

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I hope the Government will take note and pass it on to LG. Shri B. Lingaiah Yadav; Telugu.

Continuation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Lingaiah, where are you?

SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV (Telangana): Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I am speaking from Lok Sabha Chamber.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Lingaiah, please speak in Telugu.

SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: *The Central Government had introduced Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in the past. This Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana Scheme was suspended in the country, along with the State of Telangana. Farmers are facing many problems because of this. Sir, in this scheme, there is no clarity whether a village is taken as a unit or farmers are taken as a unit. Sir, the Central Government, instead of allotting funds to this scheme, debilitated this scheme. Therefore, I request the Central Government through you sir, to continue with this scheme. Sir, there is a due of five hundred and eleven crore rupees by the Central Government towards the State of Telangana. Commercial crops like Chilli and Cotton are grown in Telangana. If crop insurance is provided to these crops, farmers will not face any problem. The premium of crop insurance should be borne by the Central Government. The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana Scheme should be continued in the State of Telangana and if possible throughout the country. पूरे देश में इसी तरह होना चाहिए। सर, किसानों को बहुत problem है, इसलिए हमें इस पीएम फसल बीमा योजना को आगे ले जाना चाहिए।

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

Need for a National Homoeopathic Helpline

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri P. Bhattacharya.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, I am from Lok Sabha Chamber.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are looking like a doctor.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Sir, what would I do? It is better to protect ourselves.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I would like to bring to the kind notice of hon. Health Minister a particular, very important issue. In such a dangerous condition that is prevailing in our country, I got the information that even some of our Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha colleagues were also tested positive. That is a very dangerous situation. In this situation, I must say to our hon. Health Minister regarding the traditional system of medicine. The allopathic medicine will definitely continue. But, at the same time, like allopathic medicine, there should be a national homoeopathic helpline. The helpline should be composed of experienced homoeopathic doctors to extend the treatment for reaching every home. Research for development of homoeopathic vaccination is to be expedited. This will gain a new financial impact in the health sector.

Sir, further, in hospitals and ICU cases, option offering homoeopathic support to be extended. Sir, I have seen that in homoeopathic hospitals in Kolkata, there is no arrangement of ICCU. There are arrangements for the allopathic treatments that are going on in different hospitals. That is good. But for the homoeopathic hospitals, ICCU arrangements are to be made. Specific gene based individualistic homoeopathic drugs to be scientifically sorted out for saving billions of lives at the grass root level. Sir, lastly, I would like to say that personal experience shows that some of the homeopathic medicines are very, very useful in protecting the people from Coronavirus. Hence, I would request the hon. Health Minister to pay proper attention to this system of medicine. Don't neglect this system. All over the world people have accepted this system of medicine. I know that some of the allopathic doctors and some people may

not like these, but availability of homeopathic medicines must be ensured to the common people by the Health Ministry so that they are benefited.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhattacharya met me yesterday and suggested some homeopathic medicines to me also. Now, Shri Javed Ali Khan.

**Payment towards wheat procurement below the Minimum
Support Price (MSP)**

श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति जी, वर्ष 2020-21 के लिए सरकार ने सरकारी गेहूं खरीद का न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य 1925/- रुपये तय किया है, लेकिन वास्तविकता यह है कि किसानों के हाथ में 1925/- रुपये के बजाय 1905/- रुपये ही आ रहे हैं। मैं स्वयं अपना गेहूं बेचने के लिए जब सरकारी गेहूं खरीद केन्द्र पर गया, तो मुझसे सेंटर के संचालक ने उतराई, छनाई व सफाई के नाम पर 20/- रुपये प्रति क्विंटल नकद देने की मांग की। जब मैंने उनसे पूछा कि ऐसा कोई आदेश हो तो दिखाओ, तो उन्होंने मुझे उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा जारी शासनादेश की एक प्रति दी, जिसमें लिखा है, "उतराई, छनाई और सफाई का व्यय कृषकों को स्वयं वहन करना पड़ेगा, जिसकी प्रतिपूर्ति केन्द्र सरकार की अनुमति प्राप्त होने के उपरांत एवं माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी के अनुमोदन उपरांत किसानों को करने के लिए अग्रेतर कार्यवाही की जाएगी।"

सर, मैं जानता हूं कि पिछले तीन वर्षों में इस प्रकार किसानों से जो व्यय लिया गया था, उसकी प्रतिपूर्ति या भुगतान आज तक नहीं किया गया है। इस वर्ष उत्तर प्रदेश में 38 लाख टन गेहूं खरीदा गया है। 20/- प्रति क्विंटल रुपये के हिसाब से किसानों का 72 करोड़ रुपया सरकार ने जबरदस्ती ले लिया है। पूरे भारत के अंदर 990 लाख टन गेहूं खरीदा गया है, अगर आप उसका हिसाब लगाएं तो सरकार ने किसानों का 780 करोड़ रुपया जबरन लिया है।

सर, मैं 'जबरन' शब्द का इस्तेमाल इसलिए कर रहा हूं, क्योंकि जब हमने उनसे पूछा कि क्या चेक से पेमेंट ले सकते हैं, तो उन्होंने कहा नहीं लेंगे, एकाउंट में ट्रांसफर करवा सकते हैं, तो बोले नहीं करवा सकते। उन्होंने हमसे कहा कि नकद लेंगे और उसकी रसीद भी नहीं देंगे।

सर, मैं इसमें आपके हस्तक्षेप की मांग करता हूं। क्या सरकार की ऐसी कोई मद है, जिसमें बगैर रसीद के भुगतान लिया जा सकता है? मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश के किसानों का 72 करोड़ रुपया और पूरे देश के किसानों का 780 करोड़ रुपया कब वापस करेगी?

[شری جاوید اعلیٰ خان]

†جناب جاوید اعلیٰ خان (اٹر پردیش) : سبھا پتی جی، سال 2020-21 کے لئے سرکار نے سرکاری گیہوں خرید کی کم سے کم سمرتن قیمت -/1925 روپے طے کی ہے، لیکن حقیقت یہ ہے کہ کسانوں کے ہاتھ میں -/1925 روپے کے بجائے -/1905 روپے ہی آ رہے ہیں۔ میں خود اپنا گیہوں بیچنے کے لئے جب سرکاری گیہوں خرید کیندر پر گیا، تو مجھ سے سینٹر کے سناچالک نے اترائی، چھنائی و صفائی کے نام پر -/20 روپے فی کونٹل نقد دینے کی مانگ کی۔ جب میں نے ان سے پوچھا کہ ایسا کوئی آدیش ہو تو دکھاؤ، تو انہوں نے مجھے اترپردیش سرکار کے ذریعے جاری شاسن آدیش کی ایک کاپی دی، جن میں لکھا ہے "اترائی، چھنائی اور صفائی کا ونے کرشکوں کو خود وبن کرنا پڑے گا، جس کی پرتی پورٹی کیندر سرکار کی اجازت حاصل کرنے کے بعد مائنے مکھیہ منتری کے انومودن اپرانت کسانوں کو کرنے کے لئے اگریتر کاروائی کی جائے گی۔"

سر، میں جانتا ہوں کہ پچھلے تین سالوں میں اس طرح کسانوں سے جو ونے لیا گیا تھا، اس کی پرتی پورٹی یا بھگتان آج تک نہیں کیا گیا ہے۔ اس سال اٹر پردیش میں 36 لاکھ ٹن گیہوں خریدا گیا ہے۔ -/20 روپے کے حساب سے کسانوں کا 72 کروڑ روپیہ سرکار نے زبردستی لے لیا ہے۔ پورے بھارت کے اندر 990 لاکھ ٹن گیہوں خریدا گیا ہے، اگر آپ اس کا حساب لگائیں تو سرکار نے کسانوں کا 780 کروڑ روپیہ جبرن لیا ہے۔

سر، میں جبرن شبد کا استعمال اس لئے کر رہا ہوں، کیوں کہ جب ہم نے ان سے پوچھا کہ کیا چیک سے پیمینٹ لے سکتے ہیں، تو انہوں نے کہا نہیں لیں گے، اکاؤنٹ میں ٹرانسفر کروا سکتے ہیں، تو بولے نہیں کروا سکتے۔ انہوں نے ہم سے کہا کہ نقد لیں گے اور اس کی رسید بھی نہیں دیں گے۔

سر، میں اس میں آپ کے ہسٹکشیپ کی مانگ کرتا ہوں۔ کی سرکار کی ایسی کوئی مد ہے، جس میں بغیر رسید کے بھگتان لیا جا سکتا ہے؟ میں آپ کے مادھیم سے سرکار سے یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ سرکار اٹر پردیش کے کسانوں کا 72 کروڑ روپیہ اور پورے دیش کے کسانوں کا 780 کروڑ روپیہ کب واپس کرے گی؟

श्री सभापति: आपने महत्वपूर्ण विषय उठाया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस इसके बारे में थोड़ी जानकारी लेकर मुझे बताएं।

श्री जावेद अली खान: सर, कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री जी भी यहां बैठे हुए हैं।

†جناب جاوید علی خان : سر، کرسی اور کسان کلیان منتری جی بھی یہاں بیٹھے ہوئے ہیں۔

श्री सभापति: प्लीज, आप व्याख्या नहीं कीजिए। व्याख्या करेंगे तो इसका परपज़ नहीं बचेगा। आपने महत्वपूर्ण विषय उठाया है और इससे मैं भी कंसर्न्ड हूँ। बिना रसीद के उन्हें पैसा नहीं लेना चाहिए। ऐसा वे कैसे कर सकते हैं? अगर लेते हैं, तो बाद में वापस भी करना होगा, इसलिए इसकी इन्क्वायरी करवाएंगे।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI K.T.S. TULSI (Nominated): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

डा. चन्द्रपाल सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री विवेक के. तन्खा (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री राजाराम (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

Need to upgrade digital infrastructure to supplement online learning shortfalls

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, my intervention is regarding the need to upgrade digital infrastructure to supplement online learning shortfalls presently. In the month of July, during the lockdown, the death of Adarsh Harale from the district tehsil of Sangli made headlines in the State of Maharashtra. Adarsh was a 10th standard who committed suicide when his father, a marginal farmer with meagre means, was not able to buy him a mobile phone for his online classes. Adarsh is a telling example of many such cases of deprivation and frustration of a large section of the student population all across our country. The Ministry of Education, Government of India and the State Governments are indeed taking timely steps to address this situation in the so-called New Normal. However, fact remains that our students from the vulnerable sections of the society have been very badly hit. According to the TRAI itself, in June 2020, the total rural tele-density was 59 per cent. There are only 30 internet subscribers in rural areas per 100 population. Besides the poor connectivity, intermittent electricity and non-availability of devices is making digital education inaccessible to students in the rural area. Though the Government has taken great steps for TV and radio learning, peer learning, parent teaching, community teaching, the fact remains that 27 per cent of students, according to the survey of NCERT made recently, have neither smart phones, nor laptops, nor televisions or radios. We have a student population of more than 240 million students across primary, upper primary, secondary and senior secondary levels. We cannot fail our young. Therefore, Sir, through you, I urge the Government to upgrade the digital infrastructure on a war footing and secondly to make, at least, a basic digital device available to every student who has no access to one.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRIMATI ARPITA GHOSH (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a larger issue. The next Zero Hour submission is of Shri Digvijaya Singh and Dr. Bhagwat Karad. दिग्विजय सिंह जी ने पहले नोटिस दिया है, इसलिए उन्हें दो मिनट और श्री भागवत कराड़ को एक मिनट का समय मिलेगा।

Shortage and rise in prices of oxygen cylinders

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, कोरोना के ट्रिटमेंट में ऑक्सीजन की अवेलेबिलिटी बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है, लेकिन पेन्डेमिक के पहले ऑक्सीजन की जो कीमत थी, वह दस रुपये क्यूबिक मीटर थी, वह अब बढ़कर पचास रुपये क्यूबिक मीटर हो गई है। National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority द्वारा जो सीलिंग फिक्स की गई थी, उसने कहा था कि to a maximum of ₹17 per cubic meter. प्राइवेट हॉस्पिटल्स में आपके आन्ध्र प्रदेश और तेलंगाना में तो और भी ज्यादा चार्ज कर रहे हैं। इसके साथ मध्य प्रदेश के देवास जिले में चार पेशेन्ट्स की मृत्यु इसलिए हो गई, क्योंकि ऑक्सीजन नहीं थी। इसी प्रकार से देवास, जबलपुर, छिंदवाड़ा और दमोह में ऑक्सीजन नहीं है और वहां पेशेन्ट्स मरने की कगार पर हैं। यूपी में जो छोटा

[श्री दिग्विजय सिंह]

सिलेन्डर 130 रुपये में आता था, अब वह 350 रुपये में बिक रहा है। इसके साथ में सिलेन्डर के लिए जो सिक्युरिटी अमाउन्ट लिया जाता था, वह पांच हजार रुपये था, उसे बढ़ाकर अब दस हजार रुपये कर दिया गया है। गुजरात, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के राज्य में...

श्री सभापति: यह कोई विषय नहीं है, आप विषय पर बोलें।

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: सर, विषय तो है, Sir, I am speaking about the price.

श्री सभापति: यह किसका नेटिव प्लेस है, आपका मध्य प्रदेश है, मेरा आन्ध्र प्रदेश है, तेलंगाना है, पूरा भारत मेरा है।

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: सर, पूरा भारत आपका है।

श्री सभापति: सबका भारत है, आपका भी पूरा भारत होना चाहिए। मध्य भारत से आने के बाद भी पूरा भारत होना चाहिए।

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: सर, एक लीटर की कीमत 8 रुपये 50 पैसे से बढ़कर 28 से 35 रुपये पर पहुंच गई है। इसी तरह से ओडिशा में एक सिलेन्डर जो साढ़े छः हजार में आता था, अब वह दस हजार रुपये में आ रहा है। दस लीटर की रीफिलिंग साढ़े तीन सौ रुपये में होती थी, अब वह नौ सौ रुपये में हो रही है। अधिकांश राज्यों में कीमतें बढ़ती जा रही हैं, एसेशियल कमोडिटीज़ एक्ट आप लोग बदल रहे हैं। मैं कहता हूं कि इस बारे में सीलिंग को एनफोर्स करिये। मुझे इस बात का दुख है कि माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी ने अपने पांच पन्नों के स्टेटेमेंट में प्रधान मंत्री जी का तो बार-बार नाम लिया, लेकिन पेशेन्ट्स की ऑक्सीजन सप्लाई में जो कमी है, इस बारे में एक बार भी उल्लेख नहीं किया। मैं इस बात की निन्दा करता हूं।

श्री सभापति: डा. भागवत कराड़, आप बोलिये। विषय गम्भीर है, पोलिटिकल नहीं है, उसे ऐसे ही लेना है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: सर...*

श्री सभापति: यह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाएगा।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

*Not recorded.

SHRI AHMED PATEL (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Rajasthan): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री भागवत कराड़ (महाराष्ट्र): सभापति महोदय, हमारे देश में अभी तक 49,30,236 कोरोना के केसेज़ हुए हैं और आज एक दिन में करीब 80 हजार केसेज़ बढ़ चुके हैं। मुझे कहना है कि हर दिन पेशेन्ट्स बढ़ते ही जा रहे हैं और जैसा अभी दिग्विजय सिंह साहब ने जैसा कहा कि ऑक्सीजन का ब्लैक चालू हुआ है और इसके रेट्स भी बढ़ चुके हैं। इतना ही नहीं इसकी सट्टेबाजी हो रही है। किसी हॉस्पिटल में ऑक्सीजन ज्यादा है, तो किसी में कम है। मुझे आपसे रिक्वेस्ट करना है कि हर स्टेट में ऑक्सीजन की supply equal होनी चाहिए और सट्टेबाजी नहीं होनी चाहिए। इतना ही नहीं, ऑक्सीजन सिलेंडर का रेट पूरे देश में एक ही होना चाहिए।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, धन्यवाद।

डा. भागवत कराड़: Being a doctor, मुझे यह समझ है कि अगर कोई critical patient है, तो ज्यादा ऑक्सीजन लगती है। ...(व्यवधान)... अगर ऑक्सीजन टाइम पर नहीं दी गयी, तो उसकी डेथ हो सकती है। मेरी रिक्वेस्ट है कि इसे seriously लेते हुए, इस सब्जेक्ट को गम्भीरता से लेना चाहिए और ऑक्सीजन की सप्लाई रेगुलर होनी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

डा. भागवत कराड़: इतना ही नहीं, मेडिसिन की भी shortage है। ...(व्यवधान)... Remdesivir injection को ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next. मेरा सुझाव यह है कि हरेक सदस्य अपनी बात बोलता रहे। पार्लियामेंटरी या अनपार्लियामेंटरी का इश्यू नहीं है। पार्लियामेंट चलनी है, तो बाकी लोगों को भी मौका मिलना चाहिए। उसका एक नियम है, दो मिनट, तीन मिनट का, उसका पालन करना है।
Now, Shri Swapan Dasgupta.

Closure of Visva Bharati (Central University) since 17th August, 2020

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA (Nominated): Sir, I wish to draw your attention to some unfortunate happenings which have taken place at Visva Bharati University, which was founded by Rabindra Nath Tagore, and, of which, the Prime Minister is the Chancellor.

On August 17, there was an act of vandalism, which resulted in the destruction of a lot of university's property. The construction of a wall which was sanctioned by the National Green Tribunal was stalled. Now, it is not for me to go into the recriminations as to who was responsible and who was not responsible but the whole problem has for long centred on the organisation of something called Poush Mela which is an institution in West Bengal, which is really an iconic thing for the citizens of Bengal.

Last year, Sir, thanks to some intervention by the Prime Minister, the university managed to hold it despite the fact that the university is very stretched for its resources of trying to control crowds of over two, three lakhs, and, they get strictures from the NGT as a result of this.

Sir, I would like to propose two things. One, that certain Central forces ensure the security of this university by the deployment partly because the local administration seems unresponsive to the demands of the university. ...*(Interruptions)*... Number two, I would like to say that the Prime Minister's Office once again takes up the issue of organisation of Poush Mela. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No allegation can be made against any Government, not only on this issue but on all other issues. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: ...and, puts the entire resources of the State so that the University is not inconvenienced in any way. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not allow you to speak like that without my permission. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: These are the two suggestions which I would like to make as far as this matter is concerned so that the university can function. It is closed since August 17, which is very unfortunate.

DR. VTNAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SURESH GOPI (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to tell the Members that during the Zero Hour, no allegations should be made. Of course, he has not mentioned any State. Otherwise, I would have asked him. Secondly, the purpose of allowing Zero Hour is to bring something very important and urgent, which is of larger public interest, to the notice of the House so that the concerned Ministers can take note of it. You are seeing how we are taking note of certain important things. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please try to understand this. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not your duty. We are there. Now, Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya.

Death and injury due to gas leak at Baghjan, Assam

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir, since the morning of 27th May, natural gas has been continuously blowing out of the Baghjan Gas Well in Assam, which subsequently caught fire. The oil fire has been doused, a couple of days back after 110 days of blowout. The incident resulted in death of...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. I have already said that nobody should come to the Well even for other purposes of consulting the Secretariat.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: As a result of the incident, there was death of two persons including a dynamic technocrat. It has affected the entire area very badly. Many people were injured very badly. Three foreign experts were also injured badly. There is serious environmental damage in the area. The oilfield is located near Dibru-Saikhowa National Park, which is the only riverine island wildlife reserve globally.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right, Birendra ji. Thank you, Birendra ji. Gas leak at Baghjan in Assam leading to death and injury of some people is the issue. Shri K. C. Venugopal.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Just one minute, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. I have gone through it. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will not be going on record.

Need for protection of data of Indian leaders and others from Chinese spying

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Rajasthan): I would like to invite the attention of this House, through you, Mr. Chairman, to a shocking news which is related to national security and privacy of Indian citizens. According to a media report, Indian Express report, a Shenzhen-based technology company with links to the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese Government is tracking over 10,000 Indian individuals and organisations in its global database of foreign targets. It is a very shocking thing. This includes the President of India, and you, Sir, the Vice-President of India, and the Prime Minister of India. It has the Opposition leaders, including the Congress President, Chief Ministers and Members of Parliament. It has the Army Chief and industrialists. The company has also collected database of bureaucrats in key positions, judges, scientists, academicians, journalists, actors, sportspersons, religious figures and activists. This is a major area of concern. I would like to know from the Government whether it has taken note of it. If so, what action has been taken? Every day we are hearing reports...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right, Venugopal ji.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Chinese entering into our borders.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So many people are there with you.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: We did not get any answer from the Government. The Government is not in a ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: I would like to know from the Government..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Anil Desai. He is not there. Shri Rajeev Satav is on the same issue. Quickly add to it what you want to say.

श्री राजीव सातव (महाराष्ट्र): धन्यवाद, चेयरमैन साहब। सर, यह जो बात अभी उठाई गई है, इसमें न ही सिर्फ राष्ट्रपति, प्रधान मंत्री, मुख्य मंत्री...

श्री सभापति: उन्होंने यह बताया है, so what is your suggestion or question?

श्री राजीव सातव: सर, मैं उसमें यह जोड़ना चाहता हूँ कि उनके रिश्तेदारों का भी इसमें समावेश है, इसलिए यह बहुत गंभीर बात है। इस पर सरकार के द्वारा स्पष्टीकरण आना चाहिए और दूध का दूध, पानी का पानी होना चाहिए, क्योंकि यह देश के भविष्य से जुड़ा हुआ मामला है। चीन की कंपनी भारत के इतने बड़े लोगों के ऊपर कैसे जासूसी कर सकती है? धन्यवाद, सर।

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, please take note of this. It has appeared prominently. So, inform the concerned Minister and see what can be done and find out the veracity of it.

Shri Mallikarjun Kharge ji. Kharge ji, we are going to discuss this issue. Just mention it. We are going to discuss it in this Session itself.

**Need to conduct an in-depth study before implementing National
Education Policy, 2020**

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (Karnataka): Sir, I will finish it in two-three minutes.

Sir, the entire NEP is a backward-looking document. It is looking 2,000 years back instead of planning and preparing our children for the future. The value or moral education in schools and higher education should be based on the principles of the Constitution and not on the ancient cultural values. A provision in the Constitution maintains that in State and State-aided institutions, there shall be no religious instructions. According to Article 28 (1), 'No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds.' In cities, the children, who have access to quality nursery education, have already learned to read and write

[Shri Mallikarjun Kharge]

by the time they join class 1. The poor children in towns and villages will start at a disadvantage, because there is no proper policy defined to train the Anganwadi teachers to teach in the right manner. The poor children will start with a disadvantage of not having learned for three years before joining class 1. Nearly 50 per cent of the students drop out after class 10. There is no plan that has been suggested to reduce this dropout. It is estimated that 32.4 per cent of these dropout students are dalits, 25.7 per cent are from minorities and 16.4 per cent are tribals out of 50 per cent. Teachers are already burdened with several duties.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Khargeji, please. We are going to have a discussion on the National Education Policy in detail. Because of your seniority and the fact that you have given notice for the first time, I permitted you to make a beginning. You will get opportunity in this session. We will discuss that.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, we will discuss that but I am raising it now. That is why, I would conclude in just one minute.

The teachers are already burdened with several duties like elections, census, vaccination, etc. which makes it difficult for them to concentrate on teaching and it is impossible to improve the quality of education.

Sir, by 2035, India will lose the advantage of its young population. It is time to look at the future within a short time period of 15 years. Priority should be on Maths, Science and English if we have to provide opportunity of development to children of rural and backward areas. Children belonging to weaker sections and rural areas are already facing disadvantage in NEET and JEE examinations. Indian culture will be learnt by students through their language and literature classes. Such kind of activism to promote a single culture of Sanskrit or Hindi by the Government will only keep backward children out of modern education....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mallikarjunji. Now, Shri Partap Singh Bajwa.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir, ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...(Interruptions)... It is over now. He is already speaking. ...(Interruptions)... I don't want that situation. ...(Interruptions)... It has been sent to all.

Need to include Punjabi as official language in U.T. of Jammu and Kashmir

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा (पंजाब): सर, दो सितम्बर, 1920 में यूनियन गवर्नमेंट ने यह announce किया कि हम जम्मू-कश्मीर की official languages का एक बिल पार्लियामेंट में लेकर आएंगे। इस बिल में उन्होंने कहा कि हम पाँच languages introduce करेंगे, अंग्रेज़ी, उर्दू के साथ कश्मीरी, डोगरी और हिन्दी। जब से देश आज़ाद हुआ है और यह यूनियन टैरिटरी बनी है, तब तक आठ languages थीं, जिनमें पंजाबी, गोजरी और पहाड़ी Sixth Scheduel of J&K Constitution के अंतर्गत पढ़ाई जाती थी और पढ़ी जाती थी। सर, हजारों ही नहीं लाखों लोग, अकेले सिख ही नहीं, हिन्दू और मुस्लिम भी पंजाबी language पढ़ते हैं और जानते हैं, तो सरकार ने यह एक बहुत बड़ी भूल की है। कश्मीर और पंजाब का रिश्ता ऐसा है, जैसे नाखून और मांस का रिश्ता होता है। मैं यह बताना चाहता चाहता हूँ कि 1808 में महाराजा रणजीत सिंह जी ने पंजाब में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: नहीं, जीरो ऑवर में इतना लंबा न बोलें। ...(व्यवधान)... अभी एक और मेम्बर हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा: महाराजा रणजीत सिंह ने जम्मू की जंग जीती और जम्मू को अपने सिख empire का हिस्सा बनाया। 1819 में कश्मीर को जीतकर सिख empire का हिस्सा बनाया ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder. ...(Interruptions)... Bajwaji, please. ...(Interruptions)... You have to simply say that Punjabi language should also be continued.

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Bajwaji, please. It is not going on record. ...(Interruptions)... That is why, I am allowing another Member who has given notice. ...(Interruptions)... Now, Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder.

सरदार बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर (पंजाब): चेयरमैन साहब, बदकिस्मती यह है कि जम्मू-कश्मीर में पंजाबी को राजभाषा से बाहर रखने का जो फैसला लिया गया है, वह बहुत दुःखदायी है। आज पंजाबी बोली जम्मू-कश्मीर में ही नहीं, बल्कि वर्ल्ड लेवल पर बोली जाने लगी है। इसे कनाडा, न्यूजीलैंड, ऑस्ट्रेलिया और अमेरिका में सरकारी भाषा में जगह मिल गई है। यह बोली महाराजा रणजीत सिंह के राज से भी पहले की है। महाराजा रणजीत सिंह का राज अफगानिस्तान से लेकर पेशावर, तिब्बत, जम्मू-कश्मीर में रहा है और गवर्नर जनरल सरदार हरि सिंह नलवा रहे हैं। यह सन् 1808 से भी पहले से है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आपकी माँग क्या है?...*(व्यवधान)*...

सरदार बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर: मैं रिक्वेस्ट करता हूँ कि इसको शामिल किया जाए। यह आम लोगों की ज़बान है और देश की सबसे अच्छी ज़बान है। इसको शामिल किया जाए।

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री राजाराम (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री पी. एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

...(Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति: आप बिना अनुमति के बैठकर नहीं बोलें। Everything which is serious only will be raised in the House. I know the seriousness of our Members.

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Special Mentions. As I told you yesterday, in Special Mentions, Members have to only mention the subject of the Special Mention and then lay it. Now, Shri Rajmani Patel, one of the active Members.

Demand for establishment of a Commonwealth sports training centre in Rewa

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, आज विश्व में राष्ट्रमंडल खेल के प्रति बड़े स्तर पर बालक-बालिकाओं की रुचि दिन-प्रतिदिन बढ़ रही है। हमारे देश के नौजवान भी अच्छा प्रदर्शन करते हुए देश का गौरव बढ़ा रहे हैं। देश के गांवों, कस्बों व मुहल्लों में छिपे अनेक प्रतिभावान हुनर वाले बच्चों को सही मार्गदर्शन, मंच एवं गुणी प्रशिक्षक व राष्ट्रमंडल प्रशिक्षण केन्द्रों के अभाव में अधिकतम प्रतिभाएं एवं ग्रामीण आंचल के परम्परागत खेल जैसे कबड्डी, खोखो, मलखम और कुश्ती आदि जिससे भारत की पहचान हुआ करती है, आज विलुप्त होते जा रहे हैं। भारत ने 2018 के राष्ट्रमंडल टूर्नामेंट के लिए तीसरा स्थान हासिल किया था। अन्य देशों की तरह राष्ट्रमंडल

*Laid on the Table.

खेल में अपना स्तर बढ़ाने के लिए कुशल प्रशिक्षकों और प्रशिक्षण केन्द्रों की कमी को पूरा किया जाए तो हमारा देश उत्कृष्ट प्रदर्शन करते हुए प्रथम स्थान हासिल करने में सक्षम होगा। इसलिए यदि प्रदेश के प्रत्येक संभाग में प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र स्थापित किए जाएं तो खेलों में इच्छुक बालक-बालिकाओं को ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा भागीदारी पाने का अवसर मिलेगा व छिपी हुई प्रतिभाएं उभरेंगी, जिससे देश का गौरव तथा प्रदर्शन स्तर भी बढ़ेगा। अभी रीवा से सभी राज्य और राष्ट्रमंडल प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र लगभग 300 कि.मी. की दूरी पर स्थापित हैं, जहां ग्रामीण आंचल के गरीब किसान व दलित वर्ग के प्रतिभावान छात्र तथा छात्राएं नहीं पहुंच पाते हैं।

माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि मेरे संसदीय क्षेत्र रीवा में एक उत्कृष्ट दर्जे का राष्ट्रमंडल प्रशिक्षण संस्थान केन्द्र स्थापित कराने का कष्ट करें। धन्यवाद।

**Demand for compulsory disaster management training in
schools and colleges**

SHRI RAKESH SINHA (Nominated): Sir, Human civilization makes forward march, however, with unabated challenges emerging from nature also sometimes pose threats its existence. They are called natural disaster. India is prone to many types of disasters which include earthquakes, floods, droughts, fires, landslides, cyclones, Tsunami, etc. Thousands of people were killed in Latur earthquake in 1993-94, super cyclone in Odisha in 1999, Bhuj earthquake in 2001 and Tsunami in 2004. In India, 5700 Km. coastline is exposed to tropical cyclones and more than 50 per cent area is vulnerable to seismic activity. Covid-19 epidemic has shown the vulnerability of human life. These disasters lead to displacement of people both temporarily and permanent. From 1998 to 2018, the Union and the State Governments in India made expenditure of INR 210 billion to meet disasters. It is true that in view of repeated occurrence of disasters, whether large or small scale, the capabilities for and management of disasters have satisfactorily increased. Nevertheless, there is a need to train the people for eventualities to mitigate their pains and fears. Therefore, teaching disaster managements should be made compulsory in schools with flexibility of syllabus in different regions. Moreover, in schools and colleges Disaster Management Corps (DMC) should be established. More than 40 countries, including Australia, Bangladesh, Japan, France, the Philippines, Sweden, have its teaching in schools. After Bhuj earthquake, Gujarat has initiated it, however, in a different way. Such teaching and practical training in the form of DMC will definitely help the society and people. In cases of eventualities, State agencies will get tremendous local support.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Demand to provide rehabilitation and compensation to people living in jhuggi clusters on Railway land, in the light of the orders of the Supreme Court

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, the hon. Supreme Court in its judgement dated 31st August, 2020 directed for the removal of all jhuggi clusters on railway land adjacent to railway tracks in Delhi within three months. This has put the life of all those poor jhuggi dwellers under stake and they are now living with a fear of being evicted to nowhere. According to the Delhi High Court judgement last year, arrangements for rehabilitation must be made in the event of relocation being required. It appears that since the jhuggi dwellers were not made parties before the Supreme Court, the Bench may not have been aware of this Delhi High Court judgement. According to the estimates given before the Court, around 48,000 jhuggi dwellers, that is, between 2.5 lakh to 3 lakh people including women and children are to be evicted. At this time of the pandemic, it will lead to a health disaster putting substantial numbers at grave risk. It will be highly irresponsible of the Government to evict people at this time. Not only that, because of the lockdown jhuggi dwellers have faced a huge drop in their meager income and they are even finding it difficult to survive now. It is the duty of the Government to make sure the evicted jhuggi dwellers are rehabilitated and provided with adequate compensation. So, I urge upon the Government to urgently intervene in this issue and give necessary directions to the concerned authorities to prevent eviction without relocation, rehabilitation and compensation.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Need to craft a robust strategy to tackle mental health issues

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Mental health issues cause disturbances in the thinking behavior, energy and emotion. They not only affect the person who is suffering from a mental problem but also affect the kin and family of these individuals in a serious manner. The issues of individuals suffering from mental health issues should be dealt with on war-footing with the allocation of appropriate funds essential for creating awareness and educating the masses. We need to eliminate the stigma

around mental issues and remove the taboo related to it which could be done with policy interventions and resource allocation by the Government. A huge population across the country suffers from clinical depression, anxiety and from other issues. A huge number of suicides are related to these issues. One who is suffering from mental health issues generally never accepts this fact and refuses to undergo treatment. Consequently, the family is not able to coax, counsel or force him/her to meet a professional for the required treatment. Consequently, the person remains untreated and the family keeps suffering. Thus, we need a robust strategy to tackle these mental health issues along with necessary amendments in the laws including psychiatrist and psychological treatment at affordable rates.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena, not present. Now, Dr. Amar Patnaik.

Need to formulate schemes for the benefit of weaver community

SHRI AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): The Indian handloom industry, with a rich repertoire of skills, is an essential part of the Indian heritage. According to the Fourth All India Handloom Census (2019-20), 31.45 lakh households are engaged in handloom activities, making it the second largest employment sector. The majority (66.3 per cent) of households earn less than ₹ 5,000 per month.

Due to limited resources, poor infrastructure and a lack of marketing support, many weavers face insurmountable debt, poor living standards and loss of artistic dignity. The ongoing pandemic has also heavily impacted this sector; shops, exhibitions are forced shut; limited access to capital and raw materials.

Further, according to the UNDP, 71,060 handicraft artisans and 47,208 weavers in Odisha were affected by the cyclone 'Fani'. So, making this sector economically viable and aspirational for the next generation is, therefore, crucial.

[Shri Amar Patnaik]

I propose a central sector scheme for the weaver community in India with some features; income support scheme for weaver households on similar lines of the PM Kisan, ₹ 6,000 provided in three equal installments over the year and directly transferred to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries. The responsibility to identify households will lie with the State Government. It includes long-term weaving contracts, e-commerce platforms for handloom products, market-oriented design development training programmes, social security coverage.

This scheme follows the Government's Atmanirbhar Bharat vision of becoming vocal for our local products. Hence, I sincerely urge the Government to consider this proposal for the benefit of the weaver community.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**REGARDING DISCUSSION ON STATEMENT OF HEALTH MINISTER ON THE
ISSUE OF MANAGEMENT OF COVID PANDEMIC**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Abdul Wahab, not present. Hon. Members, we are going ahead with the incomplete discussion on the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill. Yesterday, one speaker had spoken. I have been informed by the Ruling Party that they are withdrawing their speakers. Even Other Parties, who have given names, I am not suggesting to withdraw, I would never say that, please try to conclude it as far as possible because next, we are going to have the discussion on COVID, on the statement made by the Minister. So, the discussion would be there upto 1 o'clock. To give more time for the discussion, which is very important, I request you to please confine to minimum possible extent. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the point of order?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: My point of order is about the discussion on COVID pandemic.

श्री सभापति: हम यही बात कर रहे हैं। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: It is about the discussion on COVID pandemic. The entire management, coordination of the States, lockdown, all notifications was under the NDMA Act.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order involved in this.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Please, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order in this.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: It is under the Ministry of Home Affairs. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a matter of Home Ministry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All issues can be discussed connected with the health. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: It is not under the Health Ministry, it is under the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Disaster Management Act, all notifications, all coordination with the States. Let us do justice to this discussion. We cannot just pass it off simply as a medical matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, agreed. So, no discussion now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No. How can it be so? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: No, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; but he has a point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, my point of order is this. I don't mind, we will finish this discussion and then, I may raise it. If you want to finish this...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, I am on this issue.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am on the limited issue; Covid Statement given by the Health Minister on the health management of the country. If the Members want to hear the Minister of Health, we will go to that, or, if the Members want to hear from the Home Minister, then, we have to think about it and then decide it.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, under Rule 176, the List of Business of today, now, of course, we heard the Minister's Statement yesterday. I think about 17 or 18 of us have given our notices for clarification to that discussion, limited to health. The problem which I want to bring to your notice is that one subject can be discussed in one Session. So, we are looking at it from the point of view of health is equal to Covid. Today, we can do that. But, Sir, within the rules, because of how large this event is, can this also be discussed under Rule 176 notice, which can be given separately? Today, we are seeking our clarifications and discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. See, what is a discussion? In a discussion, you raise the issue. In a discussion, you ask for clarifications. In a discussion, you make suggestions, you give your ideas. You share the shortcomings, if any identified, and then what can be rectified, that you say. It is according to my understanding. I don't have that much understanding because I have been there only for 24 years. That is all. So, that is my understanding of any discussion. Discussion includes questioning the Government; discussion includes highlighting shortcomings; discussion includes suggestions and improvement. But, that too, it is being such a sensitive matter and that is why the people are looking to us. They are all in stress. People are looking to us for some new ideas. It is a matter to be dealt by, as rightly said, the States as well as the Centre. So, keeping that in mind, the Health Minister has made a detailed Statement about the steps taken as far as the health of the country is concerned. I do agree that there are other issues. Economy is another issue. We are discussing it separately. For example, GST is an issue. We are discussing that also.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Mr. Chairman, Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sivaji, I have no problem. ...(*Interruptions*)... But, you have another three weeks. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, that is it. The Health Minister unexpectedly gave a Statement yesterday and we can only seek clarifications. But, this is a very important and vast subject. So, either, you give us more time...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Unexpectedly, expectedly क्या है? This is only question of 18 days. Please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No, Sir, we were asking for a Short Duration Discussion, an elaborate discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; please sit down. Please sit down. The Session is for 18 days. ...*(Interruptions)*... And, in 18 days, in the BAC also, it was suggested some four-five subjects. I can take one subject every week. If you feel that, then we can have it next time, as and when time permits. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, the main issue is of Covid.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How can you eat the cake and have it again? The point is this. What I am saying is, we have heard the Minister. Let us discuss that and after that, if anything else remains, that will be seen under separate notice. ...*(Interruptions)*... Somebody has said that separate notice will be given. Yes, Ahmed Patelji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अहमद पटेल: सर, हमें डिस्कशन चाहिए, ताकि उसमें हम ज्यादा डिटेल में बोल सकें। क्लैरिफिकेशन में क्या होगा? You can ask only one question. आप हमें allow करेंगे तो हम ज्यादा-से-ज्यादा प्रश्न पूछ सकेंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who said it? I did not say clarification.

SHRI AHMED PATEL: Pardon, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I did not insist on clarification. I said discussion of two-and-a half hours. Now, we will have The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill, 2020. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, no internal discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Dr. Santanu Sen. Dr. Santanu, please be brief. You have six minutes but if you reduce it, I will be happy. I leave it to you.

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill, 2020 — Contd.*

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is good to see everyone wearing mask in the August House as we recall in the early days of Covid pandemic, when our Members of All India Trinamool Congress were wearing masks, we were asked to remove it by the Chair. Now, amongst all, I am standing here wearing a mask and I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this...

* The motion for consideration of the Bill was moved on 15.09.2020.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for this information which has been relayed time and again. That day when the Chair had given that ruling, ICMR had not given any such advice, for your information. With confirmation, I am saying this information. At that time, the Chair was guided by the guidelines issued by ICMR. On that day, when this comment was made, there was no such thing. But still, Chidambaramji or some Member said, "If somebody is concerned about their health, Sir, allow it". I said, "Okay, go ahead." But some people are not able to forget it and continuously calling TV persons, telling them also and relaying it again. Why? There is, actually, no factual information. Now, you are happy, I am wearing a mask. I am also happy, you are wearing but removing in between. Please wear it. Please wear and then go ahead. One-and-a-half minute time has gone.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, by now because of several delayed, untimely, arrogant and whimsical steps of our Government, people of this country are already having a question in their mind whether this Government is really having any intention to take care of the health of the country and that of the healthcare institutions, because had it been so, then we would not have been seeing our India competing with America to be globally first so far as Covid cases are concerned. Sir, while speaking on this Bill, I would like to highlight upon certain important points. To me, this Government only believes in centralisation of power which has been repeatedly proved by several Bills and Ordinances passed in this House and again, it has become evident by Clause 8(1) of this Bill which it says that President of this proposed institution would be nominated by the Government of India and once again this Government will try to run the show with few hand-picked people. My belief is, this Government hardly cares for the federal structure of the country and this Government is competent enough in depriving several States of their rights. It seems that this Government believes that Gujarat is the whole country, and I thank God that it is not so and that is why we are still surviving. Let me cite certain examples of deprivation of States. There is an Ayurveda College in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, which was founded in 1889. Sir, I will humbly request you to arrange for a visit and I am sure after visiting that institution, you will be extremely disheartened seeing the present scenario. In our State of West Bengal, where Ayurveda was spreading like anything, in the 19th century, two institutions were formed in Kumartuli and Murshidabad and there is another one of the oldest Ayurveda medical colleges, *i.e.*, J.B. Roy State Ayurvedic Medical College which was founded in 1916. It is also not at all in a very good shape. There is another National University of Bengal, Gaudiya Sarvavidyayatna Ayurveda College which was a symbol of our freedom struggle.

As a part of Non-Cooperation Movement in 1921, it was founded with an Ayurved wing. It is also in a very poor shape. As we know that AYUSH also looks after Homoeopathy, but if you go to Calcutta to see the scenario of National Institute of Homoeopathy which is situated at Salt Lake, you will be extremely shocked and you will be extremely upset seeing the present condition.

*"Sir, to which extent Bengal will be deprived? Bengal has so many Ayurveda Medical colleges and many other Institutions of National Importance; still Bengal is facing deprivation again and again. Bengal is not getting the fund for COVID; Bengal is not getting fund for Cyclone *Amphan*. In spite of the appeal made by Mamata Banerjee, we are not even getting the dues of ₹ 153 thousand crores".

So, it is obvious that our present Government does not want to promote the existing students so that they can perform better but surprisingly, out of their arrogance, they can ensure that the baby, which is still in the womb of a mother, will become Albert Einstein in future. This is very surprising. Sir, I believe and I think the House also believes that the institute of national importance can only be declared and designated based on their deeds and performance and it cannot be designated just on the will of the Government. I believe this Government is absolutely in a state of inconsistency, contradiction and dichotomy and it only generates, operates and propagates confusion. This Bill completely contradicts para 20.5 of the National Education Policy of the same Government as in the said para of National Education Policy it is said that within 2030 there will be a complete myxopathy, no individual system of medicine will be existing any more. Though Indian Medical Association has been fighting against this myxopathy, because it is nothing but promotion of quackery, on the contrary, in this Bill, our Government is promoting a separate system of medicines, that is, Ayurveda which is absolutely self-contradictory. It is heard in the air that all these are because of a business tycoon close to our Government probably sponsoring the same. So, criticizing the Bill of our Government which is absolutely of the contradiction, for the contradiction and by the contradiction. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

DR. SANTANU SEN: I suggest, the Ayurveda institute of national importance...
...(*Interruptions*)...†

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. M. Thambidurai. ...(*Interruptions*)...

*English translation of the original speech delivered in Bangla.

†Not recorded.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, 30 seconds more. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. M. Thambidurai. Dr. Santanu Sen, please, once I called the other name, what you say is not going on record.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. M. Thambidurai, where are you? Are you in Lok Sabha Chamber? ...(*Interruptions*)... Please, Dr. Santanu Sen. Next time you will not get a chance. If you don't obey the Chair, then, I have to go by the procedure which has been laid down. You are a medical man. You had a point. Dr. M. Thambidurai was there. He came and met me. He is not there. Okay. Now, Shri Prashanta Nanda. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please follow and cooperate. I am also a human being. Try to understand.

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA (Odisha): I will give my speech on points. Firstly, I will speak about the objectives and the second part will be my apprehensions for which I will expect hon. Minister to answer. Sir, considering the rapidly growing role of AYUSH systems in addressing the public health challenges of India, conferring the status of national importance will boost the role and importance of Ayurveda in public health. The strengthening of Ayurveda will reduce Government expenditure on health as Ayurveda is cost-effective because of its preventive and curative approaches. There is rising interest and demand for knowledge and services of Ayurveda all over the world. India is the country of origin of Ayurveda and the world is looking upto India to showcase state-of-art institutions providing international level education and training. The elevation of the institute to the status of institution of national importance will provide it the autonomy to upgrade the standard of Ayurveda education. It will have the mandate to frame its own certification courses for deeper penetration of AYUSH across masses. My apprehension is this. Central to the arguments by the critics of AYUSH is the lack of a scientific and evidence-based system in the alternative treatments offered. It is for the same reason that the scientific and medical community, by and large, considers homoeopathy to be a pseudoscience. Medicines prescribed by AYUSH for diabetes, namely BGR-34 and IME-9 have both recorded major side effects, including increasing patient's blood glucose to dangerously high levels. The monthly cost of the drug was also reportedly found to be higher than the cost of Metformin, a widely prescribed anti-diabetic drug. Sir, the Lancet Study also cautions about the safety of Ayurvedic preparations as it points to several reports of heavy metal toxicity due to these drugs. I would like my apprehensions to be clarified by hon. Minister and I support the Bill.

10.00 A.M.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, खड़े होकर बोलना है?

श्री सभापति: आप आराम से बैठकर बोलिए।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सर, मास्क से suffocation होती है। इसे हटा सकते हैं?

श्री सभापति: थोड़ी प्रॉब्लम है। The problem is that somebody standing, somebody sitting and...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सर, ठीक है। मैं बैठकर ही बोल लेता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Otherwise, we can discuss it separately and then come to a conclusion. Either way, I have no problem.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव : श्रीमन्, कल माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ने कोविड-19 पर एक बहुत लम्बा बयान दिया था। उस पर चर्चा हो रही है और चर्चा के लिए पूरा वक्त भी नहीं है। यह एक गंभीर समस्या है। महोदय, मंत्री जी ने जो बयान दिया था, उसमें 23 नम्बर का जो बिन्दु है, मैं सिर्फ उसकी तरफ आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी का और सारे सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। इसमें उन्होंने कहा है कि "ऐसी महामारियों में और रोगों की चुनौतियों का सामना करने में सहायता मिलेगी। इसे सुदृढ़ करने हेतु "प्रधान मंत्री आत्मनिर्भर स्वस्थ भारत योजना" के अंतर्गत 65,560.98 करोड़ रुपए का व्यय वित्त ज्ञापन विचाराधीन है।"

माननीय सभापति जी, 1920-21 का जो स्वास्थ्य विभाग का बजट है, वह 65,011 करोड़ का है - सम्पूर्ण बजट। हालांकि विभाग ने 1,17,191 करोड़ की मांग की थी, लेकिन माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने स्वास्थ्य विभाग को लगभग 45 परसेंट कम बजट एलॉट किया था। अब प्रश्न यह है कि जब पूरा बजट 65,000 करोड़ का है तो "प्रधान मंत्री आत्मनिर्भर स्वस्थ भारत योजना" के लिए आप 65,560 करोड़ कहां से लाएंगे, किस मद से लाएंगे? क्या यह भी एक तरीके का जुमला है? जो आपका टोटल बजट है, उससे ज्यादा की व्यवस्था की आप बात कर रहे हैं, तो देश के लोग कब तक मूर्ख बनते रहेंगे?

जब माननीय मंत्री जी जवाब दें तो कृपया बताएं कि इतना पैसा कहां से अरेंज करेंगे, कैसे लाएंगे, किस तरह से व्यवस्था करेंगे? आप और जो काम कर रहे हैं, वह ठीक है - जो व्यवस्था है, मजबूरी है, महामारी है, उसमें गवर्नमेंट जो कर सकती है, कर रही है। आप राज्यों पर भी थोड़ा सा नियंत्रण रखिए और देखिए कि लोगों के साथ अस्पतालों में ठीक तरीके से व्यवहार हो। मरीजों को सबसे ज्यादा शिकायत यह है कि डॉक्टर दो गज भी नहीं, बल्कि दूर से दवा फेंककर दे रहे हैं। उन्हें समझाने के लिए, उनकी counseling करने के लिए कोई नहीं होता

[प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव]

है। इसकी कहीं व्यवस्था नहीं है, इसलिए उनमें थोड़ी सी घबराहट होती है और कुछ लोग घबराहट की वजह से छत से कूद जाते हैं। हमारे उमर्दा, कन्नौज में श्री कैलाश राजपूत बीजेपी के विधायक हैं। उनके भाई ने अस्पताल की छत से कूदकर आत्महत्या कर ली। इस प्रकार कई ऐसे लोग हैं। अगर उनकी counseling सही तरह से होती रहे तो यह कोई ऐसा रोग नहीं है, इसमें 70-80 परसेंट लोग तो बिना दवा के ठीक हो रहे हैं। अगर आयुर्वेद वालों की राय भी मानते रहें, तब भी ठीक हो जाएं। इस प्रकार यह दिक्कत है। लेकिन इस तरह की जो बातें हैं, बजट है नहीं और न जाने कितने पैसे की घोषणाएं रोज़ हो रही है - मंत्री जी ने इसमें भी कह दिया है। तो यह 65,000 करोड़ रुपया कब आएगा, ताकि लोगों को मदद मिले? वैक्सीन तो निकल नहीं पाएगी, वैक्सीन तो चीन ही सबसे पहले लाएगा, रूस लाएगा या अमेरिका लाएगा। हम लोग केवल इंतज़ाम करते रहेंगे, आईसीएमआर ट्राई करता रहेगा।

श्री सभापति: धन्यवाद, राम गोपाल जी।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सर, आप concluding remarks भी नहीं कहने देंगे?

श्री सभापति: प्लीज़, कहिए।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि राज्यों को अपने संसाधनों के ज़रिए - मैं मानता हूँ कि स्वास्थ्य राज्य सूची का विषय है, लेकिन आप अपने संसाधनों के ज़रिए राज्यों की मदद करें, अस्पतालों को दवाइयां उपलब्ध कराने में सहायता करें क्योंकि राज्यों के सामने बड़ी गंभीर स्थिति है। वे केन्द्र सरकार से मदद की गुहार कर रहे हैं और उसके हिसाब से विशेष परिस्थितियों में उन्हें मदद दी जानी चाहिए, धन्यवाद।

श्री सभापति: धन्यवाद। प्रो. राम गोपाल जी ने अभी जो मेशन किया, उसके बारे में सोचना चाहिए, but, the guideline is such that, even, I have personally spoken to them and said that by wearing mask and speaking and wearing mask and continuously sitting, there is some discomfiture. I spoke to the Director of ICMR and he told me that, Sir, it is better to keep the mask on. They may change their guidelines from time to time. Earlier, for public, they said when you are talking to other person, then only wear a mask. Later, they said, even otherwise also you should wear a mask. What I was mentioning earlier, the initial suggestion was, only when you are talking to other person then only wear a mask, otherwise, it was not necessary. The subsequent was even otherwise also you should wear the mask, and that too, this hall being air conditioned and air circulation is within, the advice is to wear a mask. So, once the advice comes, we have to follow that.

Moreover, advice for public sometimes is different and advices for others are also different. In the Secretariat, all are working. Some of them were initially given permission, later they said that everybody has to come. Even for Parliament, we waited for long thinking that the situation will improve. Still it has not improved and we have the mandate to have the House. That is why this. Then that also that the Government would have done the entire Business in two days or three days, but in their collective wisdom they decided to have it for 18 days, to the extent possible. So, we have to take advantage of it. Now coming back to this issue, earlier I said one-and-a half hours or whatever it is, it depends on how early you complete this. Otherwise, the time that is available is up to one o'clock, that will be used for discussion. Yesterday, Mr. Jairam Ramesh came and told me, "Sir this is a larger issue, you need to give full time". I applied my mind and then I talked to the Minister also, and they said 'that we are withdrawing our names'. That is why I made this request. I am not trying to cut short anybody's time. Please. ...(Interruptions).. It is not for the Chair. My duty is to see that the things are taken up and then, to the extent possible, they are completed. Otherwise, मुझे क्या है और दो घंटे चले, तो चले। But the result will be that you will be doing this and, at the end, everything, what you call in the parliamentary language, guillotine. You call it the guillotine that will happen. So, please keep that in mind. Otherwise, any advice that is given will always be kept in mind. Mr. Shanmugam.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. The world today recognizes the Indian System of Medicines as a science of healthcare while allopathic medicines tend to focus on the management of the disease. Ayurveda and Siddha provide us with the knowledge of how to prevent a disease and how to eliminate its root cause if it occurs. AYUSH means, Ayurveda, Yoga, Yunani, Siddha, Homoeopathy and Naturopathy. Except the Yunani, all are of Indian origin. Siddha is in Tamil Nadu with 15 Siddha Seers developed this system. Herbals, not chemical combination are used primarily for Siddha system of treatment. Siddha is an ancient system of medicine practiced by the people of India. There is no side effect in Siddha and combination of taking balanced food itself is a medicine. The Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Bill seeks to confer the status of an institution of national importance to three institutes, which would be clubbed. Once again, it will be established in the favoured State of the Ruling Party, that is, Gujarat. There are so many Ayurvedic institutions across the country, especially, in Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore, Bengaluru, and the famous Kottakkal Vaidyashala in Kerala. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you what is the reason behind such

[Shri M. Shanmugam]

arbitrary selection of institutes for granting the national status. What parameters were taken into account for selection of these institutes? The aim of the proposed Bill is to empower the institute into becoming the most important Centre in its field. Why is such a step being taken, especially, in the State of Gujarat and not in other places where better institutes of Ayurveda exist? There is a post of Joint Medicine Controller in Siddha, but only from Ayurveda, the person is taken for the post and the writ petition filed in the High Court against it. So, the Government is trying to let down the Siddha system which is hailing from Tamil Nadu.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right, Shanmugamji.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Siddha medical formulation may be very tough, but it is very useful. From the Siddha medical formulations, many allopathic medicines have been introduced. Especially in Gujarat and that too in Ayurveda, what is the reason for bringing such a special Bill when all systems of medicines are important? With the coordinated efforts with all the system of medical practices, all the systems should be developed. This Central Government is making lot of slogans like Be Vocal, Buy Local, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and if you stand by these sayings, then all the systems should be developed without any discrimination.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shanmugamji, please conclude.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: I am concluding, Sir. The Government should come forward to give equal opportunity to all the systems and no one should be discriminated against. Equal rights should be given to all the systems of Indian medical systems and it should be encouraged. Thank you, Sir.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Telangana): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I don't want to be repetitive on the Bill. But, at the same time, share the concerns of many Members, particularly Mr. Hanumantaiah and also the hon. Member who spoke just now about the selective importance given to few institutions to become institutes of national importance. Sir, this is not for the first time; but, it has become a regular practice with this Government. I am saying this because earlier when we gave three private universities, one of which did not even start the status of the institution of national importance. We raised an objection at that time. So, what I am objecting to is not against the proposal of merging three institutions into an institution of national importance, but this kind of selective

practice should go. There should be some kind of standard protocol or criteria available as how you are making an institution into an institute of national importance.

Sir, in Telangana, we have a lot of Ayurvedic colleges. Besides this, we have Tibbi, Unani, Homoeopathy, naturopathy and Siddha. Sidda is borrowed from Tamil Nadu. Tibbi and Unani had royal patronage in the past. So, I welcome any move that focuses on education and research, particularly in the field of traditional knowledge which played an immense role in the past, sustaining human life and life-science for ages.

Sir, Ayurveda belongs to us; so, we have interest in this. It is our traditional wealth. Thousands and thousands of our lives and health are sustained by it and its systems. It had six recognized systems of medicine - Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Yoga, Naturopathy and Homeopathy. What distinguishes Ayurveda is its well defined conceptual framework that sustained it for ages.

Sir, Ayurveda belongs to Atharveda. Besides, we have Dhanvantari Sampradaya and Aathreya Sampradaya. They have different compilations by Charaka and Sushruta, latter for the School of Surgery.

Sir, Ayurveda is not just an ethno medicine. Why I am stating this is because you are trying to include research into it. So, it is not just an ethno medicine but a complete medical system that takes into consideration physical, psychological, ethical, philosophical and spiritual being. It promotes living in harmony with universe. Modern medicine, though recognizes harmony as the crux of health, care has not been taken of this in particular. But, not surprisingly, the WHO concept of health is in close approximation with the concept of health defined under Ayurveda.

Sir, Ayurveda is catching up with global acceptance. It is slowly becoming a part of mainstream medicine in the world, particularly in dietary matters. Ayurvedic products amounted to nearly US \$ 3.4 billion which is expected to triple to US \$ 9.7 billion by 2022 - a growth of 16.2 per cent. The sale of Ayurvedic products is expected to increase to US \$ 8 billion by 2022 from US \$ 2.5 million in 2015. Presently, about 70 per cent of Indian households use Ayurvedic products. Exports of such products from India, on an average, are about US \$780 million a year and expected to grow 20 per cent annually. So, we have much to offer to the world through our traditional and diverse resources knowledge.

Sir, while the number of practitioners and their effective medicines are all on rise, there is unfortunate lack of safeguards for them and their treatment. The Bill which is speaking of promoting institutions must also include this.

[Dr. K. Keshava Rao]

Lastly, at present, there are more than 200 colleges. There is a Central Council Research in Ayurveda and Siddha and similar Council for Unani, Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy. These could have been clubbed together to make it an Institution of national importance.

A recent review points out that more than 13,000 plants have been found in past five years with medicinal values. However, nothing has been done to follow it up.

Sir, standing at this crossroads where there is a need for consensus, it is suggested that conventional research in Ayurveda be continued as per the vision of strict Ayurvedics, co-opting Ayurvedic biology in all protocols with the help of these men who have clarity on the subject. This will help scientists to develop appropriate indicators. The institutes like the one that is envisaged in the Bill should address these very important questions so that there is no conflict between the modern medicine and Ayurveda. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Vijayasai Reddy. You have three minutes.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. I rise to support this Bill. It is an educational reform in the Ayurvedic sector, as a part of the Government's reforms programmes. This is a follow up to the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, which we had passed last year. This Bill will also help in creating confidence in Ayurveda. The problems of non-uniformity, vagueness, and adulteration plague the Ayurveda sector, as of now. This Bill is a step towards streamlining the functions related to academic standards, evaluations, assessment, and accreditation of educational institutions pertaining to the Indian System of Medicine. The Bill also addresses the issue of supply of quality Ayurveda doctors, which is very, very important. The Bill also helps in enforcing the high standards of the Indian System of Medicine. Considering the need of doctors in the primary health centres, a push of specialists under the Ayurveda would make more doctors accessible to the huge population for basic health facilities.

I have two suggestions to make in this regard to the hon. Minister. Though this Bill is meant for better implementation of the National Commission for Indian System of Medicine Act, there have been many concerns regarding the non-inclusion of yoga and naturopathy. I request the hon. Minister to consider including the yoga and the

naturopathy in the Indian System of Medicine under the reforms pursued by the Government. If yoga and naturopathy are left unregulated, then, the system of medicine cannot have uniform standards of professional education and accreditation process.

The need is to address the quackery in the Ayurvedic sector, which was not even addressed completely in the Indian System of Medicine Act, when it allowed even non-qualified people to practice in the Indian System of Medicine without qualifying the National Exit Test.

The Bill's objective to attain self-sufficiency can be achieved only when it brings other States also under the ambit of such initiatives.

Now, I come to my final point. Each State must have such an institute of national importance for uniform growth and penetration in the field of Ayurveda.

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे इस बिल पर बोलने का अवसर दिया है। मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। हमारे गुजरात में जो तीन institutions हैं, उनको एक साथ लाकर जो institute बनाया गया है और एक national importance दी गई है, वह एक सराहनीय कदम है। इससे आयुर्वेद का जो मेडिकल में स्थान है, वह निश्चित रूप से बढ़ेगा। हम सभी अवगत हैं कि औद्योगिक क्रांति से पहले पूरी दुनिया में अपने-अपने देशों की स्वास्थ्य के लिए अपनी-अपनी विधा थी और हिंदुस्तान में तो खासकर हमारा जो आयुर्वेद है, इसका बहुत ही rich इतिहास है। धन्वंतरि जी, जिनको हम आयुर्वेद का भगवान कहते हैं, यहाँ जितनी भी वनस्पतियाँ हैं, उनको सबका ज्ञान था। पूरी धन्वंतरि संहिता उनकी है। इसके साथ ही हमारी चरक संहिता और सुश्रुत संहिता भी हैं। हमारे बिहार में जीवक आयुर्वेद के बहुत बड़े जनक थे। जैसा कि रेड्डी साहब कह रहे थे कि हम लोगों ने हाल के वर्षों में All India Medical Sciences, जो एलोपैथी से संबंधित है, उस पर तो ध्यान दिया, लेकिन जो पुरानी चीजें हैं, आप खासकर कोविड महामारी में देख रहे हैं कि आज दुनिया में सभी लोग गिलोय की चर्चा कर रहे हैं, तुलसी की चर्चा कर रहे हैं, एलोवेरा की चर्चा कर रहे हैं, ये सभी हमारे देश में पहले से ही बहुत समृद्ध थे। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूँगा कि अब समय आ गया है कि वे एक High Powered Committee बनाएँ और हमारा जो पूरा का पूरा आयुर्वेद का सिस्टम है, उसको कैसे और मजबूत किया जाए, उसके बारे में अध्ययन करा कर प्रत्येक प्रदेश में एक-एक नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट की स्थापना की जाए। साथ ही, इसमें जो दवाइयाँ हैं, pharmacy है, जैसे मैं आपके सामने चर्चा कर रहा हूँ कि च्यवनप्राश सब लोग खाते हैं, लेकिन उसमें इतनी मिलावट है कि उसमें जो आँवले का प्रयोग होना चाहिए, उसकी जगह ज्यादातर शकरकंद का प्रयोग होता है। यह समय है कि इन सब चीजों के लिए medical education का हमारा जो कोर्स हो, उसको standardize किया जाए, जो हमारी दवाइयाँ हैं, उनको भी standardize किया जाए और उनकी efficacy को बढ़ाया जाए। इससे निश्चित रूप से आज के माहौल में हमारे देश में स्वास्थ्य के बारे में जो व्यवस्था है, उसको मजबूती मिलेगी।

इसी के साथ, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Good point. Now, Dr. M. Thambidurai.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for having given me the opportunity. I am not opposing this Bill; I am supporting this Bill, what the Minister said yesterday while explaining the importance of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please switch on the mike.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Sir, I am speaking in the mike. Are you able to hear me? I am speaking in the mike, sitting in the Lok Sabha.

Sir, the Ayurvedic system is a very scientific one. But, yesterday, some Members wondered whether it involves science or not. It is a scientific one. But we missed the opportunity to build up this system because we have been following, as some of the Members said, the Veda system. In Vedic Varnashram system, it is said, Brahmins, Shatriya, Sudra and Vaishya. Because of this classification, what happened was, the people who practised Ayurveda were never interested in sharing the real science with others to learn. Because of that, the scientific ayurveda system could not succeed. But now the Government has recognised all these things. They want to develop this system systematically and see that it develops further. That is why this research institute is coming up.

Coming to another point, Ayurveda is a good system but it is very popular in Kerala. As some of the Members said yesterday, 'Why can't you give importance to States other than Kerala like Tamil Nadu and other States?' In Tamil Nadu, we are having a lot of natural things like in Kutralam and also in Kollimalai hills. We are having a lot of ayurvedic medicines available there. Therefore, we have to give importance to each State, as the previous speaker said. We have to have an institute of national importance in each State, not only in a particular State like Gujarat but Tamil Nadu also has to be considered. That is my request, Sir. Also, not only Ayurvedic, we should also consider other systems like Siddha. As regards the Siddha, we are having one National Institute of Siddha at Tambaram in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Why can't you give national importance to that so that it develops further? I am saying this because this is affiliated to Tamil Nadu MGR University. It is affiliated to the MGR University. But in Gujarat also, there is a university. Even though university is there, you are not giving research status to that, as the other hon. Member said, but you are giving national importance to institutes particularly. In the same way, you have to give national importance to the

National Institute of Siddha, which is in Tamil Nadu. Siddha medicines are also very important; there is no alternative like that. There are specialised things. If we do not give importance to that, so many quacks will come and create Siddha Institutes and medicines like that, as they used to. Therefore, you have to promote not only Ayurvedic but also Siddha, Unani and other systems like that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: I request the hon. Minister to see to it that the National Institute of Siddha in Tamil Nadu is given national importance and also establish one more ayurvedic research centre, as you are going to do now, in Tamil Nadu, especially in Coimbatore or Kuttralam area. I am requesting the hon. Minister to consider my request. Thank you very much.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I am from Rajya Sabha Gallery. Thank you hon. Chairman, Sir.

Sir, at the very outset, I would like to say that when our country is thinking of a National Institute on Ayurveda, I think it should have been in Kerala. I am not opposed to the Jamnagar Institute, which is also deserving. But, at the same time, why the State of Kerala did not come in the mind of the hon. Minister? Sir, why I am saying this is because Kerala has got a rich traditional medical practice and it has got a significant place in the Indian traditional medical practice. In Kerala, you can see abundant resources of medicinal plants. Right from the Western Ghats to the river banks, rare medicinal plants are very much available in the State of Kerala and the system is also very unique. The produce in the traditional medicine and also healthcare practice are also extremely unique so far as the State of Kerala is concerned, and, besides classical Ayurveda which is also very, very popular in Kerala, you can see *marma chikitsa* and *kalari chikitsa*, even *vishavaidya*m and a lot many other ethnical practices in Kerala.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right, Rageshji.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, Ayurveda massage therapies like *pizhichil*, *navarakizhi* and so many other unique practices are prevailing in Kerala. So far as herbs are concerned, Sir, medicinal plants are more used than minerals while preparing medicines in Kerala. That is why, people world-wide are visiting Kerala for authentic Ayurvedic treatment. I am requesting the hon. Minister also to visit one of the institutes in Kerala

[Shri K.K. Ragesh]

so that he can also experience the real authentic Ayurvedic treatment in Kerala. So, I am requesting the hon. Minister to consider, at least, a similar kind of Institute in the State of Kerala. Of course, Ayurveda is our traditional system of medicine and its roots can be traced back to 5,000 years, and in modern times, it is extremely important to conduct rigorous research through scientific method and evidence-based research is extremely important. I hope that the proposed Institute can facilitate such rigorous research and strengthen our ancient knowledge in the newer frontiers of knowledge that suits to modern times. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I have visited Arya Vaidya Sala, Kottakkal, for your information, and I enjoyed it. Kerala, of course, is very famous for promotion of Ayurveda. Even yesterday, I was there in a CII Conference promoting Ayurveda in Kerala; myself and Mr. Muraleedharan, the Minister. Good points. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha from Lok Sabha.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Thank you so much, Sir. I would like to draw the attention of hon. Minister who is sitting just in front of me in Lok Sabha itself. Clause 6 talks about composition of Institute. Hon. Minister, Sir, kindly look at it. There are 14 people on this Board and 10 people come from non-Ayurvedic background, four only from Ayurvedic ground. This kind of top heavy approach is not going to add any value to your intended thing of national eminence.

Sir, second is, what I believe, in the true spirit of cooperative federalism, जो कि हमारी सरकार अक्सर कहा करती है - 'सहकारी संघवाद'

I think you should look for an idea of a national level body which moves beyond Jamnagar and it takes care of the fact that Ayurveda all over India gets the same kind of stimulus and support. सर, माननीय मंत्री महोदय से मेरी एक और गुजारिश है। पूरे कोरोना काल में जून के महीने में एक ऐसा क्षण आया, जब एक महापुरुष ने कहा कि उन्होंने आयुर्वेद की दवाई बना ली है और उन महापुरुष के बयान के बाद टेलिविज़न डिबेट्स भी होने लगी। सर, ये चीज़ें व्यग्रताओं को जन्म देती हैं। कोरोना संक्रमण की लड़ाई वैज्ञानिक तरीके से हो और मैं समझता हूँ कि इसके लिए रेगुलेशन होना चाहिए। उन महापुरुष का कुछ नहीं बिगड़ा। उनकी दवाइयाँ भी बिक गईं और बाद में कहा गया कि ये तो इम्युनिटी बूस्टर हैं। इस तरह कोरोना की पोलिटिकल इकोनॉमी में किस प्रकार से आयुर्वेद के नाम का मिसयूज़ हुआ है, यह भी हमें ध्यान में रखना चाहिए।

Sir, in the end, I would like to say that new structures are always welcome, but if you do not back it up with a coherent, inclusive vision, structures have the tendency to become a graveyard for innovative ideas. Thank you, Sir. Jai Hind!

DR. SUBHASH CHANDRA (Haryana): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Ayurveda, as everybody here has said, is an ancient science of ours which encompasses different types of medical treatments, such as orthopaedic surgery, plastic surgery, and so on. There is hardly any disease which is unknown to the ayurvedic science. As opposed to many people who believe that Ayurveda is only meant for a few small ailments and not very big ailments, it cures everything. In fact, even *Rashtrapita* Mahatma Gandhi, before Independence, made public statements saying that after we get Independence Ayurveda should be made our first public health system, ऐसी स्थिति में होते हुए भी, when many speakers have spoken about institutes being there for more than 150 years in the country and doing an excellent job, the growth in terms of modernization of those scientific institutes have not yet taken place. During the time when the country was under foreign rule, there was an attempt to finish Ayurveda from this country like many other good things were made to disappear from our whole system. The earlier speaker said that Ayurvedic medicines worth 80 million dollars were being exported every year. I believe that it should not be 80 million but 800 billion dollars a year. China has captured 28 per cent of the global ayurvedic medicine market. Germany and Switzerland have even done more work on Ayurveda than we have done. That is a shameful thing for us. The problem is that even after Independence we did not bring back to its glory our ancient scientific knowledge of Ayurveda and other systems of Indian medicine. It was only in November, 2014 that this Government created a separate Ministry of AYUSH and that is how this system has gained centre stage. I commend the Government for doing that.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have five suggestions for the consideration of the hon. Health Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Be quick.

DR. SUBHASH CHANDRA: These are, provide financial assistance to the farmers to grow more medicinal plants on a large scale; ensure the standards of raw material before they are sent to the pharmaceutical industry for ayurvedic medicine making and grant large-scale budget for R&D to even the private sector in this area so that it could

[Dr. Subhash Chandra]

be further recognized with proper research papers, etc. I commend the Government for having established an AIIMS like institute at Badarpur with Ayurveda at its centre. It should also be made a centre of excellence. Finally, make nature cure and yoga also a part of the medicinal system. In the end, I would say that we should make this a national mission so that we not only save billions of dollars while importing allopathic medicine, but also add income to our Indian economy.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I am so glad to listen that you mention highly about the Kottakkal Arya Vaidya Sala. It is the pride of the nation. I feel proud because I am also a part of it; I am the President of the Workers' Union there. So, I am in constant touch with it. I am quite sure that the hon. Minister will take care of the discussions here. I have two or three points to raise here. Adding the sixth point to the earlier speaker's five points, I may say that step to protect the biodiversity and the environment has become a pre-condition to protect the future of Ayurveda. When the biodiversity is lost, Ayurveda will also be lost. So, that part should be taken care of Sir, Ayurveda has to develop. Changing needs are emerging. New pandemics are coming up. So, research and scientific development is a must now. For that, this kind of Centre of Excellence is a must for this country. In this regard, I should say that the capacity of Ayurveda and Homoeopathy in fighting Covid has been proven. Throughout the country, people know about it. That part has to be taken into consideration. Homoeopathy and Ayurveda have to be supported by all means because they can prevent this pandemic in such a way. They cannot treat it now, but they can prevent it. Preventive ability and capacity to prevent this disease is now proven in the whole country and that should be appreciated by the Government in a proper way. Sir, I should say that this Institute which is going to be started at Jamnagar is a welcome step. But the Government should really think of another place also. That place is Kerala. Everybody knows that Kerala is the real place of Ayurveda development in the country. For that reason, a Centre of Excellence has to be developed in Kerala State also. I don't want to take much time. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made good points.

श्री बिस्वजीत दैमारी (असम): सर, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। यह एक अत्यन्त जरूरी बिल है। यह जो आयुर्वेद है, जो कि हमारी प्राचीन चिकित्सा प्रणाली है, यह सिर्फ प्राचीन नहीं है, अभी तक हमारे गाँव-गाँव में इस पद्धति द्वारा चिकित्सा चलती है, क्योंकि अभी भी ग्रामीण एरियाज़ में डॉक्टर नहीं पहुँचते, ऐलोपैथिक मेडिसिंस वगैरह भी नहीं पहुँचतीं।

सर, हमारे देश में यह जो आयुर्वेद की प्रैक्टिस है, यह बहुत ही इफेक्टिव है और हमारे जीवन में जो बहुत सी बीमारियाँ आती हैं, समस्याएँ आती हैं, उनको हम लोग इसके ज़रिए ठीक कर सकते हैं और यह प्रामाणिक भी है। मैं आपके ज़रिए हमारे माननीय मंत्री महोदय से अनुरोध करना चाहूँगा कि आज इस Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda के establishment के लिए जाम नगर में जो व्यवस्था की गयी है, तो उसी तरह हमारा जो नॉर्थ-ईस्ट है, जोकि सबसे पिछड़ा हुआ है, वहाँ पर मेडिकल साइंस के बारे में लोगों को पता ही नहीं है। प्राचीन काल से जो आयुर्वेद का प्रचलन है, उसके ज़रिए ही वहाँ पर गाँव-गाँव में ट्रीटमेंट चलता है, वहाँ भी इसी तरह के एक इंस्टीट्यूशन की व्यवस्था करें। गुवाहाटी में एक आयुर्वेद कॉलेज है। केन्द्र सरकार की तरफ से और हमारे स्वास्थ्य विभाग की तरफ से उसको डेवलप करके वहाँ पर इसी तरह के कुछ रिसर्च की व्यवस्था की जाए। वहाँ की जो चिकित्सा पद्धति है, उसको हम कैसे डेवलप कर सकते हैं, इसके बारे में भी विचार करना चाहिए।

सर, मैं गाँव से हूँ। जब मैं छोटा था, स्कूल भी नहीं जाता था, तब भी हम लोगों को पता था कि जब कभी साँप काट जाए तो कौन से पौधे का पत्ता लगाने से ब्लीडिंग बन्द हो जाती है, खून निकलना बन्द हो जाता है और जब पेट दर्द होता है, तो किस चीज़ को खाना होता है। इस तरह की सारी बातें हमें मालूम थीं। अगर स्कूल की क्लास में भी इस चिकित्सा पद्धति के बारे में, जो भी मेडिसिन अवेलेबल होती है, जो भी मेडिसिनल प्लांट होता है, उसके बारे में शिक्षा की व्यवस्था कर दी जाए, तब हमारे देश में स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र में लोगों को बहुत ही फायदा होगा और इतने हॉस्पिटल्स या इतने डॉक्टर्स की हर समय लोगों को जरूरत नहीं पड़ेगी और वे खुद ही कुछ न कुछ कर सकते हैं। सर, यह institute इसी ढंग से व्यवहृत होना है, जो कि प्राचीन काल से चला आ रहा है। मैं अनुरोध करूँगा कि इसके ऊपर उचित अनुसंधान हो और हर जगह पर इस प्रकार की कुछ व्यवस्था हो, धन्यवाद।

श्री सभापति: डा. फौजिया खान। मैडम, आप संक्षेप में बोलिए because time is limited.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while appreciating the efforts of the Government to bring glory to ancient Indian sciences by creating a Centre of Excellence and making it one of national importance, a few questions arise in the mind, particularly, when the objectives for the creation of this institution are analysed.

These objectives are, (i) making this institute a model in order to demonstrate high standards of Ayurvedic medical education; (ii) preparing teachers and other personnel through training and post-graduate education, and, (iii) research and standardization, which I believe is the major thrust of this endeavour. When we see all these objectives, one is compelled to wonder whether this mandate really requires a new institute. How is this mandate different from that of the existing anteceding institutions or existing universities? Could we have achieved the same goal by strengthening the existing

[Dr. Fauzia Khan]

institutions because an old house can be renovated at a much lesser cost ultimately making it a home, which is more important?

So, if the soul and the spirit is there, I think, the objectives can be met. Here, I would like to mention one or two clauses. Clause 6(1) provides for membership for three Members of Parliament. I would like to request that these Members should be both from Treasury as well as Opposition. Clause 7 prescribes the term of the Members as five years. However, there is no clarity on the eligibility for re-election. Clause 8(1) talks about the nomination of the President of the Institute by the Central Government; why not have an election among the Members for it?

At the end, the choice of Gujarat again has compelled many eyebrows to be raised. When several States have good institutions on Ayurveda, one fails to understand the reason for the concentration of institutions in one State, for instance, the International Financial Services Centres Authority or this particular institute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Fauzia ji. I would have allowed you much more time but the fact is that we have to conclude it by 11 o'clock. Now, Shri Narain Dass Gupta.

SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA (NCT of Delhi): Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this Bill. I welcome this move of the hon. Health Minister for the reason because यह पद्धति बहुत प्राचीन है और प्राचीन काल से चली आ रही है तथा यह प्रचलित है। यह हमें रामायण काल की भी याद दिलाती है, जब लक्ष्मण जी को शक्ति लगी, तब यह आयुर्वेदिक मेडिसिन ही उस समय काम आई।

सर, आपके माध्यम से इस विषय पर ऑनरेबल हेल्थ मिनिस्टर को मेरे कुछ सजेसन्स हैं। एक तो यह है कि हमारी जितनी भी आयुर्वेद संस्थाएँ हैं, वे सब ill-equipped हैं, वहाँ पर इस तरह का adequate arrangement करना चाहिए ताकि proper infrastructure तैयार हो सके। वहाँ पर अभी इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था नहीं है। दूसरी बात यह है कि उनके लिए adequate fund की भी व्यवस्था की जाए। आज जो आयुर्वेद पद्धति में qualified हैं, उनके लिए जॉब की बड़ी समस्या है। इसका कारण यह है कि आज ज्यादा से ज्यादा लोगों को इंग्लिश मेडिसिन पर विश्वास है, आयुर्वेदिक मेडिसिन पर उतना विश्वास नहीं है। इसका कारण यह है कि इंग्लिश मेडिसिन की जो manufacturing companies हैं, वे इंग्लिश मेडिसिन्स की ज्यादा publicity करती हैं। दूसरी तरफ, हमारी यह जो आयुर्वेद पद्धति है, यह बहुत प्राचीन पद्धति है। आयुर्वेद का सबसे बड़ा advantage इस कोरोना काल में देखने को मिला। सर, हेल्थ मिनिस्टर साहब ने कल अपने वक्तव्य में बताया कि पूरे वर्ल्ड में mortality rate 3.2 परसेंट है, जबकि हमारा mortality rate

1.67 परसेंट है। इसका मेन कारण यही था कि हमारे लोगों ने आयुर्वेद को अपनाया और इस वजह से हम जीत पाए। मैं स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी का ध्यान इसके सेक्शन-8 और 9 की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ। इसमें इन्होंने President का प्रावधान किया है और President ही गवर्निंग बोर्ड का चेयरमैन होगा। लेकिन अगर हम दूसरे इंस्टीट्यूट्स को देखें, जितनी एनआईटीज़ बनी हैं, आईआईटीज़ बनी हैं, वहाँ पर बेसिक प्रावधान है कि किसी भी इंस्टीट्यूट में, किसी भी यूनिवर्सिटी में चांसलर और वाइस चांसलर का प्रावधान होता है, लेकिन इस प्रकार के national importance के इंस्टीट्यूट्स में President of India visitor के रूप में होते हैं। मेरा यह सुझाव है कि इसमें इस प्रकार का प्रावधान किया जाए।

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। माननीय सभापति जी, आयुर्वेद शिक्षण और अनुसंधान संस्थान विधेयक, 2020 आयुर्वेद शिक्षण और अनुसंधान संस्थान की स्थापना, शिक्षण और अनुसंधान संस्थान की स्थापना, शिक्षा, अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण की गुणवत्ता और उत्कृष्टता के लिए राष्ट्रीय महत्व की संस्था के रूप में घोषित करने के लिए लाया गया है।

महोदय, प्राचीन काल से ही भारत आयुर्वेद चिकित्सा पद्धति की जननी रहा है। विश्व भर में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर की आयुर्वेद शिक्षा एवं प्रशिक्षण का अभाव है और नित्य-प्रतिदिन आयुर्वेद के ज्ञान और सेवाओं के लिए रुचि की माँग बढ़ रही है। ऐसे में, राष्ट्रीय महत्व के इस संस्थान का अपने देश में अलग महत्व है। महोदय, प्राचीन काल से ही इसका बहुत बड़ा महत्व है। अभी जो कोरोना संकट आया, इस कोरोना संकट में आयुर्वेद की ही प्रक्रियाएं काम में आईं, क्योंकि गाँवों में जहाँ चिकित्सा का अभाव था, वहाँ पर लोगों ने काढ़ा और गिलोय का उपयोग किया। इससे लोगों को पता चला कि आयुर्वेद कितना महत्वपूर्ण है। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि मैं जनपद मुरादाबाद में अपने ननिहाल में रहकर पढ़ा था। मेरे स्वर्गीय नाना, श्री लिख्खी सिंह जी आयुर्वेद के भक्त थे। उनके पास सुबह से ही सैंकड़ों मरीज आते थे और वे जड़ी-बूटियों से ही सही कर देते थे, इसलिए हमें भी इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिए। इसके साथ-साथ, मैं बताना चाहूँगा कि पहले delivery के लिए गाँवों में दाई होती थी और आयुर्वेदिक संस्थान की मदद से ही बच्चा पैदा हो जाता था, लेकिन आज एलोपैथी में 90 परसेंट बच्चे ऑपरेशन के द्वारा पैदा हो रहे हैं। हमें इस ओर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए, इसे बढ़ावा देना चाहिए।

महोदय, मेरे दो-तीन सुझाव और हैं। जैसे गुजरात में बहुत बड़ा संस्थान बनाया जा रहा है, उत्तर प्रदेश भी जो देश का सबसे बड़ा प्रदेश है और जिसकी सबसे बड़ी जनसंख्या है, वहाँ पर भी लोगों के स्वास्थ्य के लिए दो-चार ऐसे संस्थान बनाए जाने चाहिए।

श्री सभापति: मंत्री जी, रामदास अठावले जी एक वाक्य बोलना चाहते हैं।

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामदास अठावले): सर, मेरी पार्टी है।

श्री सभापति: मुझे मालूम है कि आपकी पार्टी है। आप सदस्य भी हैं, उसके बाद ही मंत्री बन पाए हैं।

श्री रामदास अठावले: सभापति महोदय,

"आयुर्वेद शिक्षण और अनुसंधान विधेयक का मैं करता हूँ समर्थन
इससे बीमारी मुक्त हो जाएगा जन,
सबका मजबूत हो जाएगा मन,
वह नजदीक आ गया है क्षण"।

सर, आयुष मंत्रालय के माध्यम से जामनगर में आयुर्वेद शिक्षण और अनुसंधान केन्द्र बन रहा है। मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करने के लिए रिपब्लिकन पार्टी ऑफ इंडिया की तरफ से आपके सामने बोल रहा हूँ। बुद्ध के कार्यकाल में, प्राचीन कार्यकाल में जो साधु-संत थे, हमारे बौद्ध भिक्षु भी थे, वे सभी आयुर्वेद का उपयोग करते थे, जंगल में रहते थे, इसलिए आयुर्वेद का बहुत बड़ा महत्व है।

सर, मैं भी एक बार Kottakkal, Kerala में जाकर आया हूँ। केरल एक बहुत ही अच्छा राज्य है। वहाँ ऐसा अनुसंधान होना चाहिए। जामनगर में अनुसंधान होने के बाद हर स्टेट में अनुसंधान होना चाहिए। हमारे महाराष्ट्र में भी होना चाहिए। महाराष्ट्र में भी Sahyadri पर्वत हैं। यह हर राज्य में होना चाहिए, लेकिन अभी यह जामनगर में हो रहा है, मैं इसका सपोर्ट करता हूँ।

श्री सभापति: अभी मंत्री जी के लिए दस मिनट बचे हैं। मंत्री जी, आपको अपना कौशल्य दस मिनट में दिखाना है। जो लोगों ने बोला है, उसका संक्षेप में समाधान देना। मुझे मालूम है कि आयुर्वेद में उपाय है।

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):

Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to express my gratitude to all the esteemed Members of the Upper House who have expressed their opinions very candidly about this Bill. I am very happy to learn that all the Members, 100 per cent, have expressed their deep sense of appreciation for Ayurveda, its usefulness for the society in tackling diseases and for strengthening healthcare systems of the world. I would not like to repeat what has been said by others, but we all know that Ayurveda is the most ancient system of medicine in our country and there is so much of traditional ancient wisdom attached to it. There is so much of description about it in the Vedic scriptures, more particularly in Atharvaveda so much so that Ayurveda is sometimes called the offshoot of Atharvaveda. Like all of you, in spite of being a doctor of modern system of medicine, I can say with utmost certainty that I am a very, very strong supporter of Ayurveda and all the Indian systems of medicine. At many times, I personally also practise these systems. And it is not only me, but our whole Government, led by the Prime Minister, Narendra Modiji, is a very, very strong supporter of promoting Indian

systems of medicine to the extent that in 2014, if I can recall, a couple of decisions in the first six months were taken. I recall two important decisions. First is the creation of National AYUSH Mission in 2014 by the Government inspired by our Prime Minister and then the Prime Minister himself took the initiative of converting the Department of Indian Systems of Medicine into a full-fledged Ministry. As far as Ayurveda and the Indian systems of medicine are concerned, this Government is in full sync with the sentiments of the Upper House. Then, there were some apprehensions. I fully endorse each and every word that has been spoken about Ayurveda. I fully welcome each and every new good suggestion that has been made. On many of these suggestions, already, the Government has been working very fast. For example, the Ministry of AYUSH has already initiated steps to grant deemed university status under *de novo* category to all national institutes in the country under its control. The proposals are being submitted to the Ministry of Education and UGC. Then about what Dr. Subhash Chandra said, I would just mention a couple of things only because you have given me just ten minutes. The Government has approved ₹ 4000 crore project under the Atmnirbhar Bharat for cultivation of medicinal plants and supplementing the income of farmers. It will also ensure availability of raw material for AYUSH sector.

Sir, I recall when I used to work for the World Health Organisation two decades back, Dr. Uton, one of the former Regional Directors of WHO, who is no more in this world, spent the last two years of his life in the South East Asia Regional Office in New Delhi, writing a book. He himself was a doctor of modern system of medicine but he wrote a book on the role of Ayurveda for the modern world. Right now, Ayurveda and our Indian systems are appreciated and recognized by the World Health Organization also.

Now, the issue regarding this Bill is that most of the people have expressed this apprehension as to why have you chosen the Jamnagar institution for giving a status of institution of national importance. I would not like to say that this is the only institution in the country. Like all of you have mentioned, there are so many good institutions in Kerala and various other places in India. We have huge amount of respect for the working and the capability and the potential of those institutions. Sir, even at the cost of repetition, I have to remind some of the Members that right now there are 103 institutions of national importance in the country but there is not even one from Ayurveda which is an institution of national importance. This institution, where three big institutions have combined together to make this institution in the

11.00 A.M.

[Dr. Harsh Vardhan]

Jamnagar University, has been chosen not selectively. It is not a bias or it is not on any empirical or any arbitrary basis but it has been chosen in the most objective manner. This is the oldest institution created by the Government of India in 1956. This is the only collaborating centre for W.H.O. in the whole world for India in Ayurveda. As I said yesterday also, in the last twenty years, students from sixty five countries have come to this place.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please doctor.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: It has signed 30 MoUs with different countries. On every parameter, we can most objectively certify and say that right now this is probably the number one institution which deserves this status. I can only say that it is a very humble beginning. Other institutions in the country, they need to upgrade themselves further to the research standards that are required, to the standards of teaching that are required - it is not that they are already not doing it but the National AYUSH Mission was created to support all of them -- and the Government is already supporting many such institutions in the country. It already has the intention to strengthen this aspect all over the country. I am sure, once we make this humble beginning with one institution, which would catch the attention of the international community also because of the work that it is already doing which has got international recognition in so many fields, this would make a very good beginning for other institutions to grow up in their stature so that they can, in future, be considered by the Parliament for giving status of institute of national importance. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you Harsh Vardhanji. Today, the full day belongs to you. Now, Shri K. Vanlalvena, only one line.

SHRI K. VANLALVENA (Mizoram): Thank you very much, Sir. First of all, I would like to express that I strongly support this agenda. Secondly, Mizoram is very rich in medicinal plants. More than 50 per cent of the State is covered by forests. Under the forests, the natural medicinal plants are grown in large quantities. So, I urge the Union Government and the hon. Minister to establish research and teaching institution in Mizoram. And, moreover, I am asking you to establish micro or small industry for the proper production of medicine. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Vanlalvenaji. Mr. Minister, there is a demand for setting-up of a research institute of Ayurveda in every State. Please keep that in mind. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no; really, you have observed, every Member was saying. That shows the importance of the subject as well as their interest in this traditional medicine. Every State for that matter -- I don't want to take your time—Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, be it Maharashtra and West Bengal, every State has got some speciality. Just now, who said this? I think, Shri Biswajit Daimary said that when there was a snake bite, the local grandparents are there, they used to immediately give some sort of traditional medicines. We have a lot of them. We have to revive those things also and also marry it with Allopathy. Homoeopathy, Ayurveda, Allopathy, Siddha and Unani, many of them are available. They should be encouraged so that it reaches the common people. Now, the question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the establishment of an Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda and to declare it as an Institution of national importance for the promotion of quality and excellence in education, research and training in Ayurveda and allied disciplines and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, 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 5 were added to the Bill.

Clause 6-Composition of Institute

MR. CHAIRMAN: In clause 6, there is one Amendment (No. 1) by Shri K.C. Venugopal. Are you moving it?

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Rajasthan): Sir, I move:

(No. 1) That at page 4, *for* lines 10 to 12, the following be *substituted*, namely:-

"(k) four Members of Parliament, of whom two shall be elected from among themselves by the members of the House of the People and two from among themselves by members of the Council of States."

The question was put and the motion was negatived.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.
Clauses 7 to 11 were added to the Bill.

Clause 12-Objects of Institute

MR. CHAIRMAN: In clause 12, there is one Amendment (No. 2) by Shri K.C. Venugopal. Are you moving it?

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, I move:

(No. 2) That at page 6, *after* line 3, the following be *inserted*, namely:-

- (e) to make an in-depth study and research in the field of Ayurvedic medicinal plants and tie up with similar institutes across the country for the above mentioned objectives.

The question was put and the motion was negatived.

Clause 12 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 13 to 31 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the Minister to move that the Bill be passed.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DISCUSSION ON THE STATEMENT MADE BY MINISTER

Regarding Covid-19 Pandemic and Steps taken by Government

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, when I made an announcement about Covid, general discussion, one or two hon. Members raised an issue which I found is relevant that Covid is not only a medical problem; it is also management of the entire disaster. So, keeping that in mind, I have asked the Minister of Home Affairs also to be present in the House; here Home Minister means MoS. The Home Minister is not well; you know that. So, they are going to be there. The Home Secretary is also going to be there. One will be sitting here, and one will be sitting in the Lok Sabha. The Members who

want to speak, they can make points on both and then the Ministers taking notes will respond to this. Now, it is 11 o' clock. The debate will continue up to 1 o' clock and, still, if the time is required, it will continue tomorrow for some more time also.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): One clarification, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Clarification from the Minister or me!

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, how much time will be allotted?

MR. CHAIRMAN: As much time as possible.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, some Members would seek clarification on the Minister's statement, some Members would like to speak on the issue in a broader context. So I believe, you are clubbing both of them together.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, together.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: If you are clubbing them together, we would like to get a sense as to how much time each party has.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No discussion. You please seek your clarifications and speak on it also but within the permissible time that is allotted to the party. But we will also be a little liberal. Please keep that in mind. I think MoS has come. The Defence Minister is here, of course, who is senior also.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): One MoS is likely to come to this House. One MoS is already there in the Lok Sabha.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ask them to take note and also be attentive because the points which are going to be made are very important. This is a larger issue. In fact, this present situation, all this is because of Covid and the management aspect of it is also larger because there are the Central Government policies, ICMR, Home Ministry, Health Ministry, State Governments and the local administration; there are so many people. Unless we all work as a team, we will not be able to face this. This is a larger issue. Keep that in mind and let the Ministers take note of it. We will start the discussion. There are six Members whose names have been given by the Congress party, but time allotted is limited. Keeping that in mind, they should confine to the time so that others also can get time. Now, Shri Anand Sharma.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, how much time do we have?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I told you, today, two hours and if necessary, tomorrow, some more time. I don't want to point out. ...(*Interruptions*)... You cannot totally...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: For clarification!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Seek clarification, only clarification. This is the clarification I want; end of it.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No, Sir. The time allotted for our party. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no time separately for clarification. It is combined in this. Clarifications can be sought irrespective of whether a party has got time or not; only clarifications. Now, Anand Sharmaji.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, the subject on which this discussion is, it is not only very important for our country but also for the entire world. This pandemic is an unprecedented crisis which none of us could have anticipated, none of us, and even our forebears, our parents, their generation saw anything of this kind. Perhaps more than a century ago, the world then had suffered from a major pandemic which is known as the Spanish Flu and in that a large number of Indians also perished, people all over the world were killed. The question is: How well prepared were we? ...(*Interruptions*)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सर, स्क्रीन पर आनन्द शर्मा जी के बजाय कोई अन्य सदस्य आ रहे हैं।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: जी, यह हमारे साथ अन्याय हो रहा है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री देरेक ओब्राइन: जी, वह तो हो रहा है।

श्री उपसभापति: आनन्द शर्मा जी आप बोलिए, आप स्क्रीन पर आ जाओगे। आप यह बताएं कि आप राज्य सभा चैम्बर से बोल रहे हैं, तो निश्चित ही आएगा।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैंने यही कहा है कि न देश को, न शासन को, न प्रशासन को और न विश्व को यह खबर थी कि यह महामारी आएगी और उसके लिए हमें तैयारी करनी है। इसीलिए हमने देखा कि शुरू में जब यह कोरोना वायरस आया तो एक दम से घबराहट और भय का वातावरण पूरे विश्व में बना, जो आज भी है। समय लगा, डॉक्टर्स

को समझने के लिए, वैज्ञानिकों को समझने के लिए कि यह क्या है और इसका सामना कैसे किया जाए। यही एक बड़ा कारण रहा कि पहले एक-दो महीने के अंदर पूरे विश्व में इस संक्रमण से भारी संख्या में लोग मारे गए - उन देशों के अंदर भी, जिन्हें हम विकसित देश कहते हैं, developed देश कहते हैं - यूरोप में, अमेरिका में, जहां की स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं और सुविधाएं हमारे देश से अच्छी हैं, प्रगतिशील देशों से अच्छी हैं, वहां पर भी इसकी चुनौती उसी प्रकार से रही। जैसा कल स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी ने बताया कि इसके संबंध में जो हमारी medical fraternity है, डॉक्टर्स हैं, nurses हैं, आज शायद उनकी समझ बेहतर है कि किस तरह से इसे मैनेज किया जाए, इलाज किया जाए, कैसी दवाई दी जाए। लेकिन अभी भी ऐसी कोई भी दवाई नहीं है जो नयी बनी हो। माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी ने repurposed medicines का तो कल जिक्र किया, उसमें उन्होंने कुछ नाम भी बताए और इस देश में क्या हुआ, यह भी माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ने बताया। मैं आपके माध्यम से एक बात कहना चाहता हूं कि कल के स्वास्थ्य मंत्री के बयान में 11 सितम्बर के आंकड़े दिए गए हैं - कल 15 सितम्बर था, तो यहां पर 45 लाख केसेज़ नहीं थे, 48 लाख से ज्यादा थे, जो अब 50 लाख पहुंच चुके हैं। तो कम से कम जब संसद में बयान दिया जा रहा हो, उस बयान में पिछले दिन के आंकड़े देने चाहिए थे - उससे पहले जो बयान दूसरे सदन को दिया गया, वही आंकड़े कल भी दिए गए, यह त्रुटि है, जिसे मैं आपके सामने लाना चाहता हूं। कृपया उसे आप सुधारें और आज जब आप जवाब दें तो बताएं कि कितने केसेज़ हैं, कितने recovered हैं।

महोदय, मैं अभी सिर्फ स्वास्थ्य मंत्री के बयान की तरफ जा रहा हूं, फिर गृह मंत्रालय की तरफ आऊंगा। कल माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि हमारे देश में 55 deaths per million हुई, which is one of the lowest. अच्छी बात है। हमारे देश के साथ दक्षिण एशिया में जो पड़ोसी देश हैं, चाहे वह बंगलादेश है, नेपाल है, पाकिस्तान है, श्रीलंका है, वहां पर हमसे भी ज्यादा कम मृत्यु हो रही है। उसी तरह से दक्षिण अफ्रीका में है। तमाम वे देश, जहां BCD vaccine लगी थी - जिस पर आज पूरे विश्व में चर्चा हो रही है कि उन देशों में mortality कम रही है, कम लोग मरे हैं। BCG की booster medicine पर जो काम Johns Hopkins University और उसके साथ मिलकर Serum Institute of India कर रहा है, ICMR का भी BCG booster का प्रोग्राम चल रहा है, उसकी जानकारी कल हमें मिलनी चाहिए थी। माननीय मंत्री जी कृपया अपने उत्तर में वह जानकारी हमें दें कि वह कहां तक पहुंचा है और उससे हम क्या उम्मीद रख सकते हैं।

माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी ने कल एक चीज़ कही - कार्यवाही तो गृह मंत्रालय की थी, घोषणा प्रधान मंत्री माननीय श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की थी और देश में अचानक लॉकडाउन हुआ था। उसकी खबर ऐसे आयी कि यकायक देश के अंदर सब लोग स्तब्ध हो गए, चार घंटे के अंदर वह लॉकडाउन लगा था। उसकी कितनी तैयारी थी या कितनी तैयारी नहीं थी, उसकी भी चर्चा होनी चाहिए। उसका फायदा कितना हुआ और उसका नुकसान कितना हुआ, यह भी देश को जानना चाहिए। यही आज हमारी संसद का कर्तव्य बनता है। मैं माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना

[श्री आनन्द शर्मा]

चाहता हूँ, in paragraph 7 of his statement, he has said that it has been estimated that this decision prevented approximately 14 to 29 lakh, -- Sir, I am repeating -- about 14 to 29 lakh cases and 37,000 to 78,000 deaths. स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी, यह फासला बहुत बड़ा है कि 14 लाख लोग बच गए या 29 लाख बच गए। 37 हजार लोग मर जाते या 78 हजार, यह कहां से आया? The House must be informed as to what is the scientific basis on which we have reached this conclusion that but for the sudden lockdown, the number of cases have risen up to 29 lakhs. I would like to point out that the lockdown was imposed using the emergency provisions under the National Disaster Management Act and the Epidemics Diseases Act played a side role. The day the lockdown was imposed that day, there were 600 cases in India, but, as we are discussing this subject, there are 50 lakh cases, 5 million cases in India and almost 82,000 deaths, this is the true picture. This also highlights the gravity of the challenge which the humanity faces, but, what people say a herd immunity which took two years in the case of Spanish Flu or an effective and safe vaccine is found, until then we will continue to be challenged, we as India, our people, our society and for that matter the entire world will be challenged. This virus does not discriminate between rich and poor countries, between North and South. It has enveloped the entire globe. But, there are other things which the Minister of Health and Family Welfare has said in his statement, I feel that it is important. Sir, in paragraph 14 of his statement, hon. Minister has given the details of the number of Covid beds, oxygen-supported isolation beds as well as the non-oxygen supported ICU Beds. I would like to appreciate and compliment here all those who were involved in ramping up the infrastructure in the country, क्योंकि इसकी तैयारी तो कोई नहीं कर सकता था, न किसी को समझ थी। जब यह संक्रमण आ गया, उसके बाद जिस पैमाने पर यह चुनौती थी, तो पूरा प्रयास हुआ, केंद्र में भी हुआ और राज्यों में भी हुआ कि किस तरह से अस्पतालों के अंदर जो मरीज हैं, उनके लिए सुविधाएं हों। इसका सामना करने में बहुत लोगों को तकलीफ हुई। जैसा मैंने कहा कि शुरू में न डॉक्टर्स को, न nurses को, न paramedics को इसके बारे में पूरा ज्ञान था और उन लोगों ने भी इसमें संघर्ष किया है, उनमें से भी बहुत लोग मारे गए हैं। उपसभापति महोदय, इसका समाज में ऐसा भय था कि बड़े-बड़े लोग इस देश में और दुनिया में, जो इसका शिकार होते चले गए, ऐसे वक़यात हैं कि शहर और गांव उनका अंतिम संस्कार नहीं करने देते थे। हमारे देश के कई हिस्सों में ऐसा हुआ। हमारे जो डॉक्टर्स और नर्सिंग हैं, जो खुद अपनी जान हथेली पर रख कर मरीजों की खिदमत कर रहे हैं, लोगों का उपचार कर रहे हैं, वे जब अपने घर में, अपनी locality में, अपने गांव में, अपने कस्बे में, जहां वे रहते हैं, वहां वापस जाते थे, तो उनका बहिष्कार होता था। नोटिस लगा दिया जाता था। इस तरह की बहुत गलत बातें भी हुईं।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आनन्द जी...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: जी।

श्री उपसभापति: आपकी पार्टी का टाइम 24 मिनट का है। आपने ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: पार्टी का टाइम 24 मिनट है। आपने तो मुझे करीब 15 मिनट बोलने के लिए कहा। ...(व्यवधान)... इन्होंने मुझे बताया कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मैंने अभी बताया। ...(व्यवधान)... आपने मुझे बताया। Two-and-a-half hours का समय है। इस two-and-a-half-hours में से 24 मिनट का समय आपकी पार्टी के लिए है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: अभी तो हम बोल ही नहीं पाए। ...(व्यवधान)... Give us also more time. ...(Interruptions)... If all the parties want, I can stop. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपके सामने ही माननीय चेयरमैन साहब ने कहा, उसी के अनुसार two-and-a-half hours का डिस्कशन है। उसी के अनुसार टाइम अलॉट किया गया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: जयराम रमेश जी, यह तो गड़बड़ हो गई। हम कैसे इसमें करेंगे? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am requesting you to follow the time.

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, चार घंटे का समय इसके लिए है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: ढाई घंटे का टाइम यहां पर लिखा है। यह ढाई घंटे की बहस है, यह चार घंटे की बहस नहीं है। Kindly correct it. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: नहीं जी, नहीं।

श्री उपसभापति: अभी मैंने आपको इंटिमेंट किया। I told you.

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: नहीं, नहीं। ...(व्यवधान)... महोदय, इस चर्चा को गंभीरता से लिया जाए। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I am on a point of order. ...(Interruptions)... My point of order is this. These three Rules can be read together, if you wish, 176, 177 and 178. Sir, the Chairman, you are quite correct, ...(Interruptions)... You have said two-and-a-half hours. But 15 political parties from here have requested the Chairman to extend it and have a four hours discussion. The Chairman before he left assured us that if this discussion does not finish, there is enough time because

[Shri Derek O' Brien]

something like this has not happened in the last century. So, in that spirit, Sir, since 15 political parties here have signed, that letter is also available, you please consider that and give us a broad framework. Let us work on the premise that it is four hours when we will all express ourselves. Thank you very much, Sir.

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, ...(व्यवधान)... माननीय सदस्यगण, माननीय चेयरमैन ने ऑलरेडी यहां पर जाने से पहले बता दिया कि डिस्कशन दो घंटे का होगा, कल मिनिस्टर का रिप्लाय होगा। टोटल two hours and thirty minutes का समय होगा।

श्री जयराम रमेश: उपसभापति महोदय, इसे चार घंटे का कर दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing. ...(Interruptions)... आप जानते हैं कि किस तरह के circumstances हैं, यह important विषय है। आप माननीय आनन्द शर्मा जी को बोलने दें। ...(व्यवधान)... आप माननीय आनन्द जी को बोलने दें, उनका समय waste होगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रफुल्ल पटेल (महाराष्ट्र): माननीय डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री प्रफुल्ल पटेल: सर, एक मिनट। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prafulji, I am not allowing. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री प्रफुल्ल पटेल: *

श्री उपसभापति: हमें स्मरण है। माननीय चेयरमैन साहब ने जो बताया है, वह मुझे पता है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं यहां पर हूँ। अगर आप इस पर ओपिनियन डिस्कस करने लगेंगे, it will not help you. ...(Interruptions)... It will not go on record.

श्री प्रफुल्ल पटेल: सर, नहीं, नहीं। ...(व्यवधान)... एक मिनट ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आनन्द जी। ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़, कंटिन्यू ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़, कंटिन्यू ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: सर, पहले आप इसका समाधान निकालें। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It will not conclude. आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर जाएगी। ...(व्यवधान)... माननीय आनन्द जी, प्लीज़, ...(व्यवधान)... माननीय आनन्द जी, प्लीज़। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: जी। ...(व्यवधान) ...

श्री जयराम रमेश: यह चेयरमैन साहब ने कहा है। ...(व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति: आप टाइम waste कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: गुलाम नबी जी, आप लीडर ऑफ द हाउस हैं, आप कुछ बोलिए।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रफुल्ल पटेल: आप मुझे आश्वासन दीजिए।(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय प्रफुल्ल जी, मैंने बता दिया है। ...(व्यवधान)... आप इतने सीनियर और वरिष्ठ मेम्बर हैं, आप जानते हैं कि माननीय चेयरमैन साहब ने क्या कहा है। ऑलरेडी मैंने सुना है। अगर हम सुनेंगे, तो टाइम waste करेंगे ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रफुल्ल पटेल: सर, चेयरमैन साहब ने जाते समय कहा कि आज 11.00 बजे से 1.00 बजे तक दो घंटे चर्चा करेंगे। जिसको भी ज्यादा वक्त लगेगा कल और देंगे। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि यह इतना महत्वपूर्ण विषय है, इसलिए इसमें हम liberal रहेंगे।

श्री उपसभापति: बिल्कुल कहा।

श्री प्रफुल्ल पटेल: यह उन्होंने जाते-जाते कहा। उस liberal मतलब क्या है, यह आप हमें बताइए।

श्री उपसभापति: उस liberal का ...there is a limit after all. ...(Interruptions)... उस liberal की लिमिट भी होगी। ...(व्यवधान)... माननीय आनन्द शर्मा जी। माननीय आनन्द शर्मा जी।
...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़ कंटिन्यू। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जयराम रमेश: आप कहते हैं कि ढाई घंटे के आधार पर होगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आनन्द शर्मा जी, प्लीज़ कंटिन्यू। ...(व्यवधान)... ढाई घंटे की यह बहस हो रही है, तब रिप्लाय होगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: The time allotted earlier was two-and-a-half hours. On that basis, time has been allotted to the parties. Later we represented to the Chairman that the time is not sufficient, we need more time. He said, "You can." That is why we asked for fixed time, at least, four hours or something like that, and then the parties' time will be increased. Otherwise you are in the Chair, we will be following what has already been allotted.

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय चेयरमैन ने जाते वक्त यह भी कहा कि टाइम के लिए liberal होंगे। We are not discussing for four hours. It is not there. Please. ...(Interruptions)... Anandji, please continue. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: सर, पहले इसको कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जयराम रमेश: मिनिट्स किस आधार पर है? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We cannot run the House this way. It is an important issue.

श्री जयराम रमेश: मिनिट्स ढाई घंटे के आधार पर है और बहस ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय जयराम जी, अभी आपसे बात हुई है। ...(व्यवधान) अभी मैंने आपसे कहा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जयराम रमेश: माननीय डिप्टी चेयरमैन, कभी ऐसा नहीं हुआ है कि बहस शुरू हुई है और आप खत्म करने को कहें ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आनन्द जी, आप continue कीजिए।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, what are we here for? This is an important issue. The whole world is watching us and we are not allowed to discuss about it.

श्री उपसभापति: हम लोग लगातार और टाइम वेस्ट कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जयराम रमेश: अभी शुरू नहीं हुए हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आनन्द जी, आप बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान) यह समय उसी के लिए दिया गया है। माननीय चेयरमैन साहब ने उसी के लिए समय दिया है, क्योंकि बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट इश्यू है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: यह तो मज़ाक हो जाएगा। ...(व्यवधान) It will be a joke. ...(Interruptions) Sir, we are discussing an unprecedented crisis.

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, पहले समय तय कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: समय already हमारे सामने है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: उपसभापति जी, विषय की गंभीरता को देखते हुए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आनन्द जी, आप लोगों की सूचना के लिए बता दूँ कि माननीय चेयरमैन साहब ने कहा है कि two-and-a-half hours already allocated था, इसमें 1 घंटा और है, इस तरह से 3.30 घंटे की बहस है। ...(व्यवधान) including Minister's reply. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No, excluding Minister's reply. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: आनन्द जी, आप बोलिए, आप इतने सीनियर मेम्बर हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: उपसभापति महोदय, चाहे इसमें हमारा वक्त खराब हो गया है, फिर भी मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि पहले तो बोलने वाले को वहाँ बोर्ड पर टाइम पता होना चाहिए कि मेरा कितना समय है?

श्री उपसभापति: आप already 12 मिनट बोल चुके हैं। हमारे पास रिकॉर्ड है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: हमें पता होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं आपको बता रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: मैं आपके पास हर बार आकर थोड़ा ही पूछूंगा कि मेरा कितना समय है?

श्री उपसभापति: मैं बताऊंगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: वहाँ पर दिखना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: वहाँ किस कारण नहीं दिख रहा है, यह बात आप मुझसे बेहतर जानते हैं कि क्या हालात हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: मुझे नहीं मालूम है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: अगर आपके जैसा व्यक्ति ऐसा कहेगा, तो ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: सर, मुझे नहीं मालूम है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं सम्मान के साथ कह रहा हूँ कि मुझे नहीं मालूम है। ...(व्यवधान)... खैर, क्योंकि दोनों सदनों में बोर्ड है, इसलिए एक ही सदन में नहीं चलना चाहिए। मैं यह ज़िक्र कर रहा था कि मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि कितने beds का इंतजाम हो गया, मेरी बात को वही पर विराम लगा था, लेकिन माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, इससे एक बात स्पष्ट हुई है कि देश में जो पब्लिक हेल्थ केयर सिस्टम है, वह कमजोर हुआ था। यह आज नहीं हुआ, यह बरसों से है। वह चीज सामने आई कि आईसीयू के जो 70 परसेंट ऑक्सीजन सपोर्टेड बेड्स हैं, वे प्राइवेट हॉस्पिटल्स में थे और सरकारी अस्पतालों में केवल 30 प्रतिशत थे। इस महामारी के बाद मेरा सरकार से आग्रह है कि वह राज्यों से बात करके पब्लिक हेल्थ इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर को मजबूत करे। क्योंकि सरकारी अस्पतालों ने गरीबों का उपचार किया और जहाँ 30 परसेंट बेड्स हैं, वहाँ 70 परसेंट मरीज पब्लिक हॉस्पिटल्स ने, गवर्नमेंट हॉस्पिटल्स ने पूरे देश में संभाले, इसलिए समय आ गया है कि इसको मजबूत करें। हमें इससे कई सबक मिले हैं, देश को, समाज को, शासन को, प्रशासन को कड़वे अनुभव भी प्राप्त हुए हैं कि भविष्य के लिए इसको सुधारें, अतः उसके लिए अभी से कोई एक्शन प्लान बनाएं, उसको लागू करें और बताएं कि हम इतने वर्षों के अंदर इस कमी को पूरा करेंगे। उपसभापति महोदय, कुछ दवाइयों का ज़िक्र आया है। Hydroxychloroquine को बदनाम करने के लिए। Lancet magazine में एक आर्टिकल छपा था, जो उन्हें बाद में वापस लेना पड़ा, क्योंकि वह बिल्कुल fabricated था। हमने उस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया दी? जिस देश के, ऑस्ट्रेलिया के अस्पताल का नाम लेकर वह

[श्री आनन्द शर्मा]

आर्टिकल छपा, उनके खिलाफ हिंदुस्तान में भी मुकदमा करना चाहिए, क्योंकि यह ड्रग लॉबी, जो pharma lobbies हैं - क्योंकि सस्ती दवाई है, जिससे बचाव हुआ, यह उसको खराब करने के लिए हुआ है। ऑस्ट्रेलिया ने इस पर एक्शन लिया, वहाँ की सरकार ने एक्शन लिया है, अतः भारत सरकार को भी इस पर जो उचित कार्यवाही है, वह करनी चाहिए।

मान्यवर, स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ने repurposed जो दवाइयाँ बताई हैं, उनमें खास तौर पर एक का जिक्र नहीं है। उसमें favipiravir का जो FabiFlu है, शायद गलती से छूट गया है, आप उसको शामिल कीजिए और जो Remdesivir का जिक्र किया है, Tocilizumab का जिक्र किया है, एक Gilead company बनाती है, एक Roche multinationals बनाती है, ब्लैक मार्केट में एक-एक लाख रुपये में Tocilizumab गई है। हमने सरकार को आगाह किया था, मैंने ये बातें पहले भी उठाई थीं, तब सदन आरंभ नहीं हुआ था, पूरे देश के लोगों में घबराहट थी। यह मानसिकता है कि महँगी दवाई है, शायद उससे ठीक हो, हालाँकि उससे बेहतर दवाइयाँ थीं। ICMR ने अपना protocol जारी किया है, जिसमें ये बातें सामने आई हैं।

मंत्री महोदय ने Sepsivac के बारे में एक और ज़िक्र किया कि उसका फेज़-2 ट्रायल पूरा हो गया है।

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

Sepsivac is made from mycobacterium w. Mycobacterium w has been used by this country for leprosy vaccine which was CSIR-funded project developed by Dr. Talwar of AIIMS. Then, for the polio vaccine, the same mycobacterium w now is being used again for Sepsivac and it is a repurpose medicine. I would like to know from the hon. Health Minister whether this will also be used as a prophylactic for innate immunity and when the trial would be completed of Sepsivac for Phase-III.

Lastly, Sir, I am only on medicine. There is another old medicine first produced in India. That is called Colchicine which was, again, used for...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time announced by the Deputy Chairman was originally allocated. After the Members spoke to me, I said it will be extended further. The Members are keen to know the specific time. The Secretariat will work it out. So, I said, two-and-a-half hours has been allocated and extended by one more hour. And, then, again, some Members came to me and asked me whether it includes even the reply of the Minister. Now, after hearing them, I have come to the conclusion that three-and-a-half hours is for the Members and the remaining time will be for the Minister to reply.

Please see to it that the debate goes on smoothly and time is not crossed and, accordingly, parties can revise their time and intimate the Table Office.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैंने उस दवाई, Colchicine का जिक्र किया, जो सवा सौ साल पहले gout के लिए इस देश में अंग्रेजों के वक्त बनी थी। आज Colchicine पर तीन महीने पहले दोबारा ट्रायल शुरू हुआ है, एक साथ 5 हजार मरीजों पर शुरू हुआ है और हिन्दुस्तान में नहीं, वह हुआ मैड्रिड में, मॉन्ट्रियल में, न्यूयॉर्क में, बर्लिन में, उसके बारे में जानकारी बताएँ। भारत में भी वह शुरू हो गया। स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ने Colchicine का जिक्र नहीं किया। यह मैं उनकी जानकारी के लिए कहना चाहता हूँ, कृपा करके उसके बारे में भी बताएँ।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, यहाँ मैं स्वास्थ्य मंत्री, स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय, ICMR, CSIR के बारे में कहूँगा कि हमें धन्यवाद करना चाहिए अपने वैज्ञानिकों का, scientists का, संस्थाओं का, जिन्होंने कम समय में repurposed medicine के लिए जिस चीज की जरूरत थी और जो ingredients चीन से आते थे, एक-दो दवाइयाँ ऐसी हैं, जिनकी जरूरत पड़ी और भारत सरकार की, हमारे देश की जो संस्थाएँ हैं, CSIR और IICT, हैदराबाद, उन्होंने उनको बनाया और उपलब्ध कराया। इसलिए मैं यह बात सदन में रखना चाहता हूँ कि यह देश उनकी सराहना करता है। साथ-साथ अपनी संस्थाओं, जिस तरह एम्स है, दूसरे अस्पताल हैं, डॉक्टर्स हैं, नर्सिंग हैं, यह देश उनका भी धन्यवाद करता है। हम कृतज्ञ हैं, जिस ढंग से, बहादुरी से उन्होंने काम किया।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, अंत में मैं एक बात जरूर कहूँगा, पर अंतिम का मतलब संक्षिप्त नहीं है। वह बात है लॉकडाउन की। लॉकडाउन की आवश्यकता हुई, यह पूरी दुनिया में हुआ, पर क्या हम तैयार थे? मैं कोई आरोप नहीं लगाता, क्योंकि तैयार तो पूरी दुनिया नहीं थी, पर राज्यों के साथ बातचीत करते, राज्यों को सचेत करते, ताकि वहाँ का प्रशासन सचेत होता। इस देश में प्रशासन की पूरी कड़ी है, जो सब-डिविज़न-तहसील तक जाती है। यहाँ पर गृह मंत्रालय राज्यों के मुख्य सचिवों के साथ बैठक करके या teleconference करके उनको बताता कि वे अपने-अपने जिले के अन्दर तैयारी करें। हर जिले में District Magistrate है, DC है। DC आगे जाकर अपने SDM से बात करते, standard protocols लगते, कहाँ quarantine centre है। यहाँ Local SHO और SDM को मालूम होता है, तहसीलदार को मालूम होता है कि labourers के camps कहाँ हैं, construction labourers के camps कहाँ हैं। कितने लोग वहाँ पर हैं, यह सर्वे नहीं हुआ था। चार घंटे के अंदर एकदम से यह हुआ कि रेलगाड़ियाँ बंद, बसें बंद, इससे बहुत तकलीफ हुई। भारत की जो तस्वीरें बाहर गई, उससे हम इंकार नहीं कर सकते। सैकड़ों, हजारों किलोमीटर पैदल चल कर लोग गए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आनन्द शर्मा जी, शैड्यूल के हिसाब से आपकी पार्टी का टाइम 44 मिनट है और आप 20 मिनट बोल चुके हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: मैंने तो घड़ी देखी नहीं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपने नहीं देखी, हम तो देख रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: मैं दो मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म कर रहा हूँ।

मुझे यही कहना है कि जो तस्वीरें सामने आई हैं, हमारे जो माइग्रेंट लेबरर्स हैं, उनको बहुत कष्ट हुआ है। अगर उनके लिए पहले से तैयारी होती, पहले से क्वारन्टीन सेंटर्स बने हुए होते, तो आज गांवों में जो यह बीमारी चली गई है, शायद वह न जाती। जिस तरह से लोगों को सफर करना पड़ा, ट्रकों के अंदर, सीमेंट के मिक्सर्स के अंदर, वह बहुत दर्दनाक था। स्टेशन पर मां मर गई और बच्चा उसका कपड़ा उतार रहा है, ये सब हुआ। इसी सत्र में यह जवाब आया कि कितने माइग्रेंट वर्कर्स मर गए, इसकी कोई जानकारी नहीं है, इसलिए कोई कम्पेंसेशन नहीं दिया गया। मैं कहूंगा कि यह हमारे देश के लिए दुर्भाग्य की बात है। आपके पास आंकड़े क्यों नहीं हैं? हर राज्य को पता है कि उनके कौन-कौन लोग मरे हैं, उन सबके परिवार वालों को मुआवज़ा दिया जाए। आगे के लिए आप एक नेशनल डेटाबेस बनाइए कि माइग्रेंट वर्कर्स कहां-कहां हैं, देश में किस-किस जगह पर हैं, उन सबका नाम रजिस्टर किया जाए। जो गरीब लोग हैं, जो शहरों में रहते हैं, जिनको खाद्य सुरक्षा नहीं मिली, राशन नहीं मिला, उनके लिए आप आगे के लिए प्रावधान करें। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: प्लीज़, आप कन्क्लूड करिए, मैं दूसरे स्पीकर का नाम बुला रहा हूँ।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: सरकार जो interoperability of Ration Cards का काम कर रही है, इसमें इन सबके नाम होने चाहिए।

श्री उपसभापति: प्लीज़, कोऑपरेट कीजिए।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, यह एक ऐसा विषय है, जिस पर अपनी बात को विराम देते हुए मैं एक चीज़ जरूर कहूंगा कि यह ढाई घंटे और तीन घंटे की बात नहीं है, यहां पर जनता और राज्यों के प्रतिनिधि बैठे हैं। हम यहां पर याचक नहीं हैं, हमारा यह अधिकार है। तीन घंटे ही क्या, चाहे तीन दिन बहस करवानी पड़े, तो करवाई जाए। यह भारत की संसद है। देश इस बात को जानना चाहता है।

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे (महाराष्ट्र): माननीय उपसभापति जी, धन्यवाद। हमारे पूर्व वक्ता और विपक्ष के एक बहुत ही कद्दावर और अनुभवी नेता का भाषण मैं बड़ी उत्सुकता से सुन रहा था। मुझे लगा कि जो टेक्निकल बातें हैं, उनसे परे जाकर वे कुछ नीतिगत सुझाव देंगे एवं जिन राज्यों में, जिन कस्बों में, जिन गांवों में स्वेच्छिक संस्थाओं एवं अन्यान्य सामाजिक संस्थाओं के माध्यम से जो अच्छे काम हुए हैं, उनका भी कुछ प्रस्तुतिकरण करेंगे। कांग्रेस पार्टी लगभग तीन, साढ़े तीन राज्यों में सत्ता में है, तो अपने राज्यों में क्या नया-नवेला किया गया या क्या अद्भुत किया गया है, इसकी कुछ बातें आएंगी, ऐसी मुझे उम्मीद थी। हालांकि उन्होंने ऊंची आवाज़ में बोला,

मगर इस पद्धति के बिंदुओं को बहुत ज्यादा स्पर्श नहीं किया। उन्होंने लॉकडाउन का विषय लिया और यह बात सही है कि पूरे देश ने माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के आह्वान पर लॉकडाउन से पहले दो दिन जनता कर्फ्यू में सहभाग दिया था। जनता कर्फ्यू के साथ-साथ जितने भी हमारे स्वास्थ्यकर्मी हैं, पुलिसकर्मी हैं, उनके प्रति धन्यवाद के लिए उन्होंने थालीनाद का भी आह्वान किया था, उसमें भी लोगों ने बड़ी उत्सुकता से प्रतिसाद दिया, रिस्पांस दिया। मगर मैं अपने विपक्ष के लोगों से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उसके बाद हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी, माननीय गृह मंत्री जी, माननीय गृह सचिव, कैबिनेट सचिव, इन सब लोगों ने जब राज्यों के मुख्य मंत्रियों और मुख्य सचिवों के साथ लगभग 15 बार वार्तालाप किए, तो किसी भी वार्तालाप में किसी भी मुख्य मंत्री ने यह नहीं कहा कि यह लॉकडाउन नहीं होना चाहिए था। जैसे हम जब जीएसटी के बारे में चर्चा करते थे, स्वर्गीय अरुण जेटली जी भी बताते थे कि कन्सेंसस के आधार पर जीएसटी के निर्णय होते थे, सब लोग यहां पर उसमें अपनी सहमति दिखाते थे, लेकिन बाहर जाकर राजनीति करते थे और जीएसटी के विभिन्न विषयों की आलोचना करते थे। मैं मानता हूँ कि यह जो दोगलापन है, उससे हमारे विपक्ष के मित्रों को बचना चाहिए। जहां तक रेल की बात है, माननीय रेल मंत्री जी भी यहां उपस्थित हैं, कई ऐसे विषय हैं, जिन पर राज्य सरकारों के नियंत्रण के आधार पर ही केन्द्र ने अपने निर्णय दिए थे।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं एक छोटा सा उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ। मैं मुम्बई से आता हूँ। मुम्बई में रेल यात्रा, विशेष रूप से लोकल ट्रेन के प्रवास के बारे में जनता का एकमत है और वहां की राज्य सरकार का भी एकमत है। मगर केन्द्र ने राज्य सरकार के आधार पर निर्णय किये, निर्णय को कहीं थोपा नहीं है। मैं एक छोटी बात बताता हूँ कि शुरू में उन्होंने केवल एसेंशियल सर्विसेज़ के लिए, लोकल ट्रेन का उपयोग मंजूर किया था। बाद में हमने ध्यान में ला दिया कि इसमें बैंक इम्प्लॉईज़ भी एसेंशियल सर्विसेज़ में आते हैं, उनको क्यों नहीं देखा, तो बहुत लड़ने-झगड़ने के बाद स्थानीय सरकार ने बैंक इम्प्लॉईज़ को किया उसमें शामिल किया। चलो किया तो किया, उसमें कोऑपरेटिव बैंक वालों को नहीं लिया। यह जो एक कन्फ्यूजन की स्थिति कई राज्य सरकारों के अंदर है, मैं मानता हूँ कि उसके बारे में भी यहां पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए।

मैं अपने निवेदन में तीन बातें कहूंगा। पहले तो अंतरराष्ट्रीय और वैश्विक स्तर पर अपनी भूमिका का निर्वहन हमने कैसे किया है। दूसरा राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर एक एकात्मक दृष्टि अपनाते हुए, एक integrated approach करते हुए और एक जन सहभागिता पर बल देते हुए the kind of participation of the civil society organisation is certainly very, very remarkable and this nation, forgetting about the party differences, should be acknowledging that, should be recognising that. Unfortunately, that does not seem to be happening.

तीसरा, चूंकि मैं महाराष्ट्र से आता हूँ तो स्वाभाविक है कि महाराष्ट्र की जनता चाहती है कि उनकी वेदनाओं को मैं यहां स्वर दूँ और मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि जब मैं महाराष्ट्र की बात करूंगा तो उसको सुनने का साहस सामने बैठे हुए हमारे भाई मित्रों के अंदर निश्चित रूप में होगा।

[डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे]

मान्यवर, जो कोरोना का संकट आया, उसकी विशेषता हम जानते हैं कि न इसकी भौगोलिक सीमा है, न इसकी समय की सीमा है। *Nothing could be predicted.* ऐसी स्थिति में जब विश्व समुदाय इसकी चपेट में आ रहा है तो विश्व के एक जननायक के रूप में, भारत के जननायक और वैश्विक स्तर पर, जो भी एक प्रभाव क्षेत्र माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी का बना है, उन्होंने इनिशिएटिव लेकर सार्क के सारे सदस्यों की एक बैठक बुलाई, न केवल बैठक बुलाई, बल्कि सार्क के लिए फंड निर्माण करने की पहल की और उसको सार्क देशों ने, क्योंकि सार्क देश ज्यादातर अविकसित देश हैं, उन्होंने भी बहुत अच्छा प्रतिसाद उसे दिया, रिस्पॉन्स उसे दिया और पहल सफल हो गई।

उसी तरीके से जी-20 राष्ट्रों के बारे में, उस बैठक में भी माननीय प्रधान मंत्री ने कोरोना केन्द्रित उपायों की चर्चा की और उस बैठक का विषय भी लगभग एक ही रहा कि कोरोना को मात कैसे दें। लगभग 150 देशों में हाइड्रोक्सीक्लोरोक्वीन की सप्लाई भारत सरकार के इनिशिएटिव से हुई। पीपीई, मास्क इत्यादि का वितरण, वहां भी हमने बहुत बड़ी संख्या में किया। मुझे उसके आंकड़े देने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। मगर हम सब जानते हैं कि बहुत बड़ी संख्या में 50 कंट्रीज़ में हमने जो फेस मास्क दिये हैं, वे 68 मिलियन हैं, फेस शीट्स दी हैं, वे 40 मिलियन हैं और वेन्टिलेटर्स दिये हैं, वे 73 हजार हैं। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि हमने विश्व समुदाय के सम्मुख भी अपनी भूमिका का बहुत अच्छे तरीके से निर्वाह किया। यूएई हमारा बड़ा अच्छा मित्र है और वहां पर जरूरी था कि सौ के करीब डाक्टर्स जाएं। हमने 88 डाक्टरों को यूएई में भेजा और उस मित्र देश की जो आवश्यकता है, उसे पूरा करने का काम किया।

इसी तरीके से जो इन्फोडेमिक, यहां पर वे बातें बाद में आएंगी, किस तरीके से लोगों को बरगलाने की कोशिश, गलत बातें, अफवाहें फैलाना तो इसमें भी 130 देशों को मिलाकर भारत ने एक इनिशिएटिव आस्ट्रेलिया के साथ लिया और सूचना सही पद्धति से लोगों तक पहुंचे, गलत सूचना न जाए, ताकि लोगों में भय का निर्माण न हो, इस दिशा में जो कोशिश करनी चाहिए, वह भी बहुत अच्छे तरीके से की। अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर जो काम हमने किया है, उसी के साथ-साथ राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर भी जिसका मैंने उल्लेख किया कि एकात्मक दृष्टि रखते हुए, एक इन्टीग्रेटेड एप्रोच लेते हुए और सिविल सोसाइटी को पूरे तरीके से साथ में लेते हुए हमने काम किया, जिसके बहुत सारे उदाहरण दिये जा सकते हैं।

Federalism की बात का अभी शुरुआती निवेदन में थोड़ा संदर्भ आया, मगर निश्चित रूप में इसकी बात तो आएगी। मगर मैं मानता हूं कि जिस पद्धति से न केवल प्रधान मंत्री, गृह मंत्री, गृह सचिव और माननीय राष्ट्रपति जी ने भी सारे राज्यपालों के साथ सम्पर्क किया, संवाद किया और सभी तरीके से कहीं संवाद की कमी के कारण चीज़ें न रुके और चीज़ों को सामने लाने की जो कोशिश हो रही है, उसे गति मिले, यह हमारी सरकार ने बहुत तरीके से सुनिश्चित किया है। मैं मानता हूं कि सदन को इस संदर्भ में सजग रहना चाहिए। विभिन्न क्षेत्रों के साथ भी उच्च-स्तरीय संवाद हुए, अभी विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग की भी चर्चा आएगी और कई महीनों

तक यह चलता रहा कि परीक्षाएं होनी चाहिए कि नहीं होनी चाहिए और कई लोगों ने उसको एक राजनीतिक रंग देने की कोशिश की। यहां पर महाराष्ट्र के हमारे कई मित्र बैठे हैं, मैं उन्हें स्मरण दिलाना चाहूंगा कि लगभग साठ के दशक में महाराष्ट्र में एक मुख्य मंत्री थे, जिनके कार्यकाल में एसएससी बोर्ड की जो एग्जामिनेशन शीट्स थी, उनमें आग लग गई, जो गोदाम में रखी थी। और चूंकि answer sheets ही नहीं हैं, तो एग्जाम नहीं हो पाया और उन सबको सर्टिफिकेट दिया गया। मगर आज भी उनको एक दृष्टि से अग्निकांड के मैट्रिकुलेशन के बारे में कहा जाता है कि ये तो आग के कारण मैट्रिक हो गये, सही तो उनके पास कोई है नहीं। क्या हम वही स्थिति चाहते हैं कि किसी की मेहरबानी के कारण लोग डिग्री का सर्टिफिकेट हासिल करें? यह तो स्वाभाविक है कि अगर आप डिग्री चाहते हैं, तो मूल्यांकन होना चाहिए। बाकी एग्जामिनेशन की बात इसमें नहीं है, मगर डिग्री एग्जामिनेशन के लिए, लास्ट ईयर के लिए एग्जामिनेशन होना चाहिए, यह एक बहुत ही तर्कबद्ध सूत्र, यह नीति सरकार ने अपनायी। सुप्रीम कोर्ट में भी उसके बारे में सुनवाई हुई और आखिरकार अब ये एग्जामिनेशंस होने वाले हैं और मैं मानता हूँ कि देश का अधिकांश छात्र समुदाय इससे प्रसन्न है, क्योंकि छात्र को भी यह लगता है कि मेरे अन्दर जो क्षमता है, उसको कहीं न कहीं आंकना चाहिए।

मान्यवर, संसद का यह अधिवेशन हो रहा है। मैं मानता हूँ कि यह भी 'Show must go on' की जो नीति सरकार की है, उसका एक प्रतीक है। जिस पद्धति से व्यवस्थाएँ की गयी हैं, महीनों तक दोनों सदनों के अध्यक्ष और सभापति जी ने काफी सोच-विचार करते हुए और पैनडेमिक का गलत परिणाम किसी के ऊपर न हो, इसकी चिन्ता करते हुए, इस अधिवेशन की रचना बनायी। मैं मानता हूँ कि भारतीय जनतंत्र की जो प्रणाली है, उसमें इस तरीके का अधिवेशन करने का एक निर्णय करना और निर्णय पर कायम रह कर उसको आगे ले जाना, अपने आप में एक महत्वपूर्ण बात है।

मान्यवर, कई बार हम देखते हैं कि चीजों को ridicule किया जाता है। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी पर और उनके साथ गृह मंत्री जी पर तरह-तरह की व्यंग्यात्मक टिप्पणियाँ सोशल मीडिया के हैंडल से की जाती हैं। उसमें कभी विपक्ष के लोग भी होते हैं, कभी अन्यान्य लोग भी होते हैं। मैं मानता हूँ कि 'politics of ridicule' से अधिक महत्वपूर्ण 'politics of responsibility' है। यहाँ तक कि जब दीप जला कर अपने सारे सुरक्षाकर्मियों और स्वास्थ्यकर्मियों के प्रति हम एक कृतज्ञता का भाव जताएँ, ऐसी बात हुई थी, तब उसकी तरह-तरह की विडम्बना की गयी और तरह-तरह की बातें उसके बारे में आयीं। मुझे समझ में नहीं आता कि अपने दिल के किसी करीबी का मुद्दा लेकर यहाँ इंडिया गेट पर मोमबत्ती जलाने वाले जो लोग हैं, उनको यह दीप प्रज्ज्वलन पसन्द नहीं है। यह तो वाकई अच्छा दीप प्रज्ज्वलन है, क्योंकि हम धन्यवाद ज्ञापन कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मगर यह विडम्बना है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे : मैं मानता हूँ कि हमारे विपक्ष के मित्रों को आत्मपरीक्षण के लिए ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: थोड़ा आत्मपरीक्षण के लिए, मैं मानता हूँ कि एक महत्वपूर्ण कारण है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसके बारे में थोड़ा साहस रखिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... थोड़ा साहस रखिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sahasrabuddheji, please address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: थोड़ा साहस रखिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: सहस्त्रबुद्धे जी, चेयर को सम्बोधित कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: थोड़ा साहस रखिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: सहस्त्रबुद्धे जी, आप चेयर को सम्बोधित कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... कृपया इनको बोलने दें।

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: जब माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने दिल्ली की स्थिति को नियंत्रण में लाने के बारे में यहाँ की राज्य सरकार के साथ समन्वय बिठाया, तब रिकॉर्ड टाइम में, एक महीने से भी कम समय में यहाँ पर 1,000 बेड्स का एक उपयुक्त अस्पताल बनाया। मैं मानता हूँ कि अन्य राज्यों के लिए भी इससे कुछ न कुछ सीख लेने लायक विषय था, मगर दुर्भाग्यवश यह नहीं हुआ। मैं मानता हूँ कि इसी पद्धति से जो आज हम देखते हैं कि लगभग हर जिले में हमने testing laboratories का निर्माण किया। इतने कम समय में, छः महीने में इस तरीके से एक लक्ष्य सामने रखते हुए पूरी ताकत लगाते हुए काम करना, मैं मानता हूँ कि अपने आप में एक बड़ी बात है।

अभी-अभी हमने आयुर्वेद के संदर्भ में बिल की बात की। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आयुष मंत्रालय के हमारे जो सचिव महोदय हैं, उन्होंने 6 मार्च को – मतलब पूरा संसद का सत्र भी शुरू था, lockdown हुआ भी नहीं था, मगर बहुत विस्तृत advisory जारी करते हुए कि क्या किया जा सकता है, आयुर्वेद का क्या उपयोग हो सकता है, इसके बारे में कहा।

यहाँ पर पूर्व वक्ताओं ने, जब दूसरे बिल के बारे में चर्चा चल रही थी, तब 'केरल में क्यों नहीं', यह एक बिन्दु उठाया। मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि आयुर्वेद जैसी ज्ञान प्रणाली का सम्मान भी करना चाहिए। अभी मैं आपको बता रहा हूँ कि आयुर्वेद के बारे में वहाँ के एक मंत्री ने कहा। महोदय, मैं नाम नहीं लेता, क्योंकि नाम लेने फिर वे उकसाए जाएँगे और मैं किसी को उकसाना नहीं चाहता। मैं तर्कबद्ध चर्चा करना चाहता हूँ। केरल के एक मंत्री ने कहा कि "The programme – means Ayurveda-related – promotes the use of Ayurveda and modern medicine in conjunction. But diagnosis, medication and treatment will be through scientifically-

backed modern medicine only." मतलब, क्या यह unscientific है? अगर आयुर्वेद unscientific है, तो आपको वहाँ पर संस्थान क्यों चाहिए? उसके लिए क्यों बात कर रहे हैं? केरल के हमारे कई मित्र आये हुए हैं। वे हमारे अच्छे मित्र हैं। आज वे उधर गैलरी में बैठे हैं। But, I think, Sir, sitting in gallery doesn't mean you have to play to the gallery.' So, they should be reasonable in saying कि केरल में क्यों चाहिए? गुजरात वालों ने पहली पहल की। वह पुरानी संस्था है। पहले उनका पत्र आया, तो first-cum-first-served पद्धति से उनको संस्थान मिला। केरल को भी मिलेगा।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया बीच में न बोलें। आनन्द जी, आप बहुत सीनियर मेम्बर हैं।

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: सर, मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि अगर हम दलगत राजनीति से ऊपर उठ कर इन सारे विषयों पर चर्चा करते हैं, तो चर्चा सार्थक भी होगी।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: चूँकि आप बहुत सीनियर मेम्बर हैं, इसलिए कृपया आप बीच में न बोलें।

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, पहली बार इस देश में हमारे जो हॉकर्स बंधु हैं, उनके लिए 'स्वनिधि' नाम की योजना लागू की गई। यह योजना बहुत ही कल्पना लड़ाते हुए और बहुत तरीके से, जिसको मैं creative governance का उदाहरण कहूँगा, बनाई गई और इस योजना को लागू किया गया। मुफ्त में अनाज वितरण किया गया। हमारे जो भारी-बहन गरीबी रेखा के नीचे हैं, उनको मुफ्त में अनाज का वितरण किया गया और उसकी अवधि भी बढ़ाई गई। एक दृष्टि से progressive unfolding के माध्यम से हमारी सरकार ने विभिन्न विषयों पर काफी अच्छा काम किया, जिसको मैं सदन के सामने लाना चाहता हूँ।

कई राज्यों ने भी किया, मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने मजदूर यातायात का प्रबंधन किया। अभी यहाँ पर कई बातें आईं, मगर मुझे समझ में नहीं आता कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार जो कर सकती है, वह अन्य सरकार क्यों नहीं कर सकती है? मध्य प्रदेश ने क्या किया? मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने जो किया, मैं उसका उदाहरण देता हूँ। प्रफुल्ल पटेल जी जानते हैं कि धुले या भंडारा, जिसकी सीमा सटी हुई है, वहाँ पर अगर हमारे कोई मजदूर जाते हैं, तो मध्य प्रदेश सरकार उनको बसों में बिठा कर, उनके जलपान, भोजन की व्यवस्था करते हुए उनको जहाँ जाना है, वहाँ भेजने की व्यवस्था करती है। अगर किसी को यू.पी. जाना है, तो यू.पी. की सीमा पर यानी झांसी तक अपनी बसों से छोड़ती थी। इसके लिए सभी ने मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को दुआ दी। उनके लिए जो खानपान की व्यवस्था थी, वह या तो राजनीतिक दलों ने की या फिर स्वैच्छिक संस्थानों ने की तथा जहाँ पर कम पड़ा, वहाँ पर सरकार ने भी योगदान दिया। यही काम राजस्थान सरकार भी कर सकती थी। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया बैठ कर न बोलें। आपकी कोई बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी।
...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: आप थोड़ा साहस रखिए, आपको दिक्कत है, मगर ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...(Interruptions)... Nothing will go on record. सहस्त्रबुद्धे जी, आप बोलें, आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर जा रही है।

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: उपसभापति महोदय, मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने 'रोजगार सेतु' नाम का एक ऐप बनाया। इस ऐप के माध्यम से जो रोजगार चाहते हैं और जिनके लिए श्रमिक चाहिए, इन दोनों का मिलाप करने का काम किया गया। यह कितनी छोटी-सी बात है, मगर इसका कितना बड़ा परिणाम है। किसानों के लिए उदारीकरण की ढेर सारी रचनाएँ वहाँ पर की गईं। जैसा कि हम जानते हैं कि वहाँ पर अभी किसान अपने घर में बैठे-बैठे, अपने घर को ही मंडी बनाते हुए अपनी फसल बेच सकता है। कुछ राज्य इसका अनुकरण कर सकते थे, मगर मैं नहीं जानता कि दलगत राजनीति उसके आड़े क्यों आई?

महोदय, मैं बचे हुए समय में महाराष्ट्र की बात करना चाहूँगा। महाराष्ट्र और मुम्बई की जो बात है, एक दृष्टि से वहाँ की जनता की दर्द भरी दास्तान है, जिसको मैं यहाँ पर स्वर देने की कोशिश कर रहा हूँ। मान्यवर, प्रशासन और राजनीतिक नेताओं के बीच इतने कड़े मतभेद के कारण pandemic management का बहुत सारा नुकसान हुआ। चीफ सेक्रेटरी, मुम्बई म्युनिसिपल के कमिश्नर की आपस में जमती नहीं है। मुख्य मंत्री जी कुछ बोलते हैं, दूसरे दल के जो प्रमुख नेता हैं, महाराष्ट्र के एक बहुत बड़े मान्यवर नेता, जिनका इस सरकार के बनने में बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण रोल था, उनका कुछ अलग मत होता है। जैसे यह बताया गया कि 'begin again', कितना बड़ा अच्छा नाम दिया है, कोई एक अंग्रेज़ी गाना है, तो हमें लगा कि 'begin again', चलो नया शुरू होगा, मगर शायद उसमें न बताई बात थी कि 'begin lockdown again'. पुनः लॉकडाउन शुरू कर दिया और लॉकडाउन के बारे में हर कोई जानता है कि लॉकडाउन करना है, तो 14 दिन का लॉकडाउन ही सफल होगा। मैं कई राज्यों का नाम ले सकता हूँ, मगर राज्यों का नाम लेने से कई लोग थोड़ा उत्तेजित होंगे, इसलिए मैं नाम नहीं लेता। मगर हमारे पूर्व में, दक्षिण में, मध्य भारत में कई राज्य हैं, जिन्होंने लॉकडाउन के साथ खिलवाड़ किया। गंभीरतापूर्वक और वैज्ञानिक तरीके से लॉकडाउन पर अमल नहीं किया, जिसके कारण लोगों को बहुत नुकसान हुआ। इस तरह की बहुत सारी बातें हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...(Interruptions)...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: मान्यवर, मैं आपको तबादलों की राजनीति के बारे में बताना चाहूँगा। महाराष्ट्र के हमारे जो अधिकारी हैं, उनको दोपहर दो बजे यह आदेश मिलता है कि आप फ्लां जगह जाइए और चार बजे कागज़ मिलता है कि नहीं, नहीं, वहाँ से आपको ट्रांसफर किया गया है। आप प्रशासन चला रहे हो या जनता के साथ खिलवाड़ कर रहे हो? कुछ तो गंभीरता रहे, मगर गंभीरता कैसे आएगी? मंत्रालय से तो काम करना नहीं है, अपने ही घर से काम करना है, तो मैं मानता हूँ कि इस पद्धति से महाराष्ट्र के लोगों के साथ विश्वासघात हुआ। अन्य कई बातों के बारे में भी चर्चा हुई, अभी-अभी की कुछ घटनाओं का मैं ज़िक्र नहीं करना चाहता, मगर

अवैध तरीके से जो कोई एक निर्माण हुआ, उस पर बुलडोज़र चलाया गया। यह सरकार ही अवैध निर्माण का प्रतीक है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सहस्त्रबुद्धे जी, कृपया आप विषय पर बोलें।...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: जमीन किसकी और सरकार किसकी? जमीन किसने बनाई और सरकार किसने बनाई?...(व्यवधान).... मैं मानता हूँ कि जो अवैध निर्माण है, उस पर इस पद्धति से काम करना उचित नहीं है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सहस्त्रबुद्धे जी, जो विषय है, कृपया आप उस पर बोलें।...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: मान्यवर, एक टास्कफोर्स बनाया गया। मैं आपको बताना चाहूँगा, उसका उदाहरण देना चाहूँगा कि मुम्बई के बहुत जाने-माने शल्य विशारद, डा. संजय ओक की उपस्थिति में, इनके नेतृत्व में एक टास्कफोर्स बनाया गया। अब यह टास्कफोर्स काम करता है।...(व्यवधान).... उन्होंने अभी 6 सितम्बर को एक रिपोर्ट दी। उस रिपोर्ट में 'Reduce the number of tests, reduce the number of contacts, optimal quarantine...' ऐसी ढेर सारी बातें कही गई हैं, मगर दुर्भाग्यवश ...(व्यवधान)...

रेल मंत्री; तथा वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल): डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, अगर इस तरीके से डिबेट करनी है, तो हमारे पास भी यहाँ पर lung power enough है।...(व्यवधान).... मेरे ख्याल से जैसे हमने आपको सुना, वैसे ही आप भी सुनें।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपने सही कहा।...(व्यवधान).... मैं सबसे आग्रह करूँगा कि कृपा करके बीच में न बोलें ...(व्यवधान).... कोई और बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी।...(व्यवधान).... माननीय सहस्त्रबुद्धे जी, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: मान्यवर, एक व्यक्ति की आवाज़ दबाने की कोशिश हो रही है।...(व्यवधान).... मैं आपसे संरक्षण चाहता हूँ।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: यह महत्वपूर्ण विषय है।...(व्यवधान).... आप इसके बारे में बोलें।...(व्यवधान).... हम लोग इस इश्यू पर डिस्कस करें।...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: टास्कफोर्स बनाया गया है।...(व्यवधान).... टास्कफोर्स की कोई बात न कोई सोचता है, न कोई आकलन में लेता है।...(व्यवधान).... उनकी ढेर सारी रिकमंडेशंस हैं।...(व्यवधान).... उनकी ढेर सारी रिकमंडेशंस हैं।...(व्यवधान).... थोड़ा बैठिए, आप ज़रा बैठिए।...(व्यवधान).... सुनिए, सुनने का साहस रखिए।...(व्यवधान).... आप ज़रा बैठिए।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. ...(Interruptions)... It will not go on record. ...(Interruptions).... आप चेयर को एड्रेस करें और विषय पर बोलें।...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: मान्यवर, कई सारी बातें हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, भारत में जहाँ कोरोना का प्रकोप सबसे ज्यादा है, वे top ten शहर कौन से हैं? मैं यह दो सितम्बर की आंकड़ेवारी ले रहा हूँ, अब तो बढ़े ही होंगे। पुणे में 1,82,000 केसेज़ हैं, दिल्ली में 1,79,000, मुम्बई में 1,48,000, चेन्नई में 1,37,000 और जहाँ से मैं आता हूँ, ठाणे में 1,35,000 केसेज़ हैं, मगर इसकी गंभीरता को आंकते ही नहीं हैं। मैं आपको उदाहरण देता हूँ। इन्होंने Jumbo Covid Centre नाम की एक बहुत बड़ी रचना बनाई। हमारे ठाणे में एक चार मंजिला बिल्डिंग में कोविड सेंटर चलाया गया, जिसमें लगभग दो हजार लोगों के लिए बेड लगाए गए। वे बेड खरीदे नहीं गए, बल्कि किराये पर लिए गए, क्योंकि उसमें भी सारे गलत तरीके के व्यवहार हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**... आप साहस रखिए।...**(व्यवधान)**... संजय जी, साहस रखिए।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: प्लीज़, प्लीज़...**(व्यवधान)**... कृपया आपस में बात न करें।...**(व्यवधान)**... आपका मौका आएगा, आप बताएं।...**(व्यवधान)**... आप विषय पर बोलें।...**(व्यवधान)**... आप विषय पर बोलिए।...**(व्यवधान)**... माननीय सहस्त्रबुद्धे जी, यह गंभीर विषय है।...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे: और उसमें केवल 500 लोग आ पाए।...**(व्यवधान)**... लेकिन इतने डॉक्टर ही न होने के कारण...**(व्यवधान)**... और डॉक्टरों का वेतन...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि जो हमारे स्वास्थ्य विभाग के पद हैं, उनको भरने की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। महाराष्ट्र में वैदिक और आरोग्य सेवा के लिए 7,985 पद मंजूर हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अभी जिन पदों को भरा गया है, वे केवल 6,784 हैं और 1,201 पदों को भरा ही नहीं है। सामान्य सेवा में भी लगभग 948 पद मंजूर हैं। पुरानी सरकारों ने और इस सरकार ने भी पद मंजूर किए होंगे, मगर पद भरे नहीं गए। यह हमें नहीं पता कि क्या पद भरने के लिए कोई और रचना है? यह हम नहीं जानते, मगर पद नहीं भरे गए।

मान्यवर, हम सबके सम्मुख गंभीरता के बारे में बहुत सवालिया निशान निर्माण होते हैं। हमारे महाराष्ट्र की सरकार के द्वारा जो रवैया अपनाया गया है और मैं बताना चाहूँगा कि किस पद्धति से इस पूरे विषय का एक दृष्टि से हंसी-मजाक उड़ रहा है और लोग भी बड़े विचलित हैं। सर, ठाणे में और अन्य जगहों पर जो व्यापारी हैं, वे भी बहुत बड़ा नुकसान सहन कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि सरकार एक बताती है, कॉरपोरेशन दूसरा बताती है, वॉर्ड ऑफिसर तीसरा बताता है, सबके अपने-अपने हिसाब-किताब हैं और उस पद्धति से काम चलता है, जिसके कारण सामान्य लोग भ्रष्टाचार के शिकार हो जाते हैं। श्रमिकों के बारे में कहें, व्यापारियों के बारे में कहें... अब लोगों को नौकरी पर जाना है, तो आप बस उपलब्ध कराइए। चलिए, आप लोकल गाड़ी के लिए नहीं कहते हैं, लेकिन आपके पास पूरा स्टेट ट्रांसपोर्ट है, आपके पास स्कूलों की बस हैं, उनको कोई काम नहीं है, स्कूलों की बस पार्किंग में खड़ी हैं, थोड़ा दिमाग लगाइए और उनको भी काम लाइए। इसमें सोशल डिस्टेंसिंग पर थोड़ा विचार करिए। मान्यवर, डोम्बिवली जैसे शहर से मुम्बई जाने में सात-सात घंटे लगते हैं और रास्ते इतने खराब हैं कि उनकी कोई चर्चा नहीं की जा सकती। मान्यवर, ऐसी स्थिति में मैं कोई व्यंग्यात्मक टिप्पणी नहीं करना चाहता हूँ, मगर मैं न भी करूँ, तो महाराष्ट्र के कई कवियों ने की है और वे हमारी विचारधारा के नहीं हैं। एक कवि तो काँग्रेस

12.00 Noon

की विचारधारा के हैं, रामदास फुटाणे जी। मैं उनका सम्मान के साथ नाम ले रहा हूँ और यह उनकी प्रकाशित कविता है। मैं मराठी में उसका ज़िक्र करता हूँ। फुटाणे साहब बोलते हैं, "ते बॉर्डर वर गेले", यानी हमें पता है कि कौन बॉर्डर पर गया। वे बॉर्डर पर गए सैनिकों का मनोधैर्य बढ़ाने। ये मंत्रालय में कब जाएंगे? जाने वाले तो हैं, क्योंकि मावड़े हैं, एकदम निडर हैं, मगर लिफ्ट बड़ी होने के बाद, क्योंकि लिफ्ट से कार अंदर जाती है और फिर वे कार से मंत्रालय की छठी मंजिल पर जा सकते हैं। यह फुटाणे जी कहते हैं, हम नहीं कहते हैं। वे तो कांग्रेस के हैं, बड़े नेता हैं और एक प्रतिभाशाली कवि भी हैं, पूरा महाराष्ट्र उनकी व्यंग्यात्मक कविताओं का मुरीद है, मगर लोगों से अब रहा नहीं जा रहा है। मैं मानता हूँ कि जिन लोगों ने इस सरकार को बनाने में भूमिका निभाई, वे अपने अंतर्मन को थोड़ा-सा टटोलेंगे, तो उनको भी ध्यान में आएगा कि यह हम क्या करके बैठे हैं, हमने किस पद्धति की सरकार बनाई है। मेरी वहाँ की राज्य सरकार से गुजारिश है कि चीजों को संभालने के लिए सभी का सहयोग लें और विशेष रूप से स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के बारे में लोगों में सरकार के प्रति जो विश्वास की भावना होनी चाहिए, वही नहीं होगी, तो सरकार कैसे चलेगी?

कोरोना के कारण जो आपत्तियाँ हैं, उनके साथ लड़ने के साहस का निर्माण जनता में कैसे होगा? यह नहीं होगा, भाई साहब। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि पूरी चर्चा करते समय हमें यह भी देखना चाहिए कि हमारे राज्यों में क्या हो रहा है। कई राज्य ऐसे हैं जहाँ पर आज और कल लॉकडाउन है, फिर चार दिन बाद और एक लॉकडाउन है। लोग क्या-क्या दिमाग में रखेंगे, कुछ प्लानिंग करनी होती है, वे कैसे करेंगे? मगर किया, क्योंकि गंभीरता नहीं है, लॉकडाउन केवल नाम के वास्ते करना है, हमने लॉकडाउन किया, यह बताना है।

मान्यवर, मुझे आपके सम्मुख केवल इतना ही कहना है कि अगर कोरोना की लड़ाई में एक गंभीरता आती है, राज्य सरकार केन्द्र के साथ समन्वय से अच्छे ढंग से काम करती है, तो ठीक होगा। मैं मानता हूँ कि इस कोरोना के संकट से निजात पाने के लिए, उसको मात देने के लिए हमें जनता के सहयोग से काम करना होगा। महोदय, मैं जनता के सहयोग की क्या बात करूँ? सिविल सोसायटी ने इसमें जिस पद्धति से सहयोग दिया है, वह मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ। मुम्बई और पुणे में कई जगहों पर हमारे राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक संघ के कार्यकर्ता एवं स्वयंसेवक पीपीई किट पहनकर, अपनी जान जोखिम में डालकर कई घरों में गए। इस काम को करने के पहले और बाद में 14-14 दिनों का क्वॉरन्टीन सहन करते हुए उन्होंने काम किया, मगर दुर्भाग्यवश हमारे विपक्ष के नेता नहीं मानेंगे। मैं दलगत बात नहीं कर रहा हूँ, मगर भारतीय जनता पार्टी के सैकड़ों-लाखों कार्यकर्ताओं ने जिस पद्धति से अपना सामाजिक योगदान दिया है, चाहे उन्होंने भोजन की व्यवस्था की हो या यातायात की व्यवस्था की हो, भारत के राजनीतिक दलों के इतिहास में यह एक स्वर्णिम प्रकरण है। मैं मानता हूँ कि सारे राजनीतिक दल इसी काम में लगे और देश को कोरोना की महामारी से बचाने के लिए सरकार के जो प्रयास चल रहे हैं, उनसे कंधे से कंधा मिलाकर अपना भी योगदान दें। इतना ही विनम्र अपील करते हुए, मैं अपने भाषण को समाप्त करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, मेरा एक निवेदन है। जैसा कि आप जानते हैं यह एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय है, जिसको लेकर आपने माननीय चेयरमैन साहब से आग्रह भी किया। इस विषय की गंभीरता को देखते हुए, अगर हम आरोप-प्रत्यारोप के बजाय, इस बात पर विचार करें कि क्या हालात हैं, उनसे हम कैसे निकल सकें और इस बारे में हम क्रिएटिव सजेरेंस दें, तो ज्यादा बेहतर होगा। माननीया जया जी, आप कुछ कह रही थीं, आप बताएँ।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन: सर, मैं डा. सहस्त्रबुद्धे का बहुत सम्मान करती हूँ। मैं घर जाने वाली थी, मगर इनके भाषण को सुनकर वापस आ गई। मुझे यह कहना है कि मेरे परिवार में भी लोग पीड़ित रहे हैं और सिर्फ उनका ही नहीं, उस अस्पताल में लोगों की जिस तरह से देखभाल हो रही थी, जिस तरह से मुम्बई की सड़कों में सैनिटाइजेशन हो रहे हैं, every hour, it is incomparable. इस विषय को लेकर पोलिटिक्स नहीं करनी चाहिए, यह बहुत गलत बात है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री संजय राउत (महाराष्ट्र): सर, मुझे भी कुछ कहना है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: संजय जी, आपका मौका आएगा, आपका ऑलरेडी नाम है। माननीय डेरेक ओब्राईन जी।

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, we heard the statement from the Health Minister, then, we heard the speaker. In their very busy schedule, they may have forgotten one or two things. So, before I start, let me first pay tribute and pass on our condolences to the families of every single health worker, doctor, nurse, police personnel, who have lost their lives.

Firstly, the people who have been in the frontline and also those who have lost their lives in this pandemic, on behalf of my party, the All-India Trinamool Congress — and, I am sure, everybody will join me — I convey our salute, our thanks and we bow our heads for what they have done to keep us safe. Now, I come to the statement. The word 'congratulate' was used once in twelve pages and the word was used to congratulate the Prime Minister. Fair enough. That came from the Health Minister. But we want to also congratulate all these people, just being indebted to them, and congratulate the Chief Ministers of all the States in India who have been leading this battle. Now, if I say anything where the date is wrong, I have the letters here. Chronology समझनी चाहिए। Chronology समझ लीजिए। 30th January, first Covid positive case in India, it is an important date; 24th February, क्या हो रहा था? Donald Trump was visiting India and was being hosted. I do not know what the snacks were but maybe he was having *dhokla*. I hope he enjoyed *dhokla* because I also enjoy *dhokla*. This is 24 of February. While all this was being done, there were some State Chief Ministers in this

period before the 5th of March like my Chief Minister. I can speak about Bengal but there will be many examples like Maharashtra and Kerala, which is run by the CPM, which is not my party. There will be examples from other States also like Punjab, Delhi, and the North-Eastern States.

This is 5th of March. Isolation wards and quick response teams were being set up in Bengal. Next chronology समझ लीजिए, यह पार्लियामेंट में क्रोनोलॉजी है। On the 5th of March, the All India Trinamool Congress Parliamentary Party wrote to the Chairmen of Committees calling for an emergency COVID meeting to discuss this subject. Nothing happened till the 18th of March. This is 18th of March. I don't want to discuss masks because they are a very touchy subject. When I say 'mask' everyone gets very angry. But I want to read from the Health Ministry guidelines. The Chairman quite rightly said that when he did not allow us to wear masks when we came. The Chairman quite rightly said, 'I was not given the notification'. Correct. Why would I blame the Chairman? He was going as per the guidelines. I am quoting from the Health Ministry guidelines. This is about preparation. Then I will come to solutions. I was expecting some solutions from the first speaker but I got none. I quote, "There is no scientific evidence to show health benefit of using a triple-layer mask for members of the public." This is the Government of India. What preparations are we talking about?

Now you come to 26 of March - Demonetisation 2. झटका like quick. We all know about demonetisation. I don't want to spend any more time on that. A 21-day lockdown with a four-hour notice! My question to this Government is this. You said you had 43 video conferences. Yes. Please give us the dates of those video conferences. Did you hold one video-conference before 26th of March? Right. That is the chronology part.

Now you come to the next part of my intervention today. What are the best practices that you followed? On chronology, you failed. Did you consult global experts? I am going to give the example of my State. Others will give from their States. We set up a Global Advisory Committee with half a dozen people. No Chief Minister is an expert. We consulted epidemiologists. You consulted specialists. That is the way we went ahead. Now let us talk about the States. On public expenditure, for every hundred rupees spent on health, 63 rupees are spent by the State Government and 37 rupees are spent by the Centre. The problem is that when things are going good, you want to take the credit and when the things are tough, you start talking about Chief Minister and bulldoze us in a serious speech like this. You have to take the best practices from all the States. You spoke about lockdown. West Bengal never had a total lockdown.

[Shri Derek O'Brien]

Never. We had a nuanced lockdown. Flower shops were open there. There were so many other examples from different States. Have you transferred funds to the informal sector and the migrant workers? Twelve opposition parties together said, 'transfer the funds'. Like 10,000 or 12,000.. The Finance Minister is not here but I am covering all. In Bengal, we did that. You gave insurance to health workers. Very good. Here is a suggestion. You could have also followed the example of our State and give it to allied workers. Some of them are indirectly involved. You have the newspaper vendor. You have the guy who delivers your food. They were all covered in the health insurance. You could have taken another example from a State of free COVID testing at the doorstep. What about infrastructure? What about reciprocal treatment for migrant workers? This is all done. These are the best practices. Take testing centres. Some States have two now they have got 50. What do you need to do this? You need humility. नम्रता चाहिए। हम यहां क्या बोल रहे हैं कि बंगाल परफेक्ट है, सब जानते हैं। नहीं, हम सब लोग नहीं जानते हैं। This Government needs the humility to work together with States. You don't know that at all. Unless you have this one thing, how will we go forward? I can't stand here and say that if it comes to hospital beds per capita in different States in India, the number one State is Bengal. But I don't need to say all this because sometimes you need to have humility. We have 76 testing labs, 92 Covid hospitals and so many things. Sir, this is something I appeal to this Government. I have a few minutes left. Please give a chance to the second person from my Party because he is a true Covid warrior. He is a doctor from my Party. He has been outside, running around for the last six months. Please give a chance to Dr. Santanu Sen. Sir, now, I come to my last two points.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Four hours are decided for this.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, so many times, we are saying that this is the first time in a century. So, please give me a chance.

Now, let us come to the Minister who is not here but there are some questions to be answered. It is about MPLADS fund. I mean whether you are from Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha, there is ₹ 8,500 crore MPLADS fund. The only chance a Member has to be responsible is to MPLADS fund. You must not use the pandemic to try and convert a democracy into an autocracy. That is dangerous.

Sir, on the subject of finance, the most world's record, the most opaque and dark fund in the world is called the Prime Minister's Couldn't Care Less Fund. Oh! I said the name wrong. ...(Interruptions)... Okay. कोई बात नहीं।

Then, you come to the students. What about the students attempting NEET and JEE exams? What was your preparation from April to now? There are so many questions from the Home Department; there are so many questions from the Finance Department. There are a lot of issues. I heard the speech of a Member from BJP like this, where you bring the level low down and then pretend to be this great a thing. I want to leave you with two images. There are so many images of this pandemic. But I will leave you with just two images.

श्री उपसभापति: आप अपनी पार्टी का पूरा टाइम ले रहे हैं। आप प्लीज़ इस टाइम को इस्तेमाल करें।

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, my request is that I am going to conclude just now. Please give chance to Dr. Santanu Sen. He is a Covid warrior. How many of us have had that privilege?

श्री उपसभापति: देरेक साहब, हम लोग ऑलरेडी चार घंटे तय कर चुके हैं। हम उससे आगे नहीं जा रहे हैं, प्लीज़।

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, did I say anything here which is not constructive? ...(Interruptions)... Sir, I want to leave you with two strong images of the pandemic because it is the approach to this pandemic. I will describe one image in 30 seconds and the second one in ten seconds. The first image is about a little lady in a bazaar bending over with chalk and trying to draw circles – the short lady from Eastern India and the only woman Chief Minister. She is in the bazaar drawing circles to show what physical distancing is. It is a wonderful image of that to show. There is a second image of this pandemic and I also want to paint that image for you. A garden and a peacock! Thank you, Sir.

श्री उपसभापति: देरेक साहब, आप ऑलरेडी अपनी पार्टी का टाइम लगभग इस्तेमाल कर चुके हैं। माननीय प्रसन्न आचार्य जी।

SHRI PRASANNAACHARYA (Odisha): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would utilize my time to give certain suggestions to the Government. I don't want to give any political tone to my speech here because this is not a political subject. We are experiencing this pandemic after almost a century. We all know about the Spanish Flu

[Shri Prasanna Acharya]

which spread all over the world and India was not an exception. But at that time, it was a different situation. Now, it is a different situation. The medical health science has developed like anything. Economy of the world has grown. The communication system has developed to a larger extent. So, it is a different scenario now. But in spite of all this development, mankind has failed to contain this. Even countries like the United States, which claim to be most developed in the world, economically sound country in the world, number one as they claim in all aspects in the world, are at number one position so far as this pandemic is concerned.

Now, unfortunately, our own country, India, no doubt it is a large country having the second largest population of the world, gradually, our position is also worsening. We have come to the second position if I am correct. God forbid, we should not go into the first position exceeding the Americans. Economically, as some of the Members have pointed out, our position is the lowest. So far as the GDP is concerned during the Corona times, our economic survey is concerned, I think, we are the lowest in the world and so far as this epidemic is concerned, we are going to be in the first position. This is our position. This, I am not criticizing, this is the reality.

I entirely agree with what Ram Gopalji said during Zero Hour. All the State Governments, including the Central Government, are putting all their best to contain the situation. I do admit that there has been a proper coordination by the Central Government. Hon. Prime Minister has been interacting with the Chief Ministers several times. The Central Government is in contact with different State Governments. Most of the State Governments — I do not want to name, including State Governments of Odisha and also Kerala — are trying to cope with the situation very magnificently and very excellently. Other State Governments are also doing. I do not say that others are not doing but the thing is that almost all the State Governments are reeling under economic crisis. The financial position of the State Governments is not sound. The Centre is not coming forward to provide whatever is due with the Centre. This is crucial time. All the State Governments are spending a lot on this. I do not know, — the Finance Minister is not here — what the total amount in this regard is. In connection with containing the COVID situation, what is the assistance so far? Barring the advisories — everyday there are circulars, advisories from the Central Government to the State Governments — what is the amount you have given to the State Governments to deal with the COVID situation? It is because many of the States are reeling under financial crisis. Many of

the dues of the State Governments from the Central Government are yet to be paid. Say, the GST compensation on account of GST payment, and on account of many other things, a huge amount is pending with the Central Government. I would suggest and appeal to the Central Government that this is the appropriate time. Do not make that late. The State Governments are doing their best to deal with the situation. Please, at least, clear all their dues so that they can invest that money in dealing with the COVID situation. That is my sincere request to the Central Government.

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आचार्य जी, आपके बाद एक और स्पीकर हैं। There are total eight minutes. You have already taken five minutes.

श्री प्रसन्न आचार्य: सर, discussion के लिए चार घंटे का समय है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have already taken five minutes.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Sir, I would just mention points. As many Members have mentioned about the COVID warriors, the COVID warriors are doctors, other paramedical staff, police personnel and people who are at the forefront of the war. They are also succumbing to this thing. Many of them have been infected by COVID and they succumbed to it. The State Government of Odisha under the Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik, has done an excellent thing to, at least, boost the morale of the COVID warriors. What has our Government done? We have declared, our Chief Minister Shri Naveen Patnaik has declared that any COVID worker succumbing to this would be given the status of a martyr, a *shaheed*. Not only that, his family would be immediately given an *ex gratia* of ₹50 lakhs. I think the Central Government should also come out with some such scheme. You must encourage and support our COVID workers who are in the forefront to protect us.

Sir, another thing which I want to say is this. We have seen the plight of the migrant labourers. Anandji mentioned about that. Sir, we have seen them on the streets working for hours together, working for days together and working for months together to come back to their homes, their villages. We have seen their plight. Many, many such migrant workers died on the streets. It is a pathetic situation. Now, Sir, it is a very peculiar situation. Many of those migrant workers, again, have started coming back to their respective work place. There is a speculation that there might be a second wave. It is because in Spain or in one or two countries, the second wave has already started. We cannot say that India will get an escape. There is every possibility, and in that case, when the migrant workers are again coming back to their workplace, from Odisha, from

[Shri Prasanna Acharya]

Chhattisgarh, from Bihar, there are many, they are going to Maharashtra, Mumbai and Surat, everywhere, so, in case of the second wave, what will happen again? I think the Central Government should come out with a clear guideline about this. There should be no contradiction in the policies of different States. There should be no confusion. So, it is the Central Government...

श्री उपसभापति: आपने पार्टी का पूरा समय ले लिया है। अब कृपया समाप्त करें। इसे 4 घंटे के तहत समाप्त करना है। Please, please.

श्री प्रसन्न आचार्य: सर, मैं एक मिनट और लूंगा। I am concluding. There are many participants. There is no time; I cannot deny it. Sir, we have seen how in different areas, in the name of enforcing this social distancing or other COVID regulations, some brutalities took place. In the name of enforcing the COVID guidelines, we have seen Police ruthlessly beating people on the streets and that is shown in the media everywhere. It is barbaric. It is not a Taliban State. It is a democracy. We have seen on the small screen how the Police were beating people.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. आप conclude करें। Prasanna Acharyaji, please conclude.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Sir, though Police is a State subject, I think, the Central Government should come out with a broader guideline about this. It should not be publically exhibited beating people and dragging people on the streets.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will now invite the other speaker. Please conclude.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: With this, I suggest that the Central Government, as I said at the outset, should provide all financial assistance to the State Government to deal with the situation, Thank you, Sir.

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण चर्चा में भाग लेने का अवसर दिया। जैसा कि हम देख रहे हैं जो COVID-19 pandemic है, इसने हिन्दुस्तान में बड़ी अजीब-सी परिस्थितियाँ पैदा कर दी हैं। जैसा बताया जा रहा है कि लगभग 5 मिलियन से अधिक लोग इससे प्रभावित हो चुके हैं - accumulative figure है और करीब साठ हज़ार से ऊपर लोग अभी तक मर चुके हैं, लेकिन एक अच्छा sign यह है कि बहुत से लोग ठीक भी हुए हैं, जिनकी तादाद बहुत ज्यादा है, almost 80-90 per cent लोग घर में बैठकर, precautions लेकर ठीक हो रहे हैं, उन्हें hospital में नहीं जाना पड़ा। ज्यादातर

जो मौतें हुई हैं, वे hospitalized patients की हुई हैं, as compared to जो घर में home quarantine करके रहे - उनकी मौतें बहुत कम हुई हैं।

सर, यह जो विलक्षण परिस्थिति बनी है, मुझे लगता है कि जो लॉकडाउन हुआ, जो इसकी अप्रत्याशित स्थिति थी और बाद में जो मैनेजमेंट की स्थिति थी, उसकी वजह से ज्यादा दिक्कत पैदा हुई। जब बजट सेशन चल रहा था, उस वक्त यह चेतावनी दी गयी थी कि चाइना में इसकी शुरुआत हुई है - लोग विद्वान हैं, सब जानते हैं कि इसके पहले भी जो pandemics आयी थी, किस तरीके से उनका प्रसार हुआ था, किस तरीके से वे फैली थी - सबको उनके बारे में मालूम था। मैंने तो इस बात को quote भी किया था कि कोई फिल्म आयी थी, "Contagion", मेरे ख्याल से पांच-सात साल पहले वह फिल्म बनी होगी - हुबहू जो pandemic है, इसे पहले से ही उन्होंने preempt कर दिया था और मुझे नहीं लगता कि वह किसी किस्म का धोखा था। लेकिन जिस तरीके से इसे हैंडल किया गया, जैसा अभी मेरे पूर्ववर्ती वक्ता कह रहे थे कि केवल Trump को oblige करने के लिए हवाई अड्डे बंद नहीं किए गए। यह बीमारी बाहर से आयी है, यहां पैदा नहीं हुई थी। महोदय, बहुत बड़ी तादाद में, दसियों-हज़ार लोग उनके साथ आए थे और हमने देखा है कि आगरा, अहमदाबाद और दिल्ली, जहां-जहां वे लोग गए, यह बीमारी बहुत ज्यादा proliferate हुई। सर, उसके बाद जो सबसे बड़ा disaster हुआ है, वह यह हुआ कि all of a sudden, बिना समय दिए हुए कह दिया गया कि लॉकडाउन होगा और कोई भी आदमी मज़दूरों से किराया नहीं लेगा। यह कौन-सी बात थी? आपको क्या अख्तियार है यह कहने का कि कोई आदमी किराया नहीं लेगा? इसका यह फर्क पड़ा कि सारे के सारे लेबर, जो फैक्ट्रियों में काम कर रहे थे, वे निकाल दिए गए और वे घर की ओर भाग खड़े हुए। मुझे लगता है कि इस चीज़ पर तो ट्रायल होना चाहिए कि क्या यह स्थिति थी कि जो बीमारी बाहर से आई थी, कुछ गिनती के लोग यहां पर आए थे और बहुत बड़ी तादाद में लाखों आदमी केवल इसलिए प्रभावित हुए कि कुछ लोगों को लाने के लिए "वंदे भारत योजना" में हवाई जहाज भेजे जा रहे थे और बाकी लाखों की तादाद में लोग कैसे पैदल निकले हैं और मैं तो दुखी हूं इस बात को देखकर कि उनकी बड़ी अंडर रिपोर्टिंग हुई है। लोग पांच-पांच सौ किलोमीटर पैदल चले हैं। मैंने एक माँ को देखा, जो गोद में बच्चा लेकर सैकड़ों किलोमीटर चली। एक महिला को देखा, जिसके बच्चे का जन्म रास्ते में चलते-चलते हो गया। पता नहीं इस देश की संवेदनशीलता को क्या हो गया है? सर, मुझे तो हैरत है कि मैं इधर कई कवि सम्मेलन देख रहा हूं, किसी कवि सम्मेलन में इन दुखी लोगों की, इन परेशान लोगों की तकलीफों का ज़िक्र तक नहीं हुआ। क्या हो गया है हमारे देश को? शायद यही कुछ हमारे प्रशासन को भी हो गया है। यह वह टाइम था जब पब्लिक हेल्थ सिस्टम की efficiency पर ध्यान देना चाहिए था। यह सच्चाई है कि हमारा पब्लिक हेल्थ सिस्टम inappropriate था और जितना जीडीपी का खर्चा इस पर होना चाहिए था, उतना खर्चा कभी किया नहीं गया। पहली बार पता लगा कि हमारा हेल्थ सिस्टम कितना inadequate है, लेकिन उसकी जो inadequacies हैं, उनको fill up करने के लिए एक सही माहौल बनाने के बजाय एक मेडिकल इमरजेन्सी इम्पोज़ करके अधिकारियों के हाथ में जिम्मेदारी दे दी गई और नौकरशाहों की जो लिमिटेशन्स होती हैं, वे इस देश की लिमिटेशन्स हो गईं। आज हालत

[श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा]

यह है कि बाबू लोग, क्लर्क लोग, ये लोग तय कर रहे हैं कि हिंदुस्तान की तकदीर कैसे बनेगी। सच्चाई तो यह है कि इस टाइम पर पूरे दुनिया में पार्लियामेंट चल रही थी। हम आपके आभारी हैं कि आपने पार्लियामेंट को यहां पर बुलाया। लोग बात कर रहे हैं, हमें अपमान लग रहा था, हमें दुख हो रहा था कि पूरी दुनिया में, हमारे पड़ोसी देशों में पार्लियामेंट function कर रही थी, लेकिन यहां सब बंद पड़ा था, क्यों? क्योंकि pandemic था और डर था कि पता नहीं कितने लोग मर जाएंगे। सर, जिनको मरना था, वे तो मर गए, लेकिन हमें यह भी देखना पड़ेगा कि कितने लोग बचे हैं और उनके साथ में हम क्या कर रहे हैं? कल भी आदरणीय राम गोपाल जी ने ज़िक्र किया था और आज भी कई लोगों ने ज़िक्र किया कि जो anxiety है, इकोनॉमिक सिस्टम collapse हो गया है, लोगों की आमदनी रुक गई है, लोगों के ज़रिए खत्म हो गए हैं, घर टूट रहे हैं, उनकी आर्थिक स्थिति खराब हो गई है। आदमी anxiety में, uncertainty में जी रहा है और यकीन मानिएगा, मैं अभी न्यूज देख रहा था कि खाली केरल में 160 नई उम्र के बच्चों ने आत्महत्याएं की हैं, उसके लिए कमीशन बैठाया गया है। कमोबेश यही स्थिति सभी प्रांतों में है। सर, जितने लोग road accident में मर जाते थे, उससे ज्यादा लोग आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं। यह सरकार सो क्यों रही है? ये अधिकारी सो क्यों रहे हैं? जिनके हाथ में जिम्मेदारियां हैं, वे क्या दवा खाकर सो गए हैं? क्या उन्हें कुछ भी दिखाई नहीं दे रहा है? आज हालत यह है कि....

श्री उपसभापति: रवि प्रकाश वर्मा जी, अब आप कन्क्लूड करें।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: जी, मैं कन्क्लूड कर रहा हूँ। देखिए सर, जो जरूरी बातें थीं, उनको कहना जरूरी था। इस pandemic के टाइम पर भी डॉक्टर्स हड़ताल पर थे, क्योंकि उनको सेलेरी नहीं मिली थी। सर, जो मर गए, वे कोविड शहीद थे, उनको गवर्नमेंट का जो compensation मिलना चाहिए था, वह नहीं मिल पाया। जो कोविड सेन्टर्स चल रहे थे, हालत यह थी कि वहां पर लोगों को लग रहा था कि उनको सज़ा मिली है। लोग पकड़-पकड़ कर उसमें बंद किए जा रहे थे। मैंने आपको बताया कि सरकारी कर्मचारियों की जो लिमिटेशन है, बाबुओं की जो लिमिटेशन है, वह इस कोविड की लिमिटेशन हो गई और शायद इसीलिए बहुत बड़ी कहानी बन गई।

श्री उपसभापति: रवि प्रकाश वर्मा जी, अब कन्क्लूड करें।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, एक मिनट और दीजिए, बस एक लाइन में ज़रा खत्म करना चाहता हूँ। यह बात साफ हो जानी चाहिए कि यह कोई आखिरी pandemic नहीं है। आज पूरी दुनिया में जो फार्मा कंपनियां हैं, उन्होंने बड़ी साजिश कर ली है कि अब एक के बाद एक नई pandemic आएंगे और वे इससे कमाई करेंगे। सर, क्या हमारे पास कोई early warning system है? क्या हमारे...

श्री उपसभापति: रवि जी, अब मैं दूसरे स्पीकर को बुला रहा हूँ। आप कन्क्लूड कर लीजिए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया बीच में न बोलें। ...(व्यवधान)... जयराम जी, आप बड़े सीनियर मेम्बर हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, आईसीएमआर को हर्ड इम्युनिटी पर बात करनी चाहिए कि हमारे इतने लोग प्रभावित हो चुके हैं। हर्ड इम्युनिटी की क्या स्थिति है? सही स्थिति की जानकारी लोगों को मिलनी चाहिए, जिससे सब लोग उसकी तैयारी कर सकें, धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद रवि जी। श्री तिरुची शिवा जी।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Deputy Chairman, Sir. The Health Minister in his statement has given a very clear caution; the battle of Covid is still far from over. By way of experience and by way of the statements, with all other statistics that are available, we are in a very precarious condition. Sir, India is crossing 50 lakhs active cases today and the mortality rate yesterday was 80,000 and today, it is 82,000. May I humbly say, Sir, the life of a human being has become so insignificant that they are just a number in this world today? Even the family members are not able to get near the person who dies out of this virus infection. But, we are talking very, very lightly. We have to fight for time to speak about, the burning issue which is all over the world. And, Sir, see how we are sitting! Yesterday, in the Delhi Assembly, two MLAs were tested negative but when they were attending the Sessions, the RTPCR report came that they are positive. What about the other MLAs? Day before yesterday, we had a demonstration and one MP who was with us was tested as positive that evening. This is the situation we are living in. You know the end of people is very, very uncertain... I think I may not have time to say about all those saddest things. But, in this House, where we have to discuss and evolve some solutions, we are fighting for time. The Parliament is meant for debate and deliberations, that too very serious issues. All other issues are only secondary. The whole world is concerned about this only. When I say 50 lakh has crossed and 82,000 deaths in this country, who are those 82,000 people? How many families behind? That is not as normal as it was. It was not lamented. Even the family members are not able to cry. And, we are not able to let out our feelings and ask the Government why this has been done or why this has not been done. Sir, kindly let me know from the Minister. He has very proudly said that the nationwide lockdown, a bold decision, undertaken by the Government duly involving community, initiated as

[Shri Tiruchi Siva]

self-imposed Junta Curfew as per the call given by hon. Prime Minister is testimony to the fact that India has collectively stood up to manage COVID-19. Sir, when was the lockdown announced? On 23rd March, 2020. The first tested case, confirmed case was in the midst of January, 2020. What were we doing all those times? The Parliament was working. All the flights were flying here and there. All the trains were operating. People were moving here and there. Theatres were open; malls were there; markets were there. And, on March 22nd, I was at Chennai. I had been there to get my declaration. I received a call from two of the Ministers that I have to come over immediately. I said, 'situation is not good'. He said, 'no, nothing like that. Come'. It was on March, 22nd. On March 23rd, you were declaring a lockdown. So, you don't have any pre-plan. You didn't anticipate. The delay was because of Donald Trump's visit and you had a gala function. Lakhs of people. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only for that sake, the lockdown was postponed, postponed. ...*(Interruptions)*... They were concerned about not the lives of the people in this country. It is the foremost duty of the Government to take care of the lives of the people. Sir, thank God. A singer from London flew down here and participated in some dinner where some VIPs were also present. Some of them got affected. Then the Government awakened to the situation and declared the lockdown. The strictest lockdown in the world is India's. The lowest fiscal stimulus is India's. And, the greatest GDP hit is India's. Sir, the strictest lockdown, but, what is the result? The post-lockdown result is worse in India than any other country. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Out of six minutes, you have already taken six minutes. I am just reminding. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't comment.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: If at all, we have to confine to time, no meaning of talking at all.

श्री उपसभापति: सर, चार घंटे का टाइम डिस्ट्रीब्यूट हुआ है, that we have to follow.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, you have got 11 Ordinances and 4 Bills, we are going to find time for that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: यह four hours. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, kindly considers this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Otherwise, I will call other speakers.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, the number of tests per million in this country is 720 only whereas US is testing 21 times this number. And so also, Italy is testing 25 times. You are under reporting the number of cases and saying that India is lesser in number. What is the condition of the health workers? The doctors who were working in the Covid wards, were given quarantine earlier. But, now it is not so and they are asked to treat the general patients also. Sir, it is spreading like anything by way of no action at all. You are not even caring about the health workers, the frontline workers. They are not being taken care of. And what about the plasma therapy?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now. You have already taken your time. ...(*Interruptions*)... Hon. Members, time allocated है, उसके बाद I will call the other speaker now. Please conclude now.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Plasma therapy which has been diagnosed as one of the treatments, what initiations have been taken? How many people have been tested? There is no statement from the Minister. He is only praising the Government. We have done this and that. Also, Sir, the iGOT-Diksha platform of DoPT...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, one last point and I will conclude. I think hereafter there is no point of coming here. We are not allowed to let out our feelings and discuss a very, very important issue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The time has already been extended. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No, Sir. We are already sticking to the time. What for are we here?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, I will call the other speaker.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, one minute, I will conclude. In that Diksha platform, AYUSH personnel were 86,018. What happened there when the courses were conducted...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, ...(*Interruptions*)... the next speaker is Dr. K. Keshava Rao.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, only one point.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The next speaker is Dr. K. Keshava Rao.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, last point, I am just concluding. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. K. Keshava Rao! You have already taken two minutes more. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, last point. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is this, you have already taken more time. Dr. K. Keshava Rao; I have already requested you. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: There the AYUSH personnel were 86,018. What happened in that course, it was only in Hindi. Sir, the people from non-Hindi speaking places asked, 'How we will understand it'? We are going to treat people; you are speaking in Hindi. They said, 'If you do not know Hindi, get out of the course'. So, Hindi was also imposed in such a critical situation. They are not taking care of the people, the lives of the people. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Dr. K. Keshava Rao, your time starts now. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Telangana): Sir, you know the emotions of the House. I hope you understand that. It is not because of the speeches, but because of the situation all over the world.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The time has already been extended, please.
...(Interruptions)...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, this House is meant for deliberation and discussion. We can as well have more number of hours. Sir, whatever it is, this situation is not new. We had experienced this kind of pandemics earlier also. We have experienced worst kind of pandemic. But, we are concerned today because we are live witness to what is happening around. Sir, I would not like to repeat the points which are already mentioned by Mr. Anand Sharmaji and Mr. Derek. I would like to mention three basic things which must come out first. Should the States follow what the Centre is saying or the Centre follows what States are implementing? In a federal set up, in a crisis situation like this, the States are more important and nearer to the people and more sensitive to the issue than the Centre. They take these issues on priority. Take the

example of Telangana. Right from the floor of the House, the Chief Minister said 'Do not get scared'. He quoted two or three ordinary medicines and said that "this will help you", not because he was unaware of the seriousness of the issue. All the seriousness we have been told. You have announced the lockdown without even consulting the Chief Ministers. What the Minister said is wrong. After the lockdown was announced, on third day, you called for this. See, today I am not trying to score a point or rival in other things, what I am trying to say is about the seriousness of the situation. In a situation like this, let us understand where we stand. Sir, I want to mention a few more things, which other Members did not mention. The first thing is about the exploitation by private hospitals. Sir, only 30 per cent of the public health care system is in the hands of the States and 70 per cent in the hands of the private hospitals. So, we have to depend on the private hospitals.

You know the way they were charging. One patient was charged ninety lakhs of rupees. He was given a bill of Rupees ninety lakhs, to be taken out. Hon. Minister of State for Home, Shri Kishan Reddy, is here. He knows the situation. The State is facing all these things and yet you want to take credit. You may take credit as much as you want. But, at the same time, let us understand what the States want. Post-pandemic what is happening is economic crisis. What is economic crisis? About GST one Member from Odisha made a mention. Today we are really suffering the worst. You owe us something like ₹ 9000 crores. You don't even talk about it at all. What will happen to the States? And what we are trying to do? I did not speak of MP and other States. What I am asking you is, we know exactly how to tackle the situation. There are important situations like migrant labour, which has put us to shame as far as the country is concerned. But, for our sustenance, we in our State went for the agriculture. Today we have one crore million tonnes production right in this crisis period. It is one crore million tonnes in this crisis period because we knew that it is not the Prime Minister who will come and tell us what exactly we should do. We are trying to sort out our own things. What we expected of you is what exactly is provided in the Constitution, what exactly is provided in the Federal set-up. We thought the Central Government will go to the States and help us out, at least, with our own dues, our own rights. But, nothing of this kind has happened. Mr. Anand has given the details of the medicines. I would not like to go into it. We are waiting for the vaccine to come. Whenever it will come, India will be ahead of many other countries. We hope that it will come. Sir, one thing, I can tell you, is that the migrant workers data which he has asked must be immediately prepared, because again the migrant labour is coming back

[Dr. K. Keshava Rao]

to the States and we need to take care of them. Lastly, because there is another speaker who has to speak, I am telling you let the Centre take the States into confidence rather than saying empty things. Look, we have created for ourselves, for example, in our own States. Every State might have done it. West Bengal has done it. It was looking as if there was a war with Centre. No. We have created a hospital with 2000 beds. We did it without having any kind of help, without having any kind of funds from the Centre. No, it did not come. Whatever it is, we are aware of our own responsibilities. We know what we are doing. What we are expecting is the Centre to come to rescue. It is not only mere video-conferences that are going to help. Finance is something which will help. Unemployment is really on increase. Within short time, it will be out of our hands, and the situation will become more critical than the COVID itself. Thank you very much, Sir.

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, डा. केशव राव जी। आपने पार्टी का लगभग पूरा समय ले लिया। श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह जी।

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, सबसे पहले जितने भी हमारे corona warriors हैं, मैं उन सबके प्रति आभार प्रकट करता हूँ और जिन लोगों की दुखद मृत्यु हुई, उनके प्रति condolence भी अर्पित करता हूँ और साथ ही हमारे देश के जितने भी नागरिक इस कोरोना से पीड़ित हुए, उनके प्रति संवेदना व्यक्त करता हूँ और जिनकी मृत्यु हो गई, उनके परिवार को अपनी condolences देता हूँ।

महोदय, यह इस प्रकार की बीमारी है, जो विश्वव्यापी है। मैं बिहार से आता हूँ और मैं कुछ बातें आपके सामने रखना चाहूँगा। मैं आज यहाँ भी सुन रहा था और मैं यह देख भी रहा हूँ कि बार-बार migrant worker की चर्चा की जाती है। इस देश में भारत का संविधान है। भारत के संविधान में सभी नागरिकों को अधिकार है कि वह देश के किसी कोने में वहाँ काम करे और वहाँ रहे। Economy में capital भी है, market भी है और labour भी है। आप सिर्फ labour को क्यों migrant कह रहे हैं? मैं सरकार से और सभी पार्टी के नेताओं से अनुरोध करूँगा कि आप इस शब्द को तत्काल अपनी dictionary से हटाएँ। वे इस देश के हमारे नागरिक हैं। सब लोगों ने जाकर उन प्रदेशों में काम किया, उनके विकास के लिए काम किया। और जब इस तरह की स्थिति आती है, तो आप उनको migrant worker कहते हैं? आप जरा हमारे बिहार की पीड़ा को देखिए। हमारे बिहार के लोगों ने पूरे देश के निर्माण में सब जगह काम किया, लेकिन दिन भर उनको प्रवासी, प्रवासी, migrant कहा जाता है। मेरा केन्द्र सरकार एवं सभी पार्टी के लोगों से निवेदन है कि कम-से-कम इस शब्द को हटा दीजिए। हमारा देश एक है, नागरिकता एक है, फिर यहाँ प्रवासी कौन है? तत्काल इन लोगों के लिए इस शब्द को खत्म किया जाए। यह एक बहुत बड़ा अपमान है।

महोदय, बिहार ने जो झेला है, वह और किसी प्रदेश ने नहीं झेला है। हमारे 20 लाख 95 हजार साथी बाहर काम कर रहे थे। वे वहां क्या कर रहे थे? वे वहां उनके विकास का काम कर रहे थे। लेकिन जब मुश्किल समय आया, तो उनको विदा कर दिया गया। अब उन्हीं लोगों को आप ट्रेनों से बुला रहे हैं, प्लेन का पैसा दे रहे हैं, लेकिन इस चीज़ को समझना चाहिए कि विकास में सिर्फ कैपिटल नहीं आती है, सिर्फ मार्केट नहीं आती है, विकास में लेबर और स्किल्ड लेबर भी आती है। उनका भी सम्मान होना चाहिए। अब आप देखिए हमारे बिहार में कितने बैंक हैं? क्या हम उन सबके सामने प्रवासी बैंक लिखवा दें? बिहार में इनमें से किसी की भी राजधानी नहीं है। जितनी भी इंश्योरेंस कंपनीज़ हैं, क्या वहां पर किसी की राजधानी है? तो क्या हम उनके आगे प्रवासी लिखवा दें? जी नहीं। यह बदला जाना चाहिए। मैं चाहूंगा कि हाउस में इस पर कंसेंसस बने कि माइग्रेंट लेबर शब्द का प्रयोग न हो।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन: हम लोग तैयार हैं।

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह: देखिए, यह बहुत ही संवेदनशील मामला है और हर्ट करता है। वे लोग अपने खून-पसीने से सेवा करते हैं और हम उनको प्रवासी कह देते हैं। संविधान हमारे सामने है। हमारे बिहार से 20 लाख 95 हजार लोग यहां आए। हमारे माननीय मुख्य मंत्री, श्री नीतीश बाबू ने, जहां-जहां हमारे लोग थे, उन सबके खातों में तत्काल एक-एक हजार रुपया ट्रांसफर किया, ताकि उनको कोई परेशानी न हो। हमारे यहां बहुत सारे ऐसे शहरों से भी लोग वापस आए, जहां कोविड की समस्या थी। उन सबके लिए क्वारन्टीन सेंटर्स बनाए गए और उन क्वारन्टीन सेंटर्स में 15 लाख से ज्यादा लोग रहे। हमने अपने एक-एक साथी के खाने पर 5,300/- रुपया खर्च किया, जब उनको 14 दिन क्वारन्टीन सेंटर में रखा गया। इसके साथ ही हमारे सामने सबसे बड़ी समस्या यह थी कि लोगों को किसी प्रकार की भुखमरी का सामना न करना पड़े, इसलिए जितने भी हमारे बिहार में राशनकार्ड होल्डर्स थे, उन सबके खातों में एक-एक हजार रुपया दिया गया और प्रयास किया गया कि जितने भी लोग हैं, वे सब ठीक से रहें।

महोदय, आज सभी लोगों को हम धन्यवाद दे रहे हैं, लेकिन किसानों को भी धन्यवाद दीजिए, जिन्होंने इस पूरी महामारी के दौर में अपने खेतों में काम किया। केशव राव जी ठीक कह रहे थे कि जिस प्रकार मुश्किल समय में उन्होंने उत्पादन किया गया, इसलिए वह समय कट गया। इस समय पूरे देश के सामने जो समस्या है, हमें चाहिए कि हम एक-दूसरे पर आरोप-प्रत्यारोप न लगाएं, सब लोग मिलकर काम करें। इसमें सबसे जरूरी मामला आर.टी. पी.सी.आर. टेस्ट्स का है। इसकी मशीनें बाहर से आती हैं। इसकी जो कोवास मशीन है, हमारे बिहार में ये मशीनें बहुत अधिक नहीं हैं। मैं केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करूंगा, पहले भी केन्द्र सरकार ने मदद की है, लेकिन अब तत्काल इन मशीनों की संख्या और बढ़ाई जाए। हम एंटीजेन टेस्ट तो करते हैं, लेकिन जो आर.टी. पी.सी.आर. टेस्ट होता है, उसमें एक डेफिनिटी होती है।

महोदय, हम लोग एक बात और कहना चाहते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: प्लीज़, आप कन्क्लूड करें।

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह: हम लोगों को एक ऐसा माहौल बनाना चाहिए कि दहशत न हो। आप देखें कि हमारे यहां मृत्यु दर 1.67% है, लेकिन आप यह भी देखें कि जो गंभीर रूप से पीड़ित थे, जैसा माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपनी स्टेटमेंट में बताया, वे 1.70% थे। अब हम लोगों को फोकस कहां करना है? लोगों के मन में एक बहाना है कि हमारे यहां बीमारी है, लेकिन हमें उन्हें बताना होगा कि मृत्यु सिर्फ उनकी हो रही है, जहां co-morbidity का मामला है। अगर सब लोगों को यह बात बता दी जाए, तो जो दहशत का पार्ट है, वह खत्म हो जाएगा और निश्चित रूप से हम लोग इसमें कामयाब होंगे, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): First of all I salute all health workers including doctors and the Government servants who are fighting to stop the spreading of Coronavirus in the country. Sir, our hon. Prime Minister declared that Mahabharata war was completed within 18 days, we will win the fight against Corona within 21 days. What happened to that? I was searching for the words in the statement of the Health Minister, but I failed. Sir, the fight against Corona in Kerala was recognised by WHO and some other international agencies also. Not a single word was mentioned in the statement of the Health Minister. Sir, the State Governments are directly dealing with all these cases. What is the Centre's attitude towards the State Government? What is the attitude? What is the Centre's attitude towards the State Governments? Even the GST compensation is pending! The Government has announced the PM CARES Fund. Sir, funds from MPLADS are going to that fund. Had the MPLADS been there, we could have built infrastructure in health sector and help the respective State Governments in a big way; this opportunity is lost. All CSR funds from public sector companies are going to the PM CARES Fund! But, the States are not helped by the Centre. How many requests are made to the Centre is known to the House. Sir, the distress of the people is not the concern of the Government. Not even a single word is mentioned in the statement! Sir, 15 crore workers have lost their employment. These are the statistics given by the CMIE. And, look at the distress of migrant labour. What was the situation during the lockdown? The first case of COVID-19 was reported in the country on 23rd January, 2020. But, the Government was busy with the reception of Trump at Ahmedabad and was attempting to topple the Congress Government in Madhya Pradesh. And, one fine morning, came with a declaration of lockdown with just 4 hours of notice! The migrant labours were thrown out of their houses. They were on the streets. There were no trains or public transport service to return to their homes. The Government announced the Atmanirbhar Bharat Package of ₹ 20 lakh crores. What is the expenditure of the Government from the treasury? What is the share of the Government in that package? It is only ₹ 2 lakhs crores.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Conclude, please.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Sir, many other countries have declared so many packages; some of them upto 21 per cent of their GDP. Our package contains only 1 per cent of the GDP; all other amounts are from banks in the forms of loan, etc. The Government of India has not given any assistance to the State Governments.

Sir, Kerala continues to be one of the States with a very low Case Fatality Rate of less than 0.45 deaths per million which is lower than the global and national average. Come to the Death per Million. Sir, the national CFR is 1.6 deaths per million. The global DPM is 119 per million and the national average is 58 per million. Whereas, in Kerala, it is 1.6.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Kareem, please, conclude.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: At this level also, the Union Government is not recognizing the efforts of the Government of Kerala. Kerala team of doctors and health workers went to Maharashtra and to the Gulf countries.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You conclude. I have to call the other speaker.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: The Union Government has to extend its help to the State Governments, not just Kerala, and funds have to be allotted. It is only then we can check the spread of Coronavirus which is a national disaster. Thank you.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): शुक्रिया उपसभापति महोदय, कभी-कभी कोई नमस्ते आयोजन कितना भारी पड़ जाता है, यह हमने हिन्दुस्तान में बीते तीन-चार महीने में देखा है, आगे से बड़ी सावधानी बरतनी होगी।

सर, आप सदन में थे, मैंने एक दिन कहा था कि हम लोगों को दैहिक दूरी शब्द का इस्तेमाल करना चाहिए, सामाजिक दूरी नहीं। हमारे मुल्क में वैसे ही सामाजिक दूरी बहुत है, यह इतनी है कि हम उसे भर नहीं पा रहे हैं। हम यह नहीं भूलें कि सामाजिक दूरी के बाद एक जमात के ऊपर मुकदमा होने लगा और कई जमातें जो नमस्ते में थीं या सरकार टॉपल करने में थीं, उन जमातों का ज़िक्र इस अफ़साने में नहीं हुआ, यह चिन्ता का विषय है। कोरोना संक्रमण के मार्च के आखिरी हफ़्ते के हालात से हम सब वाकिफ़ हैं, लॉकडाउन हुआ। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या यह व्यक्तिगत निर्णय था या सामूहिक निर्णय था, क्योंकि हमारे यहां कैबिनेट सिस्टम है। अगर यह सामूहिक निर्णय था तो तैयारियों के बारे में बतायें, आपने क्या तैयारियां की? क्योंकि वह जो अचानक का लॉकडाउन था, उच्च मध्यम वर्ग, मध्यम वर्ग को अपने दायरे में लगा कि हम सब ठीक हैं, हमें अपनी चिन्ता होनी चाहिए। हम बाकी भूल गये कि जिनकी

[प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा]

चिन्ता होनी चाहिए थी, वे हमारी चिन्ताओं से गायब हो गये। अभी मजदूरों का जिक्र हो रहा था, जो अलग-अलग राज्यों में, अलग-अलग राज्यों से आकर काम करते हैं। अभी बीते दिनों सदन में कहा गया कि कोई आंकड़ा नहीं है। सर, मेरा मानना है कि ये मजदूर भाई आंकड़े नहीं हैं। ये किसी के पिता हैं, किसी की कोई माँ है, कोई बेटा है। अगर आपके पास आंकड़े नहीं हैं, इसका मतलब आपके अन्दर दीदार करने की क्षमता नहीं है। आप नज़र पैदा नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। पाँच समृद्धि के टापुओं के निर्देश पर आपकी सरकार चल रही है। और असमानता के महासागर में गोते लगाने वालों का कोई ज़िक्र नहीं है।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, सदन की ओर से मैं प्रपोज़ करता हूँ कि हम सब को एक माफीनामा देना चाहिए, देश के उन तमाम मजदूर भाइयों के लिए, जिनके बारे में हमने चिन्ता नहीं की, जिनके बारे में first and second lockdown में कोई बात नहीं हुई, third lockdown के बाद जब छवियाँ बिगड़ने लगीं, तब अचानक से हमने कहा कि यह क्या हो रहा है?

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं अपने दल की ओर से निजीकरण और बाजारीकरण के खिलाफ हमेशा रहा हूँ। मैं आज कहता हूँ, कांग्रेस के साथी भी याद करेंगे। 1990 से आपने जो उद्यम शुरू किया, आज देखिए, बाजार के मध्य health और education को आपने रख दिया। आपके public health infrastructure ने जो काम किया, जिस जज्बे के साथ किया, उसको सलाम कीजिए और public health infrastructure को लेकर अपनी आर्थिक प्रस्थापनाओं पर पुनर्विचार कीजिए।

सर, सिर्फ COVID Warriors को ही नहीं, सबको tribute करना चाहिए। सर, एक मिनट। हमें दुख होता है कि जब सरकार के आला लोग यह कहते हैं कि दूसरे देशों की तुलना में हमारे यहाँ मौतें कम हुई हैं। सर, यह घोर असंवेदनशीलता है। यह घोर अमानवीय बयान है। उन घरों में जाइए और पूछिए कि तुम्हारे पिता की मृत्यु हो गयी, लेकिन बाकी देशों की तुलना में हम ठीक हैं। नहीं, यह बयानबाजी बन्द होनी चाहिए।

सर, economic impact के बारे में मैं सरकार से आग्रह करूँगा कि आप हाथ खोलिए। 7,000, 8,000 रुपये non-income-tax-paying families को दीजिए।

सर, मैं आखिरी टिप्पणी करके खत्म करूँगा। ऑडिट और पारदर्शिता से दूर PM Cares Fund का कई बार जिक्र हुआ है। मेरा मानना है कि नाम और काम में थोड़ी तारतम्यता होनी चाहिए। हमारे बीजेपी के एक मित्र ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप कन्क्लूड कीजिए।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: सर, सिर्फ 30 सेकंड दीजिए।

सर, हमारे वरिष्ठ साथी कह रहे थे। उन्होंने सहकारी संघवाद का बहुत अद्भुत उदाहरण दिया। वे Maharashtra-focused रह गये। मैं भी बिहार के बारे में बहुत-सी चीज़ें कह सकता था, लेकिन यह राजनीति का विषय नहीं है। एक सितम्बर से RT-PCR Kit महाराष्ट्र में suspended है। PPE, N-95 mask, ventilators! आपके सहकारी संघवाद के आइडिया को प्रणाम।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद झा जी।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: सर, 'जय हिन्द' तो बोलने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, मैं बस 'जय हिन्द' बोल कर खत्म करूँगा। सर, 'जय हिन्द' बोलने से पहले, असल में केन्द्र और राज्यों की सरकारों ने lockdown को दवाई मान लिया, vaccine मान लिया। यह घोर अवैज्ञानिक सोच थी। सर, मैं अब बोल रहा हूँ- 'जय हिन्द'!

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद। Now, Shri Swapan Dasgupta.

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA (Nominated): Where is the time, Sir? Just one minute is left. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are still two minutes. ...(Interruptions)... You have been allocated three minutes' time.

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Sir, I just want to make two points. First, while we are talking about statistics — the casualty rate — I think, there is an element of confusion that has crept in, partly because while we agree that there is about a huge number of people who have been infected, the story which goes around throughout the world is that somehow our figures have been underestimated. I don't know whether that is true or false. But, a lot of mathematical modelling, on which these are based on, would suggest that actually, in India, the tally would go upto 70 to 80 crore, which seems rather an absurd proposition. But, at the same time, the inability, rather the reticence, of the Government on this count as to on what basis our statistics are based on, has created some amount of confusion. And, I would urge the Health Minister and other associated Ministers to actually give some sort of a clarification on what the statistical robustness of our figures is; and, I believe, they are. But, they should clarify.

The second point, which I want to mention very, very briefly is what the science behind it is. Is there actually any science? My friend, Mr. Derek O'Brien, just mentioned on the question of masks. How one sort of conventional wisdom was soon replaced by another? And, I think, this is the case all over that we do not as yet. ...(Interruptions)...

1.00 P.M.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Sir, can I continue later then?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Sir, I am just suggesting that there is no such thing. Which is the science which now prevails in this unlockdown period? Do we...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Sir, there is a certain efficacy of this debate.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But the time is...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: I believe that we do have a right to make some points with a certain degree of dignity. I believe that dignity has been lost. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Now Special Mentions, Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena, सब्जेक्ट पढ़ें और lay करें।

SPECIAL MENTIONS — *Contd.

**Demand to provide sufficient Central assistance to Rajasthan under
Jal Jeevan Mission**

डा. किरोड़ी लाल मीणा (राजस्थान): महोदय, 'जल जीवन मिशन' के प्रावधानों के अन्तर्गत राजस्थान, कर्णाटक, उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, महाराष्ट्र, गुजरात और छत्तीसगढ़ आदि के लिए 50:50 के अनुपात में केन्द्रीय व राज्यांश का प्रावधान रखा गया है। राजस्थान की तुलना इन राज्यों से किया जाना उचित नहीं है, क्योंकि राजस्थान में जल उपलब्धता बहुत कम है। भौगोलिक दृष्टि से राजस्थान सबसे बड़ा राज्य है, जहाँ कुल वर्षा का मात्र 1 प्रतिशत पानी गिरता है। इसके साथ ही राजस्थान के 200 ब्लॉक्स यानी 85 प्रतिशत भाग डार्क ज़ोन में हैं एवं गुणवत्ता के परिप्रेक्ष्य में भी देश के लगभग एक तिहाई गुणवत्ता प्रभावित ग्राम/ढाणियाँ राजस्थान में स्थित हैं। राज्य के गाँव/ढाणियाँ खास तौर पर मरुस्थलीय एवं आदिवासी इलाकों में छितरे रूप से दूर-दूर बसे हुए हैं। इसके कारण पेयजल योजनाओं की लागत अन्य राज्यों की तुलना में काफी अधिक आती

*Laid on the Table.

है। पूर्वी राजस्थान के 13 जिलों में, जहाँ पानी की विकट समस्या है, उनको 55 लीटर प्रति व्यक्ति प्रतिदिन के अनुसार पेयजल उपलब्ध कराने हेतु नदियों को जोड़ने की योजना हाथ में लेनी पड़ेगी, जिससे पेयजल की लागत बहुत ज्यादा आयेगी। 2013 तक राजस्थान को NRDWP राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण पेयजल कार्यक्रम के तहत राजस्थान हेतु 90:10 के अनुपात से ही केन्द्रीय सहायता उपलब्ध करायी जाती थी, तत्पश्चात् इसे घटाकर 60:40 एवं बाद में 50:50 कर दिया गया था। मेरी माँग है कि भारत सरकार, राजस्थान राज्य को 'जल जीवन मिशन' के अन्तर्गत 50:50 के अनुपात के स्थान पर 90:10 के अनुपात में केन्द्रीय सहायता उपलब्ध कराये, जिससे लोगों को पेयजल उपलब्ध कराया जा सके।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 9.00 a.m. on Thursday, the 17th September, 2020.

*The House then adjourned at one minute past
one of the clock till nine of the clock on
Thursday, the 17th September, 2020.*