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Tuesday  
22 September, 2020  
31 Bhadra, 1942 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

# RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

(FLOOR VERSION)

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[P.T.O.]

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<http://parliamentofindia.nic.in>  
E-mail : [rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in](mailto:rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in)

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# RAJYA SABHA

*Tuesday, the 22nd September, 2020/31 Bhadra, 1942 (Saka)*

*The House met at nine of the clock,*

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Papers to be laid on the Table.

### **Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of NJMC, Kolkata, BJEL, Kolkata and NJB, Kolkata 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 my colleague, Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani,  
I lay on the Table —

I.(1) 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) Thirty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Jute Manufactures Corporation Limited, (NJMC), Kolkata, 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.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.  
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2740/17/20]

(ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Birds Jute and Exports Limited (BJEL), Kolkata, 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.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

(2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2741/17/20]

II.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 18 of the National Jute Board Act, 2008:—

- (a) Ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Jute Board (NJB), Kolkata, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Board.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2742/17/20]

**Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of AIIA, New Delhi and North Eastern Institute of Folk Medicine, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh and related papers**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2748/17/20]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the North Eastern Institute of Folk Medicine, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2749/17/20]

**I Notification of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions****II Report (2019) of CVC, New Delhi**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Dr. Jitendra Singh, I lay on the Table —

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training), Notification No. G.S.R. 253 (E), dated the 16th April, 2020, publishing the Union Public Service Commission (Exemption from Consultation) Amendment Regulations, 2020, under clause (5) of Article 320 of the Constitution of India.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2727/17/20]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Fifty-fifth Annual Report of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), New Delhi, for the year 2019, under sub-section (3) of Section 14 of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2520/17/20]

**I Notifications of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry****II Report and Accounts (2017-18) of EIA, New Delhi and related papers**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, I lay on the Table —

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce), under sub-section (3) of Section 19 of the Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992:—

- (1) S.O. 3547 (E), dated the 30th September, 2019, regarding amendment to the export policy of Onions for the item description at Serial Numbers 51 and 52 of Chapter 7 of Schedule 2 of ITC (HS) classification of Export & Import Items, thereby prohibiting export of all specified varieties of onions with immediate effect.
- (2) S.O. 3982 (E), dated the 4th November, 2019, regarding certain amendment to the policy condition at Serial Numbers 55 and 57,

Schedule - 2 ITC (HS) Export Policy, 2018 for export of rice (Basmati and Non Basmati) with immediate effect.

- (3) S.O. 134 (E), dated the 9th January, 2020, regarding certain amendments in the policy condition at Serial Numbers 55 and 57, Schedule - 2 ITC (HS) Export Policy, 2018 for export of rice (Basmati and Non Basmati) with immediate effect.
- (4) S.O. 487 (E), dated the 31st January, 2020, regarding certain amendment in Export Policy of Personal Protection Equipments including clothing and Masks in the Schedule 2 of the ITC (HS) Export Policy 2018 with immediate effect.
- (5) S.O. 571 (E), dated the 6th February, 2020, regarding certain amendments to Notification No. 21/2015-20 dated the 29th September, 2019 relating to export of Krishnapuram Onions.
- (6) S.O. 854 (E), dated the 25th February, 2020 regarding certain amendments to Notification No. 47 dated 08.02.2020 related to export of Personal Protection Equipment and Masks etc.
- (7) S.O. 938 (E), dated the 2nd March, 2020, regarding amendment to the Export Policy of Onion for the item description at Serial Number 51 and 52 of Chapter 7 of Schedule 2 of ITC (HS) Classification of Export and Import items, with effect from 15th March, 2020.
- (8) S.O. 955 (E), dated the 3rd March, 2020, regarding amendment in Export Policy of APIs and formulations made of these APIs in Chapter 29 (Organic Chemicals) and Chapter 30 (Pharmaceutical) of the Schedule 2 of the ITC (HS) Export Policy 2018, restricting their export with immediate effect.
- (9) S.O. 1171 (E), dated the 19th March, 2020, regarding amendments to Schedule 2 of the ITC (HS) Export policy 2018 prohibiting the export of Masks, Ventilators and textile raw material for masks and coveralls as per the product description given therein.
- (10) S.O. 1206 (E), dated the 24th March, 2020, regarding amendments in Export Policy of Ventilators including artificial respiratory apparatus or



oxygen therapy apparatus or any other breathing appliance/device and Sanitizers at Serial No. 207B of the Schedule 2 of the ITCHS Export Policy in the Notification No. 52 dated 19.03.2020, prohibiting their export, with immediate effect.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (10) See No. L.T. 2729/17/20]

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

- (a) Annual Report of the Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) and its Export Inspection Agencies (EIA), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Export Inspection Council of India (EIC) and its Export Inspection Agencies (EIA), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers, mentioned at (a) and (b) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2728/17/20]

**Report and Accounts (2018-19) of AIIMS, Patna, Bihar and related papers**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, I lay on the Table —

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of the Section 18 and Section 19 of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956:—
  - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Patna, Bihar, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
  - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2595/17/20]

**Report and Accounts (2017-18) of TSPL, Karnataka; and Report and Accounts (2018-19) of CCI, New Delhi; and related papers**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, I lay on the Table —

- (1) 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) Fifty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Tungabhadra Steel Products Limited (TSPL), Karnataka, 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.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2485/17/20]

- (ii) (a) Fifty-fifth Annual Report and Accounts of the Cement Corporation of India Limited, (CCI), 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.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2487/17/20]

**Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Gen. (Retd) V.K. Singh, I lay on the Table, under Section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways:—

- (1) S.O. 1010 (E), dated the 6th March, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 12.700 to K.M. 82.700 (Lucknow - Raebareilly Section) on New National Highway No. 30 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

- (2) S.O. 1011 (E), dated the 6th March, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 115.342 to K.M. 191.700 (Krishnagar-Bharampore Section) on National Highway No. 34 in the State of West Bengal.
- (3) S.O. 1012 (E), dated the 6th March, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 10.185 to K.M. 86.199 (Kharar-Ludhiana Section) on National Highway No. 05 (Old NH-95) in the State of Punjab.
- (4) S.O. 1035 (E), dated the 11th March, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 0.000 to K.M. 50.505 (Jind-Gohana Section) on National Highway No. 352 A in the State of Haryana.
- (5) S.O. 1722 (E), dated the 3rd June, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 127.500 to K.M. 178.944 (Theka/Darrighat to Village Banari Section) on National Highway No. 200 (New NH-49) in the State of Chhattisgarh.
- (6) S.O. 2146 (E), dated the 30th June, 2020, amending Notification No. S.O. 194 (E), dated the 2nd March, 2001, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (7) S.O. 2273 (E), dated the 8th July, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 180.600 to K.M. 217.600 (Kabarai-Banda Section) on National Highway No. 76 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (8) S.O. 2283 (E), dated the 9th July, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the specified stretches from K.M. 16.200 to K.M. 91.600 (Balotra-Sanderao via Jalore Section) on National Highway No. 325 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (9) S.O. 2284 (E), dated the 9th July, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 248.400 to K.M. 310.000 (Bahraich-Shrawasti Section) on National Highway No. 730 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (10) S.O. 2285 (E), dated the 9th July, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 100.800 to K.M. 135.230 (Pratapgarh-

Allahabad Bypass Section) on National Highway No. 96 (New NH 330) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

- (11) S.O. 2344 (E), dated the 15th July, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 513.000 to K.M. 546.550 (Muddanur-Jammalamadugu Section) on National Highway No. 67 in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (12) S.O. 2414 (E), dated the 23rd July, 2020, amending Notification No. S.O. 3253 (E), dated the 5th July, 2018, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (13) S.O. 2562 (E), dated the 31st July, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 326.400 to K.M. 379.555 (Mau-Jasra Section) on National Highway No. 76 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (14) S.O. 2588 (E), dated the 5th August, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretches from K.M. 5.150 to K.M. 36.150 and from K.M. 42.850 to K.M. 57.425 on National Highway No. 709E in the State of Rajasthan.
- (15) S.O. 2589 (E), dated the 5th August, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from design K.M. 0.970 to K.M. 40.150 on National Highway No. 365B in the State of Telangana.
- (16) S.O. 2648 (E), dated the 7th August, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 118.900 to K.M. 156.955 (excluding K.M. 151.100 to K.M. 154.730) (Balotra to Sanderao *via* Jalore Section) on National Highway No. 325 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (17) S.O. 2717 (E), dated the 11th August, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 25.467 to K.M. 59.200 (Mahadevpur - Bhupalpalli Section) on National Highway No. 353C in the State of Telangana.
- (18) S.O. 2718 (E), dated the 11th August, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretches from K.M. 159.00 to K.M. 165.403 and K.M. 186.00 to K.M. 214.287 (Hyderabad-Bhopalapatnam Section) on National Highway No.163 in the State of Telangana.

- (19) S.O. 2719 (E), dated the 11th August, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 4.350 to K.M. 75.400 (Karnataka Border to Anantapur Section) on National Highway No.42 in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (20) S.O. 2781 (E), dated the 17th August, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 40.150 to K.M. 84.037 (Tirumalagiri - Suryapet Section) on National Highway No. 365B in the State of Telangana.
- (21) S.O. 2874 (E), dated the 26th August, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 81.000 to K.M. 202.600) on National Highway No. 234 in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (22) S.O. 2876 (E), dated the 26th August, 2020, regarding the rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 134.000 to 201.930) (Mudigubba to Ananthapuramu District border Section) on National Highway No. 42, in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (23) S.O. 3106 (E), dated the 11th September, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretches from K.M. 127.300 to K.M. 136.520 (Dhindi-Digamarru Section) on National Highway No. 214 (New NH No. 216) and from K.M. 0.000 to K.M. 32.900 (Digamarru-Losari Section) on National Highway No. 214A (New NH No. 216) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (24) S.O. 3107 (E), dated the 11th September, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretches from K.M.0.000 to K.M. 24.370, K.M. 29.210 to K.M. 38.000 and K.M. 38.350 to K.M. 66.200 (Perambalur-Thanjavur Section) on National Highway No. 226 Extn (New NH No. 136) in the State of Tamil Nadu.
- (25) S.O. 3108 (E), dated the 11th September, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 0.000 to K.M. 43.446 (Rampur-Kathgodam Section) on National Highway No.9 (Old NH No.87) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.
- (26) S.O. 3131 (E), dated the 15th September, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretches from K.M.0.000 to K.M. 16.000

(Chutmalpur-Ganeshpur Section) on National Highway No. 72A and K.M. 0.000 to K.M. 33.000 (Roorkee- Chutmalpur-Gagatheri Section) on National Highway No. 73 in the States of Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

- (27) S.O. 3132 (E), dated the 15th September, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretches from K.M. 486.500 to K.M. 499.500 (Kollam Bypass) on National Highway No. 66 (Old NH No. 47) in the State of Kerala.

- (28) S.O. 3133 (E), dated the 15th September, 2020, regarding rate of fee to be collected from users of the stretch from K.M. 57.800 to K.M. 110.942 (Manavalanallur to Chinnasalem Section) on National Highway No. 532 in the State of Tamil Nadu.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (28) See No. L.T. 2762/17/20]

#### **Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Danve Raosaheb Dadarao, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (5) of Section 45 of the Food Corporation Act, 1964, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution):—

- (1) No. EP-7(1)/2020, dated the 5th August, 2020, publishing the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (Forth Amendment) Regulations, 2020.
- (2) No. EP-36(1)/2017, dated the 5th August, 2020, publishing the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2020.
- (3) No. EP-36(1)/2020, dated the 5th August, 2020, publishing the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2020.
- (4) No. EP-7(1)/2017, dated the 4th September, 2019, publishing the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2019.
- (5) No. EP-7(1)/2017, dated the 7th May, 2019, publishing the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2019.
- (6) No. EP-1(3)/2016, dated the 8th January, 2020, publishing the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2019.

- (7) No. 1(5)/2016, dated the 23rd June, 2020, publishing the Food Corporation of India (Staff) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2020.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (7) See No. L.T. 2705/17/20]

**I Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**

**II Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of GSSC, Gandhinagar and SFAC, New Delhi and related papers**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Parshottam Rupala, I lay on the Table—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Co-operation and Farmers Welfare), under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (1) S.O. 1253 (E), dated the 11th April, 2020, notifying the Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) Order, 1985 as special Order for the purposes of Section 3 of the said Act.
- (2) S.O. 1999 (E), dated the 22nd June, 2020, amending Notification No. S.O. 3226 (E), dated the 3rd October, 2017, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (3) S.O. 2000 (E), dated the 22nd June, 2020, notifying the specifications in respect of provisional fertilizer Phosphogypsum (Granular) to be manufactured in India for a period of 3 years from the date of publication of the Notification in the Official Gazette.
- (4) S.O. 2001 (E), dated the 22nd June, 2020, amending Notification No. S.O. 2900 (E), dated the 24th October, 2015, to insert certain entries in the original Notification.
- (5) S.O. 2002 (E), dated the 22nd June, 2020, publishing the Fertiliser (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) Amendment Order, 2020.
- (6) S.O. 2003 (E), dated the 22nd June, 2020, notifying the specifications of certain customized fertilizers mentioned therein, for a period of three

years from the date of publication of the Notification in the Official Gazette.

- (7) S.O. 2324 (E), dated the 14th July, 2020, publishing the Fertiliser (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) second Amendment Order, 2020.
- (8) S.O. 2325 (E), dated the 14th July, 2020, notifying the specifications of certain customized fertilizers mentioned therein, for a period of three years from the date of publication of the Notification in the Official Gazette.
- (9) S.O. 2500 (E), dated the 29th July, 2020, publishing corrigendum to Notification No. S. 2324 (E), dated the 14th July, 2020.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (9) *See* No. L.T. 2712/17/20]

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

- (a) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Gujarat State Seeds Corporation Limited (GSSC), Gandhinagar, 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.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2710/17/20]

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

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC), New Delhi, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Consortium.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2497/17/20]



**Notifications of the Ministry of Communications**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Dhotre Sanjay Shamrao, I lay on the Table —

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunication), under Section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997:—
  - (1) F. No. 6-19/2019-BB & PA., dated the 17th April, 2020, publishing the Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (Sixteenth Amendment) Regulations, 2020.
  - (2) F. No. 409-3/2018-NSL-I, dated the 10th July, 2020, publishing the Telecommunication Interconnection (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2020. [Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 2562/17/20]
- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications (Department of Posts), Notification No. G.S.R. 446 (E), dated the 14th July, 2020, publishing the Indian Post Office (Amendment) Rules, 2020, under sub-section (4) of Section 74 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.  
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2557/17/20]

**Report (2018-19) of CGPDTM, Mumbai and related papers**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Som Parkash, I lay on the Table —

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 155 of the Patents Act, 1970:—
  - (a) Annual Report of the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs, Trademarks and Geographical Indications (CGPDTM), Mumbai, for the year 2018-19.
  - (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (I) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2565/17/20]

- I Accounts (2017-18) of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal and related papers**
- II Accounts (2016-17 and 2017-18) of the Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University and related papers**
- III Report and Accounts (2018-19) of the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi and related papers**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Kailash Choudhary, I lay on the Table —

I.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 30 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992:—

- (a) Annual Account of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on Account.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

(2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2718/17/20]

II.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 31 of the Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University Act, 2016:—

- (i) (a) Annual Account of the Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, Samastipur, Bihar, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on Account.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 2716/17/20]

- (ii) (a) Annual Account of the Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on Account.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2716/17/20]

III.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 30 and sub-section (4) of Section 31 of the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University Act, 2014:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report of the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, for the year 2018-19.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2717/17/20]

- (ii) (a) Annual Accounts of the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, for the year 2018-19, along with separate Audit Report for year 2018-19.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2717/17/20]

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#### MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

**(I) The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2020.**

**(II) The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020.**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Messages from Lok Sabha.

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)

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 21st September, 2020, agreed without any amendment to

the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Second Amendment) Bill, 2020, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th September, 2020."

(II)

"In accordance with the provisions of the rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 21st September, 2020."

Sir, I lay a copy of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2020 on the Table.

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

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं गृह मंत्रालय (गृह विभाग) से संबंधित "नई दिल्ली नगर पालिका परिषद (एनडीएमसी) में अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए आरक्षण और रोजगार" विषय पर अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कल्याण संबंधी समिति (2020-21) के पांचवें प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

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**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Forty-Second report  
of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence**

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 Raj Nath Singh, I lay a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Forty-second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence on Demands for Grants (2018-19) on Capital Outlay on Defence Services, Procurement Policy and Defence Planning (Demand No. 21), pertaining to the Ministry of Defence.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Eighth and One Hundred and Fourteenth reports of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, I lay a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Eighth and One Hundred and Fourteenth Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on Demands for Grants (2018-19) (Demand No. 5), pertaining to the Ministry of AYUSH.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Fifty-Second report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, I lay a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Fifty-second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce on Demands for Grants (2020-21) (Demand No. 10), pertaining to the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

**Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the First and Fourth reports of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Danve Raosaheb Dadarao, I lay the following statements regarding:—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the First Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution on Demands for Grants (2019-20) pertaining to the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution on Demands for Grants (2020-21) pertaining to the Department of Consumer Affairs, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Seventh report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, I lay a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance on Demands for Grants (2020-21), pertaining to the Department of Economic Affairs, Expenditure, Financial Services and Investment and Public Asset Management, Ministry of Finance.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second, Fourth and Thirteenth reports of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, I lay the following statements regarding:—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Second Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources on Demands for Grants (2019-20) pertaining to the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources on Demands for Grants (2020-21) pertaining to the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- (iii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources, pertaining to the Department of Drinking Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti.

**Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Fifty-Third report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Som Parkash, I lay a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Fifty-third Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce on Demands for Grants (2020-21) (Demand No. 11), pertaining to the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS****Nuclear energy generation**

1281. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of energy in GWh generated by the atomic energy sector during the past five years, (April 2015-March 2020);
- (b) the percentage of atomic energy generation in total power generated in the country;
- (c) whether Government intends to increase the percentage share of atomic energy in total power generated in the country;
- (d) if so, in what manner Government proposes to do so; and
- (e) whether Government has any plans to create atomic energy generation facilities in the State of Jharkhand in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) The total nuclear power generation including infirm generation during the last five years (April 2015 to March 2020) has been 200078 GWh.

- (b) The share of atomic energy generation in the total power generated in the country in the year 2019-20 was about 3.3%.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The percentage of energy from nuclear power is proposed to be increased by augmenting the installed nuclear power capacity. In the short term, the existing nuclear power capacity of 6780 MW is proposed to be increased to 22480 MW by 2031 on progressive completion of projects under construction and accorded sanction.
- (e) There is presently no proposal for setting up a nuclear power plant in the state of Jharkhand.

**Commissioning of India's first Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor**

1282. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) by when India's first Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor would be commissioned;
- (b) the reasons for the delay in commissioning of this reactor; and

- (c) in what manner it would help India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) being constructed by Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Limited (BHAVINI) is expected to get commissioned by October 2022.

(b) Presently there are technical issues which have resulted in delay in commissioning of PFBR. In the last three years, while commissioning activities of the various Systems, Structures & Equipment of PFBR are progressing, a large number of technical challenges as well as design inadequacies (owing to the first-of-a-kind status of the PFBR) are being encountered at each stage, thereby resulting into delay in commissioning. These issues are being attended in close coordination with the designers and the experts within Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).

(c) On completion of commissioning, PFBR will be adding 500 MW of electrical power to the national grid.

**Capacity and present operations of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant**

1283. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the details about the capacity and present operations of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant;
- (b) the benefits accruing out of the plant; and
- (c) whether Government is considering increasing the capacity of the plant and its operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Presently, Units 1&2 of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP 1&2 - 2X1000 MW) are in operation at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu. Since start of operation, both the units have collectively generated 46,227 Million Units of electricity (including infirm generation) as of August 2020.

(b) KKNPP produces Nuclear power which is a clean and environment friendly base load source of electricity generation. It has brought Light Water Reactor Technology to India. It complements the electricity generation from other sources to meet the energy requirements of the beneficiary states. In addition, it has generated employment



(direct and indirect) including employment generated with the contractors/vendors and from business opportunities that have emerged consequent to the increase in economic activity at the site.

(c) The Union Government has accorded sanction for setting up four more units at the site. Of these, Units 3&4 (KKNPP 3&4 - 2X1000 MW) are under construction and work has commenced on Units 5&6 (KKNPP 5&6 - 2X1000 MW). The Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) will reach its full capacity of 6000 MW on completion of Units 3&4 and Units 5&6.

#### **Setting up of atomic power plant in Andhra Pradesh**

1284. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to set up Nuclear Power Project in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any techno-feasibility studies in this regard and selected site for the project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Discussions are being held with M/s Westinghouse Electric Company of USA for establishment of six nuclear power reactors with a capacity of 1208 MW each at Kovvada in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The site at Kovvada was selected after carrying out extensive studies by specialized national agencies and evaluation by the Standing Site Selection Committee (SSSC), Government of India in accordance with the criteria laid down in the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) code on Site Evaluation of Nuclear Facilities.

(e) Does not arise.

**Postal system during lockdown period**

1285. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) how did the postal system in the country help in service delivery during the lockdown period;
- (b) the kind of services the postal system provided during the lockdown, the details thereof; and
- (c) the kind of agricultural goods which have been parcelled during the lockdown?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) The Department of Posts extended the following essentials services in the country during the lockdown period:-

- (i) During the period of lockdown, the Department of Posts ensured transmission and delivery of essential items *viz.* medicine, medical equipment *i.e.* ventilators, COVID-19 Testing Kits, masks, sanitizer etc. through effective utilization of cargo flights, available Parcel trains and road transmission network of the Department. Booking and delivery of Speed Post, Parcel, Registered Post and Money Orders were made available through selected post offices across the country.
- (ii) Cash Transaction facility through 1000 ATMs, e-banking/m-banking and post office counters were provided to the customers in respect of Post Office Savings Bank (POSB).
- (iii) India Post Payment Bank (IPPB) liaised with the States/District administrations to provide doorstep banking services for delivering Direct Benefit Transfer benefits and cash withdrawal for customers of any bank.
- (iv) More than 1.29 lakh Branch Post Offices were functional during the lockdown period and delivered postal and financial services to the people residing at remote rural areas.

- (v) A dedicated nationwide Road Transport Network (RTN) for shipment of essential items especially ventilators, medicines, Covid Kits etc. was planned and operationalized by the Department.
- (b) The details of services provided by the postal system during the lockdown period are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).
- (c) During lockdown the Department of Posts provided Parcel services to small and medium agricultural firms in the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh. Details of agricultural goods which were transported during the lockdown are given in the Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Details of services provided by the postal system during the lockdown period*

- (i) Details of speed post, registered article and electronic money order transactions during the lockdown period are as under:-

<b>Speed Post</b>	
Number of speed post articles booked	125.61 lakh
<b>Registered Articles</b>	
Number of Registered articles booked	47.97 lakh
<b>Electronic Money Order</b>	
Number of Electronic Money Order booked	80.08 lakh
Total value of Electronic Money Order booked	₹ 823.91 crore
Number of Electronic Money Order paid	76.46 lakh
Total value of Electronic Money Order paid	₹795.37 crore

- (ii) The details of financial transactions under Post Office Savings Bank (POSB) during lockdown are as under:-

Sl. No.	Particulars	No. of Transactions	Deposit (₹ in crores)	Withdrawal (₹ in crores)
1.	Core Banking Transactions	7,51,10,969	26,354.70	19,408.06
2.	ATM Transactions	14,26,388	-	462.39

- (iii) The details of transactions under India Post Payment Bank (IPPB) during the lockdown period are as under:-

Particulars	Details
Number of Accounts opened	122.52 lakh
Number of financial transactions	855 lakhs
Value of financial transactions	₹ 23,055 crores
Number of Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS) transactions	250.96 lakh
Value of Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS) transactions	₹ 5,322 crores

- (iv) The details of Postal Life Insurance transactions during the period of lockdown are as under:-

Sl. No.	Particulars	Transactions	Amount
1.	Postal Life Insurance and Rural Postal Life Insurance	72.06 lakh	₹592.40 crores

- (v) 56 national routes connecting 75 important cities were operationalized w.e.f. 24/4/2020 which covered a daily distance of over 25000 Kms.

- (vi) More than 93 tonnes of essential items in around 20,000 bags per day were transported to different destinations during the period of lockdown with a total of 3500 tonnes approximately.

- (vii) To connect tier-II and tier-III cities, 266 state level road transport routes were also operationalized for smooth movement of postal mail and parcels.

***Statement-II***

*Details of agricultural goods transported during the lockdown*

Sl. No.	Agricultural Goods	State Name
1	Animal Feeds	Tamil Nadu
2	Palm Jaggery	Tamil Nadu
3	Organic Seeds	Tamil Nadu

Sl. No.	Agricultural Goods	State Name
4	Fruit (Mangoes & Oranges)	Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana & Uttar Pradesh
5	Coco Powder	Tamil Nadu
6	Fertilisers	Maharashtra & Tamil Nadu
7	Drip Irrigation pipes	Maharashtra
8	Insecticides and pesticides packets	Maharashtra
9	Cotton seed bags	Maharashtra
10	Vegetable Seeds	Tamil Nadu, Bihar
11	Sahi Litchi	Bihar

#### Use of Chinese equipment in 5G network

1286. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry plans to allow the use of Chinese manufactured and assembled equipment by telecoms while setting up of 5G network/spectrum;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if not, the details of steps taken to prevent use of Chinese equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (c) The use of 5G technology in telecommunications networks in India has not yet commenced. The focus is currently on trials of India specific 5G applications and use cases. Further, in so far as public procurement of telecom equipment is concerned, the same will be as per General Financial Rules (GFR), 2017 including amendment dated 23rd July 2020.

#### Valuation of BSNL and MTNL

1287. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the value of MTNL and BSNL as on date;
- (b) the manner in which it has been arrived at, which agency has decided it and what is the basis of valuation;

- (c) the details of land and building, towers, equipment and tech facilities owned by BSNL and MTNL with their present market value;
- (d) the present liability of BSNL and MTNL;
- (e) the necessity of disinvestment of MTNL and BSNL; and
- (f) whether Government has shortlisted any buyer for BSNL and MTNL, if so, what is the criteria to sell, who is the buyer and what is the cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has adopted Indian Accounting Standards (IND AS) from 01.04.2015 onwards. The book value (Net Worth) of BSNL as per Audited Financial results for the year ending 31.03.2020 is ₹59,143 crore. The valuation of certain land parcels has been assessed on fair valuation principle as per applicable Indian Accounting Standards (IND AS) provision.

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) informed that as on 31.03.2020 its networth is ₹(-) 13,586 crore. The valuation is derived on historical basis in MTNL.

(c) The detail of land and building, towers, equipment and tech facilities owned by BSNL and MTNL with their net book value is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) As per the audited financial results for the year ending 31.03.2020, the total liabilities of BSNL and MTNL are ₹87,618 crore and ₹30,242 crore respectively.

(e) and (f) There is no proposal to disinvest BSNL and MTNL.

#### ***Statement***

*Details of land and building, towers, equipment and tech facilities owned by  
BSNL and MTNL with their net book value*

Property, plant and equipment	Net Book Value as on 31.3.2020 (in ₹ crores)	
	BSNL	MTNL
1	2	3
<b>Tangible assets</b>		
Free hold land *	64,408	18.52
Buildings	3,432	771.67

1	2	3
Apparatus and plants	14,614	1417.55
Motor vehicles and launches	14	-
Cables and lines and wires-telecom ducts, cables and optical fibre	8,211	-
General plant and machinery- other than continuous process plant	464	-
Towers and satellites	1,584	-
Office machinery and equipment	14	-
Electrical fittings	668	-
Furniture and fixtures	14	-
Computer-end user devices	111	-
Computer-servers and networks	108	-
SUB TOTAL	93,642	2207.74
<b>Intangible assets</b>		
Entry license fees	5,505	-
Computer software	241	-
SUB TOTAL	5,746	-
<b>Right of use assets</b>		
Land	399	-
Leasehold Land	123	285.62
Building	565	17.75
Apparatus and Plant	2	-
Cables and Line & Wires	6	-
Towers & Satellites	2,659	-

1	2	3
Motor Vehicles	1	-
SUB TOTAL	3,755	303.37
Other Assets	-	1479.01#
GRAND TOTAL of Property Plant & Equipment	1,03,143	3990.12

\* Land assets amounting to ₹6,201 crore have been transferred to Assets held for sale in the FY 2019-20 and not included in the value of Free Hold land above.

# For MTNL, the value of all other assets is clubbed together.

### **Disinvestment of BSNL and MTNL**

1288. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has disinvested the land holding of BSNL and MTNL under the Ministry/Department of Telecommunications since 2014;

(b) the list of properties according to State and location, type of property, type of transaction, brief description, actual value and value it was sold for and the details of the sale/lease including the buyer/leaser, amount, date and authority conducting the commercial transaction;

(c) Government's policy for commercialisation or sale/auction/lease of land owned by Ministry/DOT; and

(d) at present who is the competent authority in the Ministry administering these properties under the ownership of the Ministry/ DOT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) The Government has not disinvested any land holding of BSNL and MTNL under Ministry/DoT since 2014.

(b) Nil in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) The process and guidelines for monetization of assets are based on Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIP AM) guidelines notified *vide* their O.M No. 3/3/2018/DIPAM-II dated 08.03.2019 (Information is available at [https://dipam.Kov.in/sites/default/files/Asset%20Monetisation%20Procedure%20and%20Mecnanism\\_0.pdf](https://dipam.Kov.in/sites/default/files/Asset%20Monetisation%20Procedure%20and%20Mecnanism_0.pdf)) wherein Alternate Mechanism (AM) of group of ministers has been delegated powers to grant approval for disposal of assets.



**Connectivity of GPs under BharatNet in Nellore district**

1289. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that not even a single Gram Panchayat (GP) has been connected under BharatNet in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) by when nearly 1,000 GPs in Nellore are going to be connected under BharatNet?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) BharatNet Project is being implemented in a phased manner to create network to connect all the Gram Panchayats (approximately 2.5 lakh) with broadband in the country, including Andhra Pradesh.

In Andhra Pradesh, the Phase-I of the Project has been implemented through Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), but Nellore District is not part of this Phase. The Phase-II of the BharatNet Project to connect all the remaining GPs in the State, including in Nellore District, is being implemented in Andhra Pradesh under State-led model through the State Government. In Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh, no Gram Panchayat (GP) has been connected so far under BharatNet project.

(c) The BharatNet phase-II project was envisaged to be completed by August 2021 in the country, including in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh. However, this time will now be extended as the pace of completion is affected by lockdown and restrictions on movement imposed by the various Governments due to COVID-19. Further, in Andhra Pradesh, the work was suspended by the State Government due to their suggestion of change in methodology from aerial to underground fibre.

**Allocation of funds to Kerala under the National Broadband Mission**

1290. SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of funds allocated / disbursed so far to the State of Kerala under the National Broadband Mission (NBM);
- (b) the progress of the mission at the national level so far; and

(c) the time by when all the villages of the country will be provided with broadband access under the mission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) The investment envisaged under the National Broadband Mission (NBM), which was launched on 17.12.2019, is around Rs 7 Lakh crore which is to be catalysed largely by the industry out of which contribution by the Government through Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) is envisaged to be around 10%, that is, approximately ₹ 70,000 crore which will cover all the States in the country including the State of Kerala.

(b) Under National Broadband Mission (NBM)-

- (i) A Governing Council for Broadband has been formed under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of Communications to oversee the mission.
- (ii) A Broadband Steering Committee has also been formed under the chairmanship of Secretary (Telecom) to facilitate implementation of mission activities.
- (iii) State Broadband Committee has been formed by 33 States/Union Territories for effective implementation of the mission and proliferation of broadband.

(c) The mission targets to provide broadband access to all villages of the country by 2022.

#### **Revision of tariff structure**

1291. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose revisions to tariff structure for a sustainable growth model for the telecom sector and will it be fast tracked to mitigate the effects of the Adjusted Gross Revenue issue that has impacted telecom operators and also slowed the 5G implementation process; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) As per the extant regulatory framework for tariff, tariffs for telecommunication services are forborne except for: (i) rural fixed line services; (ii) national roaming services; (iii) international private leased circuits and domestic leased circuits; and (iv) mobile number portability charges. Thus, the telecom service providers have complete flexibility to decide various components of tariff including the validity and other terms and conditions of services as per their commercial requirements subject to adherence to broad regulatory principles of transparency, nondiscrimination and non-predation.

#### Telecommunications coverage in Odisha

1292. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) total coverage of telecommunication in Odisha, the extent of the coverage geographically in terms of Panchayats and villages;

(b) the details for those areas which do not have the coverage of telecommunications in Odisha; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to overcome this lack of telecommunication coverage in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) Out of 47,677 inhabited villages (as per Census-2011) in Odisha, 41,578 inhabited villages are covered with mobile connectivity. Out of 6,793 Gram Panchayats (GPs) in Odisha, 5,850 GPs are having mobile connectivity.

(b) Out of 47,677 inhabited villages, there are 6,099 inhabited villages in Odisha with no mobile coverage.

(c) Government has taken the following steps to improve telecommunication coverage in Odisha as per details given below:—

Sl. No.	USOF scheme	No. of Districts in Odisha under the scheme	No. of Towers in Odisha under the scheme
1.	Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Phase-I	21	256
2.	Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Phase-II	5	158
3.	Aspirational District scheme	10	3933

**Final Adjusted Gross Revenue dues of telecom companies**

1293. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether DoT is yet to work out final figures of AGR due towards the service providers due to variation detected in accounting practices;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what immediate steps Government has taken to rework the dues; and
- (d) whether any timeline has been fixed for finally arriving at the dues of the telecom companies after removing the anomalies in accordance with Court mandated formula?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (d) The dues of Telecom companies have been determined by Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 20.07.2020, the details of which are given in the Statement.

***Statement***

*Details of dues of telecom companies as determined in the judgement of the Supreme Court*

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Total Demand of DoT incorporating C&AG and Special Audit as on October 2019 (₹ cr.) (LF+SUC)	Self-Assessment by Licensee pursuant to the Hon'ble SC Judgment (₹ cr.)	Payment Received till 06.03.2020 (₹ cr.)	Balance Due (₹ cr.)
		A	B	C	D
1	2	3	4	5	6

**Operational TSPs party to the litigation**

1.	Bhartiairtel Group	43980.00	13004.00	18,004.00	25976.00
2.	Telenor India Private Limited				

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Bharti Group	43980.00	13004.00	18004.00	
3.	Idea Cellular Ltd.	58254.00	21533 (LF 14453+ SUC 7080)	3,500.00	54,754.00
4.	Vodafone Group of Companies				
	Vodafone Idea	58254.00	21533.00	3500.00	54754.00
5.	Tata Group of Companies	16798.00	2197 (LF 1720 + SUC 477)	4,197.00	12,601.00
6.	Quadrant Televentures Limited	189.91	25.28	0.69	189.22
7.	Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd.	70.53	194.79 (LF148.03+ SUC46.76)	195.18	-
	SUB-TOTAL (1-7)	119292.44	36954.07	25,896.87	93520.22
<b>TSPs under Insolvency</b>					
8.	Aircel Group of Companies	12389.00		-	12389.00
9.	Reliance Communication/ Reliance Telecom Limited	25199.27		3.96	25194.58
10.	Sistema Shyam Teleservices Ltd.		222.1 (LF 166.1+ SUC 56)	0.73	
11.	Videocon Telecommunications Ltd.	1376.00		-	1376.00
	SUB-TOTAL (8-11)	38964.27	-	4.69	38959.58
<b>TSPs which were not party to the litigation</b>					
12.	Loop Telecom Pvt. Ltd.	604.00		-	604.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	Etisalat Db Telecom Private Limited				
14.	S Tel Pvt. Ltd.				
15.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited	5835.85	-	-	5835.85
16.	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited	4352.09		-	4352.09
	SUB-TOTAL (12-16)	10791.94	222.1	0.00	10791.94
	TOTAL	169048.65	37176.17	25901.56	143271.74

*Note:*

1. Total Demands are inclusive of Principal, Interest, Penalty and Interest on Penalty.
2. Total Demands have been calculated generally up to FY 2016-17. On these outstanding amounts, Interest/Penalty/Interest on Penalty is calculated up to October, 2019.
3. All dues are subject to further revisions due to departmental assessments, CAG audits, Special Audits, Court Cases etc.

#### **Increase in revenue collection by DOT during 2020-21**

1294. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of mega spectrum during 2020-21, AGR dues to the telecom companies and license fees from non-telecom PSUs is likely to generate over 150 per cent more revenue than projected in the Budget;

(b) if so, the estimated revenue likely to be generated during 2020-21;

(c) whether Government is considering granting some concessions to non-telco PSUs in clearing the dues towards the licenses acquired from DoT for internal communications; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Revenue expected from Spectrum auction during 2020-21 had initially been projected in the 2020-2021 Budget. Regarding AGR dues, in M.A. (D) No. 9887 of 2020 in Civil Appeal Nos 6328-6399 of 2015 and

others, Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 1.9.2020 has determined the AGR dues owed by the telecom companies, and the methodology of payment of these dues. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed that at the first instance, the respective Telecom Operators shall make the payment of 10% of the total dues as demanded by DoT by 31.3.2021. The estimated revenue likely to be generated during 2020-21 will depend upon the amounts of payments made by the telecom companies.

(c) and (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 11.06.2020 in the AGR matter (Civil Appeal 6328-6399 of 2015) ordered inter alia as follows.

"It is apparent that the licences are different and our judgment in this case could not have been made the basis for raising the demand against public sector undertakings. Even otherwise, the public sector undertakings are not in the actual business of providing mobile services to the general public.

In the circumstances, let the Department of Telecom reconsider the demand that has been sprung, within three days from today, and on the next date of hearing report the compliance of the action taken on the basis of this order."

In accordance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the representations received from non-telecom Public Sector Undertakings which have been duly recommended by their administrative Ministries, have been considered, and DoT has withdrawn demand notices for License Fee on non-telecom revenues of following PSUs namely Powergrid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL), Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL), Oil India Ltd. (OIL), Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC), Education and Research Network.(ERNET), National Informatics Centre Services Inc. (NICSI), Guj Info Petro Ltd. (GIPL) and Software Technology Parks of India (STPI).

**Response of BSNL and MTNL employees under the Voluntary  
Retirement Scheme**

1295. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the response of BSNL and MTNL employees against the Voluntary Retirement Scheme to reduce the staff strength has been positive;
- (b) if so, the details of employees under each Group who have opted for VRS;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any timeline to retire the interested employees and if so the details thereof; and

(d) the details of standby plan formulated to ensure that the working of BSNL and MTNL is not adversely affected after the retirement of employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) has been successfully implemented in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL). A total 92,956 employees (78,569 employees of BSNL and 14,387 employees of MTNL) opted for VRS. Group-wise details of employees opting for VRS in BSNL and MTNL are as under:

PSU	Executive	Non-Executive	Total
BSNL	13305	65264	78569
MTNL	1469	12918	14387

(c) The employees that opted for VRS were retired on 31.01.2020.

(d) The employee cost as a percentage of total income for the FY 2018-19 in BSNL and MTNL was 74.09 % and 87.15 % respectively before VRS and the same ranges from 2.95% to 5.59 % in the case of private Telecom Service Providers (TSPs).

After VRS, the number of employees in BSNL and MTNL are 71,057 and 4,325 respectively. BSNL and MTNL have informed that the existing staff is adequate to maintain the services with outsourcing of certain activities.

#### **Revival of BSNL**

1296. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized the revival package of BSNL after retiring the BSNL and MTNL employees on voluntary basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether BSNL would be equipped enough under the revival package to compete with private players in providing service to the consumers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (d) The voluntary retirement scheme



(VRS) for the employees of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is part of the revival package approved by the Government on 23.10.2019.

The revival plan *inter-alia* includes measures like reduction in employee cost through Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS), administrative allotment of spectrum for 4G services to BSNL/MTNL through capital infusion by the Government, debt restructuring by raising of sovereign guarantee bonds, monetization of assets of BSNL and MTNL to raise resources for retiring debt, CAPEX and other operational requirements and in principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL.

The revival plan is aimed at improving the financial condition of BSNL/MTNL so that they can provide improved services at competitive prices to its subscribers.

1297. *The Question was cancelled.*

#### **Condition of services of BSNL**

1298. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the state-run Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) to test a domestically consolidated end-to-end network for 4G services before selecting a telecom company, to upgrade its network;

(b) if so, whether the services of mobile as well as landline provided by BSNL are not up to the mark; and

(c) if so, the steps that Government has taken/ propose to take to upgrade the telecom services of BSNL and MTNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (c) BSNL has informed that their mobile and landline services are working satisfactorily in their respective Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) and are meeting the Quality of Service (QoS) parameters prescribed by Telecom Regulatory of India (TRAI). The Government approved a revival/plan for BSNL and MTNL on 23.10.2019. The revival plan is aimed at improving the financial condition of BSNL/MTNL and enabling better services at competitive prices to its subscribers. BSNL is in the process of finalising its technical requirements of equipment for providing 4G services in its existing Licensed Service Areas.

**Ftth/ fibre network system by BSNL and MTNL**

1299. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is seriously considering to revive loss making BSNL and MTNL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering to start Fibre To The Home (FTTH)/ Fibre network through MTNL/BSNL in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government approved the revival plan for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) on 23.10.2019. The revival plan inter-alia includes measures like reduction in employee cost through Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS), administrative allotment of spectrum for 4G services to BSNL/MTNL through capital infusion by the Government, debt restructuring by raising of sovereign guarantee bonds, monetization of assets of BSNL and MTNL to raise resources for retiring debt, C APEX and other operational requirements and in-principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL.

(c) and (d) BSNL and MTNL have informed that they are already providing Fibre to the Home (FTTH) services in their respective Licensed Service Areas (LSAs).

**Gender and Divyang issues in NEP**

1300. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is confusion over NEP 2020 statement on gender and other related issues;
- (b) whether there is no mention in NEP, 2020 of Divyang community or socially backward classes, if so, the measures by which higher education will cater to the needs of these segments; and
- (c) whether the NEP 2020 envisions more privatization of higher education, if so, the details of the funding of affiliated colleges that will be asked to be autonomous?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) No Sir.

(b) No Sir. National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) clearly mentions Divyang and Socially & Economically Disadvantaged Groups at Chapters 6 and 14. NEP stresses on increasing access for Divyang students and envisages that there is an urgent need for additional special educators for certain areas of school education, such as for subject teaching for children with disabilities/Divyang children at the Middle and Secondary school level, including teaching for specific learning disabilities. The Policy also recognizes the importance of creating enabling mechanisms for providing Children With Special Needs (CWSN) or Divyang, the same opportunities of obtaining quality education as any other child. A rich variety of educational software, for all the above purposes, is to be developed and made available for Divyang students in all major Indian languages. The Policy envisions ensuring equitable access to quality education to all students, with a special emphasis on Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) by earmarking suitable Government funds for the education of SEDGs, setting clear targets for higher GER for SEDGs, enhancing gender balance in admissions to HEIs, providing more financial assistance and scholarships to SEDGs in both public and private HEIs, conducting outreach programmes on higher education opportunities and scholarships among SEDGs etc.

(c) No Sir. NEP 2020 clearly mentions that commercialization will be curbed.

**Closure of schools and students affected due to COVID-19 pandemic**

1301. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) details of assessment made to find out the number of children impacted due to closure of schools in view of COVID-19 pandemic;

(b) whether it is a fact that some States are also closing Government schools in the name of rationalization;

(c) if so, the details of Government schools that have been closed down in the country during the last two years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise; and

(d) in what manner the Ministry will ensure that online classes can reach every student of the country?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) During COVID-19 Pandemic, Ministry of Education has held several consultations with the states and UTs at various levels and taken many initiatives to ensure that the school going students don't lag behind in their studies during COVID-19 pandemic. Further, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has conducted a survey in the month of July, 2020 with the help of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to understand the scenario of Online Learning of school students in COVID-19 pandemic situation.

(b) and (c) Education being in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective State and UT Governments. The opening and closing of schools are within the purview of State Governments and UT Administrations. No such data is maintained centrally.

(d) A multi-pronged approach has been adopted leveraging technology to reach the students. Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA), Study Webs of Active-learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), SWAYAM PRABHA, MANODARPAN for psychological support, PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education, e-textbooks etc. are used by schools, colleges and universities to provide learning facilities. Where the internet facility is not available, SWAYAM PRABHA is being used to impart education through TV. Community Radio Stations and a podcast called Shiksha Vani of CBSE is also effectively used in remote areas where online classes are difficult. In addition, the Ministry has also issued the guidelines dated 13th July, 2020 for continuing education of children of migrant labourers to prevent loss of learning or academic year. To address the issues related to gaps and/or loss of learning among students, during and after the lockdown, NCERT has prepared 'Alternative Academic Calendar' and 'Students' Learning Enhancement Guidelines' with a focus on learning outcome. The guidelines suggest models for the following three types of scenarios:-

- (i) Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students without digital devices.
- (ii) Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students with limited accessibility to digital devices.
- (iii) Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students with digital devices.

**Permission to universities to start online courses**

1302. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) details of each of the 230 universities that are going to be permitted to start online degree courses;
- (b) the criteria being adopted by UGC to pursue such degrees online;
- (c) ways in which UGC will ensure infrastructure, student-faculty ratio, etc.; and
- (d) details of fee structure which universities offering online courses are going to charge from students?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) The criteria set by the UGC for conducting online education under the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programs and Online Programs) Regulations 2020 issued on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 are as follows:-

1. Universities with NAAC score of 3.26 or above can offer online education without prior approval of UGC. Similarly, universities which were in the top 100 rank under NIRF rankings (at least two years in the last three years cycle) can also offer online education without prior approval of UGC.
2. Universities with NAAC from 3.01 to 3.25 can offer online education with the prior approval of UGC. Similarly, Universities that were in top 100 ranks in the NIRF ranking (in at least 1 year during the last 2 years cycle) can also offer online education with prior approval of UGC.
3. It should be known that for offering online education, university is required to have education system in place such as availability of course material, Learning Management System (LMS) etc. Therefore, 230 universities have not been selected for offering online education. Presently, 7 Universities are offering online education.

(c) It is mentioned in the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning Programs and Online Programs) Regulations 2020 (available at <https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/221580.pdf>) that for every programme there will be a Program Coordinator in the rank of Assistant Professor or above. There will be a Course

Coordinator for each course whose responsibility will be to create, conduct and evaluate the reading material. In addition, infrastructure related requirements are also mentioned in UGC Regulations, 2020.

(d) In order to enable the students of disadvantaged sections of the society to take advantage of the online education system, it is mentioned in this regulation that the fee structure should be devised in such a manner so that the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Economically Weaker Sections and Other Backward Classes can also take advantage of online education.

**Equipping teachers with resources for online classes**

1303. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of school students in the country who do not have access to any form of online learning or e-learning;

(b) the State and UT-wise breakup of the same;

(c) measures taken to ensure seamless continuation of learning for students who lack such access;

(d) details of measures taken to equip teachers with appropriate resources to continue conducting classes during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(e) frameworks, if any, for the safe reopening of schools and universities and contingency plans for prolonged e-learning in case of extended closure of schools and universities?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) Online classes are being conducted at the schools by employing various digital tools. Various efforts have been made for the creation of digital infrastructure which would not only be helpful in the current circumstances but would also be valuable asset for online learning in future in the form of DIKSHA portal (<https://diksha.gov.in/>), SWAYAM Portal ([swayam.gov.in](https://swayam.gov.in/)), SWAYAM Prabha, DD Channel, e-Pathshala (<https://epathshala.nic.in/>), NROER (National Repository of Open Educational Resources) portal (<https://nroer.gov.in/welcome>), radio, community radio and CBSE podcasts etc. The medium of TV. radio has been used for the students who do not have digital means.

The steps taken by all the states are shown in this report - India Report Digital Education June 2020 [https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/India\\_Report\\_Digital\\_Education\\_0.pdf](https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf)

In order to enable online education benefit to the children of every category and teachers, Learning Enhancement Guidelines have been issued.

[https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/Learning\\_Enhancement\\_0.pdf](https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Learning_Enhancement_0.pdf)

The Learning Enhancement Guidelines have been released on 19 August 2020 during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic. These have been prepared on the basis of the recommendations and reports of States/UTs which are as following:

- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students without digital devices.
- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students with limited access to digital devices.
- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students with digital devices.

(e) The process of opening of the educational institutions after COVID-19 will be done according to the instructions from Home Ministry.

**Lack of nutrition during lockdown for children consuming mid-day meal**

†1304. SHRIMATI SAMPATIYA UIKEY:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether children could not get food under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme due to lockdown, thereby impacting the physical development of children who are dependent on it;

(b) the steps taken during lockdown to ensure the nutrition of children consuming mid-day meal;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether such families have been identified during lockdown whose children used to study in schools and used to get food and whether they were provided additional foodgrains for nourishment of children; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (d) Mid-Day Meal is the entitlement of children studying in class I to VIII in Government and aided schools, guaranteed under the National Food Security Act, 2013 and extent per child per day norms of hot cooked meal under MDMS are as under:

Stage	Foodgrain	Cooking Cost	
		Amount	Items
Primary	100 gms	₹ 4.97	20 gms pulse, 50 gms vegetables, 5 gm oil other condiments and fuel.
Upper Primary	150 gms	₹ 7.45	30 gms pulse, 75 gms vegetables, 7.5 gm oil other condiments and fuel.

Since, it is not possible to provide hot cooked meal under the prevailing circumstances (COVID-19), State Government and UT Administrations were advised to provide Food Security Allowance (FSA) comprising of foodgrains, pulses, oil etc (equivalent to cooking cost) to all eligible children till such time their schools are closed due to aforesaid pandemic. The modalities for this purpose may be decided by the respective States and UTs, suitable to the prevailing circumstances. States and UTs were further advised that all the precautionary measures to face the situation arising out of COVID-19 should be followed.

#### **Role of SSSA and SCERT in NEP**

1305. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the State Council of Education Research and Training (SCERT) can add 'local flavor' in the proposed National Curriculum set by the NCERT and whether the SCERT additions will be an addition to NCERT curriculum or a subsidiary thereof;

(b) whether the powers bestowed upon State School Standards Authority (SSSA) are strictly that of monitoring and if not, what are the interventions SSSAs can make; and



(c) whether a proposed plan to ensure State autonomy in education exists, with the dilution of State Department of School Education in the NEP, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 provides that States will prepare their own curricula, based on the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE) prepared by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), to the extent possible and prepare textbooks based on the NCERT textbook materials to the extent possible, incorporating State flavour and material as needed. The Policy further provides that while doing so, it must be borne in mind that NCERT curriculum would be taken as the nationally acceptable criterion.

(b) and (c) The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 provides that the Department of School Education, which is the apex state level body in school education, will be responsible for overall monitoring and policy- making for continual improvement of the public education system. There is no dilution of State Department of School Education in the NEP 2020. Academic matters, including academic standards and curricula in the State will be led by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), (which is under State Department of School Education), with close consultation and collaboration with the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). To ensure that all schools follow certain minimal professional and quality standards, States/ Union Territories (UTs) will set up an independent, State-wide, body called the State School Standards Authority (SSSA). The SSSA will establish a minimal set of standards based on basic parameters namely, safety, security, basic infrastructure, number of teachers across subjects and grades, financial probity, and sound processes of governance, which shall be followed by all schools.

#### **Status of online classes in Kendriya Vidyalayas**

1306. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the students enrolled in Kendriya Vidyalayas have been availing online classes and the percentage of schools taking online classes;

(b) if so, the percentage of students attending such classes and whether notes are being made available to those who are unable to attend such classes; and

(c) if not, the plans in place to recover the academic time lost to students enrolled in Kendriya Vidyalayas?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. All Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) across the country are conducting online classes. In order to reach out to students who have limited /no access to online learning, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has taken various measures such as preparing and delivering worksheets and handouts to the students at their homes, making available content material on pen drives, sending Questions and Answers through SMS, besides guided peer learning for students staying in the same locality etc. Community teaching maintaining social distancing is also undertaken.

(c) KVS is making constant efforts to connect with all its students. There is also a Compensation of Academic Loss Programme (CALP) in all the KVs where extra classes are organized for the benefit of students who have missed out on their classes, due to various reasons.

#### **MoUs with foreign HEIs under NEP**

1307. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether MoUs with foreign Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) will be signed after per-mission of State Government where they wish to set up their institute;

(b) the formal procedure that has been arrived at for the balance of power (for regulation) between Centre and State, when a foreign HEI is established; and

(c) if not, whether such a procedure is to be expected and by when?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) Recently announced National Education Policy, 2020 contains provisions, *inter alia*, for

(i) facilitation of research/teaching collaborations and faculty/student exchanges with high quality foreign institutions and signing of relevant mutually beneficial MOUs with foreign countries;

(ii) encouraging High Performing Indian universities to set up campuses in other countries;

(iii) facilitating selected universities e.g. those among the top 100 universities in the world to operate in India; and,

- (iv) giving special dispensation to such universities regarding regulatory, governance, and content norms on par with other autonomous institution of India.

(b) and (c) Implementation of the Policy requires multiple initiatives and actions including necessary legislative framework, and it will be led by various bodies including Ministry of Education, Central Advisory Board of Education, Union and State Governments, education related Ministries, the regulatory bodies, and Higher Education Institutes (HEIs), in order to ensure that the policy is implemented in its spirit and intent, through coherence in planning and synergy across all these bodies involved in education.

#### **Concerns due to shutdown of educational institutes**

1308. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether with extension of shutdown of educational institutions till the end of September, 2020, the academic session 2020-21 has lost nearly 6 months;
- (b) if so, plans by the Ministry to manage completion of syllabus within the available few months;
- (c) whether online classes are also only for 2-3 hours and very limited subjects can be taught in these hours and there are no practicals for students which hampers science students; and
- (d) whether the Ministry will consider starting, at least higher classes to begin with and subsequently the other classes?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) To address the issues related to gaps and/or loss of learning among students, during and after the lockdown, NCERT has prepared 'Alternative Academic Calendar' and 'Students' Learning Enhancement Guidelines' with a focus on learning outcome. The guidelines suggest models for the following three types of scenarios:-

- I. Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students without digital devices.
- II. Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students with limited accessibility to digital devices.
- III. Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students with digital devices.

It consists of interesting activities and challenges related to topics/theme in the syllabus. Students interact with teachers, develop projects and record their work. Teachers record the conduct of Practical work and share it with Students online. Schools are also exploring the possibilities of conducting virtual experiments with the help of O labs, Amrita virtual Labs and other similar platforms.

Further, for Rationalisation of Syllabus for Summative Examinations, CBSE has reduced the syllabi only for the purpose of examinations to the extent of thirty percent. This has been done in view of change in the mode of conduct of classroom transaction which is new both for parents and teachers.

A multi-pronged approach has been adopted leveraging technology to reach the students. Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA), Study Webs of Active-learning for Young Aspiring Minds(SWAYAM), SWAYAM PRABHA, MANODARPAN for psychological support, PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education, e-textbooks etc. are used by schools, colleges and universities to provide learning facilities. Where the internet facility is not available, SWAYAM PRABHA is being used to impart education through TV. Community Radio Stations and a podcast called Shiksha Vani of CBSE is also effectively used in remote areas where online classes are difficult. In addition, the Ministry has also issued the guidelines dated 13th July, 2020 for continuing education of children of migrant labourers to prevent loss of learning or academic year.

(d) Ministry of Home affairs(MHA) vide order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 29th August, 2020 has issued guidelines on unlock 4 which provides that in areas outside the containment zones, schools, colleges, educational and coaching institutions will continue to remain closed for students and regular class activity up to 30th September 2020. However, following is permitted.

- (i) Online/distance learning shall continue to be permitted and shall be encouraged.
- (ii) States/UTs may permit upto 50% of teaching and non-teaching staff to be called to the schools at a time for online teaching/tele counselling and related work, in areas outside the Containment Zones only, with effect from 21st September, 2020.
- (iii) Students of classes 9 to 12 may be permitted to visit their schools, in areas outside the Containment Zones only, on voluntary basis, for taking guidance

from their teachers. This will be subject to written consent of their parents/guardians and will be permitted with effect from 21st September 2020. The MHA guidelines on unlock 4 have been shared with Education Department in States and UTs.

**Extension of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan**

1309. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) was completed in March, 2020;
- (b) whether Ministry feels that there is a need to extend this scheme further;
- (c) if so, whether any proposal has been sent by the Ministry to the Ministry of Finance for further continuation of the scheme;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether RUSA is extended till 15th Finance Commission submits its report, which is a very short time and there are demands to extend this till the award period of 15th Finance Commission; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) The second phase of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) was approved by the Cabinet Committee for Economic Affairs for a period of three years *i.e.* 1st April, 2017 to 31st March, 2020.

(b) to (f) The Ministry of Finance vide their O.M. no. 42(02)/PF-II/2014 dated 10th January, 2020 has given an interim extension of the schemes beyond 31st March, 2020 till 31st March, 2021 or till the date the recommendations of 15th Finance Commission come into effect, whichever is earlier. Further, according to this O.M., the approval for continuation of the scheme for the 15th Finance Commission cycle would be based on an evaluation report and outcome review.

**Vacancy of reserved seats in schools under RTE Act, 2009**

1310. SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of seats provided in each State under section 12(1) (c) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 which guarantees that private schools shall admit 25 per cent of children belonging to weaker and disadvantaged communities and provide free and compulsory education;

(b) the number of seats lying vacant in the current year, if any, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to ensure all such seats are filled?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, mandates the appropriate Government to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age 6 to 14 years in a neighbourhood school. Section 12(1)(c) of RTE Act, 2009 provides for admission of children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the schools specified in sub-clauses (iii) and (iv) of clause (n) of section 2 in Class I (or below) to the extent of at least 25 percent of the strength of that class.

For implementation of Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act, the respective State and UT Government which is the appropriate government under the RTE Act, is required to notify the disadvantaged groups and weaker sections, notify per child cost and start admissions in private un-aided schools as per the laid down procedure.

The Central Government is supporting States and UTs for reimbursement of expenditure incurred towards payment made to private schools for admission of children under Section 12(1)(c) from 2014-15. Ministry of Education vide letter no 12-5/2016-EE. 11 dated 25.05.2016 and D.O. letter No. 12-12/2018-IS-5 dated 13.11.2018 has requested States/UTs to carry out a ground assessment of private unaided schools across the country to ensure compliance with the provisions of Section 12 of the RTE Act, 2009. Further, Ministry of Education, in various meetings like State Education Secretaries Conference, Regional/State workshops, Project Approval Board Meetings, has been advising/ guiding State/ UT Governments on implementation of Section 12 of the RTE Act, 2009.

**Impact of COVID-19 on education**

1311. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has noticed any impact of COVID-19 on education at each course from primary to secondary and other higher level courses and its impact on the students; and

(b) if so, the details thereof course-wise and steps being taken to help students at each level with regard to reduction of fee, syllabus, teaching hours, etc?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) The Ministry through National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has conducted a survey in the month of July, 2020 with the help of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to understand the scenario of Online Learning of school students in COVID-19 pandemic situation. With a view to addressing the issues related to gaps and/or loss of learning among students, during and after the lockdown, NCERT has prepared 'Alternative Academic Calendar' and 'Students' Learning Enhancement Guidelines' with a focus on learning outcome. The guidelines suggest models for the following three types of scenarios:-

- I. Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students without digital devices.
- II. Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students with limited accessibility to digital devices.
- III. Learning Enhancement during COVID-19 for students with digital devices.

The details of the survey and findings are given in Chapter - 3 of the Learning Enhancement guidelines, which may be accessed at the following links:

1. [https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/Learning\\_Enhancement\\_0.pdf](https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Learning_Enhancement_0.pdf)
2. [https://seshagun.gov.in/sites/default/files/update/Learning\\_Enhancement.pdf](https://seshagun.gov.in/sites/default/files/update/Learning_Enhancement.pdf)
3. [https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/Learning\\_%20Enhancement\\_Guidelines.pdf](https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/announcement/Learning_%20Enhancement_Guidelines.pdf)

A multi-pronged approach has been adopted leveraging technology to reach the students. Digital Infrastructure for Knowledge Sharing (DIKSHA), Study Webs of Active-learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM), SWAYAM PRABHA, MANODARPAN for psychological support, PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education, e-textbooks etc. are used by schools, colleges and universities to provide learning facilities. Where the internet facility is not available, SWAYAM PRABHA is being used to impart education through TV. Community Radio Stations and a podcast called Shiksha Vani of CBSE is also effectively used in remote areas where online classes are difficult.

The Ministry has also issued the guidelines dated 13th July, 2020 for continuing education of children of migrant labourers to prevent loss of learning or academic year. Further, for Rationalisation of Syllabus for Summative Examinations, CBSE has reduced the syllabi only for the purpose of examinations to the extent of thirty percent. This has been done in view of change in the mode of conduct of classroom transaction which is new both for parents and teachers.

#### **Inclusive and equitable features of the NEP**

1312. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved/ implemented the new National Education Policy (NEP) with the Sustainable Development Goal of ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education for all in the next twenty years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and targets set/ achieved so far, State-wise; and

(c) whether the States have accepted/ rejected the new policies, including three-language formula?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) Ministry of Education has announced the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) on 29.07.2020 after obtaining approval of Cabinet which is available at Ministry of Education's website at [https://www.mhid.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/NEP\\_English\\_0.pdf](https://www.mhid.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_English_0.pdf). NEP 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century and aims to address the many growing developmental imperatives of our country. This Policy proposes the revision and revamping of all aspects of the education structure, including its regulation and governance, to create a new system that is aligned with the aspirational



goals of 21st century education, including Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 of ensuring free, equitable, and quality primary and secondary education for all children, while building upon India's traditions and value systems.

(c) The NEP 2020 has been finalised after detailed consultation process with all stakeholders including State/UT Governments. This Ministry has communicated to all States/UT Governments for implementation of NEP 2020 in letter and spirit. Ministry of Education is also organising 'Shikshak Parv' from 8th September to 25th September, 2020 to deliberate on various themes and implementation of NEP 2020 aimed at eliciting suggestions. Ministry has also organised a Conference of Governors on "Role of National Education Policy in Transforming Higher Education". In the conference, Governors and Lt. Governors of State and Union Territories, Education Minister of State and UTs, Vice Chancellors of State Universities and other dignitaries participated. There has been wide publicity with a positive and overwhelming response from stakeholders on NEP 2020.

#### **MANODARPAN initiative to improve mental health**

1313. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government rolled out a mental health initiative named MANODARPAN keeping in mind the stress faced by students and their families especially during the COVID-19 pandemic with the platform including a national toll free helpline for students of schools, universities and colleges, manned by a pool of experienced counsellors, psychologists and mental health professionals for help during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis and beyond; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and implementation status thereof and if not, by when such helpline will be set up to help students?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) The Ministry of Education has undertaken an initiative, named, 'Manodarpan', covering a wide range of activities to provide psychosocial support to students, teachers and families for Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing during the COVID outbreak and beyond. A Working Group, having experts from the fields of education, mental health and psychosocial issues as its members, has been set up to monitor and

promote the mental health issues and concerns of students and to facilitate providing of support to address the mental health and psychosocial aspects during and after COVID-19 lockdown, through counselling services, online resources and helpline.

The following components are included in the 'Manodarpan' initiative:—

- (a) Advisory Guidelines for students, teachers and faculty of School systems and Universities along with families.
- (b) Web page on the MHRD website carrying advisory, practical tips, posters, videos, do's and don'ts for psychosocial support. FAQs and online query system.
- (c) National level database and directory of counsellors at School and University levels.
- (d) National Toll-free Helpline for a country wide outreach to students from school, universities and colleges.
- (e) Handbook on Psychosocial Support: Enriching Life skills & Wellbeing of Students'
- (f) Interactive Online Chat Platform for contact, counselling and guidance by psychologists and other mental health professionals for students, teachers, and families during COVID-19 and beyond.
- (g) Webinars, audio-visual resources including videos, posters, flyers, comics, and short films with focus on convergence of resources from other Ministries/ Departments on physical and creative well-being which are essential parts of Mental well-being.

The web-page (*URL: <http://manodarpan.mhrd.gov.in>*), containing advisory, practical tips, posters, videos, do's and don'ts, FAQs, online query system and other resources for psychosocial support and the National Toll-free Helpline (8448440632) set up for a country-wide outreach to students from schools, colleges and universities to provide them tele-counselling to address their mental health and psychosocial issues during and after the COVID-19 situation have been launched on the 21st July, 2020.

**Online education and threat of its commercialization**

1314. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) in view of the lockdown due to outbreak of COVID-19, whether Government has suggested any alternative to the school authorities to compensate the teaching hours;

(b) if digital learning is the way out, how will children in rural areas have access, since internet reach is only 60 per cent;

(c) whether Ministry is bringing out any scheme/programme to provide access at the village level for children; and

(d) in view of commercialization of online education by some private companies, whether Ministry has brought out any online education software for the school children, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) NCERT has developed an Alternative Academic Calendar for all the stages of school education. In this calendar the themes/topics have been selected from syllabus and are linked with the learning outcomes. Guidelines have been developed for conducting interesting activities based on these learning outcomes.

(b) and (c) In order to enable online education benefit to the children of every category and teachers, Learning Enhancement Guidelines have been issued. [https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/Learning\\_Enhancement\\_0.pdf](https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Learning_Enhancement_0.pdf)

The Learning Enhancement Guidelines has been released on 19 August, 2020 during the challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic. These have been prepared on the basis of the recommendations and reports of States/UTs which are as following:

- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students without digital devices.
- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students with limited access to digital devices.
- Learning enhancement during COVID-19 for students with digital devices.

(d) Online classes are being conducted at the schools by employing various digital tools. Various efforts have been made for the creation of digital infrastructure which would not only be helpful in the current circumstances but would also be valuable asset for online learning in future in the form of DIKSHA portal (<https://diksha.gov.in/>), SWAYAM Portal ([swayam.gov.in](https://swayam.gov.in/)), SWAYAM Prabha, DD Channel, e-Pathshala (<https://epathshala.nic.in/>), NROER (National Repository of Open Educational Resources) portal (<https://nroer.gov.in/welcome>), radio, community radio and CBSE podcasts etc. The medium of TV, radio has been used for the students who do not have digital means.

The steps taken by all the states are shown in this report - India Report Digital Education June, 2020

[https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/India\\_Report\\_Digital\\_Education\\_0.pdf](https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf)

#### **Graduation of students in various streams**

1315. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of students who successfully graduated in the years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20;
- (b) their percentage with respect to all eligible students in the country;
- (c) the number of rural and urban students graduated in the above period, year-wise;
- (d) number of students who graduated in medical and engineering courses in the above mentioned period, year-wise; and
- (e) ratio of male and female students who graduated in medical and engineering courses in the above period year-wise and stream-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) As per All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE), the number of students who successfully graduated (at all levels of higher education) and the percentage of successfully graduated students in the years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 are as per the below table:—

Years	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Number of students Graduated	88,49,357	89,53,086	89,68,546	90,91,898
The percentage of students graduated	75.0	74.4	74.2	75.1

(c) The information in respect to the categorization of the number of rural and urban students graduated is not being maintained under the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE).

(d) As per All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE), the number of students who graduated in medical and engineering courses in the above mentioned period, year-wise are as per the below table:—

Years	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Number of students graduated in Medical	2,25,038	2,30,056	2,48,176	2,53,753
Number of students graduated in Engineering	9,66,409	10,03,548	9,63,288	9,12,789

(e) As per All India Survey on Higher education, the ratios of male and female students graduated in medical and engineering courses in the above period year-wise and stream-wise are as per following table:—

Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
The ratio of male and female students graduated in Medical	0.89	0.90	0.86	0.91
The ratio of male and female students graduated in Engineering	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.89

#### Indian Journals for NIRF ranking

1316. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the Research Journal classification used in research component of National Institutional Renking Framework (NIRF) ranking for management institutions;

(b) the number of Indian Journals listed in these classifications, category-wise (A\*, A, B, C);

(c) the number of Indian researchers from Indian institutes and universities who have been published in A\* and A category Journals; and

(d) the plans by the Ministry to encourage researchers to publish in Indian Journals so that the Indian Journals get higher classification leading to valuable IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) for the country?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK') :

(a) to (d) the NIRF does not use any classification of journals for rankings of management Institutions. All articles published in management discipline and indexed in Web of Science and Scopus are considered for ranking of management institutions. In addition, articles published in FT 50 journals are also given additional weightage. Classes A\*, A, B, C are rated by the Australian Business Deans Council, in which the journals of various research institutes of the world are divided into four categories. As per the list published by ABDC Business perspective and Research the names of Indian journals which have been categorized are Indian Economic Journal, Indian Economic Review, Indian Development and Development Review, Indian Journal of Corporate Governance, Indian Journal of Economics, Indian Journal of Finance, Indian Journal of Finance and Banking, Indian Journal of Gender Studies, Indian Journal of Industrial Relation, Indian Journal of Labor Economics, Indian Journal of Marketing.

#### **Support to mid-day meal workers**

1317. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) steps taken by Government to support the mid-day meal workers in the country especially in the State of Karnataka who are hit hard by the pandemic;

(b) whether Government has any plans to bring new schemes to address the mid-day meal worker's distress arising out of the pandemic;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (d) Under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS), Cook-Cum-Helpers (CCHs) are engaged for preparing and serving mid-day meals at schools. They are honorary workers who have come forward for rendering social services. In recognition of their services, the CCHs are paid ₹1000 per month as honorarium for 10 months in a year.

Honorarium is also provided to CCHs for preparing and serving mid-day meals in elementary schools during summer vacation in drought affected areas notified by the concerned State Governments. The honorarium expenditure is shared between the Central Government and States/UTs as per the approved sharing pattern. Some State Governments and UT Administrations also supplement the honorarium by providing additional funds from their own resources.

### **Discriminatory practices in Mid-Day Meal Scheme**

1318. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the discriminatory practices that occur in the Mid-Day Meal Scheme against people of certain castes including both children and cooks;

(b) whether Government has conducted any study to assess such discriminatory practices occurring in the Mid-Day Meal Scheme against people of certain castes; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to address such discriminatory practices taking place in the Mid-Day Meal scheme against people of certain castes?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (c) The objectives of the Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) are Improving the nutritional status of children studying in classes I - VIII in Government and Government-aided schools, Special Training Centers (STCs) and madrasas & maqtabas supported under Samagra Shiksha and encouraging poor children, belonging to disadvantaged sections, to attend school more regularly and help them concentrate on classroom activities. Under the scheme children learn to sit together and share a common meal, therefore one can expect some erosion of caste prejudices and class inequality.

As per MDM Guidelines, while determining suitability of voluntary organizations for supply of cooked mid-day meal, it is to be ensured by the States/UTs that the voluntary agencies should not discriminate in any manner on the basis of religion, caste and creed.

In recent past, one complaint was received regarding mid-day meal being given to Dalit tribal children in the hands in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh during the year 2019. As the overall responsibility for providing cooked and nutritious mid-day meal to the

eligible children lies with State Governments/UTs Administrations, the complaint was referred to the concerned State Government for taking necessary action. The State Government, after conducting an enquiry, reported that the report published in the newspaper that mid-day meal was being given to Dalit tribal children in the hands is baseless.

**Provision of multi disciplinary study options in rural areas under NEP**

1319. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) in what manner does the NEP, 2020 envisage to provide multidisciplinary study options in rural schools where the student-teacher ratio is too high; and

(b) in what manner does the policy aim to equip Anganwadi Workers to deliver quality Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) when they are already overburdened with numerous public health and nutrition duties under the current regime?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) On the issues of multidisciplinary options, the National Education Policy, 2020 has stated that teacher preparation will also be done in integrated and multidisciplinary manner. The policy also states that to ensure an adequate number of teachers across subjects - particularly in subjects such as art, physical education, vocational education, and languages - teachers could be recruited to a school or school complex and the sharing of teachers across schools could be considered in accordance with the grouping-of-schools adopted by State/Union Territory Governments.

(b) The National Education Policy, 2020 provides that to prepare an initial cadre of high-quality Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) teachers in Anganwadis, current Anganwadi workers/teachers will be trained through a systematic effort in accordance with the curricular/pedagogical framework developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). Anganwadi workers/teachers with qualifications of 10+2 and above shall be given a 6-month certificate programme in ECCE; and those with lower educational qualifications shall be given a one-year diploma programme covering early literacy, numeracy, and other relevant aspects of ECCE. These programmes may be run through digital/distance mode using DTH channels as well as smartphones, allowing teachers, to acquire ECCE qualifications with minimal disruption to their current work. The ECCE training of Anganwadi workers/teachers will



be mentored by the Cluster Resource Centres of the School Education Department which shall hold at least one monthly contact class for continuous assessment.

1320. *The Question was cancelled.*

1321. *The Question was cancelled.*

**Students in public and private universities/colleges**

1322. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of public universities in the country at present and the number of students enrolled in them;
- (b) the total number of private universities/colleges in the country at present and the number of students enrolled in them;
- (c) the total number of students belonging to reserved categories that attend public universities / colleges; and
- (d) safeguards that exist in the NEP which ensures that students from marginalised, disadvantaged and under represented groups are able to access higher education?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) As per all India survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2018-19, the total number of Public Universities (Central university, Central Open University, Institute of National Importance, State Public University, Institute under State legislature act, State Open University, Deemed University- Government, Deemed University-Government Aided) in the country at present are 608 and at present the total number of Universities in the country are 1043. The number of students enrolled in the Public Universities are 56,32,776.

(b) As per all India survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2018-19, the total number of Private Universities (State Private University, State Private Open University and Deemed University-Private) are 385 and total number of Private colleges are 29,689 in the country at present and the number of students enrolled in them are 18,54,019 and 1,75,76,507 respectively.

(c) As per all India survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2018-19, the total number of students belonging to reserved categories (SC, ST, OBC and Persons with

Disability (PWD)) that attended private universities is 26,87,363 and the total number of students belonging to the reserved categories in affiliated and constituents colleges (both public and private colleges) of public universities are 1,58,31,141.

(d) The Policy envisions ensuring equitable access to quality education to all students, with a special emphasis on Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) by earmarking suitable Government funds for the education of SEDGs, setting clear targets for higher Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) for SEDGs, enhancing gender balance in admissions to HEIs, providing more financial assistance and scholarships to SEDGs in both public and private HEIs, conducting outreach programmes on higher education opportunities and scholarships among SEDGs etc.

1323. *The Question was cancelled.*

#### **Assistance to States/UTs under Mid-Day Meal Scheme**

1324. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise details of assistance provided to various States/UTs by Government under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme during the past three years;

(b) the criteria adopted for determining the Central assistance under the scheme and whether the said criteria is uniform for all the States/UTs; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the monitoring mechanism adopted by Government to ensure funds utilisation as well as implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) The State and UT-wise details of assistance provided under Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) during the last 3 years are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The sharing pattern of funds released under the scheme is as given below:—

States/UTs	Sharing Pattern between Centre and States/UTs
North Eastern Region (NER) States, Himalayan States of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and UT of Jammu and Kashmir	90:10
UTs without Legislature	100% Central Assistance
UTs with Legislature & other States	60:40

The Government has adopted an elaborate monitoring mechanism at Central, State and District levels to ensure funds utilization as well as implementation of the Scheme. At national level, an Empowered Committee, headed by Minister of Education and also a National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) as well as Programme Approval Board (PAB) monitor the scheme and suggest measures for its smooth and effective implementation.

At the State level, a State level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee headed by the State Chief Secretary and, at the District Level, a District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of the senior-most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha from the district monitors the implementation of the scheme.

At local level Gram Panchayats/Gram Sabhas, members of Village Education Committees (VECs), Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) and the School Management Committees (SMCs) monitor the regularity and wholesomeness of the mid-day meal served to children, cleanliness in cooking and serving of the meal, timeliness in procurement of good quality ingredients, fuel, etc., implementation of variety in menu so as to make it attractive to children and ensuring social and gender equity on daily basis. In addition to directing States and UTs to carry out Social Audit, the Centre constitutes Joint Review Missions (JRM)s to review the scheme through field visits from time to time.

#### *Statement*

*Central Assistance provided during last 3 years under Mid-Day Meal Scheme*

		(₹ in lakhs)		
Sl. No.	State/UT	Central Assistance Allocated/ Released 2017-18	Central Assistance Allocated/ Released 2018-19	Central Assistance Allocated/ Released 2019-20
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25713.85	25748.17	28563.77
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2551.75	2506.03	2367.90
3.	Assam	52903.47	51982.21	55325.82

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	97871.58	112448.94	109313.34
5.	Chhattisgarh	27683.33	32085.98	25489.23
6.	Goa	1230.93	1309.07	1276.05
7.	Gujarat	40429.86	42351.63	39287.11
8.	Haryana	9953.83	13218.95	10889.91
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8684.1	8021.30	7557.54
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	6328.69	10665.80	2666.45
11.	Jharkhand	30332.59	33242.99	32310.90
12.	Karnataka	44788.57	40707.67	52056.79
13.	Kerala	32978.36	19856.63	19962.41
14.	Madhya Pradesh	58098.87	56191.95	50407.62
15.	Maharashtra	80310.7	98185.46	99468.82
16.	Manipur	2479.76	2050.81	2192.30
17.	Meghalaya	6486.73	7734.39	7835.83
18.	Mizoram	2018.32	1889.23	2047.93
19.	Nagaland	1776.42	2861.95	2279.38
20.	Odisha	41927.41	39556.93	40358.68
21.	Punjab	14330.59	15249.99	13855.77
22.	Rajasthan	41107.05	42043.30	47252.76
23.	Sikkim	881.12	881.15	817.45
24..	Tamil Nadu	42506.34	42054.58	43121.49
25.	Telangana	15494.76	15757.34	18821.14
26.	Tripura	5119.04	5339.03	5598.51
27.	Uttarakhand	9714.2	9478.27	10273.31
28.	Uttar Pradesh	100475.08	112771.60	118201.96

1	2	3	4	5
29.	West Bengal	97146.3	91710.01	107102.66
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	388.65	584.78	754.85
31.	Chandigarh	669.35	1062.83	884.26
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	538.44	933.22	572.89
33.	Daman and Diu	332.16	304.07	258.31
34.	Delhi	5294.99	9808.38	10319.99
35.	Lakshadweep	118.41	124.63	98.93
36.	Ladakh			122.35
37.	Puducherry	402.48	515.51	290.01
	TOTAL	909068	951235	970004

**Appointment and promotion of SCs/STs and OBCs in  
Central University, Kalaburgi**

1325. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central University of Karnataka in Kalaburagi has maintained and implemented a roster system for SCs/STs/OBCs and other sections which are entitled for their appointment/promotion, etc.;

(b) whether there is any backlog vacancy to be filled up both for regular appointments and also for promotions in Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi;

(c) details of action taken by the Central University of Karnataka Kalaburagi in this regard;

(d) total number of teaching and non-teaching staff, department-wise, working in Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi; and

(e) whether the Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi is having required staff for smooth running of the university, if not, the measures taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central University of Karnataka has informed that there is backlog vacancy in regular appointments only. As of now, there is no backlog vacancy for promotions. The vacant posts notified in May, 2019 and September, 2019.

(d) Details of teaching and non teaching staff, Department-wise and group-wise respectively are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(e) The University has notified teaching and non teaching positions in May, 2019 and September, 2019. Due to completion of tenure of regular Vice Chancellor on 19.4.2020, the appointment process to these positions is pending.

***Statement***

*Details of Teaching staff, Department-wise, working in Central  
University of Karnataka*

Sl. No.	Department	Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Economic Studies and Planning	1		5
2.	History and Archaeology			4
3.	Geography	1		3
4.	English	1	1	5
5.	Psychology		1	3
6.	Business Studies	1		4
7.	Kannada	1	1	4
8.	Commerce		1	4
9.	Hindi	1	1	1
10.	Social Work		1	4
11.	Geology		1	5
12.	Mathematics			4

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Physics		1	4
14.	Computer Science		1	3
15.	Chemistry	1	2	4
16.	Electronics and Communication Engg.		1	1
17.	Electrical Engg			3
18.	Linguistics			2
19.	Folkloristic & Tribal Studies			4
20.	Music and Fine Arts			3
21.	Education			0
22.	Life Sciences			3
23.	Tourism and Hotel Management			4
24.	Mass Communication and Journalism			4
25.	Public Administration			4
26.	Law			2
27.	Foreign Languages Studies			4
TOTAL		7	12	91

*Non -Teaching staff Group-wise details*

Posts	Total Sanctioned posts	Details of Existing strength	Vacant positions
Group A	21	14	7
Group B	36	9	27
Group C	77	29	48
TOTAL	134	52	82

**Departments opened in the Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburgi**

1326. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount received and the amount of expenditure incurred by the Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi during last six years, year-wise;

(b) the departments opened and the departments yet to be opened in the Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi and the details thereof; and

(c) requests from the Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi for infrastructure and its status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Amount received and the expenditure incurred year-wise during the last six years by the Central University of Karnataka are as under:-

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Grant released	Expenditure incurred as reported by University
1.	2014-15	118.42	53.07
2.	2015-16	68.37	72.91
3.	2016-17	35.32	66.57
4.	2017-18	38.38	44.43
5.	2018-19	32.27	34.09
6.	2019-20	32.35	39.35
TOTAL		325.11	310.42

(b) The details of departments opened in Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburagi as informed by the University are given in the Statement (*See* below). Opening of new Departments is an ongoing process based on the requirement and approvals.

(c) An amount of ₹ 131.89 crores was approved to Central University of Karnataka in February, 2020 for financial assistance under HEFA for creation of 7 infrastructure projects, which are under progress.

***Statement***

*Departments in Central University of Karnataka*

Estd. Year	Sl. No.	Department
2009	1	Department of English
	2	Department of History
	3	Department of Psychology



Estd. Year	Sl. No.	Department
	4	Department of Economic Studies and Planning
	5	Department of Geology
2010	6	Department of Kannada
	7	Department of Commerce
	8	Department of Business Studies
2011	9	Department of Hindi
	10	Department of Social Work
	11	Department of Geography
2012	12	Department of Physics
	13	Department of Mathematics
	14	Department of Computer Science
2013	15	Department of Chemistry
	16	Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering
	17	Department of Electrical Engineering
2015	18	Department of Linguistics
	19	Department of Folkloristic and Tribal Studies
	20	Department of Music and Fine Arts
2016	21	Department of Education
2019	22	Department of Journalism & Mass Communication
	23	Department of Life Sciences
	24	Department of Tourism and Hotel Management
	25	Department of Foreign Language
	26	Department of Public Administration
	27	Department of Law

**Change in pattern of teaching and syllabus**

1327. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal with Government to change the pattern of teaching the students in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is also reducing the syllabus of 10th and 12th class students; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) National Education Policy 2020 recommends that:

- Teaching should use child centric, inclusive, holistic, experiential including hands-on learning, arts and sports integrated and story-telling-based pedagogies.
- Teaching should dispel hard academic boundaries and hierarchies of subjects and explore relations among different subjects.
- Classroom transactions will shift, towards competency-based learning and education.
- The assessment tools (including formative and summative) will also be aligned with the specified learning outcomes.
- The teaching should also focus on creative and critical thinking and involve extensive use of technology specially to remove language barriers and increasing access to Divyang students.

The Policy further highlights that "Teaching and learning will be conducted in a more interactive manner; questions will be encouraged, and classroom sessions will regularly contain more fun, creative, collaborative, and exploratory activities for students for deeper and more experiential learning".

(c) and (d) National Education Policy 2020 states that "Curriculum content will be reduced in each subject to its core essentials, to make space for critical thinking and

more holistic, inquiry-based, discovery-based, discussion-based, and analysis based learning. The mandated content will focus on key concepts, ideas, applications, and problem solving."

**Complications in conducting JEE and NEET examinations**

1328. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the concerns raised by the students and parents on conducting the JEE-NEET examinations;
- (b) the number of students who have written these examinations in the current year;
- (c) the number of students who had downloaded admit card for the examinations;
- (d) measures taken by the National Testing Agency (NTA) to ensure the safety and social distancing during the examinations;
- (e) whether there were large number of complaints regarding the failure of safety protocols at the examination centres, if so, whether Government has made any enquiry on the same; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) The National Testing Agency (NTA) who conducts JEE and NEET examinations has reported that the major concern raised by the students and parents was for postponing JEE and NEET examinations in September, 2020 in view of COVID-19 situation. However, the JEE (Main) April, 2020 as well as NEET (UG) 2020 have been successfully conducted from 01st to 06th September and 13th September, 2020 respectively, with necessary COVID-19 safety/ preventive measures in place, as per the directions of the Hon' ble Supreme Court of India *vide* order dated 17.08.2020 in W.P. (C) No. 812 of 2020.

(b) 6.35 lakh students appeared in Paper-I of JEE (Main) from 2nd to 6th September, 2020 for admission to B.E B. Tech courses, whereas, 0.61 lakhs students appeared in Paper-II of JEE (Main) on 01.09.2020 for admission to B. Arch and B. Planning courses. However, the total number of students who appeared in NEET (UG) 2020 (which is a pen & paper test), would be known after the scanning of individual

answer sheets and attendance sheets and computation of the same for arriving at the attendance figure of the students of this exam.

(c) 7.83 lakh students of JEE (Main) April/September 2020 have downloaded their Admit Card for Paper- I, whereas 1.03 lakh students have downloaded their Admit Card for Paper-II (meant for B.Arch and B.Planning). 15.22 lakh students of NEET (UG) 2020 have downloaded their Admit Card.

(d) NTA has issued detailed guidelines, in tune with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs and as per the directions of the Hon Tria Supreme Court of India to all stakeholders *viz.*, exam centers, students, parents, escorts, public, etc., for adopting necessary safety/preventive measures in view of the COVID-19 pandemic during the examination. As part of the implementation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), the number of exam centers was increased for JEE (Main) 2020 from 570 to 660 per shift and for NEET (UG) 2020 from 2546 to 3862.

The State Government/District Administrations in concerned Districts were requested to extend necessary cooperation to the city coordinators/centre superintendents/Heads to ensure safety and social distancing measures at the examination centres. The DGPs/SPs were also requested to deploy adequate number of police personnel at each examination Centre for maintaining social distancing and crowd management.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

**Public consultation before releasing the new National Education Policy, 2020**

1329. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had made any wide consultation before implementing the new National Education Policy, 2020;

(b) if so, the details of consultation and the details of stakeholders contributing to the policy; and

(c) whether Government avoided any legislative oversight before implementing the National Education Policy, if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (c) Ministry of Education has announced the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) on 29.07.2020 after obtaining approval of Cabinet which is available at Ministry of Education's website at [https://www.rmrtd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_fdes/mhrd/files/NEP\\_Final\\_English\\_0.pdf](https://www.rmrtd.gov.in/sites/upload_fdes/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf). As a part of intensive consultative process, inputs/suggestions were received from States/UTs Governments, Union Ministries, Members of Parliament, general public, including gram sabhas, teachers, learners and other stakeholders relating to NEP before finalisation of Policy. Views and comments were invited from States/UTs Governments and Government of India Ministries. The draft was also placed in the public domain. Around 2 lakh suggestions on the Draft National Education Policy were received from various stakeholders. Comprehensive Education Dialogue with Hon'ble MPs of States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Kerala, Karnataka and Odisha etc. were held. Meetings were held with the State Secretaries of School Education and the State Secretaries of Higher and Technical Education. After consultation at several levels, a special meeting of the CAGE on National Education Policy was held to deliberate on the National Education Policy, in which the State School Education Ministers, Higher and Technical Education Ministers, Officers and other Members participated. After consultation at many levels, a special meeting of CAGE on National Education Policy was held to discuss the National Education Policy. There has been wide publicity and positive feedback from all stakeholders. Thus, National Education Policy 2020 has been finalised by. Perhaps, this is the first such policy in the world in which such extensive consultation has taken place.

As per National Education Policy 2020, implementation of the Policy requires multiple initiatives and actions, which will have to be taken by multiple bodies in a synchronized and systematic manner. Accordingly, this Ministry has communicated to all States/UT Governments for implementation of NEP 2020 in letter and spirit. Ministry of Education is also organising 'Shikshak Parv' from 8th September to 25th September, 2020 to deliberate on various themes and implementation of NEP 2020 aimed at eliciting suggestions. Ministry has also organised a Conference of Governors, Lt. Governors and Education Ministers on "Role of National Education Policy in Transforming Higher Education". Governors and Lt. Governors of State and Union Territories, Education Minister of State and UTs, Vice Chancellors of State Universities and other dignitaries participated in the conference. A Visitor's Conference on 'Implementation of NEP 2020: Higher Education' presided over by Hon'ble President of India has also been organized with Vice Chancellors of Central Universities, Directors of Institutions of National

Importance (IITs, NITs, SPAs etc.) of Ministry of Education and other Ministries on 19th September, 2020.

**Funding and legal complexities regarding the new National  
Education Policy, 2020**

1330. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) manner in which Government intend to ensure 6 per cent of GDP funding to the education under the NEP;
- (b) whether Government has any plans to generate it from private enterprises;
- (c) measures taken by Government to avoid the legal complexities surrounding the applicability of two operative policies namely The Right to Education Act, 2009 and the new National Education Policy, 2020; and
- (d) in what manner Government would ensure a decentralized implementation of educational policies with a more centralized institutional framework like National Higher Education Regulatory Authority (NHERA), the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) The Centre and the States have to work together to increase the public investment in Education sector to reach 6% of GDP at the earliest. This is considered extremely critical for achieving the high-quality and equitable public education system that is truly needed for India's future economic, social, cultural, intellectual and technological progress and growth.

(c) NEP 2020 states that the unfinished agenda of the National Policy on Education 1986, modified in 1992 (NPE 1986/92), is appropriately dealt with in this Policy and a major development since the last Policy of 1986/92 has been the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009 which laid down legal underpinnings for achieving universal elementary education.

(d) The NEP, 2020 states that the first vertical of Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) is the National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC). It is to function as the common, single point regulator for the higher education sector including teacher education and excluding medical and legal education, thus eliminating the

duplication and disjunction of regulatory efforts by the multiple regulatory agencies that exist at the current time. The NEP.2020 also states that NHERC will regulate in a 'light but tight' and facilitative manner, meaning that a few important matters particularly financial probity, good governance, and the full online and offline public self-disclosure of all finances, audits, procedures, infrastructure, faculty/staff, courses, and educational outcomes will be very effectively regulated.

**Charging hefty fees for online classes**

1331. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether complaints have been received from parents and similar complaints published in the newspapers that private schools are charging hefty fees for starting online classes;
- (b) if so, the response of Government;
- (c) whether any guidelines were provided to the States, for starting online classes, and to put restriction on the fees levied;
- (d) whether the Central agencies in the education field have developed online software for free distribution among schools and students, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (c) Education is a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of schools are under the jurisdiction of the State Governments. Thus, the matter relating to fees and its components in schools are regulated in terms of Rules and Instructions of the State Government concerned. It is for the respective State Government concerned to take necessary action against such schools which violate the Rules and Instructions of the State Government in the matter.

As far as schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education are concerned, they are governed by the clause 7.6 of the Affiliation Byelaws-2018 of CBSE which state 'the acts and regulations of the Central and State/UT governments enacted in connection

with the regulation of fee in respect of the various categories of the schools situated in the state will be applicable to CBSE schools also. Therefore, the complaints received regarding fees are forwarded to the Deputy Education Officer of the concerned State's Department of Education.

As schools affiliated to CBSE are expected to follow the guidelines issued by the respective State/UT government, the Board has requested various State Education Departments in April 2020 to consider issuing instructions on the periodicity of payment of school fees and salaries to the school staff applicable for the pandemic period.

(d) and (e) Online classes are being conducted at the schools by employing various digital tools in the form of DIKSHA portal (<https://diksha.gov.in/>), SWAYAM Portal ([swayam.gov.in](https://swayam.gov.in/)), SWAYAM Prabha, DD Channel, e-Pathshala (<https://epathshala.nic.in/>), NROER (National Repository of Open Educational Resources) portal (<https://nroer.gov.in/welcome>).

The State/UT Governments have also managed the critical task of providing digital education at the door step of the students which are available in India Report-Digital Education June 2020. The report can be accessed here: [https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/India\\_Report\\_Digital\\_Education\\_0.pdf](https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf)

#### **Central University for minority districts**

1332. SHRI K.P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to open a Central University considering the education standard of minorities;

(b) if so, the time-frame for such university to be opened; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (c) The setting up of Universities is an ongoing process which is decided according to the demand and need.



**English as medium of instruction in the schools of Andhra Pradesh**

1333. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the fact that the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has made english medium education compulsory from classes I to VI from 2020-21;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that State Government's decision will deprive children the right guaranteed under Article 21(A) of the Constitution of India and is also against the spirit of new National Education Policy, 2020;

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(e) the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) to (f) The above matter is under consideration in the Supreme Court

**Problems due to online classes**

1334. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is dislike among the children and parents for online classes;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government has explored any other possibilities of imparting education/conducting classes during the lockdown;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) Online classes are being conducted at schools by employing various digital

tools. Various efforts have been made for the creation of digital infrastructure which would not only be helpful in the current circumstances but would also be valuable asset for online learning in future. Content is also available in interactive mode, where students can learn and evaluate their performance on real time basis.

All the steps taken by all the states are shown in this report - India Report Digital Education June 2020.

[https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/India\\_Report\\_Digital\\_Education\\_0.pdf](https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf)

(c) to (e) PRAGYATA Guidelines have been issued on Digital Education, Keeping in view the availability of digital infrastructure, guideline briefs on various modes of digital education including online mode that depends more on availability of internet, partially online mode that utilizes the blended approach of digital technology and other offline activities, partial and offline mode that utilizes television and radio as a major medium of instruction of education. The guidelines can be accessed at:

[https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines\\_0.pdf](https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf)

#### **Online recruitment in Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs)**

1335. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of teaching staff that has been recruited in Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs) and Central Universities (CUs) across the country through online selection committees;

(b) the number of non-teaching staff that has been recruited in HEIs and CUs across the country through online selection committees, institution-wise details thereof; and

(c) the protocol developed to curb unfair practices by candidates and to ensure fair selection by the Ministry and/or respective HEIs, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) Recently, some of the institutions *i.e.* Central Universities, Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs), National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Schools of Planning and Architecture (SPAs) have

made selection to teaching and non teaching posts through online process. The details are as under:—

Sl. No.	Institute	Teaching post	Non-teaching posts
1.	Central Universities (CUs)	116	07
2.	Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs)	170	10
3.	Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIITs)	18	03
4.	Indian Institute of Management (IIMs)	46	150
5.	National Institute of Technology (NITs)	-	01
6.	School of Planning and Architecture (SPA)		01

(c) To curb unfair practices and ensure fair selection of candidates, University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued guidelines for selection of candidates. The staff is appointed as per the UGC (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations 2018 as amended from time to time. To ensure transparency in online interview, the time of interview is kept progressively i.e. one candidate is called for video call at a pre assigned time so that full opportunity is available to each candidate to explain him/herself. During this period, other candidates are completely out of the video call.

#### **Training of teachers for online classes**

1336. SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to undertake steps for virtual training of teachers for the new modalities of teaching online; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) DIKSHA has been leveraged to deliver online courses to teachers on multiple competencies. Till now, 6 states, NCERT and CBSE have already started their programs

and have uploaded more than 200 courses and have collectively trained 12 Lakh teachers. This has led to 8 crore learning sessions for these teachers.

CBSE has uploaded 20 courses on competencies like Experiential learning, pedagogical competencies, ICT etc. and have trained more than 1 Lakh teachers already. NCERT has also started leveraging DIKSHA and has uploaded 2 courses and NISHTHA training modules are being uploaded with the goal of training 40 Lakh teachers across the country.

States such as UP has launched 88 courses, Gujarat has launched 30 courses, Madhya Pradesh has uploaded 11 courses and both Haryana and Rajasthan have launched 5 courses which are relevant to the needs of their teachers leading to high enrolment and completion rate.

The courses are available on <https://diksha.gov.in/explore-course>

#### **Shortage of teachers in Tea Garden Schools**

1337. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tea Garden Schools in the North Eastern States are facing shortage of school teachers, the details thereof for the last three years; and

(b) since when these posts of school teachers are lying vacant and steps taken by Government to fill the vacant posts with a definite time-line and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) As per information received from the State of Assam, the number of Government/provincialised schools in tea garden areas having shortage of teachers during 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 are given below:

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Number of Schools	881	539	572

Source: UDISE.

Further, Government of Tripura has reported that the schools in blocks having tea garden areas have no shortage of teachers and are having an average PTR - 1:13. Other North Eastern States have reported no tea garden schools.

(b) State Government of Assam has completed the recruitment process against the vacancies of teachers during the year 2020-21. Recruitment of teachers is a continuous

process and vacancies keep arising due to retirement/ expansion of schools etc. and are filled up from time to time.

#### **Vacancies for posts of Vice Chancellor in universities**

1338. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Vice-Chancellor of different universities across the country lying vacant, and the details of such vacancies, date-wise; and

(b) by when such vacancies are likely to be filled up in the academic interest of the country, and its details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'):

(a) and (b) The incidence and filling up of vacancies of Vice Chancellors in Universities is a continuous process. The process of appointment of Vice Chancellor in Central University is a time consuming exercise which involve getting Executive Council/ Court's nomination(s) of the concerned Central University, constitution of Search-cum-Selection Committee, advertisement of posts, scrutiny of applications, inter-action with the shortlisted candidates, getting vigilance clearances, approval of the competent authority, etc., hence, no time-frame can be indicated.

#### **Regulation of social media**

1339. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state whether there is a plan to regulate social media, which has become a platform to spread fake news and hatred, putting peace and harmony at risk?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): Cyber space is a complex environment of people, software, hardware and services on the Internet. With a borderless cyberspace coupled with the possibility of instant communication and anonymity, the potential to misuse the social media to spread fake news and hatred, putting peace and harmony at risk is a global issue. Government is committed to freedom of speech and expression and privacy of its citizens as enshrined in the constitution of India.

The social media sites, for user generated content hosted and transmitted on their platform, are Intermediaries as defined in the Information Technology Act, 2000 and

they have to follow certain due diligence specified in the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under section 79 of the Act. The intermediaries are required to inform the users of computer resources not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is, inter alia, grossly harmful, harassing, defamatory, libelous, invasive of another's privacy, hateful, or racially, ethnically objectionable, disparaging, or otherwise unlawful in any manner. They are also expected to remove any unlawful content relatable to Article 19(2) of the Constitution of India as and when brought to their knowledge either through a court order or through a notice by appropriate government or its agency.

#### **'Made in India' applications**

1340. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government to boost the 'Made in India' Apps so that they can replace the banned applications and also make their presence felt on the global arena?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): To promote and kickstart development of 'Made in India' app ecosystem in the country, the Government of India launched the AatmaNirbhar Bharat App Innovation Challenge on July 4, 2020 which saw participation from tech entrepreneurs and start-ups from across the country, including Tier 2 and Tier 3 towns apart from the metros. The Challenge received a total of 6,940 entries across 9 different categories, namely, Business (Fintech and Agritech), eLearning, Entertainment, Games, Health, News, Office and Work from Home, Social Network and others. Out of these, 24 best apps in different categories were selected for awards by Jury comprising of experts from Industry, Academia and Government. An additional 20 apps have also been given special mention by the Jury.

#### **Policy on blockchain technology**

1341. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that by 2023 India is going to become the world leader in Blockchain technology;

(b) if so, the details thereof and in what manner it helps the common man and various sectors of government for better governance and penetrating Technology for the betterment of farmers and rural poor;

(c) whether Ministry is considering formulating any policy on Blockchain technology; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Blockchain is one of the emerging technologies in the field of Information Technology. Accordingly, this technology has potential applications in domains such as governance, banking and finance, cyber security etc. The key areas of governance where Blockchain as a technology can be leveraged include healthcare, supply chain, property registration, smart cities, voting, passport, education, finance, banking, transportation, etc. It can also be leveraged for various agricultural intensive applications like traceability of crops, organic seeds etc.

(c) and (d) Government is exploring ways to adopt Blockchain Technology that shows potential in sectors such as governance, healthcare, cyber security, automobiles, media, travel, hospitality, energy, smart cities, etc.

**Transmission of Indian user data to China by Chinese manufactured mobile phones**

1342. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study on Chinese manufactured mobile phones and tablets to assess whether they are transmitting Indian user data to China;

(b) if so, the details thereof and volume of data transmitted thus far; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not conducting such assessment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (c) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has not conducted any such study.

1343. *The Question was cancelled.*

**Digital literacy**

1344. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Common Service Centres in rural areas are still in use post the termination of DISHA and who is responsible for the upkeep of the same;

(b) if not, the plan for these centres and whether additional plans of digital literacy are to be implemented through them;

(c) whether there is data available for the number of people who have been made digitally literate through the PMGDISHA Scheme; and

(d) whether the cost incurred on PMGDISHA led to a increase in the digital literacy numbers in the areas affected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) CSC e-Governance Service India Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC SPV) incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, monitors the implementation of Common Services Centre (CSC) Scheme. The CSCs are run by Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) at the local level who are responsible for the routine upkeep of the centre.

(c) and (d) The Government of India approved a scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" in 2017 to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household). To ensure equitable geographical reach, each of the 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats across the country are envisaged to register an average of 200-300 candidates. In commensurate with the funds released for the implementation of PMGDISHA Scheme, as on 17.09.2020, a total of around 3.66 crore candidates have been enrolled and 2.97 crore have been trained, out of which 2.15 crore candidates have been certified.

**Implementation of data protection law**

1345. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating on moving forward to implement the Data Protection Law in the country;



(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of MPs and public representatives are opposing the implementation of the law in its present state in view of the violation of Civil liberties of an individual, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of the remedial measures being taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) The Government constituted a Committee of Experts on Data Protection, chaired by Justice (Retd) B.N. Srikrishna, Supreme Court of India to study various issues relating to data protection and the Committee of Experts formulated a Draft Personal Data Protection Bill. Based on the recommendation of the Committee of Experts and a multitude of feedback received from diverse stakeholders, the draft bill has been duly updated and the PDP Bill 2019 has been introduced in Parliament during the winter session 2019. The Bill has been referred to a Joint Committee of the Parliament and the Committee is deliberating on the subject.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Benefits under Digital India Internship Scheme**

†1346. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students who have got the benefit under the Digital India Internship Scheme, so far;

(b) the number of persons who have benefitted from this scheme in Bihar; and

(c) the details of Digital India Internship Scheme across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) So far, a total 67 students have benefitted under the Digital India Internship Scheme.

(b) and (c) The Digital India Internship Scheme has a fixed number of slots (25 number for 2018 and 50 number for 2019) and eligible students from all States/Union

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Territories can apply under the scheme. There is no specific allocation of slots for any State/Union Territory.

### **India BPO Promotion Scheme in Bihar**

‡1347. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of businessmen/persons benefited under the India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS);
- (b) the status of this scheme in Bihar, the details of the number of BPOs opened there and jobs created under this scheme so far; and
- (c) the State-wise number of persons provided with employment under IBPS across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (c) Under India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS), 190 companies have been allocated total 51,297 BPO/ITES seats to setup 276 BPO/ITES units across the country. Out of these, 249 units have started operation providing direct employment to over 36,000 people. In the State of Bihar, 12 BPO/ITES units have started operations providing direct employment to 1415 persons. The State-wise details of employment under IBPS are given in the Statement.

### ***Statement***

#### *State/UT-wise details of employment under IBPS*

State/UT	Employment
Andhra Pradesh	9659
Bihar	1415
Chandigarh U.T.	15
Chhattisgarh	236
Gujarat	3
Haryana	187

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

State/UT	Employment
Himachal Pradesh	151
Jammu and Kashmir U.T.	529
Jharkhand	2198
Karnataka	1348
Kerala	364
Madhya Pradesh	1057
Maharashtra	2177
Odisha	2642
Puducherry U.T.	154
Punjab	3623
Rajasthan	624
Tamil Nadu	8306
Telangana	217
Uttar Pradesh	784
Uttarakhand	321
West Bengal	183
TOTAL	36193

#### Impact of H-1B Visa restrictions on IT companies

†1348. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of H-1B Visa applied by Indian companies per year, the details thereof;

(b) the share of Indian companies in H-1B Visa issued by the US, the details of the impending loss of employment and trade after the imposition of the restrictions;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the impact on Indian IT companies due to restrictions imposed by the US on H-1B Visa, the details thereof; and

(d) Government's plan to provide employment to the talent returning from foreign countries, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (c) As per National Association of Software & Services Companies (NASSCOM), the 14 largest Indian technology companies in the U.S. had aggregate 6,663 H-1B visas approved for initial employment in the financial year 2019-20, these form 7.9% of the total 85,000 H-1B visas approved for cap and cap-exempt initial employment. These 14 companies form 85-90% of the H-1B visas issued to all Indian technology companies. The actual impact on Indian IT Companies due to restrictions imposed by the US on H-1B visa can only be gauged in course of time.

(d) Does not arise.

**Guidelines for promotion of electronics manufacturing**

1349. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently adopted guidelines for the promotion of electronics manufacturing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the scheme will provide a financial incentive of 25 per cent of capital expenditure for manufacturing of certain specified electronic goods; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Following three Schemes have been notified on April 1, 2020 under the aegis of National Policy on Electronics 2019 (NPE 2019), for the promotion of electronics manufacturing in the country:—

(i) Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing: The Scheme shall provide production linked incentive of

4% - 6% on incremental sales of specific categories of electronic goods manufactured in India, viz., Mobile phones, specified electronic components, including Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) units.

- (ii) Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS): The Scheme shall provide financial incentive of 25% on capital expenditure for the identified list of electronic goods that comprise downstream value chain of electronic products, i.e., electronic components, semiconductor/display fabrication units, ATMP units, specialized sub-assemblies and capital goods for manufacture of aforesaid goods.
- (iii) Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) Scheme: The Scheme shall provide support for creation of world class infrastructure along with common facilities and amenities, including Ready Built Factory (RBF) sheds/ Plug and Play facilities for attracting major global electronics manufacturers, along with their supply chains, to set up their units in these clusters.

The Guidelines for the implementation of aforesaid Schemes have been issued on 01.06.2020.

(c) and (d) Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS) notified *vide* Gazette Notification No.CG-DL-E-01042020-218992 dated April 01, 2020 shall provide financial incentive of 25% on capital expenditure for the identified list of electronic goods that comprise downstream value chain of electronic products, i.e., electronic components, semiconductor/display fabrication units, ATMP units, specialized sub-assemblies and capital goods for manufacture of aforesaid goods.

### **Banned APPs of China**

1350. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Apps from China banned so far;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware that there is a probability that Chinese companies may use clones of banned apps and start circulating them;
- (c) if so, the details of mechanism that the Ministry has to block even clone apps;

(d) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that TikTok threatened to go to court; and

(e) if so, in what manner Ministry is going to deal with it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) Government has blocked 224 mobile applications under the provisions of section 69A of Information Technology Act, 2000 and its rules namely "The Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information for Public) Rules, 2009". These mobile applications were blocked in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the State and defence of India. Due to national security concerns, linkage with any country may not be disclosed in public domain.

(b) and (c) If a request for blocking of such clone apps are received from designated nodal officers, due process of blocking of such clones under section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provisions and the Rules notified under this section will be followed.

(d) and (e) Tiktok had approached Honorable High Court of Telangana on 20.07.2020 challenging the ban imposed by the Government of India. The court after detailed hearing disposed the matter in favor of Government of India.

#### **Digital divide in tribal areas of Odisha**

1351. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to address the digital divide in tribal areas of Odisha;

(b) whether any scheme is in place to address the aforementioned issue;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of the measures taken by Government to make online education viable and feasible for tribal children in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (d) To

address the digital divide in the country including the tribal areas of Odisha, the Government of India has initiated the following Schemes/Programmes:

In the years 2014 to 2016, two Schemes titled "National Digital Literacy Mission" (NDLM) and "Digital Saksharta Abhiyan" (DISHA) were implemented by the Government with a target to train 52.50 lakh candidates in digital literacy across the country including rural India. Under these two schemes, a total of 53.67 lakh beneficiaries were trained, including 7,17,412 beneficiaries from ST category.

Further, the Government approved a scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" in 2017 to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household). The scheme is specifically targeting the rural population especially the marginalized sections of society including Scheduled Tribes. Under the PMGDISHA Scheme the target for the State of Odisha is 25,17,000. As on 17.09.2020, a total of 21,80,396 candidates have been enrolled and around 17,02,645 candidates have completed the training, out of which 12,61,120 have been certified by duly authorized 3rd party Assessment Agencies. Out of the above achievements in Odisha, around 3,41,991 tribal candidates have been enrolled and 2,53,037 candidates have completed the training out of which 1,79,148 candidates have been certified.

The IT for Masses Programme of Ministry of Electronics and IT is aimed at narrowing the Digital Divide by initiate/promote activities in ICT for focus groups (Women, Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Senior Citizen, Differently Abled, Economic Weaker Section (EWS) and Minorities) and underprivileged areas (North Eastern Region, Backward Districts and Blocks & Districts having more than 40% SC/ST population). Under IT for Masses programme, the following projects have been initiated to address the digital divide in tribal areas of Odisha:—

- "Skill Development of youths in Aspirational Districts in the area of IECT leading to enhancement in Employability" aimed at improving the digital literacy amongst the SC/ST youth in 60 Aspirational Districts including the Dhenkanal and Gajapati Districts of Odisha.
- "Facilitating Skill Development and Enhancing Employability in IT-ITes Sector for SC/ST Candidates" aimed at providing financial assistance by facilitating skill development in IT/ITES Sector for enhancing employability of unemployed youth through a residential training programme by involving

state-of-art training providers across the country. The Boudh and Cuttack Districts are covered in Odisha.

(e) The following measures have been taken by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education to make online education viable and feasible for children:—

- (i) A comprehensive initiative called PM eVIDYA has been initiated which unifies all efforts related to digital/online/on-air education to enable multi-mode access to education. The initiative includes:
- DIKSHA the nation's digital infrastructure for providing quality e-content for school education in states/UTs and QR coded Energized Textbooks for all grades (one nation, one digital platform)
  - One earmarked TV channel per class from 1 to 12 (one class, one channel)
  - Extensive use of Radio, Community radio and CBSE Podcast- Shiksha Vani
  - Special e-content for visually and hearing impaired developed on Digitally Accessible Information System (DAISY) and in sign language on NIOS website/YouTube

Initiatives like DIKSHA, Swayam Prabha, Swayam MOOCs, ePathshala, NIOS content are being used extensively by students.

- (ii) **INDIA REPORT- Digital Education June 2020:** The State/ UT Governments have also managed the critical task of providing digital education at the door step of the students. The report can be accessed here:

*[https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/India\\_Report\\_Digital\\_Education\\_0. pdf](https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/India_Report_Digital_Education_0.pdf)*

- (iii) **PRAGYATA Guidelines on Digital Education :** Keeping in view the availability of digital infrastructure, guideline briefs on various modes of digital education including online mode that depends more on availability of internet, partially online mode that utilizes the blended approach of digital technology and other offline activities, partial and offline mode that utilizes television and



radio as a major medium of instruction of education. The guidelines can be accessed at:

[https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines\\_0.pdf](https://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/pragyata-guidelines_0.pdf)

**Aadhaar related technical glitches**

1352. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the issue of Aadhaar related denials of rations, pensions, MNREGA wages and health services/insurance;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to address the aforementioned issue; and
- (c) whether Government has any plans to compensate all NFSA beneficiaries, pension beneficiaries and MNREGA workers for the period in which they lost their entitlements or wages due to non-seeding or non-authentication of Aadhaar or other technical reasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (c) There may be Aadhaar authentication failure due to poor network connectivity, biometric mismatch, demographic mismatch, invalid OTP value, incorrect Aadhaar number, etc. However, no resident can be denied benefits on the basis of Authentication failure. The following steps have been taken in this regard:—

- (1) UIDAI had issued a circular dated 24.10.2017 regarding "Exception handling in Public Distribution Services and other Welfare Schemes" (<https://uidai.gov.in/legal-framework/acts/circulars.html>) addressed to all Ministries/ Departments of Government of India and State Governments, which, *inter-alia*, stipulated exception handling mechanism and back up identity authentication mechanism for implementation to ensure seamless delivery of subsidy, benefit or service to the beneficiaries.
- (2) DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat, *vide* their letter dated 19.12.2017, had also issued issued guidelines on exception handling for use of Aadhaar in benefit schemes of Government to all Ministries/Departments of Government of India and State Governments (available at URL: [https://dbtbharat.gov.in/data/om/Aadhaar\\_Exception\\_Handling\\_OM\\_19122017.pdf](https://dbtbharat.gov.in/data/om/Aadhaar_Exception_Handling_OM_19122017.pdf)), which *inter-alia*

mentions the mechanism for extending benefits to beneficiaries who do not possess Aadhaar.

Further, these guidelines mentions the following mechanism in respect of cases where Aadhaar authentication fails:—

- (i) Departments and Bank Branches may make provisions for IRIS scanners along with fingerprint scanners, wherever feasible.
- (ii) In cases of failure due to lack of connectivity, offline authentication system such as QR code based coupons, Mobile based OTP or TOTP may be explored.
- (iii) In all cases where online authentication is not feasible, the benefit/service may be provided on the basis of possession of Aadhaar, after duly recording the transaction in register, to be reviewed and audited periodically.

#### **Fraudulent Aadhaar cards**

1353. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been any cases where fraudulent Aadhaar Cards have been found by the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases that have been found;
- (c) the number of Aadhaar Cards deactivated by the UIDAI since its inception; and
- (d) the total coverage of Aadhaar in the country as of date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Such fraudulent Aadhaar numbers are cancelled under regulation 27 of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016. A total of 40,955 fraudulent Aadhaar numbers have been cancelled up to 31.08.2020.

(c) Deactivation of Aadhaar number, under regulation 28 of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, takes place on account of inter alia bad data requiring update. As on 31.08.2020, 38.16 lakh Aadhaar numbers stand deactivated.

(d) As on 31.08.2020, a total of 126.17 crore Aadhaar numbers have been generated against the projected population (2020) of about 137.05 crore. However, the actual number of Aadhaar holders is lesser due to deaths.

Hence, the concept of "Live Aadhaar" has been introduced to estimate the number of persons holding Aadhaar, who are alive. It is estimated that the number of 'Live Aadhaar' stands at 121.86 crore. Overall Aadhaar (live) saturation in the country is 88.92%.

#### **Fake videos and rumours on social media during Delhi violence**

1354. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any instances of spreading fake videos and rumours through social media during recent Delhi violence;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with number of such cases identified and the details of action taken in this regard;

(c) whether there is any plan to set up a fact checker website/cell intended to verify and inform common citizens regarding authenticity of viral videos/messages; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and States are primarily responsible for prevention, detection and investigation through their law enforcement machinery. The Law Enforcement Agencies take legal action against the cyber-crime offenders as per the provisions of applicable laws. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) does not maintain such data.

(c) and (d) Cyber space is a complex environment of people, software, hardware and services on the Internet. With a borderless cyberspace coupled with the possibility of instant communication and anonymity, the potential for misuse of cyberspace and social media platforms for criminal activities is a global issue. There were media reports about social media platforms being misused to spread various cases of mob lynching, fake news and objectionable videos posted on social media and video sharing sites.

The Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 has provisions for removal of objectionable online content. The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011 notified under this section require that the intermediaries, which includes social media platforms, shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall inform the users of computer resources not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is harmful, objectionable, and unlawful in any way. Also, section 79 of the Act provides that intermediaries are required to disable/remove unlawful content on being notified by appropriate government or its agency.

Further, section 69A of the IT Act, 2000 empowers Government to block any information generated, transmitted, received, stored or hosted in any computer resource in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign states or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to above.

Government has taken several steps to address the challenges of misinformation and rumors spreading via social media platforms. These, *inter alia*, include:—

- (i) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has set up a dedicated cell (Counter Misinformation Unit) under Press Information Bureau (PIB) as a measure to counter fake news on policies, schemes, programs etc. by Government of India. The Unit has a presence on prominent social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. The information is also available on <https://pib.gov.in/factcheck.aspx>. The unit takes suo moto cognizance of fake news going viral on social media and also on basis of outside complaints.
- (ii) MeitY regularly interacts with social media platforms on issues related to spread of fake news, misinformation/disinformation on Internet. Social media platforms have implemented a number of steps to address the issue of fake news propagated using their platform.
- (iii) MeitY through a program, namely, Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA), has been creating awareness among users highlighting the importance of following the ethics while using Internet and advising them not to share rumors/fake news. A dedicated website for information security awareness (<https://www.infosecawareness.in>) provides relevant awareness material.

**Steps to boost manufacturing of electronics**

1355. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently taken any steps to boost electronics manufacturing in the country to reduce the import bill of electronics;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has provided incentives to electronic companies to make India a major electronic hub; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) To boost electronics manufacturing in the country to reduce the import bill of electronics, following three Schemes have been notified on April 1, 2020 under the aegis of National Policy on Electronics 2019 (NPE 2019):—

- (i) Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing: The Scheme shall provide production linked incentive of 4% - 6% on incremental sales of specific categories of electronic goods manufactured in India, viz., Mobile phones, specified electronic components, including Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) units.
- (ii) Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS): The Scheme shall provide financial incentive of 25% on capital expenditure for the identified list of electronic goods that comprise downstream value chain of electronic products, i.e., electronic components, semiconductor / display fabrication units, ATMP units, specialized sub-assemblies and capital goods for manufacture of aforesaid goods.
- (iii) Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) Scheme: The Scheme shall provide support for creation of world class infrastructure along with common facilities and amenities, including Ready Built Factory (RBF) sheds / Plug and Play facilities for attracting major global electronics manufacturers, along with their supply chains, to set up their units in these clusters.

(c) and (d) Steps taken by the Government to promote domestic electronics manufacturing, including the incentives, with the objective of making India a major electronic hub are given in the Statement.

***Statement***

*Steps taken by the Government to promote domestic electronics manufacturing*

1. **National Policy on Electronics 2019:** The National Policy on Electronics 2019 (NPE 2019) has been notified on 25.02.2019. The vision of NPE 2019 is to position India as a global hub for Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) by encouraging and driving capabilities in the country for developing core components, including chipsets, and creating an enabling environment for the industry to compete globally.

To attract and incentivize large investments in the electronics value chain and promote exports, following three Schemes have been notified under the aegis of NPE 2019:

- (i) **Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI)** for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing notified vide Gazette Notification No.CG-DL-E-01042020-218990 dated April 01, 2020 shall extend an incentive of 4% to 6% to eligible companies on incremental sales (over base year) involved in mobile phone manufacturing and manufacturing of specified electronic components, including Assembly, Testing, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) units.
- (ii) **Scheme for Promotion of Manufacturing of Electronic Components and Semiconductors (SPECS)** notified vide Gazette Notification No.CG-DL-E-01042020-218992 dated April 01, 2020 shall provide financial incentive of 25% on capital expenditure for the identified list of electronic goods that comprise downstream value chain of electronic products, *i.e.*, electronic components, semiconductor/ display fabrication units, ATMP units, specialized sub-assemblies and capital goods for manufacture of aforesaid goods.
- (iii) **Modified Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC 2.0) Scheme** notified vide Gazette Notification No.CG-DL-E-01042020-218991 dated April 01, 2020 shall provide support for creation of world class infrastructure along with common facilities and amenities, including Ready Built Factory (RBF) sheds / Plug and Play facilities for attracting major global electronics manufacturers

along with their supply chain to set up units in the country. The Scheme shall provide financial assistance for setting up of both EMC projects and Common Facility Centres (CFCs) across the country.

2. **100% FDI:** As per extant Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy, FDI up-to 100% under the automatic route is permitted for electronics manufacturing (except from countries sharing land border with India), subject to applicable laws/ regulations; security and other conditions.
3. **Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS):** The Scheme was notified on 27th July, 2012 to provide financial incentives to offset disability and attract investments in the electronics manufacturing sector. It was amended in August, 2015 to extend the period of the scheme, enhance scope of the Scheme by including 15 more product verticals, and attract more investment. The scheme was further amended in January, 2017 to expedite the investments. The scheme provides subsidy for capital expenditure - 20% for investments in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 25% in non-SEZs. The incentives are available for 44 categories / verticals of electronic products and components covering entire electronics manufacturing value chain. The Scheme was open to receive applications till 31.12.2018 and is in the implementation mode.
4. **Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme:** Electronics Manufacturing Clusters Scheme was notified on 22nd October, 2012 to provide support for creation of world-class infrastructure along with common facilities and amenities for attracting investment. Under the Scheme, 20 Greenfield EMCs and 3 Common Facility Centres (CFCs) measuring an area of 3,565 acres with total project cost of INR 3,898 crore including Government Grant-in-Aid of INR 1,577 crore have been approved.
5. **Electronics Development Fund (EDF):** Electronics Development Fund (EDF) has been set up as a "Fund of Funds" to participate in professionally managed "Daughter Funds" which in turn will provide risk capital to startups and companies developing new technologies in the area of electronics and Information Technology (IT). This fund is expected to foster R&D and innovation in these technology sectors. INR 659 crore has been committed through EDF to 11 Daughter Funds with a targeted corpus of INR 5,500 crore.

6. **Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP)** has been notified to promote domestic value addition in mobile handsets and their sub-assemblies / parts manufacturing. As a result, India has rapidly started attracting investments into this sector and significant manufacturing capacities have been set up in the country. The manufacturing of mobile handsets has been steadily moving from Semi Knocked Down (SKD) to Completely Knocked Down (CKD) level, thereby progressively increasing the domestic value addition.
7. **Tariff Structure** has been rationalized to promote domestic manufacturing of electronic goods, including, *inter-alia*, Cellular mobile handsets, Televisions, Electronic components, Set Top Boxes for TV, LED products and Medical electronics equipment.
8. **Exemption from Basic Customs Duty on capital goods:** Notified capital goods for manufacture of specified electronic goods are permitted for import at "NIL" Basic Customs Duty.
9. **Simplified import of used plant and machinery:** The import of used plant and machinery having a residual life of at least 5 years for use by the electronics manufacturing industry has been simplified through the amendment of Hazardous and Other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2016, vide Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Notification dated 11.06.2018.
10. **Relaxing the ageing restriction:** The Department of Revenue vide Notification No.60/2018-Customs dated 11.09.2018 has amended the Notification No.158/95-Customs dated 14.11.1995, relaxing the ageing restriction from 3 years to 7 years for specified electronic goods manufactured in India and re-imported into India for repairs or reconditioning.
11. **Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order:** To encourage 'Make in India' and to promote manufacturing and production of goods and services in India with a view to enhancing income and employment, the Government has issued Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order 2017 vide the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Order dated 15.06.2017 and subsequent revisions vide Orders dated 28.05.2018, 29.05.2019 and 04.06.2020. In furtherance of the aforesaid Order, MeitY has notified 13 Electronic Products *viz.*, Desktop PCs, Laptop PCs, Thin Clients, Tablet PCs, Computer



Monitors, Dot Matrix Printers, Contact and Contactless Smart Cards, LED Products, Biometric Access Control / Authentication Devices, Biometric Finger Print Sensors, Biometric Iris Sensors and Servers vide Notification dated 07.09.2020.

12. **Compulsory Registration Order (CRO):** MeitY has notified "Electronics and Information Technology Goods (Requirement of Compulsory Registration) Order, 2012" for mandatory compliance to ensure safety of Indian citizens by curbing import of substandard and unsafe electronic goods into India. 44 Product Categories have been notified under the CRO.
13. **National Centre of Excellence in Large Area Flexible Electronics (NCFLEX)** has been set up in IIT-Kanpur with the objectives to promote R&D; Manufacturing; Ecosystem; Entrepreneurship; International Partnerships and Human Resources and develop prototypes in collaboration with industry for commercialization.
14. **National Centre of Excellence for Technology on Internal Security (NCETIS)** has been set up at IIT-Bombay with the objective to address the internal security needs of the nation on continuous basis by delivering technology prototypes required for internal security and to promote domestic industry in internal security.
15. **National Centre of Excellence for Next Generation AMOLED Displays, OLED Lighting and OPV Products** has been set up at IIT-Madras with a mandate to collaborate with stakeholders to develop next-generation, state-of-the-art, high-volume and cost effective electronic components based on organic devices to address requirements through joint technology developments, to realize indigenous technologies for manufacturing.

#### **Strengthening cyber security**

1356. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the initiatives taken by Government to strengthen the cyber security in the country;
- (b) whether Government is aware of the increasing incidents of the breach of cyber security of few citizens; and
- (c) whether Government has taken any action against the people/ organizations involved in aforementioned incidents and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) and (b) As per information reported to and tracked by the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), activities of fraudulent emails, SMS messages and phishing websites pretending to be from legitimate services, are reported luring users to divulge credentials to conduct financial frauds.

Government has taken following measures to strengthen the cyber security in the country:—

- (i) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats/vulnerabilities and countermeasures to protect computers, networks and data on regular basis.
- (ii) CERT-In is working in coordination with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Banks to track and disable phishing websites.
- (iii) Security tips have been published for users to secure their desktops, mobile/smart phones and preventing phishing attacks.
- (iv) Government has issued guidelines for Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) regarding their key roles and responsibilities for securing applications / infrastructure and compliance.
- (v) Government has directed all stakeholders for regular audit of Information Technology (IT) infrastructure and services.
- (vi) Government has empanelled security auditing organisations to support and audit implementation of Information Security Best Practices.
- (vii) Government has formulated Cyber Crisis Management Plan (CCMP) for countering cyber attacks and cyber terrorism for implementation by all Ministries/ Departments of Central Government, State Governments/UTs and their organizations and critical sectors.
- (viii) Cyber security mock drills are conducted regularly to enable assessment of cyber security posture and preparedness of organisations in Government and critical sectors.

- (ix) CERT-In conducts regular training programmes for network / system administrators and Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) of Government and critical sector organisations regarding securing the IT infrastructure and mitigating cyber attacks.
- (x) Government has launched the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre). The centre is providing detection of malicious programs and free tools to remove the same.
- (xi) Government has initiated setting up of National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to generate necessary situational awareness of existing and potential cyber security threats and enable timely information sharing for proactive, preventive and protective actions by individual entities. Phase-I of NCCC has been made operational.
- (xii) Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) is conducting programs to generate information security awareness. Specific books, videos and online materials are developed for children, parents and general users about information security which are disseminated through Portals like "[www.infosecawareness.in](http://www.infosecawareness.in)", and "[www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in](http://www.cyberswachhtakendra.gov.in)".
- (xiii) Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has issued National Information Security Policy and Guidelines (NISPG) in order to prevent information security breaches/cyber intrusions in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure. The NISPG has been shared with the Central Ministries as well as the State Governments/ Union Territories. They have been advised to take appropriate steps to strengthen information security controls as per NISPG for strengthening Information Security and preventing information security breaches.
- (xiv) To deal with cybercrimes in a coordinated & comprehensive manner, Government has launched the online National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal, '[www.cybercrime.gov.in](http://www.cybercrime.gov.in)' to enable citizens to report complaints pertaining to all types of cyber crimes with special focus on cyber crimes against women and children. A toll-free helpline no. 155260 has been made operational in all States/UTs to assist citizens.
- (c) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and States/UTs are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, investigation and

prosecution of crimes through their law enforcement machinery. The Law Enforcement Agencies take legal action as per provisions of law against the cyber crime offenders.

Government of India helps States in combating cyber crimes by assisting them through advisories and funds under various schemes.

### **Promotion of Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

1357. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the country in a big way;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has taken several steps to promote Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the country in a big way.

- (b) The following are the details:—
  - (i) Government has launched 'National AI Portal' which is a repository of Artificial Intelligence (AI) based initiatives in the country for all stakeholders at a single place.
  - (ii) Government has initiated 'Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme' with an objective to enhance the number of PhDs in Electronics System Design & Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (IT/ITES) sectors including AI in the country. Presently, 908 Full time & 308 part-time PhD candidates are enrolled under the scheme at 97 academic institutions across the country.
  - (iii) Government has initiated 'FutureSkills PRIME (Programme for Re-skilling/ Up-skilling of IT Manpower for Employability)' which aims to create a re-skilling/up-skilling ecosystem in emerging and futuristic technologies including AI.
  - (iv) To promote tech entrepreneurship through financial and technical support to incubators engaged in supporting ICT startups using emerging

technologies, Government is implementing TIDE 2.0 (Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs). The Scheme is being implemented through various incubators with an overarching objective to promote incubation activities at institutes of higher learning and premier R&D organizations.

- (v) To foster innovation through research in technology, government has created several 'Centres of Excellence' on various emerging technologies including Artificial Intelligence. The centres connect various entities such as startups, enterprises, venture capitalists, government and academia to look into problem statements and develop innovative solutions.
- (vi) Government has developed API (Application Programming Interface) platform called National Data Highway (NDH) in March, 2020 to enable quick and transparent integration with other e-Governance applications and systems thereby providing access to data and services and promoting citizen participation for the benefit of the community.
- (vii) National Programme on Responsible Use of AI for Youth: With the objective to empower the youth to become AI ready and help reduce the skill gap, government along with Industry partner has started this initiative to promote AI awareness among Government school going children. Presently 50,501 students have registered, and 11,430 students have completed their first level of AI training.
- (viii) A project on Imaging BioBank for Cancer is supported at TMC-ACTREC, Mumbai, AIIMS, New Delhi, IIT, Bombay & RGCIRC, Delhi with an intent to develop AI tools and database for advance research in cancer including cancer diagnosis/ prognosis and cancer care by Department of Biotechnology (DBT).
- (ix) DBT has also supported a major programme MANAV: Human Atlas Initiative, to construct a comprehensive and integrated human map by assimilating all the known macro-level and micro-level information from scientific literature and public databases.
- (x) DBT has also initiated a programme on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications for Affordable and Accessible Healthcare-Big Data and Genomics.

- (xi) Department of Science & Technology (DST) has launched the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) with a total outlay of ₹3660.00 Crores for a period of five years. As part of Mission implementation, a total of 25 Technology Innovation Hubs (TIH's) are established across the country. A Technology Innovation Hub is established at Indian Institute of Technology, (IIT) Kharagpur in the technology vertical Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning at a total cost of ₹ 170.00 Crores for 5 years. It will follow a technology life cycle approach, addressing all stages *viz.* knowledge-Development-Translation-Commercialization.
- (c) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

**Issues and concerns with Aarogya Setu app**

1358. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any exercise has been carried out to assess the validity and efficacy of Aarogya Setu app in contact tracing, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry has commissioned any study to analyse the problems faced by users of the Aarogya Setu app, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the developers of the App have designed any upgrades in the app based on the feedback received by the users, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) Contact tracing as a form of tracing infections has been in existence for many decades. Contact Tracing has been carried out to contain/mitigate many infectious diseases like polio, tuberculosis, smallpox, SARS, etc. over the years.

In the past, contact tracing was carried out manually by human contact tracers. During this ongoing pandemic, Aarogya Setu has leveraged modern technology for doing the same. Contact Tracing has been adopted in many countries across the world as a part of the COVTD-19 containment strategy, which also includes testing and treatment. However, it is important to note that it is crucial that all 3 components (contact tracing, testing and treatment) are done in a time bound manner, so that the infection is detected early and the spread is controlled. The three components collectively prevent the spread and will not be effective if used in silos.

Aarogya Setu has helped identify approx 86 lakh contacts, through contact tracing. Based on the risk identification through contact tracing, the Aarogya Setu users are advised further necessary measures like self-isolation, precautions, testing, medical attention, etc., as deemed necessary. The local government authorities also implement further medical interventions as necessary to mitigate the infection and prevent its further spread.

(b) The problems/issues faced by the Aarogya Setu users are reported to the support helpdesk. The support team analyzes the reported problem/issue and then provides appropriate resolution to the concerned users.

(c) Aarogya Setu has been receptive to the concerns and feedback of its users and based on inputs received from the users, the development team has introduced new features, some of which are given below:—

- App was made compatible with Android Version 5.
- List of ICMR Approved COVID-19 testing labs listed on the App to help users to identify the nearest test labs.
- e-pass integrated with Aarogya Setu App for ease of movement during the lockdown phase.
- COVID-19 related statistics within a certain distance from the user's current location as an alert mechanism.
- State wise and nationwide COVID-19 Statistics Dashboard.
- COVID-19 related Awareness Videos, Govt. Guidelines, and Precautions.
- Recent Contact Health Status Check, which enables the user to voluntarily upload their contact tracing information to backend server and get to know the anonymized health status of their recent contacts.
- Added support for Regional Indian Languages.
- QR Code based Health Status Check, which enables users to voluntarily generate a QR Code and share his/her health status with others.
- Provision to share the health status with families, employers or other third parties, through User Consent.

**Implementation of Digital Literacy Mission**

1359. SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of implementation of Digital Literacy Mission, State-wise;
- (b) whether the target of making six crore persons digitally literate in rural areas, across States/UTs has been achieved;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps Government has taken for scaling up the coverage of digital literacy schemes;
- (e) whether Government has obtained feedback on reasons for low motivation amongst people to join digital literacy programs; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (f) To enhance digital literacy amongst the citizens, Government of India has been implementing digital literacy schemes since 2014, across the country including in rural areas. In the years 2014 to 2016, two Schemes titled "National Digital Literacy Mission" (NDLM) and "Digital Saksharta Abhiyan" (DISHA) were implemented by the Government with a target to train 52.50 lakh candidates in digital literacy across the country including rural India. Under these two schemes, a total of 53.67 lakh beneficiaries were trained.

The Government of India approved a scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" in 2017 to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household). To ensure equitable geographical reach, each of the 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats across the country are envisaged to register an average of 200-300 candidates. So far, a total of around 3.66 crore candidates have been enrolled and 2.97 crore have been trained, out of which 2.15 crore candidates have been certified under the PMGDISHA Scheme. The State-wise details of achievements made under the Scheme are given in the Statement (*See below*).



Government has taken up several steps for scaling up the coverage of digital literacy schemes in remote rural areas of the country which include:—

- Scaling up the awareness and promotional activities towards Digital literacy through campaigns, workshops, seminars, digital vans, etc.
- Efforts have been made to identify and register new Training centres in uncovered Gram Panchayats across the country.
- In order to address the low internet connectivity issues, Wifi-choupals have been established at remote locations.
- Rural schools have been engaged for training and examination of candidates in order to penetrate the rural populous districts of identified states.

As per the implementing agency of the PMGDISHA Scheme viz. CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, the reason for the low motivation amongst people to join digital literacy programs may be due to lack of awareness of the scheme in general.

#### *Statement*

*The State/UT -wise number of candidates registered, trained and certified so far under PMGDISHA Scheme*

Sl. No.	State	Students Registered	Training Completed	Certified Students
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	228	58	18
2.	Andhra Pradesh	803181	584548	414936
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3044	1028	726
4.	Assam	1866661	1529048	1163318
5.	Bihar	3671346	3058755	2144074
6.	Chandigarh*	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	1999070	1659982	1230396
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	979	332	253
9.	Daman and Diu	665	448	307

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Delhi*	34	2	0
11.	Goa	298	124	79
12.	Gujarat	1685925	1403520	1011014
13.	Haryana	1466361	1220964	907205
14.	Himachal Pradesh	205071	132439	97405
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	298087	227725	169035
16.	Jharkhand	1708548	1306949	925674
17.	Karnataka	677748	529942	356326
18.	Kerala	38866	17931	14275
19.	Lakshadweep	19	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2692976	2262278	1602389
21.	Maharashtra	2270361	1783069	1267277
22.	Manipur	8809	4738	2909
23.	Meghalaya	71992	50349	32125
24.	Mizoram	7252	5148	3044
25.	Nagaland	4824	3541	2653
26.	Odisha	2180289	1702628	1261120
27.	Puducherry	11631	8102	5475
28.	Punjab	974427	819879	625582
29.	Rajasthan	1841031	1470645	1079550
30.	Sikkim	299	102	73
31.	Tamil Nadu	699390	568241	404574
32.	Telangana	515261	405834	285749
33.	Tripura	111329	73061	55175
34.	Uttarakhand	385443	307657	229508

1	2	3	4	5
35.	Uttar Pradesh	9150824	7630395	5540778
36.	West Bengal	1286789	986710	734766
37.	Ladakh	1242	795	496
TOTAL		36640300	29756967	21568284

\*Chandigarh and Delhi are in Urban agglomeration, hence not covered under the Scheme.

### Misuse of social media platforms

1360. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether to stop misuse of social media platforms, Government propose to formulate any policy in this regard, the details thereof; and

(b) the number of cases of misuse of social media platforms that have come to the notice of Government during the last two years, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) Cyber space is a complex environment of people, software, hardware and services on the Internet. With a borderless cyberspace coupled with the possibility of instant communication and anonymity, the potential for misuse of cyberspace and social media platforms for criminal activities is a global issue.

The social media platforms are intermediaries as defined in the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000. Section 79 of the Act and the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 require that the Intermediaries shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall inform the users of computer resources not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is, inter alia, grossly harmful, harassing, defamatory, libelous, invasive of another's privacy, hateful, or racially, ethnically objectionable, disparaging, or otherwise unlawful in any manner. They are also expected to remove any unlawful content relatable to Article 19(2) of the Constitution of India as and when brought to their knowledge either through a court order or through a notice by appropriate government or its agency.

(b) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology ordered blocking of 2799 and 3655 webpages/URLs/Accounts in the years 2018 and 2019 respectively under section 69A of the IT Act, 2000.

**Assistance in fight against COVID-19**

1361. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) the number of countries to whom India has provided medical and other assistance in the fight against COVID-19, the details thereof; and

(b) whether India has received any such assistance from other countries to fight against COVID-19, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) India provided assistance in the form of medicines and medical equipment, to over 150 countries, including grants-in-aid valued at around Rupees 80 crore to 82 countries. A list of these countries is given in the Statement-I (See below). Ministry of External Affairs also assisted foreign governments with approvals for the export of essential medicines in the fight against coronavirus. In addition, India sent Rapid Response Medical teams to help some countries in their fight against the pandemic.

(b) India received assistance from a few countries including Japan, USA, France, Germany and Israel in the form of medical equipment and grants-in-aid.

***Statement-I***

*List of the countries to whom India has provided medical and other assistance in the fight against COVID-19*

Sl.No.	Country	Sl.No.	Country
1.	China	7.	Nepal
2.	Israel	8.	Bangladesh
3.	Iran	9.	Sri Lanka
4.	Italy	10.	Maldives
5.	Bhutan	11.	Mauritius
6.	Afghanistan	12.	Seychelles

Sl.No.	Country	Sl.No.	Country
13.	Comoros	40.	Liberia
14.	Madagascar	41.	Benin
15.	Myanmar	42.	Mozambique
16.	Kuwait	43.	Ethiopia
17.	Armenia	44.	Malawi
18.	Ukraine	45.	Namibia
19.	Kazakhstan	46.	Guinea
20.	Egypt	47.	Gambia
21.	Tajikistan	48.	Kenya
22.	Uganda	49.	Moldova
23.	Niger	50.	Kyrgyzstan
24.	Mali	51.	Sierra Leone
25.	Zambia	52.	Antigua & Barbuda
26.	Burkina Faso	53.	Bahamas
27.	Congo	54.	Barbados
28.	Equatorial Guinea	55.	Belize
29.	Zimbabwe	56.	Bolivia
30.	Eswatini	57.	Costa Rica
31.	Senegal	58.	Cuba
32.	Chad	59.	CW of Dominica
33.	DR Congo	60.	Dominican Republic
34.	Syria	61.	Ecuador
35.	Palestine	62.	El Salvador
36.	Lao PDR	63.	Grenada
37.	Guinea Bissau	64.	Guatemala
38.	Cabo Verde	65.	Guyana
39.	Nigeria	66.	Haiti

Sl.No.	Country	Sl.No.	Country
67.	Honduras	75.	St Vincent
68.	Jamaica	76.	Suriname
69.	Nicaragua	77.	Trinidad and Tobago
70.	Panama	78.	Venezuela
71.	Paraguay	79.	Lebanon
72.	Peru	80.	Uzbekistan
73.	St. Kitts	81.	Djibouti
74.	St. Lucia	82.	Marshall Islands

#### **MoU with Iran on Chabahar port**

†1362. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MoU had been signed by Government with Iran for the construction of Chabahar Port, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that Iran itself is completing this project due to the inactiveness of Government of India; and

(c) whether due to such steps India's relationship with friendly countries is steadily deteriorating?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) During the visit of the Prime Minister to Iran in May 2016, a Trilateral Agreement to establish International Transport and Transit Corridor was signed by India, Iran and Afghanistan. India is participating in the development of the first phase of the Shahid Behesti Port in Chabahar in cooperation with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

An Indian company, India Ports Global Limited, has taken over port operations of Shahid Behesti Port in Chabahar in December, 2018 and has since handled 12 lakhs

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

tons of bulk cargo and about 8200 containers. In the recent past, there has been a rise in transit cargo for Afghanistan through Chabahar. India's assistance of 75,000 tons of wheat to Afghanistan, of which eight consignments have already been shipped, is being supplied via Chabahar. The port has handled over 53,000 tons of India's wheat bound for Afghanistan since the beginning of the current fiscal year. Afghanistan's exports to India are also routed via Chabahar Port.

### **Odisha's role in Act East Policy**

1363. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's Act East Policy is a powerful platform to connect to its neighbours and extended neighbours;

(b) whether Eastern India and North-East India have been considered as the gateway to connect to the region, and in doing this somehow Odisha's potential has not been factored into;

(c) whether Odisha with its civilizational and maritime contacts with the region for several centuries is uniquely placed to contribute to the strengthening of the Act East Policy; and

(d) if so, whether Odisha is a part of the overall Act East framework and whether any assessment has been made on how Odisha can contribute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (d) India's Act East Policy focuses on strengthening relations with India's extended neighbourhood in the Indo-Pacific Region. The Prime Minister articulated India's vision for a free, open, inclusive and rule-based Indo-Pacific in Singapore in 2018 promoting Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR).

The objective of Act East Policy is to promote economic cooperation, cultural ties and develop strategic relationships with countries in the Indo-Pacific region through continuous engagement at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels, thereby providing enhanced connectivity in its broadest sense, including political, economic, cultural and people-people relations.

Act East Policy is a major pillar of India's foreign policy with the objective of benefiting all the States of India, especially those in Eastern India and North Eastern India.

**Evacuation of Indian citizens during the Corona Pandemic**

1364. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:

- (a) how many people were brought back to India during the Corona Pandemic;
- (b) the countries in which India was not able to evacuate during the Corona pandemic along with the reasons therefor and the future plan of action; and
- (c) whether there are any Indian citizens who still need to be evacuated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) As on 16 September, 2020, more than 14,47,481 stranded Indian nationals have returned to India under the Vande Bharat Mission including from remote areas in the Caribbean, Latin America and Africa. As per information provided by the Missions, many people who have registered may no longer wish to return. Moreover, as per latest guidelines of India, passengers are no longer required to register for Air Bubble flights. Most people with compelling reasons have safely returned to their homes by air, land and sea. Since Phase 6 of the Vande Bharat Mission is ongoing with more flights added, including chartered flights and under bilateral Air Bubble agreements with various countries, it is possible for Indian nationals to return at their convenience.

**Expat Quota Bill by Kuwait**

1365. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of the proposed Expat Quota Bill by Kuwait;
- (b) whether it is a fact that as many as 8 lakh Indians are going to be affected with this Bill;
- (c) whether any consultations at the diplomatic and political level have taken place in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the outcome of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) Yes.



(b) The draft legislative proposals and reports of concerned host government entities on this subject are still under examination by the Kuwaiti authorities and hence the nature and quantum of the impact on expatriates in Kuwait, including Indian nationals, cannot be conclusively determined at this stage.

(c) and (d) Consultations at diplomatic and political levels are held regularly on the entire gamut of bilateral relations between the two sides. This matter has also been discussed with the Kuwaiti authorities. The Kuwaiti side has expressed appreciation for the contributions of the Indian community in the development of Kuwait.

### **India's diplomatic relations**

1366. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries with whom India does not have diplomatic relations and its reasons; and

(b) how many diplomatic offices are operating in different countries and the number of sanctioned posts including the vacancy position as of now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) India has diplomatic relations with all UN recognized member states.

(b) There are 197 Missions/Posts and 3 Representative offices of India in different countries. The sanctioned Cadre strength of the Indian Foreign Service is 978 against which there are 815 Cadre officers and 49 officers on deputation. The Ministry has placed an indent of 48 with DoPT and UPSC for Civil Services Examinations 2019 and 2020. Vacancies are regularly reviewed and officers appointed. Generally, gaps between the departure of incumbents and the arrival of their successors are kept to a minimum. However, as the posting chains often involve several officers, on some occasions, Missions/Posts abroad face some short-term vacancies. The COVID-19 situation has also led to temporary delays in the movement of personnel. It is not possible to determine the exact number of vacancies since this is a continuous process with some officers demitting charge and others assuming charge in some of our 197 Missions/Posts abroad.

Recently on account of the global pandemic of COVID-19, various countries including India enforced strict lock-downs and restrictions on movement. This has

severely impacted movement of officials to allotted stations of posting in a timely manner. Vacancies arising on account of delayed movements are temporary in nature, and all efforts are being made by the Ministry to facilitate the movement of its officers through Vande Bharat Mission flights or under air-bubble agreements with partner countries.

### **MoU with Portugal**

1367. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India and Portugal inked MoUs recently;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the benefits to India from such MoUs so far in different fields; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (d) Yes. India and Portugal inked MoUs during the visit of President of the Portuguese Republic H.E. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa to India from 13-16 February, 2020. The details of the MoUs signed and the envisaged benefits are placed below:—

Sl. No.	Title of the MoU/Agreement	Envisaged benefits
1	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Cooperation in Setting Up of a Maritime Gallery at the National Maritime Heritage Complex in Lothal (Gujarat).	Share experience, design, technical, implementation, maintenance and service know-how for development of National Maritime Heritage Complex and enhance international tourism
2	Co-operation Agreement on Maritime Transport and Port Development between the Governments of India and Portugal	Promote maritime traffic and maritime transport industry, enhanced cooperation in navigation control, maritime search and rescue, fight against pollution, protection of marine environment and exchange of information

Sl. No.	Title of the MoU/Agreement	Envisaged benefits
3	Joint Declaration on Migration & Mobility Partnership between the Governments of India and Portugal	Facilitation of mobility of citizens, migration for professional and economic reasons, equal treatment of nationals, prevention of illegal migration
4	MoU for Diplomatic Exchanges and Training between Indian Foreign Service Institute and the Portuguese Diplomatic Institute	Develop cooperation projects in the field of diplomatic training and exchange of information
5	Agreement on Audio-Visual Co-production between the Governments of India and Portugal	Promotion and facilitation of co-production of films and development of cultural and economic exchanges
6	MoU between Economic and Food Safety Authority of Portugal, ASAE, and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry of India, for co-operation in the field of Industrial and Intellectual Property Rights.	Develop further cooperation and exchange in the field of Industrial and Intellectual Property Rights
7	MoU between Invest India and Start-Up Portugal	Provide favourable business environment and necessary guidance to start-ups for promotion and sustainable growth of their businesses in India and Portugal
8	MoU between Prasar Bharti and Portuguese Media House Radio and Television Portugal (RTP)	Strengthen cooperation in the field of broadcasting

#### **Federal jobs for H-1B Visa holders**

1368. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of bar on H-1B Visa holders from federal jobs, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the impact of such decision on Indians and how Government will solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) The Government has taken note of the Executive Order issued by the U.S. Administration on 3 August, 2020 titled "Aligning Federal Contracting and Hiring Practices with the Interests of American Workers" which required federal U.S. agencies to prioritize hiring U.S. residents and green card holders before outsourcing contract jobs to foreign workers, including H-1B visa holders. The executive action also directed all federal agencies to review their ongoing contracts to see whether foreign workers were being used and identify national security risks and areas where U.S. workers are not being prioritized.

(b) The Government is assessing the impact of the Executive Order on Indian nationals in consultation with stakeholders. Government of India has closely engaged with the U.S. Administration and other relevant stakeholders on issues related to movement of Indian professionals, highlighting the importance of people to people linkages and the contribution of Indian skilled professionals to the growth and development of the U.S. economy, especially in the technology and innovation sector.

#### **Evacuations under Vande Bharat Mission**

1369. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be please to state:

(a) the total number and the country-wise breakup of Indian citizens evacuated and repatriated under the Vande Bharat Mission since it commenced in May, 2020;

(b) what steps Government is taking to facilitate further repatriations from foreign countries;

(c) the State-Wise breakup of repatriated Indian citizens; and

(d) whether Government intends to ensure that facilities will be provided for its citizens to go back to the countries where they were employed or otherwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) Under the Vande Bharat Mission, more than 14,47,481 stranded Indian nationals have been repatriated to India till 16 September, 2020. A country-wise list of repatriated Indian nationals is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The Government of India continues to facilitate further repatriation of Indians desiring to return to India. Since Phase 6 of the Vande Bharat Mission is ongoing with more flights added, including chartered flights and under bilateral Air Bubble agreements with various countries, it is possible for Indian nationals to return at their convenience.

(c) A State-wise list of arrival of Indian nationals under the Vande Bharat Mission is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) Indian nationals wishing to return to their country of employment or residence have been doing so under the Vande Bharat flights, as per the regulations of the receiving country. With greater frequency of flights and the possibility of making online booking, the return of Indians to those countries has significantly increased.

***Statement-I***

*Country-wise number of repatriated Indians till 15.09.2020*

Country	No. of repatriated Indians
Afghanistan	1241
Algeria	899
Angola	654
Armenia	720
Australia	7926
Azerbaijan	186
Bahrain	24704
Bangladesh	5082
Barbados	115
Belarus	227
Belgium	287
Bhutan	120
Brazil	510
Brunei	272

Country	No. of repatriated Indians
Bulgaria	499
Cambodia	289
Canada	13342
China	530
Denmark	52
Djibouti	233
Egypt	1890
Ethiopia	6505
Fiji	5
Finland	219
France	16337
Georgia	862
Germany	19744
Ghana	302
Greece	163
Hong Kong	917
Indonesia	2585
Iran	3386
Iraq	6806
Ireland	485
Israel	438
Italy	3083
Japan	2702
Jordan	830
Kazakhstan	3685

Country	No. of repatriated Indians
Kenya	1126
Kuwait	90759
Kyrgyzstan	11142
Laos	427
Latvia	5
Lebanon	893
Madagascar	84
Malaysia	12612
Maldives	7344
Malta	102
Mauritius	982
Mexico	228
Moldova	243
Mongolia	17
Myanmar	662
Nepal	332
Netherlands	337
New Zealand	1835
Nigeria	4709
Norway	267
Oman	85498
Others	2152
Pakistan	671
Philippines	7462
Poland	336

Country	No. of repatriated Indians
Portugal	54
Qatar	104444
Romania	8
Russia	8707
Saudi Arabia	163851
Seychelles	958
Singapore	24867
South Africa	1661
South Korea	1730
Spain	1117
Sri Lanka	8085
Sudan	155
Sweden	1270
Switzerland	12
Syria	12
Taiwan	108
Tajikistan	1406
Tanzania	1797
Thailand	2141
Tunisia	25
Turkey	1184
Turkmenistan	38
United Arab Emirates	457596
United Kingdom	39141
Ukraine	8205



Country	No. of repatriated Indians
United States Of America	77305
Uzbekistan	680
Vietnam	815
Yemen	76
Zimbabwe	5
Total by Air	1269549
Total by Land	131618
Total by Sea	3987

**Statement-II***State-wise Number of Repatriated Indians till 15.09.2020*

State	No. of Repatriated Indians By Air
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	45
Andhra Pradesh	33413
Arunachal Pradesh	41
Assam	1005
Bihar	33708
Chandigarh	1648
Chhattisgarh	878
D&N Haveli	40
Daman and Diu	132
Delhi	228705
Goa	9659
Gujarat	24502
Haryana	6423
Himachal Pradesh	1570
Jammu and Kashmir	5093

State	No. of Repatriated Indians By Air
Jharkhand	2249
Karnataka	61380
Kerala	372053
Ladakh	486
Lakshadweep	866
Madhya Pradesh	3238
Maharashtra	96796
Manipur	393
Meghalaya	87
Mizoram	126
Nagaland	81
Odisha	10590
Puducherry	1085
Punjab	32017
Rajasthan	32709
Sikkim	90
Tamil Nadu	110246
Telangana	66518
Tripura	545
Uttar Pradesh	116009
Uttarakhand	2877
West Bengal	11961
Total by Air	1269264
Total by Land	131618
Total by Sea	3987

**Expansion of UNSC and other reforms**

1370. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by India during the last three years for emphasizing the need for expansion of the UN Security Council in both permanent and non-permanent categories and for having reforms in international bodies like World Trade Organisation, International Monetary Fund and World Health Organisation;

(b) the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, whether Government would make every effort in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) Government has accorded great priority to getting permanent membership for India in an expanded UN Security Council that reflects contemporary global realities. India in collaboration with other pro-reform countries has been consistently making efforts to build support among the UN Member States for expansion of the UNSC, in both permanent and non-permanent categories.

India has been maintaining that global institutions need to be reformed, starting from the United Nations and its Security Council. Reformed multilateralism has been our motto for a purposeful reform of existing structures, which must continue to serve the international community even more in this complex and uncertain times.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi delivered a keynote address virtually at this year's High-Level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) session on Friday, 17th July, 2020 at the United Nations in New York and reiterated India's call for a 'reformed multilateralism' in a post- COVID-19 world which reflects the realities of the contemporary world.

India is actively engaged in the ongoing Inter-Governmental Negotiations on UNSC reform at the UN and has been working alongside other reform-oriented countries through its membership of the G-4 (India, Japan, Brazil and Germany) and the L.69 Group (cross-regional grouping of developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America). The issue of UNSC reforms is discussed in all pertinent bilateral and multilateral meetings, including at the highest levels.

'New Orientation for a Reformed Multilateral System (NORMS)' is going to be one of the key priorities of India's tenure as non- permanent member of the UNSC in

2021-22. The call for urgent reform of governance structures of multilateral bodies has been one of India's main priorities at high-level bilateral and multilateral engagements.

### **Visit of the US president to India**

1371. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) when did Government first receive information from the US Government about the planned visit of US President to India;
- (b) whether members of the US President's staff and delegation were tested for the COVID-19 virus during his visit;
- (c) if so, whether any member was tested positive for the virus;
- (d) if yes, the reasons why precautions were not taken; and
- (e) the precautions taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19 virus at events organised during the visit of the US President?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) Dates for the State visit of His Excellency Donald J. Trump, President of the United States to India on 24-25 February, 2020 were decided in mutual consultation by the respective governments. The visit was announced by the Government on 11 February, 2020.

(b) to (e) At the time of President Trump's visit *i.e.* 24-25 February, 2020, there was no requirement of mandatory Covid-19 test for travellers coming from foreign countries. Pandemic status to diseases is given by WHO which declared Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) a pandemic on 11 March, 2020. The requirement of mandatory universal screening of all international passengers arriving in 21 airports in India for Covid-19 was implemented by Government of India *w.e.f* 4 March, 2020. Therefore, during President Trump's visit to India, established norms and protocols for handling such high level visits were followed by the Government of India.

### **Ease of international travel for Indians**

1372. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the list and details of countries which have relaxed visa requirements for Indians to travel to their country since 2000;

(b) whether the Ministry has been in negotiations with any countries to further the ease of international travel for Indians by means of visa relaxations in pre-COVID scenario;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) List of countries which have extended visa-free entry, visa-on-arrival facility and e-Visa facility to Indian citizens, holding ordinary Passports as on date are as follows:—

- (i) There are 16 countries which provide Visa-free entry to Indian ordinary passport holders. (List given in the Statement-I) (*See below*).
- (ii) There are 43 countries which provide Visa-on-Arrival facility to Indian ordinary Passport holders. (List given in the Statement-II) (*See below*).
- (iii) There are 36 countries which provide e-Visa facility to Indian ordinary Passport holders. (List given in the Statement-III) (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Government of India has been making efforts to increase the number of countries that provide Visa free travel, Visa-on-Arrival and e-visa facility so as to further easing of international travel for Indians. While issuance of visa and visa related process is the sovereign and unilateral decision of the respective country, the matter regarding easier and liberalized visa policy for Indian nationals is taken up regularly in bilateral meetings/ forums with foreign countries.

(d) Not Applicable.

#### ***Statement-I***

##### *Foreign countries which provide Visa-free entry to Indian citizens*

Sl. No.	Country Name	Sl. No.	Country Name
1.	Barbados	5.	Haiti
2.	Bhutan	6.	Hong Kong SAR
3.	Dominica	7.	Maldives
4.	Grenada	8.	Mauritius

Sl. No.	Country Name	Sl. No.	Country Name
9.	Montserrat	13.	Samoa
10.	Nepal	14.	Senegal
11.	Niue Island	15.	Serbia
12.	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	16.	Trinidad & Tobago

***Statement-II****Foreign countries which provide Visa-on-Arrival entry to Indian citizens*

Sl. No.	Country Name	Sl. No.	Country Name
1.	Angola	22.	Nigeria
2.	Bolivia	23.	Niue Island
3.	Cabo Verde	24.	Qatar
4.	Cambodia	25.	Republic of Marshall Islands
5.	Cameroon Union Republic	26.	Reunion Island
6.	Cook Islands	27.	Rwanda
7.	Djibouti	28.	Saint Kitts & Nevis
8.	Ethiopia	29.	Saint Lucia
9.	Fiji	30.	Samoa
10.	Guinea Bissau	31.	Senegal
11.	Indonesia	32.	Seychelles
12.	Iran	33.	Somalia
13.	Jamaica	34.	Sri Lanka
14.	Jordan	35.	Suriname
15.	Kenya	36.	Tajikistan
16.	Kiribati	37.	Tanzania
17.	Laos	38.	Thailand
18.	Madagascar	39.	Tunisia
19.	Mauritania	40.	Tuvalu
20.	Mongolia	41.	Vanuatu
21.	Myanmar	42.	Vietnam
		43.	Zimbabwe

**Statement-III***Foreign countries which provide e-Visa facility to Indian nationals*

Sl. No.	Country Name	Sl. No.	Country Name
1.	Armenia	21.	Papua New Guinea
2.	Azerbaijan	22.	Russian Federation (specific areas of Far Eastern Federal District, Kaliningrad, Leningrad regions and St. Petersburg Regions of Russian Federation)
3.	Bahrain	23.	Saint Lucia
4.	Barbados	24.	Saint Vincent and Grenadines
5.	Benin	25.	Singapore
6.	Cambodia	26.	South Korea
7.	Colombia	27.	Sri Lanka
8.	Cote D' Ivoire	28.	Suriname
9.	Djibouti	29.	Taiwan
10.	Ethiopia	30.	Tajikistan
11.	Georgia	31.	Tanzania
12.	Guinea	32.	Thailand
13.	Kazakhstan	33.	Uganda
14.	Kenya	34.	Uzbekistan
15.	Kyrgyzstan Republic	35.	Vietnam
16.	Lesotho	36.	Zambia
17.	Malaysia		
18.	Moldova		
19.	Myanmar		
20.	New Zealand		

1373. *The Question was cancelled.*

**Nepal-China transportation treaties**

1374. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that Nepal has signed a number of transit and

transportation treaties with China in the past few years to shrug off its dependence on India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely impact of these various agreements on the relationship of India with Nepal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) According to an official Press Release of the Government of Nepal, a Protocol to the agreement on Transit Transport was signed between the Government of Nepal and the Government of the People's Republic of China during the visit of President of Nepal to China in April 2019.

India's age-old ties with Nepal are unique and special, based on shared history, geography, culture, close people-to-people ties, mutual security and close economic linkages. Two-thirds of Nepal's global trade is with India and over 90% of Nepal's third country import-export transit through India. India's ties with Nepal stand on their own merit, and are independent of Nepal's relations with third countries.

India is committed to further strengthening and expanding India-Nepal cooperation across diverse areas including trade-economic and investment cooperation, developmental assistance, connectivity, culture and people-to-people level ties.

#### **Prime Minister's visits to various countries**

1375. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of countries visited by the Prime Minister since 2015 till date;

(b) the names of the countries visited;

(c) the total expenditure incurred on these trips; and

(d) the outcomes of these visits and details of the treaties signed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) Since 2015, Prime Minister has visited 58 countries. Details are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Total expenditure on these visits was INR 517.82 crore.



(d) Prime Minister's interactions during his visits abroad have enhanced understanding of India's perspectives on bilateral, regional and global issues by other countries, and have strengthened our relations with them across a wide range of sectors including trade & investment, technology, maritime, space, defence collaboration and people to people contact. These in turn have contributed to India's national development agenda to promote economic growth and well being of our people. India is now increasingly contributing to shaping the global agenda at the multilateral level including on climate change, trans-national crime & terrorism, cyber security & nuclear non-proliferation, and offering to the world its own unique initiatives for global issues like the International Solar Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. Details of treaties/agreements signed by India during Prime Minister's visits abroad since 2015 are given in the Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Visits by Prime Minister since 2015*

Countries visited	Period of visit
1. Seychelles, Mauritius & Sri Lanka	10 March - 14 March, 2015
2. Singapore	28 March - 29 March, 2015
3. France, Germany & Canada	9 April - 17 April, 2015
4. China, Mongolia & South Korea	14 April - 19 May, 2015
5. Bangladesh	6 June - 7 June, 2015
6. Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan & Tajikistan	6 July - 14 July, 2015
7. United Arab Emirates	16 Aug - 17 Aug, 2015
8. Ireland and USA	23 Sept - 29 Sept, 2015
9. UK and Turkey	12Nov - 16 Nov, 2015
10. Malaysia and Singapore	20 Nov - 24 Nov, 2015
11. France	29 Nov - 30 Nov, 2015
12. Russia, Afghanistan & Pakistan	23 Dec - 25 Dec, 2015
13. Belgium, USA and Saudi Arabia	30 Mar - 03 Apr, 2016
14. Iran	22 May - 23 May, 2016

	Countries visited	Period of visit
15.	Afghanistan, Qatar, Switzerland, USA and Mexico	4 June - 9 June, 2016
16.	Uzbekistan	23 June - 24 June, 2016
17.	Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Kenya	7 July - 11 July, 2016
18.	Vietnam and China	2 Sept - 5 Sept, 2016
19.	Laos	7 Sept - 8 Sept, 2016
20.	Japan	10 Nov-12 Nov, 2016
21.	Sri Lanka	11 May-12 May, 2017
22.	Germany, Spain, Russia & France	29 May-3 June, 2017
23.	Kazakhstan	8 June-9 June, 2017
24.	Portugal, USA and Netherlands	24 June-27 June, 2017
25.	Israel and Germany	4 July-8 July, 2017
26.	China and Myanmar	3 Sept-7 Sept, 2017
27.	Philippines	12 Nov-14 Nov, 2017
28.	Switzerland	22 Jan-23 Jan, 2018
29.	Jordan, Palestine, UAE & Oman	09 Feb-12 Feb, 2018
30.	Sweden, UK & Germany	16 April-20 April, 2018
31.	China	26 April-28 April, 2018
32.	Nepal	11 May-12 May, 2018
33.	Russia	21 May-22 May, 2018
34.	Indonesia, Malaysia & Singapore	29 May-2 June, 2018
35.	China	09 June-10 June, 2018
36.	Rwanda, Uganda & South Africa	23 July-28 July, 2018
37.	Nepal	30 Aug - 31 Aug, 2018
38.	Japan	27 Oct - 30 Oct, 2018
39.	Singapore	13 Nov - 15 Nov, 2018

Countries visited	Period of visit
40. Maldives	17 Nov - 17 Nov, 2018
41. Argentina	28 Nov - 3 Dec, 2018
42. South Korea	21 Feb - 22 Feb, 2019
43. Maldives & Sri Lanka	08 June - 09 June, 2019
44. Kyrgyzstan	13 June - 14 June, 2019
45. Japan	27 June - 29 June, 2019
46. Bhutan	17 Aug - 18 Aug, 2019
47. France, UAE and Bahrian	22 Aug - 27 Aug, 2019
48. Russia	04 Sept - 05 Sept, 2019
49. USA	21 Sept - 28 Sept, 2019
50. Saudi Arabia	28 Oct-29 Oct, 2019
51. Thailand	02 Nov-04 Nov, 2019
52. Brazil	13 Nov-15 Nov, 2019

**Statement-II***Treaties/Agreements signed during visits by Prime Minister*

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
Seychelles, Mauritius & Sri Lanka 10-14 March 2015	<p><b>Seychelles</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU on Renewable Energy Cooperation</li> <li>2. MoU for Cooperation in the field of Hydrography</li> <li>3. Protocol on Sale of Navigational Charts / Electronic Navigational Charts</li> </ol> <p><b>Mauritius</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Memorandum of Understanding between India and Republic of Mauritius in the field of Ocean Economy</li> <li>2. Programme for Cultural Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Republic of Mauritius for the year 2015-18</li> <li>3. Protocol between the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture of Republic of</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	India and the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security of Republic of Mauritius for the importation of fresh mango from India
	4. Memorandum of Understanding for the Improvement in Sea and Air Transportation Facilities at Agalega Island of Mauritius
	5. MoU on Cooperation in the field of Traditional System of Medicine and Homeopathy
	<b>Sri Lanka</b> - Bilateral meeting
Singapore 28-29 March 2015	To attend funeral of Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, first Prime Minister of Singapore
France, Germany & Canada 9-17 April 2015	<b>France</b>
	1. MoU between L&T and AREVA
	2. Pre-engineering agreements between NPCIL and Areva
	3. MoU between ISRO and CNES on Megha Tropiques
	4. MoU between ISRO, CNES and ONERA for Ka-band propagation experiment over Indian tropical region
	5. Programme between ISRO and French National Centre for Space Studies
	6. MoU on Cooperation between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of India and French Ministry of Sports, Youth Affairs, Public Education and Community Life
	7. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the field of renewable energy between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), Government of India and the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, Government of France
	8. Railway protocol between Indian Ministry of Railways and French National Railways
	9. Guarantee Agreement with AFD Financing of Energy Efficiency Services Limited

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Administrative Arrangement in the field of Cultural Heritage</li> <li>11. Letter of Intent on Tourism</li> <li>12. Letter of Intent (LoI) between the Archaeological Survey of India and National Institute of Preventive Archaeological Research</li> <li>13. MOU between School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi and National Architecture Institute in Paris, France</li> <li>14. MoU between Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation (IHCN) and <i>Association Nationale des Villes et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire et villes a secteurs sauvegardes et proteges</i></li> <li>15. Proposal for twinning of historical monuments</li> <li>16. VIE scheme to allow Indian students in France and French students in India to stay for a period of 24 months.</li> <li>17. Letter of Intent on Ayurveda between Ministry of Ayush and University of Strasbourg</li> <li>18. MoU between National Skill Development Agency, India and the National Commission for Vocational Qualifications (Commission Nationale de la Certification Professionnelle - CNCD)</li> <li>19. MoU on cooperation in the field of Science &amp; Technology between Department of Science &amp; Technology of India and the French National Centre for Scientific Research</li> <li>20. MoU between Department of Biotechnology of India and CNRS and UPMC on Collaboration for establishment of a National Institute of Marine Biology and Biotechnology in India</li> </ol>
<b>Germany -</b>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Letter of Intent on Indo-German Solar Partnership.</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Declaration of Intent on Sustainable Urban Development.</li> <li>Letter of Intent on Indo-German Skill Development Project.</li> </ol>
	<b>Canada</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoU between ISRO and the Canadian Space Agency concerning Cooperation in the field of Outer Space.</li> <li>MoU between the Ministry of Railways and Department of Transport of Canada on Technical Cooperation in Rail Transportation.</li> <li>Letter of intent Between Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology and Grand Challenges Canada for the implementation of Collaboration in disease elimination and Saving Brain Initiative.</li> <li>An Agreement between the Indian Department of Atomic Energy and Cameco of Canada for long-term supply of uranium to India.</li> <li>13 MoUs signed between National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), India and various colleges and institutes of Canada in various fields.</li> </ol>
China, Mongolia & South Korea 14 - 19 May 2015	<b>China</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoU to jointly setup Photovoltaic (PV) Industry Park for production of 500 MW of PV Cell and 500MW of PV Solar Modules in India.</li> <li>Tripartite MoU in renewable energy sector</li> <li>Framework Agreement to establish an integrated PV Industrial Park in Mundra SEZ, and to explore investments in gas power generation and natural gas industry.</li> <li>MoU to set up a Solar Cell and module manufacturing facility</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. MoU to generate 5,000 MW of solar power in the next five years as well as manufacturing of solar modules.</li> <li>6. Offshore Delivery Centre in Dalian</li> <li>7. Financing for purchase of equipment under License approved by TRAI</li> <li>8. Financing for purchase of equipment from ZTE and Huawei</li> <li>9. Masterplan MoU on 2000 acre Industrial Park in Kakinada SEZ for hi-end Chinese equipment manufacturers</li> <li>10. Industrial Park in Gujarat</li> <li>11. Manufacturing of high-tech Capital Goods in India</li> <li>12. Financing of APL Mundra Power Plant Phase I, II and III</li> <li>13. MoU for project financing</li> <li>14. MoU for credit facility</li> <li>15. Nana Layja 4000 MW Thermal Power Project</li> <li>16. MoU on development of potential projects</li> <li>17. Integrated Steel Project in Gujarat</li> <li>18. Hot-rolled Steel Coil Project</li> <li>19. Establish "Sister-Port" Relationship between Mundra Port and Guangzhou Port</li> <li>20. Mutual development and exploration in opportunities in Indian and Chinese film market</li> <li>21. Co-Production of Film "Xuan Zang"</li> <li>22. MoU to jointly build "China-India Information Service Industry Corridor"</li> <li>23. Institutional agreement for promoting Indian IT companies participating in IT projects</li> <li>24. Institutional Agreement to connect Indian and Chinese Private sector companies</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	25. MoU for cooperation in IT Sector
	26. Partnership MoU
	27. Protocol between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the the Establishment of Consulates-General at Chengdu and Chennai and the Extension of the Consular district of the Consulate-General of the Republic of India in Guangzhou to include Jiangxi province.
	28. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of the People's Republic of China on cooperation in the field of Vocational Education and Skill Development.
	29. Action Plan on Cooperation in Setting up of Mahatma Gandhi National Institute for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship in Ahmedabad/ Gandhinagar Gujarat
	30. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Consultative Mechanism for Cooperation in Trade Negotiations
	31. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the International Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China
	32. Action Plan between the National Railway Administration of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India on Enhancing Cooperation in the Railway Sector (2015-2016)
	33. Memorandum of Understanding on Education Exchange Programme



Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<p>34. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Mines of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Land and Resources of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in the fields of Mining And Mineral Sector</p> <p>35. Space Cooperation Outline (2015-2020)</p> <p>36. Protocol on Health and Safety Regulations on Importing Indian Rapeseed Meal between the Export Inspection Council, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Republic of India, and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine</p> <p>37. Memorandum of Understanding between Doordarshan and China Central Television on cooperation in the field of Broadcasting</p> <p>38. Agreement between the Ministry of Tourism of the Republic of India and the National Tourism Administration of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in the field of Tourism</p> <p>39. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Establishing India-China Think-Tanks Forum</p> <p>40. Memorandum of Understanding between NITI Aayog of the Government of India and the Development Research Centre, State Council of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>41. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Republic of India and the China Earthquake Administration of the People's Republic of China Concerning Cooperation in the Field of Earthquake Sciences and Earthquake Engineering</p> <p>42. Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Republic of India and the State Oceanic Administration of the People's Republic of China on Cooperation in the field of Ocean Sciences, Ocean Technology, Climate Change, Polar Science and Cryosphere.</p>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<p>43. Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific Cooperation between Geological Survey of India, Ministry of Mines, of the Republic of India and China Geological Survey, Ministry of Land and Resources of People's Republic of China in Geosciences</p> <p>44. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India and Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries on Establishment of States/Provincial Leaders' Forum</p> <p>45. Agreement on the Establishment of Sister-State/Province Relations Between State Government of Karnataka of the Republic of India and Provincial Government of Sichuan of People's Republic of China.</p> <p>46. Agreement on the Establishment of Sister City Relations between Chennai, Republic of India and Chongqing, People's Republic of China</p> <p>47. Agreement on the Establishment of Sister City Relations between Hyderabad, Republic of India and Qingdao, People's Republic of China</p> <p>48. Agreement on the Establishment of Sister City Relations between Aurangabad, Republic of India and Dunhuang, People's Republic of China</p> <p>49. Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Fudan University on the Establishment of a Center for Gandhian and Indian Studies</p> <p>50. Memorandum Of Understanding Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations And Yunnan Minzu University on the Establishment of a Yoga College</p> <p><b>Mongolia</b></p> <p>1. Revised Air Services Agreement</p> <p>2. Treaty on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons</p>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Animal Health and Dairy</li> <li>4. MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homeopathy</li> <li>5. MoU on Establishment of Cyber Security Training Centre in the Ministry of Defence of Mongolia</li> <li>6. MoU on Establishment of India-Mongolia Joint Friendship School in Mongolia</li> <li>7. Programme on Cooperation in the field of Culture for the Years 2015-2018</li> <li>8. Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation between the National Security Council of the Republic of India and the National Security Council of Mongolia</li> <li>9. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia</li> <li>10. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Energy of Mongolia</li> <li>11. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Justice of Mongolia on enhancing cooperation between the border guarding forces</li> <li>12. Memorandum of Understanding between the Tata Memorial Centre of India and the National Cancer Center of Mongolia for Gifting Bhabhatron-II Tele-therapy Unit along with a Radiotherapy Simulator</li> <li>13. Memorandum of Understanding between the Foreign Service Institute of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<b>South Korea</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Korea for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income</li> <li>2. India-Republic of Korea Agreement on Cooperation in Audio-Visual Co-Production</li> <li>3. MoU for Cooperation between the National Security Council Secretariat of the Republic of India and the Office of National Security of the Republic of Korea</li> <li>4. MoU between the Ministry of Power of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy of the Republic of Korea concerning Cooperation in the field of Electric Power Development and New Energy Industries</li> <li>5. MoU between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family of the Republic of Korea on Cooperation in Youth Matters</li> <li>6. Framework of Cooperation in the Field of Road Transport and Highways between the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea</li> <li>7. MoU between the Ministry of Shipping of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea on Cooperation in the Fields of Maritime Transport and Logistics</li> </ol>
Bangladesh 6 - 7 June 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Land Boundary Agreement -Protocol for exchange of Instrument of Ratification regarding the India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974 and Protocol of 2011 to the Land Boundary Agreement</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Exchange of Letters on Modalities for Implementation of India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974 and Protocol of 2011 to the Land Boundary Agreement</li> <li>3. Agreement on Coastal Shipping between India and Bangladesh</li> <li>4. Bilateral Trade Agreement (Renewal)</li> <li>5. Bilateral Cooperation Agreement between Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) and Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institute (BSTI) on cooperation in the field of Standardization.</li> <li>6. Agreement on Dhaka-Shillong-Guwahati Bus Service and its Protocol</li> <li>7. Agreement on Kolkata-Dhaka- Agartala Bus Service and its Protocol</li> <li>8. Protocol on Inland Waterways Transit and Trade (PIWTT) (Renewal)</li> <li>9. Cultural Exchange Programme between the Government of India and the Government of Bangladesh for the year 2015-2017</li> <li>10. MoU between Government of India and Government of Bangladesh for extending a new Line of Credit (LoC) of US Dollar 2.0 billion</li> <li>11. MoU between India and Bangladesh on Use of Chittagong and Mongla Ports for Movement of Goods to and from India</li> <li>12. MoU between India and Bangladesh on Blue Economy and Maritime Cooperation in the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean</li> <li>13. MoU between Government of India and Government of Bangladesh on Bilateral Cooperation for Prevention of Human Trafficking</li> <li>14. MoU between Government of India and Government of Bangladesh on the prevention of Smuggling and Circulation of Fake Currency Notes</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. MoU on establishment of Indian Special Economic Zone in Bangladesh</li> <li>16. MoU between the Coast Guards of India and Bangladesh</li> <li>17. MoU for a Project under India Endowment for Climate Change - South Asia (IECC-SA) of SAARC to supply 70000 Improved Cook Stoves to Bangladesh</li> <li>18. MoU between Jamia Milia Islamia, India and University of Rajshahi of Bangladesh</li> <li>19. MoU between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India, and University of Dhaka, Bangladesh for Joint research on Oceanography in Bay of Bengal</li> <li>20. Statement of Intent for Cooperation in the Field of Education</li> <li>21. Handing over of a Letter of Consent to the Chairman, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India by Chairman, Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) of Bangladesh to commence operations in Bangladesh by LIC</li> <li>22. Agreement between Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and BSNL and Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Limited (BSCCL)</li> </ol>
Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan & Tajikistan 6 - 14 July 2015	<p><b>Uzbekistan</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Intergovernmental Agreement on cooperation in the field of tourism.</li> <li>2. Protocol on Cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Uzbekistan, and Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India.</li> <li>3. Intergovernmental Programme of Cultural Cooperation for 2015-17</li> </ol> <p><b>Kazakhstan</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joint Work Plan between the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and the</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	KazAgroInnovations JSC (KAI), Kazakhstan in the field of Agricultural Research and Education for the Years 2016-2017
	2. MoU between JSC NC "Kazakhstan Temir Zholy" and Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd.
	3. MoU between LLP "Kazakh Utility Systems" and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.
	4. MoU between National Export and Investment Agency "Kaznex Invest " JSC and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.
	5. MoU between National Export and Investment Agency "Kaznex Invest" JSC and "Invest India".
	6. MoU between the Ministry of Railways of India and Kazakhstan Temir Zholy on Technical Cooperation in the field of Railways.
	7. MoU between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of India and the Ministry of Culture and Sports of Kazakhstan on Cooperation on Physical Culture and Sports.
	8. Long-Term Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Uranium Concentrates between JSC "NAC Kazatomprom" and Directorate of Purchase & Stores, Department of Atomic Energy, GOI.
	9. Agreement on Transfer of Sentenced Persons.
	10. Agreement on Defence and Military Technical Cooperation.
	11. Tej Kadam: India-Kazakhstan Joint Statement
	<b>Russia - BRICS Summit</b>
	<b>Turkmenistan</b>
	1. Memorandum of Understanding on Supply of Chemical Products between the Indian Public Sector Undertaking 'Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited' and the Turkmen State concern 'Turkmenhimiya'

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Memorandum of Understanding between the Foreign Service Institute of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan</li> <li>3. Agreement Between The Ministry of Youth Affairs And Sports of The Republic Of India And The State Committee For Sport of Turkmenistan On Cooperation In The Field Of Sports</li> <li>4. Programme Of Cooperation In Science And Technology Between The Government of The Republic of India And The Government of Turkmenistan For The Period Of 2015 -2017</li> <li>5. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in Yoga and Traditional Medicine</li> <li>6. Memorandum of Understanding Between The Government of The Republic of India And The Government of Turkmenistan on Cooperation In The Field of Tourism</li> <li>7. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the field of Defence8. Indo-Turkmen Joint Statement</li> </ol>
	<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement on Defence Cooperation</li> <li>2. Memorandum of Mutual Understanding and Cooperation in the field of Elections</li> <li>3. MoU between Ministry of Economy of Kyrgyzstan and Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) on cooperation in the sphere of Standards.</li> <li>4. Agreement on Cooperation in Culture</li> </ol>



Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<b>Tajikistan</b>
	1. Programme of Cooperation (POC) between Ministries of Culture of India and Tajikistan in the field of Culture for the years 2016-18
	2. Exchange of Note Verbale (NV) on setting up of Computer Labs in 37 Schools in Tajikistan
United Arab Emirates 16 -17 August 2015	Joint Statement between the United Arab Emirates and the Republic of India
Ireland and USA 23-29 Sept 2015	<b>Ireland</b> - Meeting with Prime Minister of Ireland
	<b>USA</b>
	1. MoU between Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (a section of Company set up in the DBT Biotech Cluster, Bangalore) and the California Institute for Quantitative Biosciences to develop Indo-US Life Science Sister Innovation Hub to enhance science-based entrepreneurship, research, academia and business by leveraging each other's ecosystems.
	2. Letter of Intent between Department of Biotechnology and Prakash Lab, Stanford University for sourcing Foldscope from Prakashilabs to DVT Star Colleges in India and for looking at possibilities for setting up of joint research on other low cost instrumentation in colleges in India.
	3. MoU between National Association of Software and Service Companies and the Indus Entrepreneurs to support the creation of a vibrant ecosystem to foster technology entrepreneurship in India and Silicon Valley.
	4. MoU between IIM Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Lester Centre for Entrepreneurship of the Haas Business School of the University of California to collaborate to jointly promote tech and impact entrepreneurship in India.

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. MoU between IIM Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator to extend Next Generation Intelligent network Membership benefits to CIIE and to jointly promote cleantech entrepreneurship.</li> <li>6. MoU between IIM Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Google to support technology and impact entrepreneurs through strategic support.</li> <li>7. MoU between IIM Ahmedabad's Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and Tata Trust to collaborate on Bharat Fund, which will provide seed funding to Indian entrepreneurs.</li> </ol>
UK and Turkey	<b>UK</b>
12 - 16 Nov 2015	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement between Government of India and the Government of United Kingdom for co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.</li> <li>2. MoU between the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India and the Department of Energy and Climate Change, Government of UK concerning Cooperation with India's Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership.</li> <li>3. MoU between the Railways of Government of India and the Department of Transport of Government of UK on Technical Cooperation in the Rail Sector.</li> <li>4. MoU between the Government of India and the Government of UK on Co-operation in the Energy Sector</li> <li>5. MoU between Central Council for Research in Homeopathy an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India and Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine, Part of University College London Hospitals, NHS Foundation Trust on Cooperation in the Field of Research and Education in Homeopathic Medicine.</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. MoU between Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India and Cabinet Office of the United Kingdom for Co-operation on Public Administration and Governance Reforms.</li> <li>7. MoU on fast track mechanism by DIPP for UK investments in India</li> <li>8. Statement of Intent on Partnership for Cooperation in Third Countries between the Government of India and the Government of UK</li> </ol>
	<b>Turkey - G20 Summit</b>
Malaysia and Singapore 20 - 24 Nov 2015	<b>Malaysia</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU on Cyber Security (Between the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN), India and Cyber Security, Malaysia)</li> <li>2. MoU on CEP (Between the Ministry of Culture, India and Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Malaysia)</li> <li>3. MoU on PEMANDU (Between National Institution for Transforming India (NITI AAYOG, Government of India and PEMANDU, Government of Malaysia)</li> </ol>
	<b>Singapore</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Singapore concerning Defence Cooperation</li> <li>2. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Singapore on the Extension of Loan of Artifacts to the Asian Civilisations Museum of Singapore</li> <li>3. Executive Programme on Cooperation in the Fields of the Arts, Heritage, Archives and Library between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Singapore for the Years 2015-2018</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Operationalisation of the Technical Agreement on Sharing White Shipping Information between the Indian Navy and the Republic of Singapore Navy signed on 21 July 2015</li> <li>5. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), Department of Information Technology of the Republic of India and Singapore Computer Emergency Response Team(SingCERT), Cyber Security Agency of the Republic of Singapore on Cooperation in the area of Cyber Security.</li> <li>6. Memorandum of Understanding between Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) in Civil Aviation</li> <li>7. Memorandum of Understanding between National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) and Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) on Cooperation in the Field of Planning</li> <li>8. Memorandum of Understanding between the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) of the Republic of India and the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) of the Republic of Singapore on Cooperation to Combat Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substance and their Precursors</li> <li>9. Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and Country Planning Organisation of the Government of India and the Singapore Cooperation Enterprise in Capacity Building in the Field of Urban Planning and Governance</li> </ol>
France 29-30 Nov 2015	India signed the Paris Agreement, ushering in a new phase in our national commitment for clean energy and sustainable development.
Russia, Afghanistan & Pakistan 23-25 Dec 2015	<b>Russia</b>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Protocol amending the agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on simplification of requirements for mutual travels of certain categories of citizens of the two countries 21 December 2010.</li><li>2. Protocol amending agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on mutual travel regime for holders of Diplomatic &amp; Official Passports of 3 December 2004</li><li>3. Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the field of Helicopter Engineering</li><li>4. Plan for Cooperation between the Federal Customs Service of the Central Board of Excise and Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Republic of India and the Russian Federation for combating Customs violations in 2015 - 2017</li><li>5. Programme of Action Agreed Between The Department of Atomic Energy of India And The Russian State Atomic Energy Corporation "Rosatom" for Localization of Manufacturing in India for Russian-Designed Nuclear Reactor Units</li><li>6. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India and the Joint Stock company "Russian Railways" on technical cooperation in railway sector</li><li>7. MoU between Solar Energy Corporation of India and Russian Energy Agency regarding construction of solar energy plants in the Republic of India</li><li>8. MoU for cooperation between HEC &amp; CNIITMASH for development of Centre of Excellence for heavy engineering design at HEC</li><li>9. MoU for cooperation between HEC &amp; CNIITMASH for upgradation and modernization of HEC's manufacturing facilities</li></ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. Memorandum of Understanding Between Prasar Bharati and Digital Television Russia on Cooperation in the field of Broadcasting</li> <li>11. Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between Centre for Development of Advance Computing (C-DAC), Indian Institute of Science Bangalore (IISc) and Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU)</li> <li>12. Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between Centre for Development of Advance Computing (C-DAC), OJSC "GLONASS" and GLONASS Union</li> <li>13. MoU in the field of investment cooperation in the Russian Far East between The Tata Power Company Limited and Ministry for Development of the Russian Far East</li> <li>14. MoU for Cooperation for geologic survey, exploration and production of hydrocarbons onshore and on the continental shelf of the Russian Federation</li> <li>15. Confirmation of successful completion of the first stage pre-completion actions in relation to the creation of a Joint Venture in JSC VankorNeft</li> <li>16. MoU for Cooperation for geologic survey, exploration and production of hydrocarbons onshore the Russian Federation between Rosneft oil company, Oil India Limited and Indian Oil Corporation Limited.</li> <li>17. Agreement between Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Republic of India and Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (PFUR) on Cooperation in the field of Ayurveda.</li> </ol>
	<b>Afghanistan</b> - Bilateral meeting
	<b>Pakistan</b> - Nil
Belgium, USA and Saudi Arabia 30 March-3 April 2016	<b>Belgium</b> - 13th EU-India Summit

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<p><b>USA</b></p> <p>MoU between the US National Science Foundation, Indian Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Science and Technology concerning the establishment of an advanced gravitational-wave detector in India (LIGO-India).</p> <p><b>Saudi Arabia</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cooperation Programme between the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), India and Prince Saud Al Faisal Institutes of Diplomatic Studies (PSAIDS), Saudi Arabia;</li> <li>2. MoU between Financial Intelligence Unit - India and the Financial Intelligence Unit-Saudi Arabia concerning Cooperation in the Exchange of Intelligence related to Money Laundering, Terrorism Financing and Related Crimes</li> <li>3. Technical Cooperation Program between the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO)</li> <li>4. Executive Program for Cooperation in the Field of Handicrafts between the Export Promotion Council for Handicraft (EPCH) in the Republic of India and Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage</li> <li>5. Framework for Investment Promotion Cooperation between Invest India and the Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority (SAGIA);</li> <li>6. Agreement on Labour Co-operation between the Ministry of Labour of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India for Recruitment of General Category Workers.</li> </ol>
Iran22 - 23 May 2016	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. India-Iran Cultural Exchange Programme</li> <li>2. MoU between the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) of Iran on Policy Dialogue between Governments and Interaction between Think Tanks</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. MoU between Foreign Service Institute, MEA and the School of International Relations, Iran's MoFA</li> <li>4. Implementation Protocol between Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of S&amp;T and Iran's Ministry of Science, Research and Technology on Cooperation in the Fields of Science and Technology</li> <li>5. MoU between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Islamic Culture and Relations Organizations of the IR Iran</li> <li>6. Bilateral contract on Chabahar Port for port development and operations between IPGPL [India Ports Global Private Limited] and Arya Banader of Iran</li> <li>7. MoU between EXIM Bank and Iran's Ports and Maritime Organization [PMO] on current specific terms for the Chabahar Port project</li> <li>8. Confirmation Statement between EXIM Bank and Central Bank of Iran</li> <li>9. MoU between ECGC [Export Credit Guarantee Corporation] Limited of India and the Export Guarantee Fund of Iran (EGFI)</li> <li>10. MoU between National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) and the Iranian Mines and Mining Industries Development and Renovation Organization (IMIDRO)</li> <li>11. MoU between IRCON and Construction, Development of Transport and Infrastructure Company (CDTIC) of Iran</li> <li>12. MoU for cooperation between the National Archives of India and the National Library and Archives Organisation of the Islamic Republic of Iran</li> </ol>
Afghanistan, Qatar, Switzerland, USA and Mexico 4 - 9 June 2016	<b>Afghanistan</b> - Bilateral meeting



Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
<b>Qatar</b>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. MoU between National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF), Ministry of Finance, Government of India and Qatar Investment Authority (QIA)</li><li>2. Agreement on Co-operation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters between the Government of Republic of India and Government of the State of Qatar</li><li>3. MoU between Financial Intelligence Unit - India (FIU-IND) and the Qatar Financial Information Unit (QFIU) concerning co-operation in the exchange of intelligence related to money laundering, terrorism-financing and related crimes</li><li>4. MoU between the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, the Government of Republic of India and the National Qualifications Authority/Supreme Education Council, Government of the State of Qatar for Co-operation in Skill Development and Recognition of Qualifications</li><li>5. MoU on cooperation in Tourism between the Government of the Republic of India and Government of the State of Qatar</li><li>6. MOU between India and Qatar for Cooperation in the field of Health the Government of the Republic of India and Government of the State of Qatar</li><li>7. The First Executive Programme for MoU in the field of Youth and Sports between the Government of Republic of India and Government of the State of Qatar.</li></ol>
<b>USA</b>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Arrangement between the Multi-Agency Centre/Intelligence Bureau of the Government of India and the Terrorist Screening Center of the Government of the United States of America for the exchange of Terrorist Screening Information</li></ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of India and the Government of the United States of America to enhance co-operation on Energy Security, Clean Energy and Climate Change</li> <li>3. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Government of India and Government of the United States of America to enhance co-operation on Wildlife Conservation and Combating Wildlife Trafficking</li> <li>4. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Consular, Passport and Visa Division of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and US Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security of the United States for the Development of an International Expedited Traveler Initiative (the Global Entry Programme)</li> <li>5. Technical Arrangement between the Indian Navy and the United States Navy concerning Unclassified Maritime Information Sharing</li> <li>6. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India and the Department of Energy of the United States of America for Co-operation in Gas Hydrates</li> </ol> <p><b>Documents finalized</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Information Exchange Annex (IEA) between the Ministry of Defence, Government of India and the Department of Defense of the United States of America to the Master Information Exchange Agreement concerning Aircraft Carrier Technologies</li> <li>8. Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement between the Ministry of Defence, Government of India and the Department of Defense of the United States of America</li> </ol> <p><b>Mexico</b> - India-Mexico Joint Statement during the visit of Prime Minister to Mexico</p>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
Uzbekistan 23-24 June 2016	SCO Summit Memorandum of Obligations of the Republic of India with the aim of obtaining the status of the Member State of the Shanghai Co-operation Organization.
Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Kenya 7 - 11 July 2016	<p><b>Mozambique</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU between India and Mozambique on drug demand reduction and prevention of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals and related matters</li> <li>2. MoU between Government of India and Government of Mozambique in the field of Youth Affairs and Sports</li> <li>3. Long-term agreement for purchase of pulses from Mozambique</li> <li>4. Gifting of 100 ton medicines and medical equipment</li> <li>5. Donation of four buses (Financial Grant \$122000) for S&amp;T Park</li> <li>6. Handing over of Armored Personnel Carriers</li> </ol> <p><b>South Africa</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU on ICT</li> <li>2. Programme of Co-operation in Arts and Culture</li> <li>3. MoU on Tourism</li> <li>4. MoU on Grass Root Innovation (S&amp;T)</li> </ol> <p><b>Tanzania</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU on Co-operation in the field of water resource management and development between the two countries</li> <li>2. MoU on Visa waiver agreement for Diplomatic/Official passport holders between the two countries</li> <li>3. Agreement on Joint Action Plan (JAP) between National Small Industries Corporation of India (NSIC) and Small Industries Development Organization Tanzania (SIDO)</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoU between the Government of Tanzania and the Government of India for Establishment of Vocational Training Centre at Zanzibar</li> <li>LOC of US \$92 million for rehabilitation and improvement of water supply system in Zanzibar</li> </ol>
	<b>Kenya</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA)</li> <li>Bilateral agreement on exemption of Visa for holders of Diplomatic passports</li> <li>MoU on Defence Cooperation</li> <li>MoU on Co-operation in the field of standardisation, expertise sharing and mutual trade between Bureau of Indian Standards and Bureau of Kenya Standards</li> <li>MoU on Co-operation in the field of National Housing Policy Development and Management</li> <li>Line of Credit Agreement for US \$15 million (first tranche of US \$30 million) to IDB Capital Limited, Kenya, for development of various small and medium enterprises [SMEs] in Kenya</li> <li>Line of Credit Agreement for US \$29.95 million to the Government of Kenya for upgrade of Rift Valley Textiles Factory [RIVATEX East Africa Limited], Kenya</li> </ol>
Vietnam and China 2 - 5 Sept 2016	<b>Vietnam</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Framework Agreement on Co-operation in the Exploration and Uses of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes;</li> <li>Protocol for Amending the Agreement on Avoiding Double Taxation;</li> <li>Program of Co-operation in UN Peacekeeping Matters;</li> <li>Protocol between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam and the Ministry of External Affairs of India on Celebrating 2017 as the "Year of Friendship";</li> <li>MOU on Health Co-operation;</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. MOU on Co-operation in Information Technology;</li> <li>7. MOU on Co-operation between the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences and the Indian Council of World Affairs;</li> <li>8. MOU on co-operation in Cyber Security;</li> <li>9. MOU between the Bureau of Indian Standards and Directorate for Standard, Metrology and Quality for Co-operation in the Fields of Standardization and Conformity Assessment;</li> <li>10. MOU on Establishment of the Centre of Excellence in Software Development and Training;</li> <li>11. Technical Agreement on Sharing of White Shipping Information;</li> <li>12. Contract for Offshore High-speed Patrol Boats</li> </ol>
	<b>China - G20 Summit</b>
Laos 7-8 Sept 2016	ASEAN India Summit and East Asia Summit
Japan 10-12 Nov 2016	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement Between The Government Of The Republic Of India And The Government Of Japan for Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.</li> <li>2. Memorandum of Co-operation (MOC) between the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship of India, Government of India and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, Government of Japan on the Manufacturing Skill Transfer Promotion Program</li> <li>3. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ISRO and JAXA concerning Cooperation in the Field of Outer Space</li> <li>4. MoU between Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Republic of India and The Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC) on Mutual Collaboration in Marine and Earth Science and Technology</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. MoC between the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan in the Field of Agriculture and Food Related Industry</li> <li>6. MoU between National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited and Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport and Urban Development</li> <li>7. MoU between Textiles Committee, Ministry of Textiles, GoI and Japan Textiles Products Quality and Technology Centre (QTEC) in the Field of Textiles</li> <li>8. MOC in the Field of Cultural Exchange between the Ministry of Culture, Government of India and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Government of Japan</li> <li>9. MoC on Co-operation in Sports between Ministry of Youth affairs and Sports Government of India and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Government of Japan</li> <li>10. MOU between the State Government of Gujarat and Hyogo Prefectural Government, Japan</li> </ol>
Sri Lanka 11 -12 May 2017	Bilateral meeting
Germany, Spain, Russia & France 29 May-3 June 2017	<p><b>Germany</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. JDI on Co-operation in the Field of Digitalization, Empowerment and Economic Impact</li> <li>2. Collaboration on Training of Indian Skill Development Officers and Cluster Managers</li> <li>3. JDI on Indo-German Centre for Sustainability</li> <li>4. JDI on German Indian Co-operation on Cyber Policy</li> <li>5. JDI on Indo-German Development Co-operation</li> <li>6. JDI on continuation of co-operation in the field of advanced training of corporate and junior executives from India</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. JDI on Co-operation in Vocational Education and skill development for Machine Tools</li> <li>8. Cooperation in Health Sector</li> <li>9. Cooperation in Alternative Medicine</li> <li>10. JDI on Collaboration between Foreign Service Institutes</li> <li>11. JDI on Co-operation in Railway Safety</li> <li>12. JDI on Co-operation for Sustainable Urban Development</li> </ol>
	<b>Spain</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MOU on Technical Cooperation in Civil Aviation</li> <li>2. MOU on Co-operation in organ transplantation between India's Directorate General of Health Services and the National Transplant Organization of Spain</li> <li>3. MOU on Cooperation in Cyber Security</li> <li>4. MOU on Cooperation in Renewable Energy</li> <li>5. Agreement for Transfer of Sentenced Persons</li> <li>6. MOU between Foreign Service Institute and Diplomatic Academy of Spain</li> <li>7. Agreement on visa waiver for holders of diplomatic passports</li> </ol>
	<b>Russia</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cultural Exchange Programme between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation for the years 2017-2019</li> <li>2. Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) Access Agreement between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent)</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. General Framework Agreement between Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited and Joint Stock Company 'ATOMSTROYEXPORT' for the implementation of Units 5 &amp; 6 of 'Kudankulam' Nuclear Power Plant</li><li>4. Memorandum of Cooperation between the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council of India and Public Joint Stock Company 'ALROSA'</li><li>5. Agreement for the Nagpur-Secunderabad Semi High Speed Execution Study in India between the Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India and the Joint Stock Company 'Russian Railways'</li><li>6. Protocol No.2 to the Agreement dated December 5, 2008 between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation</li><li>7. Agreement between Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited and Joint Stock Company "Cascade - Technologies" for setting up of a Special Purpose Vehicle for railways</li><li>8. Memorandum of Understanding between SREI Infrastructure Finance Limited and State Corporation 'Bank for Development and Foreign Economic Affairs (Vnesheconombank)' on Russian export support and participation in the development of India-Russia capital goods financing/leasing business</li><li>9. Agreement on Co-operation between 'JITF Urban Infrastructure Services Limited' (Republic of India), 'Jindal Rail Infrastructure Limited' (Republic of India), Joint Stock Company 'Russian Export Centre' (Russian Federation), and Limited Liability Company Management Company 'Rail Trans Holding' (Russian Federation)</li><li>10. Memorandum of Understanding between National Investment Promotion Agency 'Invest India' and the Business Council for Cooperation with India concerning the promotion of investment in India and Russia</li></ol>



Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	11. Co-operation Agreement between National Investment Promotion Agency 'Invest India' and the Roscongress Foundation 12. Memorandum of Understanding between 'Sun Group Private Limited' and Joint Stock Company 'Pribor'
Kazakhstan 8 -9 June 2017	<b>France</b> - Bilateral meeting with President of France SCO Summit
Portugal, USA and Netherlands 24 -27 June 2017	<b>Portugal</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. India-Portugal Space Alliance</li> <li>2. Protocol amending the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income</li> <li>3. MoU on Nano Technology</li> <li>4. MoU on Public Administration and Governance Reforms</li> <li>5. MoU on Cultural Cooperation</li> <li>6. MoU on Youth and Sports between</li> <li>7. MoU on Cooperation in the fields of Higher Education and Scientific Research</li> <li>8. MoU Between Agencia para o Investimento e Comercio Externo de Portugal, E.P.E. (Aicep Portugal Global - Trade and Investment Agency) and PIBHub - Portugal India Business Hub</li> <li>9. Memorandum of Understanding between Portugal India Business Hub and Reira Group/Goa Desk</li> <li>10. MoU on Biotechnology</li> <li>11. Memorandum of Understanding between Portugal India Business Hub and Indian Chamber of Commerce</li> </ol> <b>USA-</b> Joint Statement - United States and India: Prosperity Through Partnership

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<b>Netherlands</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU on Cooperation in the field of Water Management.</li> <li>2. MoU on Cultural Co-operation.</li> <li>3. Protocol Amending the Agreement on Social Security between India and Netherlands and its Administrative arrangement signed at New Delhi on 22 October 2009</li> </ol>
Israel and Germany 4 -8 July 2017	<b>Israel</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU between the Department of Science and Technology, India, and National Technological Innovation Authority, Israel, for setting up of India-Israel Industrial R&amp;D and Technological Innovation Fund (I4F).</li> <li>2. MoU between the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation of the Republic of India and the Ministry of National Infrastructure, Energy and Water Resources of the State of Israel on National Campaign for Water Conservation in India.</li> <li>3. MoU between U.P. Jal Nigam, Government of Uttar Pradesh, of the Republic of India and the Ministry of National Infrastructure, Energy and Water Resources of the State of Israel on State Water Utility Reform in India.</li> <li>4. India-Israel Development Cooperation - Three Year Work Program in Agriculture 2018-2020.</li> <li>5. Plan of Cooperation Between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Israel Space Agency (ISA) regarding cooperation in Atomic Clocks.</li> <li>6. MoU between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Israel Space Agency (ISA) regarding cooperation in GEO-LEO Optical Link.</li> <li>7. MoU between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Israel Space Agency (ISA) regarding co-operation in Electric Propulsion for Small Satellites.</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
China and Myanmar 3 -7 Sept 2017	<b>Germany</b> - G20 Summit
	<b>China</b> - BRICS Summit
	<b>Myanmar</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Security Co-operation Between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar</li> <li>2. Cultural Exchange Programme between the Government of the Republic of India And the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the year 2017-2020</li> <li>3. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the Government of the Republic of India on Enhancing the Co-operation of the Upgradation of the Women's Police Training Centre at Yamethin, Myanmar.</li> <li>4. Memorandum of Understanding for Sharing White Shipping Information between the Indian Navy and Myanmar Navy</li> <li>5. Technical Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government Of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for providing Coastal Surveillance System</li> <li>6. Memorandum of Understanding between the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry Of Health and Family Welfare of the Republic of India and Food and Drugs (FDA), Ministry of Health and Sports of Myanmar on Cooperation in Medical Products Regulation.</li> <li>7. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Health and Family welfare of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Health And Sports of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on cooperation in the field of Health and medicine</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Exchange of Letter for Extension of MoU on the establishment of MIIT</li> <li>9. Exchange of Letter for Extension of MoU on the establishment of India-Myanmar Center for Enhancement of IT-Skill</li> <li>10. Memorandum of understanding in the field of elections between the Election Commission of India and The Union Election Commission of Myanmar.</li> <li>11. Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation between Myanmar Press Council and the Press Council of India</li> </ol>
Philippines 12 -14 Nov 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU on Defence Industry and Logistics co-operation</li> <li>2. MoU between the Indian Council of World Affairs and the Foreign Service Institute of the Philippines</li> <li>3. MoU on Cooperation in Agriculture and Related fields</li> <li>4. MoU on Micro Small and Medium Enterprises between National Small Industries Corporation and Bureau of Small and Medium Enterprise Development</li> <li>5. MoU between Indian Council of Cultural Relations and University of Philippines setting up a Chair of Indian Studies in the Asian Center of University of the Philippines.</li> </ol>
Switzerland 22 -23 Jan 2018	World Economic Forum
Jordan, Palestine, UAE & Oman 9 -12 Feb 2018	<p><b>Jordan</b> - transit visit</p> <p><b>Palestine</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MOU between India and Palestine for setting up of India-Palestine Super-specialty hospital at Beit Sahour in Bethelhem Governorate at a cost of US\$ 30 million</li> <li>2. MOU between India and Palestine for construction of India Palestine Centre for Empowering women, "Turathi" at a cost of US\$ 5 million</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. MOU between India and Palestine for setting up of new National Printing Press at Ramallah at a cost of US\$ 5 million</li> <li>4. MOU between India and Palestine Construction of school in Muthalth Al Shuhada Village at a cost of US\$ 1 million</li> <li>5. MOU between India and Palestine Construction of school in Tamoon village in Tubas Governorate in Palestine at a cost of US\$ 1.1 million</li> <li>6. MOU between India and Palestine Assistance of US\$ US\$ 0.25 million for construction of additional floor to Jawahar Lal Nehru for Boys at Abu Dees</li> </ol>
	<b>UAE</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU between Indian Consortium (OVL, BPRL &amp; IOCL) and ADNOC for acquisition of 10% participating interest in the offshore Lower Zakum Concession.</li> <li>2. MoU between Government of India and Government of UAE to institutionalise the collaborative administration of contractual employment of Indian workers in UAE</li> <li>3. MoU between Ministry of Railways, India and Federal Transport Authority-Land and Maritime of UAE for Technical Cooperation in Rail Sector</li> <li>4. MoU between Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange (ADX) to enhance cooperation between both the countries in financial services industry.</li> <li>5. MoU between Government of Jammu and Kashmir and DP World to establish multi-modal logistics park and hub in Jammu comprising warehouses and specialized storage solutions.</li> </ol>
	<b>Oman</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement on Legal and Judicial Co-operation in Civil and Commercial matters.</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agreement on Mutual Visa Exemption for holders of Diplomatic, Special, Service and Official passports.</li> <li>MoU on Co-operation in the field of Health.</li> <li>MoU on Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.</li> <li>MoU on Co-operation between Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, India and Oman Diplomatic Institute.</li> <li>MoU on Academic and Scholarly co-operation sectors between National Defence College Sultanate of Oman and the Institute for Defence Studies and the Analyses.</li> <li>MoU in the field of Tourism co-operation between India and Oman.</li> <li>Annexure to the MoU on Military Co-operation.</li> </ol>
Sweden, UK & Germany 16-20 April 2018	<p><b>Sweden</b></p> <p>India-Nordic Summit</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint deceleration on India-Sweden Innovation Partnership for a Sustainable Future</li> <li>Joint Action Plan</li> </ol> <p><b>UK</b></p> <p>Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoU between All India Institute of Ayurveda, An Autonomous organization under the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India and College of Medicine (UK) on the Establishment of an Academic Collaboration in Ayurveda. Ministry of Ayush has already released financial assistance of GBP 110,000.00 to start the project of Ayurvedic Centre at St Charles Hospital, London.</li> <li>MoU between the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Government of India and the Home Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Nothern Ireland regarding</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	Co-operation and the Exchange of Information for the Purposes of Combating International Criminality and Tackling Serious Organised Crime
	3. MoU between the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR) and Natural Environmental Research Council (NERC), UK on River Ganga Rejuvenation
	4. MoU between the National Mission For Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry Of Water Resources, River Development And Ganga Rejuvenation MoWR, RD & GR), Government Of India and Scottish Government: Water Industry Division (WID) on River Ganga Rejuvenation
	5. Framework for the UK-India Cyber Relationship
	6. MoU between the Government of Republic of India and the Government of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on cooperation in the field of Skill Development, Vocational Education and Training
	7. Arrangement for the Exchange of Information and Co-operation in the Area of Regulation of Safe Nuclear Energy Use for Peaceful Purposes between the Office for Nuclear Regulation of Great Britain (ONR) and the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board of India (AERB)
	8. Statement of Intent (SoI) on Bilateral Economic Partnership for Mutual Understanding and Cooperation between the National Institution for Transforming India NITI AAYOG, Government of the Republic of India and the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)
	9. MoU between the Government of India and the Government of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on Cooperation in the Field of Sustainable Urban Development

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<p>10. MoU between the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture &amp; Farmers Welfare of the Government of the Republic of India and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Cooperation in the field of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Sectors</p> <p>11. Addendum to the MoU between Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India and The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (earlier known as Department of Business, Innovation and Skills), Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Newton-Bhabha Programme to include the research and partnership in Humanities and Social Sciences<sup>12</sup>. Joint Announcement on setting up a fast track mechanism for Indian companies in the UK.</p> <p><b>Germany</b></p> <p>Meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.</p>
China 26 -28 April 2018	India China Informal Summit
Nepal 11-12 May 2018	India-Nepal Joint Statement
Russia 21-22 May 2018	Informal Summit between India and Russia
Indonesia, Malaysia & Singapore 29 May-2 June 2018	<p><b>Indonesia</b></p> <p><b>G2G Agreements/MoUs</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement between India and Indonesia for cooperation in the field of Defence</li> <li>2. Framework Agreement between India and Indonesia on co-operation in the exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes</li> <li>3. MOU between India and Indonesia on Scientific and Technological Cooperation</li> <li>4. MOU between India and Indonesia on Technical Cooperation in Railways sector</li> </ol>



Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. MoU between India and Indonesia on Health Co-operation</li> <li>6. MoU between Indian and Indonesia on Pharmaceutical, Biological and Cosmetics Regulatory Functions</li> <li>7. MoU between India and Indonesia on Policy dialogue between Governments and Interaction between Think Tanks</li> <li>8. MoU between Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration of India and National Institute of Public Administration of Indonesia (NIPA)</li> <li>9. Exchange of plan of activities Ambassador of India to Indonesia and Ambassador of Indonesia to India Plan of Activities to celebrate 70 years of diplomatic relations between India and Indonesia in the year 2019-20</li> </ol>
	<b>G2B and other B2B agreements</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU between Kite Museum Ahmedabad and Layang Layang Jakarta</li> <li>2. MoU between Archaeological Survey of India and PT Taman</li> <li>3. Wisata Candi Borobudur, Prambanan and Ratu Boko concerning World Cultural Heritage of Prambanan Temple and Taj Mahal</li> <li>4. MoU between PT Pindad (PERSERO) &amp; Bhukhanvala</li> <li>5. MoU between Confederation of Indian Industry and KADIN</li> <li>6. MoU between International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore and Agency for Human Resources</li> <li>7. Development and Research on Communications and Informatics of Ministry of Communications and Informatics of Indonesia</li> <li>8. MoU between Himalaya Drug Company and PT Kalbe Farma</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<b>Malaysia</b>
	Meeting the newly elected Prime Minister of Malaysia
	<b>Singapore</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Joint Statement on conclusion of second review of CECA</li><li>2. Mutual Recognition Agreement on Nursing.</li><li>3. Implementation agreement between Indian Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy concerning Mutual Coordination, Logistics and Services Support for Naval Ships', Submarines and Naval Aircraft (including Ship borne Aviation Assets) visits.</li><li>4. Extension of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India and the Singapore Computer Emergency Response Team (SINGCERT), cyber security agency of the Republic of Singapore on co-operation in the area of cyber security.</li><li>5. Memorandum of Understanding between the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) of the Republic of India and the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) of the Republic of Singapore on Co-operation to Combat Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors.</li><li>6. Memorandum of Understanding between The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions of the Republic of India and the Public Service Division of the Republic of Singapore on Co-operation in the field of Personnel Management and Public Administration.</li><li>7. Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Economic Affairs, ministry of Finance, Government of India and the Monetary Authority of Singapore on the constitution of a Joint Working Group (JWG) on Fintech between Indian and Singapore.</li></ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<p>8. Memorandum of Understanding between the NITI Aayog and Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) on Co-operation in the Field of Planning.</p>
China 9-10 June 2018	<p><b>SCO Summit</b></p> <p>1. Memorandum among the customs services of SCO Member States on the exchange of information on the trans-boundary movement of ozone-depleting substances.</p> <p>2. Memorandum of Understanding on stimulating cooperation within the SCO in the field of Micro, small and medium sized businesses among the Ministers of the SCO Member States responsible for External Economy and Foreign Trade.</p> <p><b>China</b></p> <p>1. Memorandum of understanding between Ministry of Water Resources, The People's Republic of China and Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Republic of India upon provision of hydrological information of the Brahmaputra river in flood season by China to India.</p> <p>2. The Protocol between General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China and the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare of the Republic of India on Phytosanitary requirements for Exporting rice from India to China.</p>
Rwanda, Uganda & South Africa 23 July-28 July 2018	<p><b>Rwanda</b></p> <p>1. Amendment on the MoU on Cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Animal Resources.</p> <p>2. Agreement on Cooperation Defence on Capacity Building, Defence, Industry, Science and Technology.</p> <p>3. MoU on Cultural Exchange Program for the year 2018-22.</p> <p>4. MoU on Agricultural Research and Education between RAB and ICAR.</p>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. MoU on Collaboration in the Areas of Leather and Allied Sectors between NIRDA and CSIR-CLRI</li> <li>6. LoC Agreement for US \$ 100 million for development of Industrial Parks and expansion of Kigali Special Economic Zones.</li> <li>7. LoC Agreement for US \$ 100 million for Agriculture irrigation scheme in Rwanda.</li> <li>8. Trade Co-operation Framework to facilitate, diversify and promote trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.</li> </ol>
	<b>Uganda</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU on Defence Co-operation.</li> <li>2. MoU on Visa exemption for Diplomatic and official passport holders.</li> <li>3. MoU on Cultural Exchange Programme.</li> <li>4. MoU on Material Testing Laboratory.</li> </ol>
	<b>South Africa</b>
	<b>BRICS Summit</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi, India and the Agricultural Research Council, Pretoria, South Africa on Cooperation in Agricultural Research and Education.</li> <li>2. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Republic of India regarding the Setting up of the "Gandhi Mandela Centre of Specialisation for Artisan Skills" in South Africa.</li> <li>3. Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Space Research Organisation and the South African National Space Agency on Co-operation in the Exploration and uses of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes.</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
Nepal 30-31 Aug 2018	<b>BIMSTEC Summit</b> MoU on Preliminary Engineering Cum Traffic Survey of the Broad Gauge Line between Raxaul and Kathmandu
Japan 27-30 Oct 2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Implementing arrangement for deeper co-operation between Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force and Indian Navy.</li> <li>2. MoC between Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry on Japan-India Digital Partnership.</li> <li>3. Statement of Intent between NITI Aayog and Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Japan on Artificial Intelligence to encourage and develop cooperation on Artificial Intelligence technologies.</li> <li>4. MoC between Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of Republic of India and the Office of Healthcare Policy, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of Japan and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan in the field of Healthcare and Wellness.</li> <li>5. MoC between The Ministry of AYUSH of Republic of India and the Kanagawa Prefectural Government of Japan in the field of Healthcare and Wellness.</li> <li>6. MoU on Food Safety between Food Safety and Standards Authority of India and The Food Safety Commission of Japan, The Consumer Affairs Agency of Japan, The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan for furthering cooperation between the the agencies from India and Japan in area of food safety.</li> <li>7. MoC between Ministry of Food Processing and Industries and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan in the field of Food Processing Industry.</li> <li>8. The Program for Promoting Investment into India by Japan in the Field of Agriculture and Fisheries between Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, India and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan.</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>9. MoC on Development of Food Value Chain in Maharashtra between State Government of Maharashtra and Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan.</li><li>10. Memorandum of Co-operation on Development of Food Value Chain in Uttar Pradesh Between The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan and The State Government of Uttar Pradesh, India.</li><li>11. MoU between Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India and NEXI, Japan for stimulating trade and investment between India and Japan and strengthening cooperation in projects in third countries.</li><li>12. MoC in Postal Field between the Ministry of Communications, Government of India and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Government of Japan.</li><li>13. MoU between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India and Hiroshima University, Japan for Research Partnership.</li><li>14. MoU between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India and Research Centre for Advanced Science and Technology (RCAST), The University of Tokyo, Japan for Research Partnership.</li><li>15. Agreement for Co-operation between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, India and Institute of Innovative Research, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan for joint research in interdisciplinary areas for application in Industrial Research.</li><li>16. MoC between The National Centre for Polar and Ocean research of India, Ministry of Earth Sciences and The National Institute of Polar Research (NIPR) of Japan, The Research Organisation of Information and Systems on Polar Research.</li><li>17. MoC between India and Japan in the field of Environment Co-operation.</li></ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<p>18. MoU between National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research India, and Shizuoka University, Japan for Academic and Research exchanges.</p> <p>19. Memorandum of Understanding on Further Cooperation toward Indo-Japan Global Startup between Nagasaki University and IIITDM Kancheepuram, India.</p> <p>20. Memorandum of Understanding on Academic and Educational Exchange between Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, India and Hiroshima University, Japan.</p> <p>21. Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad and National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology.</p> <p>22. (Agreement) Academic Exchange Agreement between Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur and Faculty, Graduate School and School of Engineering, Graduate School of Information Science and Technology, Graduate School of Chemical Sciences and Engineering, Hokkaido University (MOU) Memorandum of Understanding on Student Exchange between Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur and Graduate School and School of Engineering, Graduate School of Information Science and Technology, Graduate School of Chemical Sciences and Engineering, Hokkaido University.</p> <p>23. MoU between Sports Authority of India, India and University of Tsukuba, Japan for academic exchanges and sports cooperation.</p> <p>24. Project for the Construction of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (II)</p> <p>25. Project for Renovation and Modernization of Umiam-Umtru Stage-III Hydroelectric Power Station.</p>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>26. Delhi Mass Rapid Transport System Project (Phase 3) (III)</li> <li>27. North East Road Network Connectivity Improvement Project (Phase 3) (I)</li> <li>28. Project for Sustainable Catchment Forest Management in Tripura.</li> <li>29. Memorandum of Understanding between KAGOME Co., LTD., Japan and Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India.</li> <li>30. Joint Venture Agreement between State Bank of India (SBI) and SBI Payment Services Pvt. Ltd. and Hitachi Payment Services Pvt Ltd.</li> <li>31. Memorandum of Understanding between Nissan Steel Industry Co., Ltd., Japan and Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India.</li> <li>32. Letter of Intents and Acknowledgements of Private Sector Investment Project Proposals by 57 Japanese companies to make investment in India and 15 Indian companies to make investment in Japan, supported by both Governments of India and Japan.</li> </ol>
Singapore 13 - 15 Nov 2018	ASEAN-India Summit, East Asia Summit, RCEP Summit.
Maldives 17 Nov 2018	Inauguration ceremony of Maldives President Mr. Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
Argentina 28 Nov-3 Dec 2018	G20 Summit
Republic of Korea 21-22 Feb 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU on release of commemorative postal stamp on Queen Hur (Suriratna).</li> <li>2. MOU on Extension of Korea Plus.</li> <li>3. MoU on Start-up Cooperation to promote collaboration among Start-ups and to set up of a Korea Start-up Centre in India to commercialize ideas, technologies and designs of Startup companies.</li> </ol>



Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoU between Korean National Police Agency and MHA on Combating Transnational Crime And Developing Police Cooperation.</li> <li>MoU between Korean Broadcasting System and Prasar Bharti on Cooperation in Broadcasting.</li> <li>MoU between National Highways Authority of India and Korea Expressway Corporation.</li> </ol>
Maldives & Sri Lanka 8-9 June 2019	<p><b>Maldives</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoU for Cooperation in the Field of Hydrography between Indian Navy and Maldives National Defence Force</li> <li>MoU on Cooperation in the field of Health between GoI and GoM</li> <li>MoU for the Establishment of Passenger and Cargo Services by Sea between Ministry of Shipping, GoI and Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation, GoM</li> <li>MoU for Cooperation in Customs Capacity Building between the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs of India and the Maldives Customs Service</li> <li>MoU between National Centre for Good Governance, Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and Maldives Civil Service Commission on Training and Capacity Building Programme for Maldivian Civil Servants</li> <li>Technical Agreement on Sharing White Shipping Information between the Indian Navy and the Maldives National Defence Force</li> </ol> <p><b>Sri Lanka</b> - Bilateral meeting</p>
Kyrgyzstan 13 - 14 June 2019	<p><b>SCO Summit</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agreement among the Governments of the SCO Member States on Cooperation in the field of Mass Media</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Agreement among competent authorities of the SCO Member States on cooperation in the field of physical Education and Sports.</li> </ol>
	<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joint Declaration between India and the Kyrgyz Republic on Strategic Partnership.</li> <li>2. Road map on Trade and Economic Cooperation between the Republic of India and the Kyrgyz Republic for the Five-Year period (2019-2024)</li> <li>3. Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) between India and the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>4. Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation between National Security Council Secretariat of India and Office of the Security Council of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>5. Protocol to Amend Article 26 of India-Kyrgyzstan Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement</li> <li>6. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Health</li> <li>7. MoU between DRDO and Kyrgyz India Mountain Biomedical Research Centre</li> <li>8. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between National Security Guards of India and National Guards of the Armed Forces of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>9. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between National Defence Academy of India and Kyrgyz Military Institute of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>10. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between High Altitude Warfare School (Gulmarg), Indian Armed Forces and Joint Mountain training Centre of the Armed Forces of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. Memorandum of Cooperation between Export-Import Bank of India and the Investment Promotion and Protection Agency of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>12. MoU between India and the Kyrgyz Republic on cooperation on Information and Communication Technology</li> <li>13. Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Consumer Affairs of India and Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic on cooperation in the field of Legal Metrology.</li> <li>14. Memorandum of Understanding between Research and Information System for Developing Countries of India and National Institute of Strategic Studies of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>15. Memorandum of Understanding between Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Himachal Pradesh and Kyrgyz National Agrarian University</li> </ol>
Japan 27- 29 June 2019	<p>G20 Summit</p> <p>Sister city agreement between Ahmedabad and Kobe.</p>
Bhutan 17-18 Aug 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU between Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) of the Government of Republic of India and Department of Information Technology and Telecom (DITT) of the Royal Government of Bhutan on the establishment of SATCOM Network for the Utilization of South Asia Satellite.</li> <li>2. MoU between the Air Accident Investigation Unit, Ministry of Information and Communications, Royal Government of Bhutan, and Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Republic of India on cooperation Relating to Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation.</li> <li>3. MoU between National Knowledge Network of India, National Information center, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Department of</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	Information Technology and Telecom, Druk Research and Education Network on Peering Agreement.
	4. Power Purchase Agreement Between PTC India Limited and Druk Green Power Corporation Limited for Sale and Purchase of Mangdechhu Power.
	5. MoU between Bhutan National Legal Institute and National Judicial Academy, Bhopal, on cooperation in Judicial Education and Mutual Exchanges.
	6. MoU between Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law, Thimphu, Bhutan, and National Law School of India University, Bangalore, India, on enhancing relations between the two parties and seeking to develop academic and cultural interchange in the areas of legal education and research.
	7. MoU between the Royal University of Bhutan and Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur.
	8. MoU between the Royal University of Bhutan and Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay.
	9. MoU between the Royal University of Bhutan and National Institute of Technology, Silchar.
	10. MoU between the Royal University of Bhutan and Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.
France, UAE and Bahrain 22 - 27 Aug 2019	<b>France</b> 1. Administrative arrangement between the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of National Education and Youth, Government of the French Republic for Cooperation in Skill Development and Vocational Training 2. Memorandum of Agreement between National Institute of Solar Energy(NISE), Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India and The French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cooperation of agreement between Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, an autonomous scientific society of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and ATOS</li> <li>Implementing arrangement between ISRO and CNES France for Joint Maritime Domain Awareness.</li> </ol>
	<b>UAE</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National payments corporation of India (NPCI) and the UAE's mercury payments services exchanged a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a technology interface between the payment platforms in India and the UAE.</li> </ol>
	<b>Bahrain</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Bahrain [2019-2023]</li> <li>Statement of Intent on the collaboration between ISRO and NSSA in the area of Space Technology</li> <li>Statement of Intent on collaboration of Kingdom of Bahrain with International Solar Alliance</li> <li>MoU between BENEFIT and NPCI for Launch of 'RuPay Card' in Bahrain.</li> </ol>
Russia 4-6 Sept 2019	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Statement "Reaching New Heights of Cooperation through Trust and Partnership".</li> <li>Joint Strategy for the Enhancement of India- Russia Trade and Investments.</li> <li>Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and Government of the Russian Federation and on the cooperation in the production of spare parts for Russian/Soviet military equipment.</li> <li>Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in Audiovisual Co-production.</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5. MoU between the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation on bilateral cooperation in the road transport and road industry.</li><li>6. Memorandum of Intent between the Ministry of Shipping of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation on the Development of Maritime Communications between the Port of Chennai, Republic of India and the Port of Vladivostok, Russian Federation.</li><li>7. Plan for cooperation between the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Ministry of Finance, Republic of India and the Federal Customs Service (Russian Federation), for combating customs violations in 2019-2022.</li><li>8. MoU between the Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas of the Republic of India on the use of Natural Gas for Transportation.</li><li>9. Program between the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation on expansion of cooperation in oil and gas sector.</li><li>10. MoU between Coal India Limited and Far East Investment and Export Agency to cooperate in coking coal mining projects implementation in the Russian Far East.</li><li>11. Cooperation Agreement between Invest India and the Russian Direct Investment Fund for Investment Collaboration.</li><li>12. Cooperation agreement between the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry the Roscongress Foundation.</li></ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. MoU between the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Autonomous Non-profit Organization Agency for Strategic Initiatives to promote New Projects.</li> <li>14. MoU between the Joint Stock Company NOVATEK and PETRONET LNG Limited on cooperation with respect to the joint development of downstream LNG Business and LNG supplies.</li> <li>15. Agreement on Cooperation between Joint-Stock Company Rosgeologia and Srei Infrastructure Finance Limited</li> </ol> <p><b>List of Commercial Documents signed by various Russian and Indian entities on the sidelines of the Prime Minister's visit to Vladivostok</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. MoU for the Manufacture and Assembly of Primary Trainer Aircraft, DAKSH between Yakovlev Design Bureau and Bharat Earth Movers Limited</li> <li>2. MoU between Zarubezhneft and Sungroup Enterprises Pvt. Ltd.</li> <li>3. MoU between Far Eastern Mining Company and the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd.</li> <li>4. Cooperation Agreement between Far Eastern Mining Company and SUN Gold Eurasia</li> <li>5. MoU between Autonomous Non-Profit Organization 'Agency for Strategic Initiatives' and the Global Education and Leadership Foundation</li> <li>6. MoU between the Skolkovo Foundation and the Global Education and Leadership Foundation</li> <li>7. Memorandum of Understanding between National Skill Development Corporation and Manav Rachna Vidyantariksha Pvt. Ltd. and JSC ROBBO</li> <li>8. Letter of Intent 'Communicating Culture. Consolidating Relationships' between Federal State Unitary Enterprise</li> </ol>

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	'Rossiya Segodnya', International Information Agency, founder of the Russian Media Outlet "Sputnik Information Agency" and Zee Media Corporation Limited's entity WION
	9. MoU between Invest India and Skolkovo Foundation
	10. Cooperation Agreement and Collaboration between RUS Education Pvt. Ltd., Far East Federal University, and Far East Investment and Export Agency
	11. Cooperation Agreement between autonomous non-commercial organization Far East Investment and Export Agency and S A S Fininvest LLP
	12. Cooperation Agreement on the implementation of investment project between autonomous non-commercial organization Far East Investment and Export Agency and KGK Sudima Evergreen Pvt. Limited and the Government of Zabaikalsky Krai
	13. Agreement for the Establishment of the Mahatma Gandhi Centre between Far East Federal University, Nand & Jeet Khemka Foundation and the Global Education & Leadership Foundation
	14. Cooperation Agreement between LLC RITE and Star Overseas Ltd.
	15. MoU between National Skill Development Corporation, Magic Billion and LS-Ruspacific Co. Ltd.
	16. MoU between Magadan Region Government and LLC SUN Eurasia;
	17. MoU between National Mineral Development Corporation and Limited Liability Company Far East Mining Company
	18. Cooperation Agreement between NLC India Ltd. and Far East Mining Company
	19. Cooperation Agreement between Far East Mining Company and Steel Authority of India Limited



Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	20. Cooperation Agreement between Far East Mining Company and MMTC Ltd.
	21. Cooperation Agreement between Limited Liability Company Far East xxii) Mining Company and Khanij Bidesh India Ltd.
	22. Cooperation Agreement between Far East Mining Company and Coal India Limited
	23. Cooperation Agreement between Russian Direct Investment Fund and UPL Limited on Joint investments in agriculture and crop protection market in Russian Federation
	24. MoU on mutual business collaboration (Financial Cooperation initiative for development of the Russian Far East and State of Tamil Nadu, India) between Joint Stock Company "The Far East and Baikal Region Development Fund" and Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Fund Management Corporation
	25. MoU between H-Energy Global Ltd and Joint Stock Company NOVATEK for cooperation in LNG sphere
	26. MoU between Far East Federal University (Vladivostok, Russian Federation) and Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (Gandhinagar, Gujarat, Republic of India)
	27. Agreement of Intent on the implementation of the investment project of LLC KGK DV in Primorsky Territory
	28. Agreement between Volzhsky Abrasive Works and Murugappan Group
	29. Cooperation Agreement between Limited Liability Company "RITE" and Roonan Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
	30. MoU to explore the possibilities of developing renewable energy projects between State Development Corporation VEB. RF, Joint Stock Company

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	Zarubezhneft, Havel Limited Liability Company, Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Sungroup Enterprises Private Limited
	31. International Memorandum of Understanding between Amity Universities and Institutions, India and Ministry of Investment Development of Zabaikalski Krai, Russia
	32. MoU between Government of Chukotka autonomous Region (Anadyr, Russian Federation) and Amity University (New Delhi, Republic of India)
	33. MoU between FEFU Technology Entrepreneurship Fund (Russky Technopark) and Amity University
	34. Agreement on operating in an Advanced Special Economic Zone between JSC Far East Development Corporation and Limited Liability Company Far Eastern Natural Resources Limited (100% subsidiary of the Tata Power Co. Ltd.)
	35. Agreement of Intent on implementation of project on the territory of the Republic of Buryatia between the Government of the Republic of Buryatia and Star Overseas Ltd.
USA 21 - 28 Sept 2019	74th UNGA
	1. MoU signed between an Indian Company, Petronet LNG Limited, and a U.S. Company, Tellurian Inc. to explore Energy cooperation.
Saudi Arabia 28-29 Oct 2019	1. Strategic Partnership Council Agreement
	2. MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Renewable Energy between Saudi Ministry of Energy and Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of India
	3. Agreement on Security Cooperation
	4. MoU for Cooperation in the field of combating illicit trafficking and smuggling of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and chemical precursors.

Countries visited	Details of treaties signed
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. MoU between Saudi General Authority of Military Industries and Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence concerning collaboration in military acquisition, industries, research, development and technology</li> <li>6. MoU for Cooperation in the field of Civil Aviation</li> <li>7. MoU between Central Drugs Standard Control Organization, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Saudi Food and Drug Authority for Cooperation in the field of medical products regulations</li> <li>8. Letter of Intent between Small and Medium Enterprises General Authority of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog, of the Republic of India</li> <li>9. Cooperation Programme between Foreign Service Institute, MEA and Prince Saud Al Faisal Institute of Diplomatic Studies of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia</li> <li>10. MoU between Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited and Saudi Aramco.</li> <li>11. MoU for Cooperation between National Stock Exchange and Saudi Stock Exchange</li> <li>12. MoU between National Payments Corporation of India and Saudi Payments</li> </ol>
Thailand 2-4 Nov 2019	ASEAN India Summit, East Asia Summit, and RCEP Summit
Brazil 13-14 Nov 2019	11th BRICS Summit - Brasilia Declaration

#### **Setting up of All India Judicial Services (AIJS)**

1376. SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is responsible for recruitment of Judicial officers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government plans to set up an All India Judicial Service to recruit officers for subordinate courts through an entrance test; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) Filling up of vacancies of Judicial Officers in the subordinate judiciary falls within the domain of the High Courts and State Governments concerned.

(c) and (d) In Government's view, a properly framed All India Judicial Service is important to strengthen overall justice delivery system. This will give an opportunity for induction of suitably qualified fresh legal talent selected through a proper all-India merit selection system as well as address the issue of social inclusion by enabling suitable representation to marginalized and deprived sections of society.

A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. Besides attracting some of the best talent in the country, it may also facilitate inclusion of competent persons from marginalized sections and women in the judiciary. The proposal was included as an agenda item in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013 and it was decided that the issue needs further deliberation and consideration. The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. There was divergence of opinion among the State Governments and among the High Courts on the constitution of All India Judicial Service. While some State Governments and High Courts favoured the proposal, some were not in favour of creation of All India Judicial Service while some others wanted changes in the proposal formulated by the Central Government.

The High Courts of Sikkim and Tripura have concurred with the proposal approved by Committee of Secretaries for formation of All India Judicial Service. The High Courts of Allahabad, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha and Uttarakhand have suggested changes in age at induction level, qualifications, training and quota of vacancies to be filled through All India Judicial Service. Rest of the High Courts have not favoured the idea. Most of the High Courts want the administrative control over the Subordinate Judiciary to remain with the respective High Courts. The High Courts of Jharkhand and Rajasthan have indicated that the matter regarding creation of AIJS is under consideration.

The State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Punjab do not favour the formation of AIJS. The State Government of Maharashtra wants the recruitment to be done at Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) level which is not in consonance with the provisions of AIJS included in the Constitution of India. The State Governments of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Manipur, Odisha and Uttarakhand want changes in the proposal formulated by the Central Government. The State Government of Haryana has stated that the proposal seems to be justified. The State Government of Mizoram supported creation of AIJS on the lines of IAS, IPS and other Central Services. No response has yet been received from rest of the States.

The matter regarding creation of a Judicial Service Commission to help the recruitment to the post of district judges and review of selection process of judges / judicial officers at all level was also included in the agenda for the Chief Justices Conference, which was held on 03rd and 04th April, 2015, wherein it was resolved to leave it open to the respective High Courts to evolve appropriate methods within the existing system to fill up the vacancies for appointment of District judges expeditiously. The proposal for constitution of All India Judicial Service with views from the High Courts and State Governments received thereon was included in the agenda for the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held on 05th April, 2015. However, no progress was made on the subject.

The proposal of setting up of an All India Judicial service was again discussed on points of eligibility, age, selection criteria, qualification, reservations etc in a meeting chaired by Minister of Law and Justice on 16th January 2017 in the presence of Minister of State for Law and Justice, Attorney General of India, Solicitor General of India, Secretaries of Department of Justice, Legal affairs and Legislative Department. In view of the existing divergence of opinion amongst the stakeholders, the Government is engaged in a consultative process with the stakeholders to arrive at a common ground.

#### **Uniform Video Conferencing Platform for all District Courts in a State**

1377. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various District Courts across the country are presently using a variety of platforms to conduct hearings through video conferencing; and

(b) if so, whether the Ministry plans to bring about uniformity in the same by introducing common video-conferencing platform that can be made available to the States to facilitate ease of access to justice in all the District Courts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A centralized and upgraded cloud based Video-Conferencing infrastructure with latest features including robust data security and facility to support a larger number of concurrent users has been approved by the eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India, which can be usable for district and subordinate courts also.

**Vision document by NLSA**

†1378. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to implement the vision document brought out by National Legal Services Authority (NLSA) to provide expeditious legal help to poor people;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to strengthen Legal Services Clinics in prisons and to extend legal help in aspirational districts so that no poor should be deprived of justice; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has prepared a vision document (called Vision 2020) for promoting inclusive legal system by strengthening and improving the delivery of legal services to the weaker and marginalised section of society, with better responsiveness at the ground level. The Vision 2020 consists of the following goals and the legal services authorities are implementing the various activities envisaged under these goals to achieve the vision:—

(i) To increase quality of legal aid in court based matters.

(ii) Enhancing legal assistance to prisoners.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (iii) Strengthening Front Offices and Legal Services Clinics.
- (iv) Maximizing Access to Justice by coordinating with Law Colleges and NGOs.
- (v) Target oriented outreach programmes aligned with local needs.
- (vi) Legal assistance to Victims of Crime.
- (vii) Strengthening Lok Adalats.
- (viii) Promoting Legal assistance at early stages of Criminal Justice.

(c) and (d) Legal Services Institutions have been set up under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 at all levels from Taluk Courts to Supreme Court for providing free legal services to the persons eligible under Section 12 of the said Act. Around 23,000 Legal Services Clinics have been set up in Jails, courts, Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs), community centres, villages/rural areas and law colleges/universities. In these centres, free legal services are provided to the needy. To strengthen Front Offices and Legal Services Clinics, NALSA has following vision:—

- (i) Engaging Front Office coordinators and Front Office lawyers.
- (ii) Maintaining data of legal aided cases and applications and daily cause lists of legal aided cases at Front Offices.
- (iii) Increasing the frequency of functional days of legal services clinics in 115 aspirational districts.
- (iv) Dedicating one Clinic exclusively for women in each of the 115 aspirational districts.

In addition, Tele-Law programme of Department of Justice which identifies and connects citizens in need of Legal advice with lawyers through phone or video conferencing facility, has been launched in 115 aspirational districts of the country from September, 2019.

#### **Rural courts set up across the country**

1379. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of rural courts set up across the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) how many of them were set up in Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(c) whether Government proposes to set up more such courts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) As per information available, 395 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified by 12 States. The State-wise details of Gram Nyayalayas notified during last three years and current year is as given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of State	2017	2018	2019	2020
1.	Odisha	-	6	-	-
2.	Maharashtra	-	16	-	-
3.	Haryana	-	1	-	-
4.	Uttar Pradesh	-	9	-	-
5.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	-	42

(b) Till now, the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Jharkhand have notified 42 and 6 Gram Nyayalayas respectively. No Gram Nyayalaya has been notified in the State of Gujarat.

(c) and (d) The issues affecting operationalization of the Gram Nyayalayas were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It was decided in the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account their local problems. The focus is on setting up Gram Nyayalayas in the Talukas where regular courts have not been set up. The Central Government has been encouraging the States to set up Gram Nyayalayas by providing financial assistance. As per the scheme for assistance to State Governments for establishing and operating Gram Nyayalayas, the Central Government provides one-time assistance to States towards non-recurring expenses for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of ₹ 18.00 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya. The Central Government also provides assistance towards recurring expenses for operating these Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of ₹ 3.20 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya per year for the first three years.

The Central Government has requested the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas in the respective States.



Recently, the Registrars General of High Courts and Law / Home / Finance Secretaries of State Governments were requested through video conferences held in January, July and November, 2018, October, 2019 and May, 2020 to set up Gram Nyayalayas and seek financial assistance for operationalising them under the Scheme mentioned above.

**Impact of COVID-19 pandemic over pendency in courts**

1380. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the pendency of the cases in the lower courts and the High Courts of Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat, as well as the Supreme Court;
- (b) whether COVID - 19 pandemic caused / impacted increase in the pendency cases;
- (c) the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken / being taken by Government to reduce the pendency?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Details of pendency of the cases in the lower courts and the High Courts of Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat and the Supreme Court are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) After announcement of nation-wide lockdown, directions have been issued from time to time by the respective High Courts to the Subordinate Courts under their administrative jurisdiction for hearing of urgent civil and criminal matters in virtual or physical mode depending on local conditions. Most High Courts have further advised district and subordinate courts that where there is no shut down/lockdown, they may, as far as possible, resume normal functioning by virtual/physical mode and take up all kind of cases, including those pertaining to under-trial prisoners, trial of civil cases, matrimonial disputes, child custody matters, recording of evidence and other old matters. Wherever physical hearing has been permitted in district and subordinate courts, they have been advised to strictly adhere to Covid protocols and social distancing norms and take all precautions including consent of the parties. A new Software Patch and Court User Manual has been recently developed for COVID- 19 Management. This tool has been developed to help in smart scheduling all cases to effectively manage overcrowding in courts. During the period of lockdown from

24-03-2020 to 13-09-2020, the district and subordinate courts across the country have disposed 15,32,334 cases. As regards the Supreme Court an overarching order has been issued by the Supreme Court on 06.04.2020 giving legal sanctity and validity to video conference hearing. Five dedicated video-conferencing rooms in Supreme Court Complex and one video-conferencing room each at seven District Court Complexes of Delhi are established, to facilitate advocates and litigants to join the hearing through video/tele-conferencing at their convenience. Separate helplines have also been created and standard operating procedures to guide the parties are available on the website of Supreme Court. Video-Conference links are being provided to Advocates on "Vidyo App" for participating in the video-conferencing. A special Viewing Facility has also been provided by the Registry in the Video-Conferencing Room established for parties in the Supreme Court premises, where the media persons, as representatives of the public, are allowed access and watch the proceedings of all the matters being held before the court(s).

(d) National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms was set up in August, 2011 with the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission has been pursuing a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court procedure for quick disposal of cases and emphasis on human resource development. The major steps taken during the last five years under various initiatives are as follows:—

- (i) **Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts:** As on date, ₹ 7,929.99 crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in 1993-94. Out of this, ₹4,485.68 crores (which is 56.56% of the total amount released till date) have been released to the States and UTs since April, 2014. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 19,830 as on 14.09.2020 and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 17,613 as on 14.09.2020 under this scheme. In addition, 2,778 court halls and 1,885 residential units are under construction.

- (ii) **Leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved justice delivery:** Government has been implementing the e-Courts Mission Mode Project throughout the country for Information and Communication Technology enablement of district and subordinate courts. Number of computerized District and Subordinate courts has increased from 13,672 (in 2014) to 16,845 as on 14.09.2020, registering an increase of 3,173. New and user-friendly version of Case Information Software has been developed and deployed at all the computerized District and Subordinate Courts. All stakeholders including Judicial Officers can access information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of computerized District and Subordinate Courts and High Courts on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) as on 14.09.2020. eCourts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders and final judgments are available to litigants and advocates through eCourts web portal, Judicial Service Centres (JSC) in all computerized courts, eCourts Mobile App, email service, SMS push and pull services. Video Conferencing facility has been enabled between 3240 court complexes and 1272 corresponding jails. Against the Financial outlay of ₹ 1670 crores for phase II of eCourts Project, the Government has released a sum of ₹ 1459.52 crores so far to various organizations involved in the implementation of the project. With a view to handle the COVID- 19 challenges better and to make the transition to Virtual Court hearings in rural areas smoother, funds have been allocated by the Department of Justice recently under eCourts Project Phase II for creating additional infrastructure in the court complexes. ₹ 12.54 crore has been allocated for 235 e-SewaKendras at court complexes to facilitate lawyers and litigants needing assistance ranging from case status, getting judgements/orders, court/case related information and efilings facilities. ₹ 5.01 crores has been allocated for providing equipment in Video Conferencing cabins in various court complexes to facilitate virtual hearings. ₹ 12.12 crores has been allocated for 1732 Help desk counters for efilings in various court complexes.
- (iii) **Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts:** From 01.05.2014 to 14.09.2020, 35 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 557 new Judges were appointed and 483 Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014

to 1079 currently. Sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has increased as follows:—

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
17.09.2020	24,203	19,171

Filling up of vacancies in Subordinate judiciary falls within the domain of the State Governments and High Courts concerned.

- (iv) Reduction in Pendency through / follow up by Arrears Committees: In pursuance of resolution passed in Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, Arrears Committees have been set up in High Courts to clear cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up under District Judges too. Arrears Committee has been constituted in the Supreme Court to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts.
- (v) Emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR): Commercial Courts Act, 2015 (as amended on 20th August, 2018) stipulates mandatory pre-institution mediation and settlement of commercial disputes. Amendment to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 has been made by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2015 for expediting the speedy resolution of disputes by prescribing timelines.
- (vi) Initiatives to Fast Track Special Type of Cases: The Fourteenth Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, *inter-alia*, establishing Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc., and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements. As on 30.06.2020, 786 Fast Track Courts are functional for heinous crimes, crimes against women and children etc. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs / MLAs, ten (10) Special Courts are functional in nine (9) States/UTs (1 each in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar

Pradesh, West Bengal and 2 in NCT of Delhi) and proportionate funds have been released to these States by the Government. Further, Government has approved a scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) across the country for expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape under IPC and crimes under POCSO Act. As on date, 28 States/UTs have joined the scheme for setting up of 823 FTSCs including 363 exclusive POCSO courts. ₹140 crore was released in the financial year 2019-20 and ₹ 57.675 crore has been released during the financial year 2020-21 for the scheme. Presently 597 FTSCs are functional out of which 321 are exclusive POCSO Courts.

In order to reduce pendency and unclogging of the courts the Government has recently amended various laws like the Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Commercial Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Specific Relief (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019 and the Criminal Laws (Amendment) Act, 2018.

#### *Statement*

##### *Pendency of the cases in Lower Courts and High Courts*

Sl. No.	Name of High court/State Government	Pendency in Lower Courts (As on 17.09.2020)	Pendency in High Court (As on 17.09.2020)
1	Andhra Pradesh	5,82,069	2,03,024
2	Jharkhand	4,09,752	84,985
3	Gujarat	17,00,028	1,42,251

##### *Pendency in Supreme Court of India*

	Pendency (As on 31.08.2020)
Supreme Court of India	62,054

#### **Pending cases in Courts**

1381. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending in the Supreme Court, High Courts and District Courts of the country; and

(b) the total number of cases that have been disposed off by the Supreme Court, High Courts and District Courts of the country over the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) The total number of cases pending in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts is given as under:-

1.	Supreme Court	62,054 (as on 31.08.2020)
2.	High Courts	51,57,378 (as on 20.09.2020)
3.	District & Subordinate Courts	3,45,71,854 (as on 20.09.2020)

(b) The total number of cases disposed off by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts is given as under:-

Year	Hon'ble Supreme Court of India	High Courts	District & Subordinate courts
2017	13,850	16,24,529	1,98,61,459
2018	43,363	16,31,826	1,91,57,818
2019	45,787	19,17,049	1,83,71,574

**Pending cases in Uttar Pradesh High Court/Subordinate courts**

1382. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending at present in the High Court in Uttar Pradesh as well as in the Subordinate Courts of the State;

(b) the total number of cases cleared during the last three years; and

(c) the steps taken to clear the backlog of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The total number of cases pending in Uttar Pradesh High Court is 7,46,880 and total number of cases pending in the Subordinate Courts of the State is 81,94,116 as on 17.09.2020, as per data available on NJDG portal.

(b) The total number of cases cleared during the last three years is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms was set up in August, 2011 with the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission has been pursuing a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court procedure for quick disposal of cases and emphasis on human resource development. The major steps taken during the last five years under various initiatives are as follows:—

(i) **Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate**

**Courts:** As on date, ₹ 7,929.99 crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in 1993-94. Out of this, ₹4,485.68 crores (which is 56.56% of the total amount released till date) have been released to the States and UTs since April, 2014. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 19,830 as on 14.09.2020 and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 17,613 as on 14.09.2020 under this scheme. In addition, 2,778 court halls and 1,885 residential units are under construction.

(ii) **Leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved**

**justice delivery:** Government has been implementing the e-Courts Mission Mode Project throughout the country for Information and Communication Technology enablement of district and subordinate courts. Number of computerized District and Subordinate courts has increased from 13,672 (in 2014) to 16,845 as on 14.09.2020, registering an increase of 3,173. New and user-friendly version of Case Information Software has been developed and deployed at all the computerized District and Subordinate Courts. All stakeholders including Judicial Officers can access information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of computerized District and Subordinate Courts and High Courts on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) as on 14.09.2020. eCourts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders and final judgments are available to litigants and advocates through eCourts web portal, Judicial Service Centres (JSC) in all

computerized courts, eCourts Mobile App, email service, SMS push and pull services. Video Conferencing facility has been enabled between 3240 court complexes and 1272 corresponding jails. Against the Financial outlay of ₹ 1670 crores for phase II of eCourts Project, the Government has released a sum of ₹ 1459.52 crores so far to various organizations involved in the implementation of the project. With a view to handle the COVID- 19 challenges better and to make the transition to Virtual Court hearings in rural areas smoother, funds have been allocated by the Department of Justice recently under eCourts Project Phase II for creating additional infrastructure in the court complexes, ₹ 12.54 crore has been allocated for 235 e-SewaKendras at court complexes to facilitate lawyers and litigants needing assistance ranging from case status, getting judgements/orders, court/case related information and e-filing facilities. ₹ 5.01 crores has been allocated for providing equipment in Video Conferencing cabins in various court complexes to facilitate virtual hearings. ₹ 12.12 crores has been allocated for 1732 Help desk counters for e-filing in various court complexes.

- (iii) **Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts:** From 01.05.2014 to 14.09.2020, 35 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 557 new Judges were appointed and 483 Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1079 currently. Sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has increased as follows:—

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
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Filling up of vacancies in Subordinate judiciary falls within the domain of the State Governments and High Courts concerned.

- (iv) **Reduction in Pendency through / follow up by Arrears Committees:** In pursuance of resolution passed in Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, Arrears Committees have been set up in High Courts to clear cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up



under District Judges too. Arrears Committee has been constituted in the Supreme Court to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts.

- (v) **Emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR):** Commercial Courts Act, 2015 (as amended on 20th August, 2018) stipulates mandatory pre-institution mediation and settlement of commercial disputes. Amendment to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 has been made by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2015 for expediting the speedy resolution of disputes by prescribing timelines.
- (vi) **Initiatives to Fast Track Special Type of Cases:** The Fourteenth Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, *inter-alia*, establishing Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc., and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements. As on 30.06.2020, 786 Fast Track Courts are functional for heinous crimes, crimes against women and children etc. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs / MLAs, ten (10) Special Courts are functional in nine (9) States/UTs (1 each in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and 2 in NCT of Delhi) and proportionate funds have been released to these States by the Government. Further, Government has approved a scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) across the country for expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape under IPC and crimes under POCSO Act. As on date, 28 States/UTs have joined the scheme for setting up of 823 FTSCs including 363 exclusive POCSO courts. ₹140 crore was released in the financial year 2019-20 and ₹ 57.675 crore has been released during the financial year 2020-21 for the scheme. Presently 597 FTSCs are functional out of which 321 are exclusive POCSO Courts.
- (vii) In order to reduce pendency and unclogging of the courts the Government has recently amended various laws like the Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Commercial Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Specific Relief (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019 and the Criminal Laws (Amendment) Act, 2018.

**Statement**

*Total number of cases cleared during the last three year and current year in the State of Uttar Pradesh*

Sl. No.	Year	High Court of Allahabad	District and Subordinate Courts
1.	2017	217118	2425803
2.	2018	233384	2325448
3.	2019	241330	2634416
4.	2020	81256	958688

**Inadequate fast track courts and vacancies in courts**

1383. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Judges per million of population in the country;
- (b) the number of Judges per million as suggested by the Apex Court;
- (c) the steps Government is taking to comply with the order including the fund required for the purpose;
- (d) whether problems are being faced in timely disposal of cases in the absence of adequate number of Fast Track Courts and also due to a large number of vacancies in the such courts;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by when the vacancies in these courts are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

- (a) Based on the population as per Census 2011 and as per available information regarding sanctioned strength of Judges in Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts in the year 2020, the judge - population ratio in the country works out to be 20.91 Judges per million population. The sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts is 1079 Judges in September, 2020 and the sanctioned strength of Judges of District / Subordinate Courts is 24,203. The sanctioned strength of Judges in Supreme Court is 34.

(b) In the case of *Imtiyaz Ahmed versus State of Uttar Pradesh and others*, the Supreme Court had asked the Law Commission of India to evolve a method for scientific assessment of the number of additional courts required to clear the backlog of cases. In 245th report (2014), the Law Commission observed that filing of cases *per capita* varies substantially across geographic units as filings are associated with economic and social conditions of the population. As such the Law Commission did not consider the judge population ratio to be a scientific criterion for determining the adequacy of the judge strength in the country. The Law Commission found that in the absence of complete and scientific approach to data collection across various High Courts in the country, the "*Rate of Disposal*" method, to calculate the number of additional judges required to clear the backlog of cases as well as to ensure that new backlog is not created, is more pragmatic and useful.

In August 2014, the Supreme Court asked the National Court Management System Committee (NCMS Committee) to examine the recommendations made by the Law Commission and to furnish its recommendations in this regard. NCMS Committee submitted its report to the Supreme Court in March, 2016. The report, *inter-alia*, observes that in the long term, the judge strength of the subordinate courts will have to be assessed by a scientific method to determine the total number of "*Judicial Hours*" required for disposing of the case load of each court. In the interim, the Committee has proposed a "*weighted*" disposal approach *i.e.* disposal weighted by the nature and complexity of cases in local conditions.

As per the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 02.01.2017, the Department of Justice has forwarded a copy of interim report of the NCMS Committee to all the State Governments and High Courts for follow up action to determine the required Strength of district and subordinate judiciary.

(c) to (f) Setting up of subordinate courts including Fast Track Courts (FTCs) comes within the domain of the State Governments which in consultation with the respective High Courts set up such courts. An amount of ₹870 crore was released to the State Governments by the Central Government for FTCs during a period of 11 years from 2000-01 to 2010-2011. Thereafter, the Central Government decided to provide funds upto a maximum of ₹80 crore per annum on a matching basis upto 31.03.2015.

The 14th Finance Commission (14th FC) endorsed the proposal of the Union of India to strengthen the judicial system in States which includes, *inter-alia*, establishing

1800 FTCs for a period of five years for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants affected with HIV AIDS and other terminal ailments; and civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than five years at a cost of ₹4144 crore. The 14th FC had urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements. The Union Government has urged the State Governments to allocate funds for the activities mentioned in the 14th FC recommendations from their State budgets from the Financial Year 2015-16 onwards and to strengthen the existing coordination and monitoring mechanism between the State Governments and the Judiciary for effective implementation of the recommendations of the 14th FC.

As on date 786 Fast Track Courts are functional. The State wise details of Fast Track Courts presently functional are given in the Statement (*See below*).

Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of district and subordinate judiciary in the States vest with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the respective State Government, in consultation with the High. Court, frames the Rules and Regulations regarding the issues of appointment, promotion, reservations etc. of Judicial Officers in the State Judicial Service. Therefore, Central Government has no role in this regard.

The sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts as on 18.09.2020 is 24,204 and 19,172 respectively. Filling up of vacancies in Subordinate judiciary falls within the domain of the State Governments and High Courts concerned.

### ***Statement***

#### *State-wise details of Functional Fast Track Courts*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Functional Fast Track courts as on 30.06.2020
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21
2.	Assam	16

1	2	3
3.	Mizoram	2
4.	Nagaland	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	38
6.	Delhi	10
7.	Maharashtra	91
8.	Haryana	6
9.	Punjab	7
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	5
11.	Karnataka	8
12.	Manipur	4
13.	Sikkim	2
14.	Tamil Nadu	74
15.	Tripura	11
16.	UP	369
17.	Uttarakhand	4
18.	West Bengal	88
19.	Telangana	29
TOTAL		786

#### Steps taken for online RTI mechanism

1384. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by the Ministry to ensure smooth functioning of RTI through online means on account of ongoing COVID-19 pandemic; and

(b) the details of the Information Commissions in which filing of RTI request is possible through online mode and the number of such online requests processed since March 2020, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) RTI Online portal (<https://rtionline.gov.in>) has already been put in place by Department of Personnel and Training since August 2013 to help citizens in filing RTI Applications, First and Second Appeals with the Public Authorities aligned there. Further, Central Information Commission has in place the facility of Audio/Video hearing even before COVID-19 pandemic and all the second Appeals/Complaints cases outside Delhi have been adjudicated through NIC studios at various district headquarters in various states, as suitable for the Appellant and Respondent. During COVID-19 pandemic, the Central Information Commission had taken steps to facilitate hearing of second Appeals/Complaints through audio/video facilities by intensive use of technology.

(b) As far as Central Information Commission is concerned, a total number of 4491 online requests have been processed since March, 2020 to 17.09.2020.

#### **Suspended functioning of State Information Commissions**

1385. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after the declaration of lockdown in March 2020, most State Information Commissions have not been functioning/have been in suspended functioning; and

(b) if so, details of the remedial steps taken by the Ministry to restore normalcy in functioning of State Information Commissions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Central Information Commission (CIC) has been functional even after declaration of lockdown in March, 2020. As for State Information Commissions, each of the State Governments took a call appropriately.

#### **Appointment of CIC**

1386. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the status of appointment of the new Chief Information Commissioner;

(b) the status of appointment of Information Commissioners in the CIC;

(c) whether Government has initiated any processes to fill the vacancies in a timely manner with regard to the direction given by the Supreme Court in February 2019; and

(d) the criteria adopted by the Search Committee for shortlisting candidates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Chief Information Commissioner in the Central Information Commission completed his tenure on 26.08.2020. The process of appointment of new CIC and ICs is going on.

(c) Yes Sir. The Chief Information Commissioner in Central Information Commission has completed his tenure on 26.08.2020. One Information Commissioner is completing his tenure on 25.09.2020. Government had initiated the process to fill up the vacancy in a timely manner by way of issuing the advertisements to fill up the post of Chief Information Commissioner and upto 6 posts of Information Commissioners in the Central Information Commission on 09.07.2020.

(d) The High level Search Committee follows a method of obtaining relevant information in respect of various candidates while scrutinization of applications and shortlists the candidates for the post of Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners in the Central Information Commission for consideration of the Committee under Section 12(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

1387. *The Question was cancelled.*

#### **Implementation of Schedule Caste Sub Plan**

1388. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of guidelines issued for the proper implementation of Scheduled Caste Sub Plan;

(b) the Ministry-wise and year-wise status of the implementation of every scheme under Scheduled Caste Sub Plan during the last three years;

(c) whether incidents of violations relating to utilization of funds and guidelines in Sub Plan have been reported; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken and corrective measures adopted by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) The erstwhile Planning Commission and subsequently the NITI Aayog issued Guidelines from time to time, the latest guidelines for Central Ministries / Departments were issued in 2017 on account of merger of plan and non-plan classification of expenditure and for effective implementation of Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP). Copy of the Guidelines issued in 2017 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The Ministry-wise and year-wise status of the implementation of the every scheme under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan during that three years is available in the Statement 10-A of the Union Budget expenditure profiles.

(c) No such violation has been reported. However, certain Central Ministries / Departments have expressed their inability to adopt SCSP components in their existing schemes and have not allocated obligated percentage of funds and certain Ministries could not fully utilize the allocated funds. These issues were regularly taken up with the concerned Ministries / Departments to come up with new schemes etc. However, the overall allocation and expenditure under Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan has increased over the years.

(d) The progress under SCSP is monitored by the nodal Ministry *i.e.* Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, NITI Aayog also held meetings with Central Ministries / Departments from time to time to review the implementation. Considering the need and importance of allocation of resources for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, NITI Aayog is in the process to revise the guidelines in consultation with implementing Ministries and Nodal Ministries for better allocation and efficient utilization of allocated resources for the welfare and development of SCs and STs.

#### ***Statement***

##### *Guidelines for earmarking of funds for Development Action Plan for SCs and STs (DAPSC and DAPST)*

1. The earlier system of planning has been discontinued and there has been merger of plan and non-plan expenditure with effect from 2017-18. In the changed system of budgeting, there is a need for clarity regarding new arrangement for earmarking of funds for SCs and STs in their budgets by the concerned Central Ministries/ Departments.
2. Earlier earmarking of funds for SCs and STs were done by the concerned Ministries/ Departments against their Plan allocation under the broad strategies of Scheduled



Cases Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP) as per the criteria recommended by the Task Force, 2010. Earmarked allocation was also shown Ministry/Department-wise against the respective Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs) and Central Sector Schemes (CSs) in the Union Budget document. The Task Force constituted by the erstwhile Planning Commission had recommended for differential earmarking *i.e.* earmarking at different rates the Ministries/Departments and only against their plan outlay. Non-Plan component of the outlays were kept out of purview of the Sub-Plans. The Task Force had identified 26 Ministries/ Departments for SCSP and 32 for TSP as obligated to earmark funds and implement schemes for SCs and STs.

3. In view of new system of budgeting, NITI Aayog was entrusted with the task of looking into the issue of alternative arrangements for earmarking of funds for SCs and STs. The matter was considered by the Senior Management Committee (SMC) of NITI Aayog in its meeting on 24.04.2017. The SMC desired, Shri Ratan P. Watal, Principal Adviser, Social Sector, NITI Aayog to guide SMC on the matter. The recommendations stated in these guidelines are outcome of consultation process (2017) under the Chairmanship of Principal Adviser, and would guide the earmarking of funds by the Ministries/Departments for DAPSC and DAPST, while going beyond and building on the recommendations of the earlier Task Force 2010, signifying continuity with enrichment. Some other issues considered regarding earmarking of funds, were as follows:—
  - (i) Whether strategy for implementation of the schemes for welfare of SCs and STs shall continue as per existing guidelines?
  - (ii) Decision regarding 'No-Obligation Ministries/Departments'.
  - (iii) Need or otherwise of a national level institution to work as think-tank for SCs and STs.
  - (iv) Need or otherwise of a Central Legislation to ensure non-divertibility and/or non-lapsability of allocation and to guide planning and implementation.
  - (v) How to ensure mainstreaming most vulnerable community groups in major flagship programmes, as reflected in development outcomes- in addition to earmarked allocations and specific schemes?

- (vi) How to enhance /create institutional capacity at national/state/ district and local levels for ensuring a voice and social inclusion of the most vulnerable community groups?
  - (vii) How to create a framework for Social Sector Outcome Monitoring, that addresses multiple vulnerability and is responsive to the most vulnerable?
4. The issues were considered in NITI Aayog in consultation with various stakeholders *i.e.* concerned Central Ministries/Departments, State Governments, National Commissions for SCs and STs and Samavesh Forum of NITI. Aayog, in addition to internal examination and review of the issues in NITI Aayog.
5. On the basis of suggestions that emerged from the consultations and internal review of the issues, the recommendations made regarding the new arrangements for earmarking of funds and other issues regarding implementation of schemes for SCs and STs have been detailed in the following paragraphs.

**Continuation and Enrichment of strategy and Guidelines for implementation**

6. So far as strategy for implementation of the sub-plans is concerned, promoting socio-economic interest of SCs and STs is a constitutional mandate. It is also an area of priority and commitment for the present government to promote the socio-economic empowerment and inclusive development of the SCs and STs. The commitment to ensure inclusive development of the most vulnerable and deprived community groups - especially SCs and STs has been further reaffirmed by the call for a New India By 2022, the 75th Year of India's Independence. This calls for an India free from poverty, dirt, corruption, terrorism, casteism and communalism, among other features. The need for an Antyodaya approach to reach the poorest of the poor and the most deprived has also been highlighted. The schemes and programmes, therefore will continue to be implemented in the broader contours of the earlier sub-plans. In the new system of budgeting SCSP and TSP may be renamed as Development Action Plan for SCs (DAPSC) and Development Action Plan for STs (DAPST).

**Earmarking against overall allocation of CSSs and CSs and not against total budget of the Ministries/Departments**

7. Earmarking should be against the overall allocation for schemes of the Ministries/Departments and not against the total budget of the concerned Ministries/

Departments over and above the overall allocation for the schemes. However the Ministries/Departments will have flexibility to allocate funds for SCs and STs for specific activities within their overall budget, in case their existing schemes are not amenable to or do not have the scope for any such activities for SCs and STs.

### **Recommendations**

8. The following are the guidelines recommended regarding identification of Ministries/Departments and earmarking of funds of DAPSC and DAPST and also to strengthen the existing guidelines in post planning stage:

### **Identification of Ministries and Earmarking of Funds**

- (i) The earmarking should be done under specific schemes of the Ministry/Department. Overall earmarking of the Ministry/Department should be calculated against the total allocation of these schemes and not against the total budget of the Ministry/Department. However, some flexibility may be provided in specific instances wherever deemed necessary, and in case of non-utilisation under one scheme, the budget should be utilized under the other schemes of the department, but for DAPSC or DAPST, as the case may be, with approval of the Ministry and Financial Adviser.
- (ii) Percentage of earmarking should not be less than 50% of the population proportion or as decided by the Task Force, or actuals whichever is higher. Ministry/ Department allocating funds for SCs and STs at higher percentages shall maintain existing percentages.
- (iii) All the Ministries/Departments which fall in the category II (Identified by the Task Force) *i.e.* earmarking of funds in the range of 0-15% for SCSP and 0-7.5% for TSP should earmark at least minimum of 8.3% for DAPSC and 4.3% for DAPST (as per 2011 Census).
- (iv) Ministries/Departments which are earmarking funds only for SCs at present should also earmark funds for STs and *vice versa* except the nodal Ministries. For example, D/o Animal Husbandry and Commerce should also earmark for DAPST. D/o Agriculture Research, Coal, Telecommunication, Water Resources, etc. which are there in DAPST should earmark for DAPSC. Minimum percentage of earmarking should be as indicated in para (i) and (iii) above.

- (v) Ministries/Departments like M/o Development of North Eastern Region, DONER, M/o Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, and D/o Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DPwD) have earmarked funds under STs in 2017-18 *i.e.* @ 27.18%, 8.14% and 10.17% respectively. These Ministries/Department have been implementing mostly beneficiary oriented schemes and therefore should be brought in the 'obligatory' category.
- (vi) Ministries/Departments which have direct or indirect bearing on the welfare of SCs and STs in the country, but remain outside the purview of DAPSC and DAPST *i.e.* and (a) Department of Fertilizers, (b) Department of Pharmaceuticals, (c) Ministry of Food processing industries, (d) Department of Consumer Affairs, (e) Ministry of Urban Development and (f) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. These Ministries/Departments should earmark funds to the extent of at least 50% of population proportion of SCs and STs.
- (vii) Ministries/Departments which are earmarking funds in proportion to the population of SCs or STs as per 2001 Census or closer to that should earmark fund in proportion to population of SCs or STs as per 2011 Census.
- (viii) So far as Nodal Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (SJE) is concerned, the present level of earmarking of 72.5% of funds by the D/o SJE for SCs as recommended by the Task Force should continue. However, over and above this, Scheduled Caste communities should also benefit from schemes implemented for other vulnerable sections like senior citizens, transgender, destitutes, drug addicts, etc. The issues of multiple vulnerability should also be addressed appropriately.
- (ix) State-wise distribution of allocation under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes by Central Ministries/ Departments, especially under beneficiary oriented schemes should be done in proportion to population for SCs and STs in the respective States/UTs.
- (x) Some Ministries/Departments like D/o Fertilizers, D/o Telecommunications, M/o Coal, M/o Mines, M/o Culture, etc. which do not have any scheme for SCs and/or STs, should set aside the earmarked allocation, evolve new and focused interventions and use the same for appropriate schemes/activities in consultation with the Nodal Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

and Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The Nodal Ministries should coordinate as to how to use such allocations for direct benefits of SCs and STs.

**Non-lapsability and non-divertibility**

- (xi) In India the system of cash-based budgeting is followed. In view of this it is not feasible to follow the practice of non-lapsability. The issue of non-divertability is already inbuilt in the system due to allocation of funds on the basis of 'budget head'. However diversification of fund within the budget head shall be allowed subject to conditions mentioned in para (ii) above. Any further clarification, in this regard may be looked into by the Department of Expenditure.

**National Level Institute for SCs and STs**

- (xii) A National level Institute each for SCs and STs, on the pattern of National Institute for Rural Development should be set up to work as Think Tank and Resource Centre each for SCs and STs. For SCs, the Ambedkar International Centre or its infrastructure may be considered to be utilized as the National Institute. For STs, National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (NILERD) could be converted or infrastructure of NEILRD could be utilized for the same.
- (xiii) Linked to the National Institutes, States should also be encouraged to have/ set up such institutes - at the State level and progressively at District levels. The district level institutes may specifically work for providing specific inputs for formulation of suitable projects/ schemes at the ground level in the interest of SCs and STs. This is especially relevant in the context of enhanced devolution of resources to States, urban local bodies and panchayati raj institutions, as per the implementation of the Fourteenth Finance Commission recommendations.

**Enabling Provisions**

- (xiv) Ministries concerned and States/UTs must ensure mainstreaming of the most vulnerable community groups in major flagship programmes under the National Development Agenda, as reflected in development outcomes- in addition to earmarked allocations and specific schemes.

- (xv) Ministries concerned and States/UTs may enable and promote institutional capacity at different levels to ensure improved utilization, effectiveness, efficiency and outcomes of allocations earmarked for SC/STs. This includes enabling representation in institutional mechanisms etc.
- (xvi) The performance of States and Districts on Social Inclusion may progressively be recognized and incentivized.
- (xvii) Ministries concerned and States/UTs must address multiple vulnerability through convergent interventions that may be multi sectoral in nature, specific to the State/district context.
- (xviii) Ministries concerned and States/UTS may be encouraged to design new interventions based on programme implementation experience, with innovative ideas for Ministries which were earlier considered to be non obligatory.

#### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

- (xix) Monitoring of the DAPSC and DAPST should be necessarily a priority area. Monitoring should be both output and outcome based and through dashboard. The nodal Ministries *i.e.* Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs will be responsible for the monitoring as per amendment to Allocation of Business Rule 1961 *vide* Gazette Notification a F. No. 1/21/26/2016-Cab. dated 31st January, 2017.
- (xx) The monitoring initiative should have special focus on people with multiple vulnerability such as SC/ST widows or women or men with disabilities; Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs); destitute SC/ST children etc.
- (xxi) The social sector monitoring framework adopted at the central level under DAPSC and DAPST should also be carried forward to be implemented at the State and District levels for outcome monitoring of the initiatives for SCs and STs.
- (xxii) The social sector monitoring framework should include integration of concerns related to inclusion of SC/STs in the existing Common Review Missions of major flagship programmes by concerned Ministries and National Commissions as a complementary approach for field based outcome monitoring. (Ministries such as MHFW, MHRD, MWCD and MRD are using

Common Review Missions for National Health Mission, Elementary Education, WCD/ICDS and Rural Development Programmes.)

9. Details of criteria proposed for earmarking of funds for DAPSC and DAPST by respective Ministries/Departments may be seen at Annexure.

10. **NITI Aayog's Role**

- (i) While the Nodal Ministries should also be responsible for coordination with the concerned Ministries and Departments to ensure adequate fund for SCs and STs. NITI Aayog should also, in consultation with the nodal Ministries, ensure earmarking of the funds by the identified Ministries/Departments and periodically review their performance.
- (ii) NITI Aayog should be responsible for evaluation of DAPSC and DAPST. The nodal Ministries, M/o SJE and MoTA and the concerned Central Ministries/Departments should also undertake evaluation of their schemes as per the overall strategies of DAPSC and DAPST.

**Annexure**

*Category A: Obligatory Ministries/Departments*

*Ministry/Department wise existing earmarking and proposed percentage of earmarking DAPSC (2011 Census)*

Sl. No.	Ministries/ Departments	Existing percentage of earmarking	Actual earmarking % in 2017-18	Proposed % for earmarking to DAPSC*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Agriculture and Cooperation	16.20	16.13	16.60
2.	Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	16.20	16.18	16.60
3.	AYUSH	5.00	14.02	8.30
4.	Commerce	4.50	1.07	8.30
5.	Development of North East Region	2.00	2.01	8.30
6.	Drinking Water Supply	22.00	22.00	22.00

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Information Technology	2.00	1.39	8.30
8.	Environment and Forest	2.20	2.01	8.30
9.	Health and Family Welfare	15.20	15.90	16.60
10.	Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation	22.50	22.42	22.50
11.	School Education and Literacy	20.00	21.74	20.00
12.	Higher Education	15.00	53.44	16.60
13.	Labour and Employment	16.20	16.45	16.60
14.	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	12.00	11.39	16.60
15.	New and Renewable Energy	3.50	3.48	8.30
16.	Panchayati Raj	16.20	15.78	16.60
17.	Ministry of Power	8.30	9.29	16.60
18.	Rural Development	25.00	8.07	25.00
19.	Land Resources	16.20	15.44	16.60
20.	Science and Technology	2.50	4.35	8.30
21.	Department of Social Justice and Empowerment	72.50	79.27	72.50
22.	Textiles	5.00	2.80	16.60
23.	Woman and Child Development	20.00	16.91	20.00
24.	Youth Affairs and Sports	16.20	25.28	16.60



*DAPST (2011 Census)*

Sl. No.	Ministries/ Departments	Existing percentage of earmarking	Actual earmarking % in 2017-18	Proposed % for earmarking to DAPST*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Agriculture and Cooperation	8.00	7.97	8.60
2.	Department of Agriculture Research and Education	3.60	3.46	4.30
3.	AYUSH	2.00	4.03	4.30
4.	Ministry of Coal	8.20	4.49	8.60
5.	Department of Telecommunication	0.25	0.26	4.30
6.	Department of food and Public Distribution	1.40	0.00	4.30
7.	Ministry of Culture	2.00	4.80	4.30
8.	Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation	10.00	10.00	10.00
9.	Minsitry of Eletronics and Information Technology	6.70	4.67	6.70
10.	Health and Family Welfare	8.20	8.58	8.60
11.	Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation	2.40	2.39	4.30
12.	School Education and Literacy	10.70	12.49	10.70
13.	Higher Education	7.50	26.73	8.60
14.	Labour and Employment	8.20	8.33	8.60
15.	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	8.20	7.73	8.60
16.	Ministry of Mines	4.00	0.00	4.30
17.	Panchayati Raj	8.20	8.09	8.60

1	2	3	4	5
18.	Ministry of road Transport and Highways	3.50	0.62	4.30
19.	Rural Development	17.50	5.63	17.50
20.	Land Resources	10.00	9.78	10.00
21.	Science and Technology	2.50	4.35	4.30
22.	Textiles	1.20	1.04	8.60
23.	Ministry of Tourism	2.50	2.54	4.30
24.	Ministry of tribal Affairs	100.00	139.47	100.00
25.	Ministry of WR, RD and GR	0.73	0.83	8.60
26.	Woman and Child Development	8.20	6.50	8.60
27.	Youth Affairs and Sports	8.20	13.26	8.60

*Category B: Non-Obligated Ministry /Departments but allocating  
in 2017-18 DAPSC*

Sl. No.	Ministries/ Departments	Existing percentage of earmarking for DAPSC	Actual earmarking % in 2017-18	Proposed % for earmarking to DAPSC*
1.	Department of Empowerment of persons with Disabilities	0.00	20.25	16.60
2.	Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	0.00	16.09	16.60

*DAPST*

Sl. No.	Ministries/ Departments	Existing percentage of earmarking for DAPST	Actual earmarking % in 2017-18	Proposed % for earmarking to DAPST*
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Development of North East Region	0.00	27.18	8.60
2.	Environment and Forest	0.00	0.29	8.60

1	2	3	4	5
3.	New and Renewable Energy	0.00	1.74	8.60
4.	Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	0.00	8.14	8.60
5.	Department of Empowerment of persons with Disabilities	0.00	10.17	8.60

*Category C: Ministries/Departments which are earmarking for either DAPSC or DAPST*

*Ministries/Departments which are earmarking for DAPST should also earmark for DAPSC*

Sl. No.	Ministries/Departments	Existing % of earmarking for DAPST	Proposed % for earmarking to DAPSC*
1.	Department of Agriculture Research and Education	3.46	8.30
2.	Ministry of Coal	4.49	8.30
3.	Department of Telecommunication	0.26	8.30
4.	Department of food and Public Distribution	0.00	8.30
5.	Ministry of Culture	4.30	8.30
6.	Ministry of Mines	0.00	8.30
7.	Ministry of road Transport and Highways	0.62	8.30
8.	Ministry of Tourism	2.54	8.30
9.	Ministry of WR, RD and GR	0.83	8.30

\* Atleast 50% of population proportion (8.30%)

*Ministries/Departments which are earmarking for DAPSC should also  
earmark for DAPST*

Sl. No.	Ministries/Departments	Existing % of earmarking for DAPSC	Proposed % of earmarking for DAPST
1.	Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	16.18	8.60#
2.	Commerce	1.07	4.30
3.	Ministry of Power	9.29	8.60#

# These Ministries implement direct beneficiary oriented programme, they are obligated in proportion to population (ST-8.60%)

Category D: Ministries/Departments which are Non-Obligated.

*New Ministries/Departments obligated for earmarking and implementing  
DAPSC/DAPST*

Sl. No.	Ministries/ Departments	Existing	Proposed % for DAPSC*	Proposed % for DAPST*
1.	Department of Fertilizers	00	8.30	4.30
2.	Department of Pharmaceuticals	00	8.30	4.30
3.	Department of Consumer Affairs	00	8.30	4.30
4.	Ministry of Food Processing Industries	00	8.30	4.30
5.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas	00	8.30	4.30
6.	Ministry of urban Development	00	8.30	4.30

\*At least 50% of population proportion (8.30%)

**Scientists of Indian origin joining ISRO from foreign space agencies**

1389. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scientists of Indian origin who have joined ISRO from foreign space agencies during the past five years; and

(b) the number of scientists from ISRO who have left India to join foreign space agencies during the past five years, if so, the details of the organisations these scientists have joined?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Nil.

**In-space and private sector innovation in the space sector**

1390. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has launched the Indian Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) to promote private investment and innovation in the space sector;

(b) if so, the specific measures through which IN-SPACe will be used to attract such investment;

(c) the regulatory, financial, and institutional mechanisms Government intends to implement under this program to facilitate greater private participation; and

(d) the specific operations, within the space industry, Government will allow private players to participate in?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) IN-SPACe will facilitate and support the Private Sector in the following ways:—

- (i) Provide technical support
- (ii) Share cash intensive facilities
- (iii) Allow to establish temporary facilities in DOS premises
- (iv) Allow to bid for requirements coming from NSIL
- (v) Partner in science and space exploration missions

(c) IN-SPACe is the Institutional and Regulatory mechanism established by Government to facilitate greater private participation. Financial provisions are not covered under this mechanism.

- (d) Private players can participate in:—
- (i) Building satellites
  - (ii) Building launch vehicles
  - (iii) Carry out launches
  - (iv) Develop Applications and provide space based services
  - (v) Develop subsystem and systems for space sector activities.

**Status of space applications programme at ISRO**

1391. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the Space Applications programme at India Space Research Organisation (ISRO); and
- (b) the history and background of this Space Applications programme since it was founded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) ISRO's Space Applications programme encompasses applications in the area of Earth Observation, Communication and Navigation.

**Earth Observation Applications:** Under earth observation, applications are being carried out in the areas of land, water and ocean resources, weather and climate, environment and eco-system, urban and rural development, disaster risk reduction and Governance. Some of the applications which have been operationalised and carried out by stakeholder Departments with handholding from ISRO include Potential Fishing Zone Forecast and Ocean State Forecast (by Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, MoES); Crop Acreage and Production Forecasting and National Agricultural Drought Assessment and Monitoring System (by Mahalanobis National Crop Forecast Centre, MoA&FW); Biennial Forest Cover Assessment (by Forest Survey of India, MoEF&CC); Irrigation Infrastructure Assessment (by Central Water Commission, MoWR, RD&GR); Weather forecasting (by India Meteorological Department, MoES); Integrated Watershed Management Programme and MGNREGA (by MoRD); Urban Geospatial Database preparation for AMRUT Cities (by MoH&UA); Decentralised planning (by MoPR), Natural

resources census (by DoS) and Disaster Management Support (by MHA). Periodic planning, monitoring and evaluation of developmental activities are also carried out using space technology applications.

**Communication Applications:** ISRO has implemented unique societal applications like Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE) during 1970s; Kheda Communications Project (KCP) during 1980s; Training and Development Communication Channel (TDCC), Jhabua Developmental Communication Project (JDCP) and GRAMSAT programmes during 1990s; Telemedicine, Tele-education, Village Resource Center (VRC) and Disaster Management Support Programme (DMSP) during 2000s. These programmes were focused on addressing some of the specific problems of the common man by providing end-to-end solutions using space-based applications.

**Navigation Applications:** NavIC is being utilised in various domains of civilian applications like automotive sector (as part of vehicle location tracking devices), power sector (power grid synchronization), fisheries sector (broadcasting disaster alerts and potential fishing zone information), consumer sector (location based services on mobile handset platforms), etc.

(b) The history and background for Space Applications for various segments are as follows:-

**Earth Observation Applications:** Space Application activities started with the detection of coconut root-wilt disease in Kerala in 1970 using colour-infrared aerial photography from a helicopter. This was followed by many studies using aerial data and also data available from Landsat series of satellites from 1972. Around 60 end-to-end remote sensing applications projects (Joint Experiment Projects-JEP), consisting of aerial data acquisition coupled with ground truth data collection were carried out by ISRO/DOS in collaboration with various users during mid-seventies to early eighties, which culminated in a National Symposium at Hyderabad in 1983, where the guidelines for the future Remote Sensing programme were formulated. This led to formation of a unique institutional framework, namely the National Natural Resources Management System (NNRMS) in 1985 under the aegis of erstwhile Planning Commission and with DoS as the nodal agency. NNRMS consisting of all concerned Government user departments, helped in optimal integration of remote sensing inputs with the conventional data towards

efficient management of India's natural resources on sustainable basis. This paved way for the operational Indian remote sensing satellite (IRS) programme in 1988.

**Communication Applications:**

- **Satellite Instructional Television Experiments (SITE)**

The project made available informational television programme to rural India.

- **Kheda a Communication Project (KCP)**

A field laboratory in development and local communication was conducted between 1975 and 1990 in Kheda district in Gujarat.

- **Jhabua Developmental Communication Project**

It was an effort towards the definition of satellite based communication systems dedicated to meet the requirements of the rural areas.

- **Training and Development Communications Channel (TDCC)**

It provided 1-way Video and 2-way audio system of interactive training and education.

- **GRAMSAT**

In Odisha, the GRAMSAT used for Interactive Training Programme (ITP) for disseminating information and for building capacities of the functionaries at the district, block and village level.

- **Tele-Education**

ISRO/DOS established tele-education networks in association with various state and central departments/institutions, to reach the student community particularly in the remote/rural areas.

- **Tele-Medicine**

Telemedicine programme of ISRO started as one of the societal applications of space technology and with a vision to extend technological support to provide access to quality medical services to needy patients living in remote and inaccessible locations of the country.



- **Village Resource Centre (VRC)**

The VRC programme aims to promote a single window delivery of need-based services in the areas of agriculture, health, nutrition, water, weather, environment, non-formal education and alternate livelihoods to the rural population.

- **Disaster Management support (DMS) Programme**

The Disaster Management Support (DMS) Programme was implemented to provide space based information and services to the State and Central Government Departments to strengthen the disaster management activities.

- **Satellite Aided Search and Rescue**

Search and Rescue (SAR) programme is implemented in collaboration with international agency COSPAS-SARSAT. It aids to search the ships, aircrafts and persons in distress and take rescue actions.

- **Fishing vessel tracking system**

A satcom based terminal fitted in a fishing vessel transmits its position, time and vessel identity information at fixed intervals. Such transmitted information is received at Central Hub and further accessed by concerned government agencies for tracking and safety of vessels and fishermen.

- **NAVIC alert Message Receiver (NMR) for Fishermen**

Through this system the fishermen are able to receive the alerts on emergencies such as cyclone, high waves, tsunami, potential fishing zones and geo-fencing applications.

- **Distress Alert Transmitter (DAT)**

DAT contains dedicated buttons for different types of emergencies such as "Fire", "Boat sinking", "Man overboard" and "Medical" including a test button.

**Navigation Applications:** NavIC space segment, consisting of a constellation of IRNSS satellites, has been established and commissioned during the time-frame 2012 to 2016. NavIC ground segment has been established at various parts of the NavIC coverage area and is operational since 2012. To cater to NavIC applications, the user receivers are being developed as per the user requirements.

**Cost overruns in infrastructure projects**

1392. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of infrastructure projects have been badly hit by cost overruns of several lakhs of crore rupees across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that for several infrastructure projects, neither year of commissioning nor tentative gestation period has been reported; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps that the Union Government has taken to complete such projects without any further delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation compiles data on time and cost overruns of on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing ₹ 150 crore and above, on the basis of information provided by the project implementing agencies on the On-line Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) of the Ministry. As on 01.08.2020, 432 projects out of 1670 on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing ₹ 150 crore and above are facing cost overruns worth ₹ 4.29 lakh crore which constitute 20.85 percentage of original project implementation cost. The details of these projects are available in the flash report at [www.cspm.gov.in/publications](http://www.cspm.gov.in/publications).

(c) There are projects where original date of commissioning or anticipated date of commissioning are not reported by the project implementing agencies. The details of these projects are available in the flash report at [www.cspm.gov.in/publications](http://www.cspm.gov.in/publications).

(d) The major steps undertaken by the Union Government to ensure completion of Central Sector Infrastructure Projects without further delay include: rigorous project appraisal; On-line Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) for better monitoring; setting up of Revised Cost Committees in the Ministries for fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns; regular review of infrastructure projects by the concerned administrative Ministries; and setting up of Central Sector Projects Coordination Committees (CSPCCs) in the States under the concerned Chief Secretaries for removal of bottlenecks and for facilitating the speedy implementation of major projects.

**Cost overrun on major infrastructure projects in the country**

1393. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total cost overrun on major infrastructure projects in the country from 2014 onwards, project-wise;
- (b) the reasons for such huge losses to the exchequer; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to overcome such shortfalls and losses in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation compiles data on time and cost overruns of On-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing ₹ 150 crore and above, on the basis of information provided by the project implementing agencies on the On-line Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS). The total cost overrun on major infrastructure projects in the country from 2014 onwards, year-wise, is given in the Statement (*See below*). The project-wise details are available in the flash report at <http://www.cspm.gov.in/English/ArchiveJfr.htm> and [www.cspm.gov.in/publications](http://www.cspm.gov.in/publications).

(b) As reported by the project implementing agencies on the OCMS of this ministry, the main reasons for cost overrun are: under-estimation of original cost; changes in rates of foreign exchange and statutory duties; high cost of environmental safeguards and rehabilitation measures; spiraling land acquisition costs; shortage of skilled manpower/ labour; changes in project scope; monopolistic pricing by vendors of equipment services; general price rise / inflation and time overruns. Delay in land acquisition and forest clearance has been one of the reasons for time overrun leading to cost overrun as reported by implementing agencies.

(c) The major steps undertaken by the Government to ensure successful completion of Central Sector Infrastructure Projects without time and cost overruns are: periodic review of projects under PRAGATI through video conferencing; rigorous project appraisal; Online Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) for better monitoring; setting up of Revised Cost Committees in the Ministries for fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns; regular review of infrastructure projects by the concerned administrative Ministries; and setting up of Central Sector Projects Coordination Committees (CSPCCs) in the States under the Chief Secretaries for removal of bottlenecks and for facilitating the speedy implementation of major projects.

**Statement***Cost overrun on major infrastructure projects from 2014 onwards*

Sl. No.	Month/Year	Total Project	Original Cost (₹ in crore)	Anticipated Cost (₹ in crore)	Cost Overrun (₹ in crore)
1.	March-2014	710	924307.04	1103914.08	179607.04
2.	March-2015	751	1028235.95	1234208.57	205972.62
3.	March-2016	1076	1238517.07	1393627.86	155110.79
4.	March-2017	1231	1559571.06	1731162.47	171591.41
5.	March-2018	1315	1623254.71	1841400.35	218145.64
6.	March-2019	1405	1809681.47	2139924.38	330242.91
7.	March-2020	1686	2066771.94	2471947.66	405175.72

**Per capita income during the last ten years**

1394. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- the details of per capita income during the last ten years;
- whether the per capita income has increased or decreased during the last ten years in the country; and
- if so, the details of the percentage-wise increase or decrease in per capita income, State-wise/Union Territory-wise and year-wise during the last ten years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Estimates of Per Capita Income (measured as per capita Net National Income) at constant prices (2011-12) during the last ten years are as follows:—

(Amount in ₹)

2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
62,170	63,462	65,538	68,572	72,805	77,659	83,003	87,828	92,085	94,954

- Per capita income has increased during the last ten years in the country.
- Percentage-wise growth rate, in per capita Net State Domestic Product, State-wise/Union Territory-wise and year-wise during the last ten years, is given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Percentage Growth Rate (over corresponding last years) of State-wise Per Capita Net State Domestic Product  
BASE YEAR 2011-12 (Estimate as on 31.07.2020)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	At constant prices									
		2010-11*	2011-12*	2012 -13	2013 -14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5.69	2.25	-0.20	4.92	9.58	11.92	6.21	9.67	3.90	7.55
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.93	2.83	-0.34	5.80	14.19	-3.36	0.73	5.94	2.72	NA
3.	Assam	3.63	2.81	1.14	3.35	4.20	13.02	5.79	7.95	4.94	NA
4.	Bihar	13.68	8.76	2.08	2.59	1.96	3.62	7.30	3.40	7.37	9.13
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.45	4.51	2.90	8.16	-0.47	0.64	4.64	2.72	5.11	3.51
6.	Goa	15.72	17.31	-15.20	-14.39	27.99	15.56	9.79	5.04	14.75	NA
7.	Gujarat	9.45	5.24	10.52	6.11	8.56	8.36	7.50	9.50	8.04	NA
8.	Haryana	5.00	6.78	5.37	7.17	4.37	10.23	9.01	6.42	5.95	6.27
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7.33	5.40	5.64	6.63	6.50	7.11	8.41	6.90	6.75	4.87
10.	Jammu and Kashmir#	4.33	4.06	-1.44	3.21	-6.22	18.22	0.98	4.01	3.48	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	234
11.	Jharkhand	12.98	3.84	7.08	-0.90	11.43	-8.73	9.66	7.07	5.17	5.24	Written Answers to  [RAJYA SABHA]
12.	Karnataka	9.13	1.95	4.56	7.93	3.77	10.52	12.36	9.58	6.57	5.65	
13.	Kerala	5.88	5.31	5.76	4.15	4.26	7.06	7.36	7.05	7.02	NA	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3.56	7.21	6.87	3.42	3.47	7.55	11.47	2.81	4.12	6.07	
15.	Maharashtra	9.85	2.83	4.43	5.37	4.98	6.81	8.79	5.26	4.78	NA	
16.	Manipur	-5.04	7.04	-2.03	6.39	6.42	5.19	1.64	8.61	-0.06	NA	
17.	Meghalaya	7.21	8.96	-0.52	-1.71	-4.77	0.28	3.06	1.28	6.78	5.92	
18.	Mizoram	15.48	-5.37	4.52	12.17	25.83	7.98	7.89	7.52	1.23	NA	
19.	Nagaland	8.38	5.34	4.66	5.65	2.99	0.48	7.05	5.41	7.04	NA	
20.	Odisha	4.91	2.39	5.33	7.19	0.66	6.74	15.27	7.28	5.03	5.12	
21.	Punjab	4.53	3.47	3.90	4.86	2.75	4.52	5.70	4.68	4.58	4.04	
22.	Rajasthan	13.16	7.67	2.19	4.47	5.64	6.31	4.13	4.27	5.55	3.54	
23.	Sikkim	8.82	11.44	1.19	5.20	6.97	7.97	6.30	12.12	4.09	5.69	
24.	Tamil Nadu	12.90	6.70	4.45	5.07	4.82	8.18	6.33	7.97	7.45	7.63	
25.	Telangana	16.60	4.44	1.77	3.57	5.61	10.69	8.23	8.87	8.56	7.18	Unstarred Questions

26.	Tripura	6.29	7.87	7.10	8.21	17.10	-3.72	13.39	9.30	8.22	8.05
27.	Uttar Pradesh	6.09	3.60	2.83	3.45	1.58	6.91	9.92	5.31	3.79	2.76
28.	Uttarakhand	8.91	8.41	5.99	6.10	5.31	6.87	8.93	6.45	5.40	NA
29.	West Bengal	5.08	2.71	3.13	1.23	1.32	5.02	5.87	5.59	5.14	6.62
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5.38	5.63	2.14	5.00	6.54	5.44	11.18	10.63	NA	NA
31.	Chandigarh	-5.05	-3.02	6.52	6.66	1.25	6.75	6.67	7.13	5.34	NA
32.	Delhi	6.25	2.95	3.90	4.41	6.46	9.10	4.78	4.58	5.51	5.24
33.	Puducherry	4.70	-4.31	-0.38	8.33	-9.31	3.33	4.59	7.27	5.02	5.72

# refers to erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir, prior to reorganization into two UTs: UT of Jammu and Kashmir; and UT of Ladakh

\* Based on series of Base Year 2004-05 that is the growth rates for 2010-11 and 2011-12 are at constant price 2004-05.

NA: Not Available

Estimates of Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep are not available.

*Written Answers to*

*[22 September, 2020]*

*Unstarred Questions*

*235*

**'Make-in-India' program for weavers**

1395. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 'Make-in-India' program has been introduced in the weaving sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the sops and concessions being given to the weaving community to withstand their profession, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Handloom weaving/production is inherently an integral part of Make-in-India programme.

The Government of India has announced a special economic package *viz.* Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan for boosting economy of the country and making India self-reliant. Relief and credit support measures have been announced for various sectors including MSMEs. The weavers & artisans/karigars can avail benefits of these relief and credit support measures to revive their businesses.

Apart from the above special economic package, the Ministry of Textiles has also been taking following initiatives for the benefits of handloom weavers and artisans across the country:-

- (i) To support the handloom and handicraft sectors and to enable wider market for handloom weavers/artisans/producers, steps have been taken to on-board weavers/artisans on Government e-Market place (GeM) to enable them to sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations.
- (ii) To promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy frame work was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for on-line marketing of handloom products.
- (iii) A social media campaign #Vocal 4 handmade was launched on the 6th National Handloom Day by the Government, in partnership with all stakeholders, to promote the handloom legacy of India and to ensure people's support for the weaving community. The social media campaign has resulted



in renewed interest of the Indian public in handlooms and several e-commerce players have reported increase in sales of Indian handloom products.

- (iv) In the face of the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic, it is not feasible to hold conventional marketing events such as exhibitions, melas, etc. To deal with this crisis, the Government endeavors to provide online marketing opportunities to our weavers and handloom producers.

Taking a step towards realizing "Aatma Nirbhar Bharat", Handloom Export Promotion Council has endeavored to virtually connect the Handloom Weavers and exporters from different corners of the country with the International Market.

With more than 200 participants from different regions of the country showcasing their products with unique designs and skills, THE INDIAN TEXTILE SOURCING FAIR was organized on 7, 10 and 11th August 2020. The show has attracted considerable attention of the International Buyers.

- (v) Design Resource Centres are being set up in Weavers Service Centres (WSCs) through NIFT with the objective to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector and to facilitate weavers, exporters, manufacturers and designers for creating new designs.
- (vi) To enable the handloom agencies and weavers to withstand their profession, the Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes through the Office of the Development Commissioner for Handlooms across the country:—

- (1) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
- (2) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
- (3) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)
- (4) Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS)

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, lighting units, marketing of handloom products and loan at concessional rates.

1. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
  - (i) **Block Level Cluster:** Introduced in 2015-16 as one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). Financial assistance upto ₹ 2.00 crore per BLC for various interventions such as skill upgradation, Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata, product development, construction of workshed, project management cost, design development, setting up of common facility centre (CFC) etc. is provided. Besides, financial assistance upto ₹ 50.00 lakh is also available for setting up of one dye house at district level. The proposals are recommended by the State Governments.
  - (ii) **Handloom Marketing Assistance** is one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme. In order to provide marketing platform to the handloom agencies/weavers to sell their products directly to the consumers, financial assistance is provided to the States/eligible handloom agencies for organizing marketing events in domestic as well as overseas markets.
  - (iii) **Weaver Mudra Scheme:** Under the Weaver MUDRA Scheme, credit at concessional interest rate of 6% is provided to the handloom weavers. Margin money assistance to a maximum of ₹ 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee for a period of 3 years is also provided. *MUDRA Portal* has been developed in association with Punjab National Bank to cut down delay in disbursement of funds for margin money and interest subvention.
  - (iv) **Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS):** Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) was introduced on 1st December 2016 with an objective to provide looms/accessories to the weavers to enhance their earnings through improved productivity and quality of the handloom products. Under the scheme, 90% of the cost of loom/accessory is borne by the Government of India while remaining 10% is borne by the beneficiary. The Government of India's share is released to the supplier through Weavers' Service Centre.
  - (v) **Education of Handloom Weavers and their Children:** Ministry of Textiles has signed Memorandums of Understanding with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to secure educational facilities for the weavers and their families. NIOS offers Secondary and Senior Secondary level education with specialized

subjects on design, marketing, business development, etc. through distance learning mode for handloom weavers, whereas IGNOU offers continuing education programs through accessible and flexible learning opportunities relevant to the aspirations of handloom weavers and their children for career progression.

The programme envisages reimbursement of 75% of the fee towards admission to NIOS/IGNOU courses in case of SC, ST, BPL, and Women learners belonging to handloom weavers' families.

- (vi) **"India Handloom" Brand-** During the celebration of 7th August 2015 as National Handloom Day, 'India Handloom' Brand was launched for branding of high-quality handloom products. It promotes production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment. Since its launch, 1590 registrations have been issued under 184 product categories and sale of ₹ 926.23 crore has been generated.

Initiatives with various leading brands have been undertaken to bring out a separate range of handloom garments in their brand.

- (vii) **Urban Haats** are set up in the big towns/metropolitan cities to provide adequate direct marketing facilities to the craft persons/weavers and eliminate intermediaries. 39 Urban Haats have been sanctioned across the country so far.

2. **Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme:** The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is targeted at development of Mega Handloom Clusters in clearly identifiable geographical locations covering at least 15000 handlooms with the Government of India (Gol) contribution upto ₹40 crore per cluster over a period of 5 years. Components such as conducting diagnostic study, corpus for raw material, etc., are fully funded by the Government of India (Gol) whereas components like lighting units, technological up-gradation of looms and accessories are 90% funded by the Gol. Other components such as creation of infrastructure for design studio/ marketing complex/garmenting unit, marketing development, assistance for exports and publicity are 80% funded by the Gol. 08 Mega Handloom Clusters viz. Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Sivasagar (Assam), Virudhunagar(Tamil Nadu), Murshidabad (West Bengal), Prakasam &

Guntur districts (Andhra Pradesh), Godda & neighbouring districts (Jharkhand), Bhagalpur (Bihar) and Trichy (Tamil Nadu) have been taken up for development.

3. **Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme :** Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) is providing life, accidental and disability insurance coverage under the components Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Converged Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY).
4. **Yarn Supply Scheme:** Yarn Supply Scheme is being implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price. The scheme is being implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation. Under the Scheme freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @2% is given to depot operating agencies. A component of 10% price subsidy also exists on hank yarn, which is applicable on cotton, domestic silk, wool and linen yarn with quantity caps.

#### **Working of National Textile Corporation (NTC)**

1396. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the working of National Textile Corporation (NTC) is not satisfactory and detrimental to the very aim of its inception;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ministry is of the view that NTC is deviating from its envisaged policies and that is why its country-wide showrooms are running into losses and closing down subsequently; and
- (d) the steps being taken by Government to bring the NTC back on track and improve the reliability on the working of NTC to the level of satisfaction to the earmarked goals?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a), (b) and (d) The financial parameters of National Textile Corporation Ltd. (NTC) indicate that the Corporation has been incurring operational losses since the year 2006-2007. Even prior to the merger of the wholly owned subsidiary companies into a single subsidiary company, all the individual subsidiary companies were incurring continuous losses year after year. The main reasons attributed to such loss are high input cost, high worker turnover/ wage cost, less market competitiveness etc.

Under the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) recommended revival scheme which was extended up to 31.03.2012 by BIFR, around ₹ 5500 crore was spent towards meeting various expenses like clearing up outstanding statutory dues, One Time Settlements (OTS) with financial institutions, interest payment, compensation under Modified VRS (MVRs) etc. Moreover, NTC has spent an amount of ₹ 1646.07 crore on modernization of its mills under the revival scheme. However, despite such infusion of funds, the Corporation has not been operationally profitable due to reasons stated above.

(c) Operation of retail showrooms is not the core business of NTC. Main business of NTC is manufacturing of yarn and cloth; and showroom business contribute to 1% to 2% of its total business turnover. Since, yarn and fabric cloth business mostly happens through bulk on-line trading route, the retail sales through showrooms have been becoming unviable.

#### **Setting up of Integrated Textile Parks in Andhra Pradesh**

1397. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan of setting up Integrated Textile Parks (ITPs) in the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the funds sanctioned for each ITP; and

(d) whether any places have already been identified in the State for this purpose, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) The Government is implementing Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) which is demand driven and it provides support for creation of world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up of textile units, with a Government of India grant upto 40% of the project cost and Government of India grant upto 90% of the project cost for first two projects (each) in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh; with ceiling limit of ₹ 40.00 crores for each textile park. The Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) formed by the representatives of local industry, Financial Institutions, State Industrial and Infrastructural Corporations and

other agencies of State and Central Governments registered as a Corporate Body under Companies Act would submit their proposal directly to the Ministry for consideration. SITP is thus a demand driven scheme. No proposal is pending for setting up textile parks in State of Andhra Pradesh. However, till date, out of the 56 textile parks that have been sanctioned under SITP, 5 textile parks are located in the State of Andhra Pradesh, the details of which are given in the Statement.

**Statement**

*Details of textile parks sanctioned in Andhra Pradesh under SITP*

Sl. No.	Name of the park	District	Share of GOI grant sanctioned (in ₹ Crore)	Park Status
1.	Hindupur Vyapar Apparel Park Limited	Anantapuram	40.00	Operational
2.	MAS Fabric Park (India Ltd)	Nellore	40.00	Operational
3.	Brandix India Apparel City Private Limited	Vishakhapatnam	40.00	Completed
4.	Tarakeshwara Textile Park	Nellore	40.00	Operational
5.	Guntur Textile Park	Guntur	40.00	Operational

**Development of powerloom sector in the country**

1398. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating on development of the powerloom sector in the country by setting up a Venture Capital Fund under the administration of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the aims of the proposed Venture Capital Fund?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India is implementing the Venture Capital Fund for Powerloom and Allied Products and Services (TEX-Fund), as a component under PowerTex India scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2017. The TEX Fund has a minimum corpus of ₹35 crores with Government of India's contribution of ₹24.50 crores and the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has a minimum contribution of ₹ 10.50 crores. SIDBI Venture Capital Limited (SVCL) is the Investment Manager of the TEX-Fund.

(c) The TEX-Fund is aimed at providing equity investment to micro and small enterprises in the powerloom sector to boost innovation in the industry by creation of brands and generation of intellectual property and enable development of the Powerloom Sector and allied activities. A toll-free helpline 1800222017 has also been launched to provide multiple support services for availing benefits of PowerTex India Scheme. The mobile app *i.e.* iPowerTex can be downloaded from google play store.

**Stressful condition in textile industry despite increase in demand**

1399. SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for spinning mills, fashion dress, apparel manufacturers and cotton producers being in stressful conditions despite increase in the demand and consumption of textile apparels;

(b) whether Government would come out with a plan to address the lacunae under existing textile-related schemes and to frame regulations for the sustainability and smooth operations of the textile sector; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The government has initiated special measures to help ameliorate the conditions in textile sector due to covid pandemic and to boost production, marketing and job opportunities in the sector.

It has announced a special economic package *viz.* Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan for boosting economy of the country and making India self-reliant. Relief and credit support measures have been announced for various sectors. The weavers & artisans can avail benefits of these relief and credit support measures to revive their businesses which have suffered due to lock down necessitated by Covid-19 pandemic.

Ministry of Textiles has taken following initiatives for the benefits of handloom weavers and artisans across the country:-

- (i) To support the handloom and handicraft sectors and to enable wider market for handloom weavers/artisans/producers, steps have been taken to on-board weavers/artisans on Government e-Market place (GeM) to enable them to sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations.
- (ii) To promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy frame work was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for on-line marketing of handloom products.
- (iii) A social media campaign #Vocal4handmade was launched on the 6th National Handloom Day by the Government, in partnership with all stakeholders, to promote the handloom legacy of India and to ensure people's support for the weaving community. It has been reported that the social media campaign has resulted in renewed interest of the Indian public in handlooms and several e-commerce players have reported increase in sale of Indian handloom products.
- (iv) The Ministry of Textiles has requested the Chief Ministers of all States and UTs to instruct their State Handloom Corporations/Co-operatives/Agencies to make purchases of the finished inventory available with the handloom weavers/artisans so as to put some ready cash in the hands of the weavers to enable them meet their household needs.
- (v) In the face of the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic, it is not feasible to hold conventional marketing events such as exhibitions, melas, etc. To deal with this crisis, the Government endeavors to provide online marketing opportunities to our weavers and handloom producers.

Taking a step towards realizing "Aatma Nirbhar Bharat", the vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Handloom Export Promotion Council has endeavored to virtually connect the Handloom Weavers and exporters from different corners of the country with the International Market.



With more than 200 participants from different regions of the country showcasing their products with unique designs and skills, THE INDIAN TEXTILE SOURCING FAIR was organized on 7, 10 and 11th August 2020. The show has attracted considerable attention of the International Buyers.

- (vi) Design Resource Centres are being set up in Weavers Service Centres (WSCs) through NIFT with the objective to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector and to facilitate weavers, exporters, manufacturers and designers for creating new designs.
- (vii) Apart from the above initiatives, Ministry of Textiles is implementing various schemes through the Offices of Development Commissioner (Handlooms) for overall development of handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country. The Scheme details are as under: -
  1. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
  2. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
  3. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)
  4. Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS)

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, lighting units, marketing of handloom products and loan at concessional rates.

Further, With a view to boost textiles sector in the country as well as for sustaining employment and smooth functioning/operations in the textiles industry government has already initiated two important steps which were part of Budget Announcement in Lok Sabha on 01.02.2020. These are:—

- Creation of National Technical Textiles Mission with total outlay of Rs 1480 Crore. Technical textiles are textiles which are used for their functional properties, rather than for aesthetics or comfort. There are a large varieties of technical textiles some of which are used in important applications such as agriculture, health and hygiene, medical applications, soil and water conservation, roads and highway, railways, airports, sea-ports, defence, protection of personnel in military, para-military, petrochemical/chemical

industries, safety of fireman etc. The aim of the Mission is to position India as a major producer, consumer and exporter of technical textile products in the world map, therefore boosting its economy and technological capability.

- Abolition of anti-dumping duty on *Purified Terephthalic Acid* (PTA), which is a critical input for man-made textile fibre and yarns. Its easy availability and competitive pricing is desirable to unlock, the immense potential in textile sector which is a significant employment generator.

In addition, Government is implementing various policy initiatives and schemes for supporting the development of textile sector. These schemes and initiatives which promote technology upgradation, creation of infrastructure, skill development and sectoral development in the textile sector, create a conducive environment and provide enabling conditions for textile manufacturing in the country and helps in boosting textile sector through its various schemes, such as the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS), Schemes for the development of the Powerloom Sector, Schemes for Technical Textiles, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Scheme for Additional Grant for Apparel Manufacturing Units under SITP (SAGAM), SAMARTH- The Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS), Jute (ICARE- Improved Cultivation and Advanced Retting Exercise), Integrated Processing Development Scheme (IPDS), Silk Samagra, National Handicraft Development Programme, Integrated Wool Development Programme (IWDP), North East Region Textiles Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (ROSCTL), Scheme for Production and Employment Linked Support for Garmenting Units (SPELSGU) etc.

The above schemes are aimed at promotion/upgradation of Textile Industries/ Units all over the country. The indicative physical targets are allotted to States/ implementing agencies.

#### **Innovation in the textile industry**

1400. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the measures Government is taking to promote individuals and MSMEs to innovate new textile production and processing mechanisms;

(b) whether Government intends to collaborate with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to encourage textile production under the proposed One District One Product approach;

(c) the measures Government has taken to facilitate cooperation with foreign countries in textile production, marketing, and sales; and

(d) the steps Government has taken to encourage innovative marketing of Indian textiles in both domestic and export markets?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) Government is implementing a Credit Linked Scheme called Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) for technology upgradation of the textiles industry including MSMEs to facilitate augmenting of investment, productivity, quality, employment, exports along with import substitution in the textile industry. The scheme envisages to promote ease of doing business in the country and achieve the vision of generating employment and promoting exports through "Make in India" with "Zero effect and Zero defect" in manufacturing. Every eligible individual entity is entitled for reimbursement of Capital Investment Subsidy (CIS) under this scheme, as per the following rates:—

Sl. No.	Segment	Rate of Capital Investment Subsidy (CIS)
1.	Garmenting, Technical Textiles	15% subject to an upper limit of Rs 30 crores
2.	Weaving for brand new Shuttle-less Looms (including weaving preparatory and knitting), Processing, Jute, Silk and Handloom.	10% subject to an upper limit of Rs 20 crores
3(a)	Composite unit /Multiple Segments - If the eligible capital investment in respect of Garmenting and Technical Textiles category is more than 50% of the eligible project cost.	15% subject to an upper limit of Rs 30 crores
3(b)	Composite unit/ Multiple Segments - If the eligible capital investment in respect of Garmenting and Technical Textiles category is less than 50% of the eligible project cost.	10% subject to an upper limit of Rs 20 crores

To promote the handloom sector, including individual weaver and various Groups of weavers and to innovate new designs, product diversification with the help of

designers, the Government of India is implementing Block Level Cluster component under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS). Skill upgradation and distribution of upgraded looms and accessories is also provided under these Scheme.

Presently there is no proposal to collaborate with the Ministry of Commerce & Industry to encourage handloom production under one district one product.

India is the only country in the world where there is large number of handloom for production of handloom textiles/products and it has the capabilities also to further innovate in production technology on handlooms. However, to promote marketing and sales of handloom products in domestic as well as overseas markets, the Government of India facilitates and provide financial assistance for participation in overseas fairs and exhibitions and organising handloom expos across the country. Such trade events provide platform to the handloom agencies to sell their products directly to domestic as well as overseas customers by eliminating middlemen.

To promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy frame work has been designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for on-line marketing of handloom products. Virtual platform for organising exhibitions across the globe has been adopted recently where The Indian Textile Sourcing Fair was organised through this platform on 7th, 10th and 11th August 2020. The show has attracted considerable attention of the International Buyers.

Beside above, to make the textile sector competitive by rebating all taxes/levies in international market, the Government has decided to continue the RoSCTL (Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies) scheme until such time the RoSCTL scheme is merged with Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme. For this purpose, the Government has approved *ad hoc* allocation of funds of ₹ 7398 crore for FY 2020-21 for issuance of duty credit scrips under RoSCTL scheme. Further, in order to boost exports in MMF sector, Government has removed anti-dumping duty on PTA (Purified Terephthalic Acid), a key raw material for the manufacture of MMF fibre and yarn.

**Losses in textile sector due to COVID-19 pandemic**

1401. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has analysed the losses to weavers in this country due to the prolonged COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has announced a revival package or scheme under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan for the weavers in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) The following are the steps taken by the Government of India, Ministry of Textiles in view of the difficulties being faced by the handloom weavers due to the COVID 19 pandemic:

The Government of India has announced a special economic package *viz.* Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan for boosting economy of the country and making India self-reliant. Relief and credit support measures have been announced for various sectors including MSMEs. The weavers & artisans can avail benefits of these relief and credit support measures to revive their businesses which have suffered due to lock down necessitated by Covid-19 pandemic.

Apart from the above special economic package, the Ministry of Textiles has taken following initiatives for the benefits of handloom weavers and artisans across the country:-

- (i) To support the handloom and handicraft sectors and to enable wider market for handloom weavers/artisans/producers, steps have been taken to on-board weavers/artisans on Government e-Market place (GeM) to enable them to sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations.
- (ii) To promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy frame work was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for on-line marketing of handloom products.

- (iii) A social media campaign #Vocal 4 handmade was launched on the 6th National Handloom Day by the Government, in partnership with all stakeholders, to promote the handloom legacy of India and to ensure people's support for the weaving community. The social media campaign has resulted in renewed interest of the Indian public in handlooms and several e-commerce players have reported increase in sale of Indian handloom products.
- (iv) The Ministry of Textiles has requested the Chief Ministers of all States and UTs to instruct their State Handloom Corporations/Co-operatives/Agencies to make purchases of the finished inventory available with the handloom weavers/artisans so as to put some ready cash in the hands of the weavers to enable them meet their household needs.
- (v) In the face of the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic, it is not feasible to hold conventional marketing events such as exhibitions, melas, etc. To deal with this crisis, the Government endeavors to provide online marketing opportunities to our weavers and handloom producers.

Taking a step towards realizing "Aatma Nirbhar Bharat", Handloom Export Promotion Council has endeavored to virtually connect the Handloom Weavers and exporters from different corners of the country with the International Market.

With more than 200 participants from different regions of the country showcasing their products with unique designs and skills, THE INDIAN TEXTILE SOURCING FAIR was organized on 7, 10 and 11th August 2020. The show has attracted considerable attention of the International Buyers.

- (vi) Design Resource Centres are being set up in Weavers Service Centres (WSCs) through NIFT with the objective to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector and to facilitate weavers, exporters, manufacturers and designers for creating new designs.
- (vii) Apart from the above initiatives, Ministry of Textiles is implementing various schemes through the Offices of Development Commissioner (Handlooms) for overall development of handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country. The Scheme details are as under:-

- (1) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)

- (2) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
- (3) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)
- (4) Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS)

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, lighting units, marketing of handloom products and loan at concessional rates.

1. **National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)**

- (i) **Block Level Cluster:** Introduced in 2015-16 as one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). Financial assistance upto ₹ 2.00 crore per BLC for various interventions such as skill upgradation, Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata, product development, construction of workshed, project management cost, design development, setting up of common facility centre (CFC) etc. is provided. Besides, financial assistance upto ₹ 50.00 lakh is also available for setting up of one dye house at district level. The proposals are recommended by the State Governments.
- (ii) **Handloom Marketing Assistance** is one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme. In order to provide marketing platform to the handloom agencies/weavers to sell their products directly to the consumers, financial assistance is provided to the States/eligible handloom agencies for organizing marketing events in domestic as well as overseas markets.
- (iii) **Weaver Mudra Scheme:** Under the Weaver MUDRA Scheme, credit at concessional interest rate of 6% is provided to the handloom weavers. Margin money assistance to a maximum of ₹ 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee for a period of 3 years is also provided. MUDRA Portal has been developed in association with Punjab National Bank to cut down delay in disbursement of funds for margin money and interest subvention.
- (iv) **Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS):** Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) was introduced on 1st December 2016 with an objective

to provide looms/accessories to the weavers to enhance their earnings through improved productivity and quality of the handloom products. Under the scheme, 90% of the cost of loom/accessories is borne by the Government of India while remaining 10% is borne by the beneficiary. The Government of India's share is released to the supplier through Weavers' Service Centre.

- (v) **Education of Handloom Weavers and their Children:** Ministry of Textiles has signed Memorandums of Understanding with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to secure educational facilities for the weavers and their families. NIOS offers Secondary and Senior Secondary level education with specialized subjects on design, marketing, business development, etc. through distance learning mode for handloom weavers, whereas IGNOU offers continuing education programs through accessible and flexible learning opportunities relevant to the aspirations of handloom weavers and their children for career progression.

The programme envisages reimbursement of 75% of the fee towards admission to NIOS/IGNOU courses in case of SC, ST, BPL, and Women learners belonging to handloom weavers' families.

- (vi) **"India Handloom" Brand-** During the celebration of 7th August 2015 as National Handloom Day, 'India Handloom' Brand was launched for branding of high quality handloom products. It promotes production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment. Since its launch, 1590 registrations have been issued under 184 product categories and sale of ₹ 926.23 crore has been generated.

Initiatives with various leading brands have been undertaken to bring out a separate range of handloom garments in their brand.

- (vii) **Urban Haats** are set up in the big towns/metropolitan cities to provide adequate direct marketing facilities to the craft persons/weavers and eliminate intermediaries. 39 Urban Haats have been sanctioned across the country so far.



2. **Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme:** The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is targeted at development of Mega Handloom Clusters in clearly identifiable geographical locations covering at least 15000 handlooms with the Government of India (Gol) contribution upto ₹40 crore per cluster over a period of 5 years. Components such as conducting diagnostic study, corpus for raw material, etc., are fully funded by the Government of India (Gol) whereas components like lighting units, technological up-gradation of looms and accessories are 90% funded by the Gol. Other components such as creation of infrastructure for design studio/ marketing complex/garmenting unit, marketing development, assistance for exports and publicity are 80% funded by the Gol. 08 Mega Handloom Clusters viz. Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh), Sivasagar (Assam), Virudhunagar (Tamil Nadu), Murshidabad (West Bengal), Prakasam & Guntur districts (Andhra Pradesh), Godda & neighbouring districts (Jharkhand), Bhagalpur (Bihar) and Trichy (Tamil Nadu) have been taken up for development.
3. **Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme :** Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) is providing life, accidental and disability insurance coverage under the components Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Converged Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY).
4. **Yarn Supply Scheme:** Yarn Supply Scheme is being implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price. The scheme is being implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation. Under the Scheme freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @2% is given to depot operating agencies. A component of 10% price subsidy also exists on hank yarn, which is applicable on cotton, domestic silk, wool and linen yarn with quantity caps.

1402. *The Question was cancelled.*

1403. *The Question was cancelled.*

#### **Financial stress on spinning sector**

1404. SHRI K.P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recent spurt in cotton prices has resulted in higher input costs for the spinning sector in the country leading to financial stress;

(b) whether Government has any proposal for reducing the financial stress; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) There is no such information about the recent increase in cotton prices resulting in higher input costs for the spinning sector in the country. Indian cotton prices are ruling in the range of Rupees 35000 to 36900 per candy as against average International cotton prices of around Rupees 40500 per candy.

(b) and (c) In view of above, there is no proposal in this regard. Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) is selling the stock of lint cotton in a transparent manner through e-auction.

#### **Impact of COVID-19 pandemic on textile industry**

1405. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the textile industry has been facing a crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by Government to save and boost the textile industry in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Textile sector is highly unorganized sector. The government has initiated special measures to help ameliorate the conditions in textile sector due to Covid pandemic and to boost production, marketing and job opportunities in the sector. The government has conducted a study viz. 'Impact of Covid-19 pandemic on Indian silk industry' to ascertain the crisis caused to the sector. The industry has faced various problems of production, cocoon and raw silk prices, transportation problem, non-availability of skilled workers, sale of raw silk and silk products, working capital and cash flow, reduced export/import orders, besides restrictions. The last three month orders and supply as given below shows declining trend in jute production during the peak Covid-19 period which is substantially improving now.

Month	Order	Supply by Mills
June 2020	2.75 bales	1.78 bales
July 2020	3.59 bales	2.48 bales
August 2020	3.52 bales	2.32 bales

Government has conducted a Symposium with textile Export Promotion Councils and other industry stakeholders for finalizing a list of potential export products against which exports of textile and apparel can be enhanced. The list of potential export products were shared with the Indian Mission abroad for identification of potential buyers in the respective countries. In order to make the textile sector competitive by rebating all taxes/levies in international market, the Government has decided to continue the RoSCTL (Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies) scheme until such time the RoSCTL scheme is merged with Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme. For this purpose, the Government has approved *ad hoc* allocation of funds of ₹ 7398 crore for FY 2020-21 for issuance of duty credit scrips under RoSCTL scheme. Further, in order to boost exports in MMF sector, Government has removed anti-dumping duty on PTA (Purified Terephthalic Acid), a key raw material for the manufacture of MMF fibre and yarn. To mitigate the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on trade, this Ministry has taken up the various trade facilitation related issues raised by the industry stakeholders from time to time with the concerned Ministries for early redressal.

A special measure to alleviate the difficulties of beneficiaries under Amended Technology Upgradation Funds (ATUFS) was initiated in the Ministry of Textiles during the COVID pandemic. Under this measure, an option has been extended to the applicants, where the physical examination of the machineries by Joint Inspection Team (JIT) has been completed, to avail their subsidies released on submission of Bank Guarantee. The advance release of subsidy against bank guarantee is met from the regular budget allocation under ATUFS.

The Government of India has also announced a special economic package *viz.* Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan for boosting economy of the country and making India self-reliant. Relief and credit support measures have been announced for various sectors. The weavers & artisans can avail benefits of these relief and credit support measures to revive their businesses which have suffered due to lock down necessitated by Covid-19 pandemic.

Apart from the above special economic package, the Ministry of Textiles has taken following initiatives for the benefits of handloom weavers and artisans across the country:-

- (i) To support the handloom and handicraft sectors and to enable wider market for handloom weavers/artisans/producers, steps have been taken to on-board weavers/artisans on Government e-Market place (GeM) to enable them to sell their products directly to various Government Departments and organizations.
- (ii) To promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy frame work was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for on-line marketing of handloom products.
- (iii) A social media campaign #Vocal4handmade was launched on the 6th National Handloom Day by the Government, in partnership with all stakeholders, to promote the handloom legacy of India and to ensure people's support for the weaving community. It has been reported that the social media campaign has resulted in renewed interest of the Indian public in handlooms and several e-commerce players have reported increase in sale of Indian handloom products.
- (iv) The Ministry of Textiles has requested the Chief Ministers of all States and UTs to instruct their State Handloom Corporations/Co-operatives/Agencies to make purchases of the finished inventory available with the handloom weavers/artisans so as to put some ready cash in the hands of the weavers to enable them meet their household needs.
- (v) In the face of the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic, it is not feasible to hold conventional marketing events such as exhibitions, melas, etc. To deal with this crisis, the Government endeavors to provide online marketing opportunities to our weavers and handloom producers.

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- (vi) Design Resource Centres are being set up in Weavers Service Centres (WSCs) through NIFT with the objective to build and create design-oriented excellence in the Handloom Sector and to facilitate weavers, exporters, manufacturers and designers for creating new designs.
- (vii) Apart from the above initiatives, Ministry of Textiles is implementing various schemes through the Offices of Development Commissioner (Handlooms) for overall development of handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country. The scheme details are as under:-
- National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
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  - Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)
  - Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS)

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, lighting units, marketing of handloom products and loan at concessional rates.

#### **Consulting agencies attached with the Ministry**

1406. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of consulting agencies attached with the Ministry and its affiliated bodies, the details thereof;
- (b) the major works which have been accomplished by these agencies during the last three years; and
- (c) how much amount has been allocated to these agencies during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): (a) No consulting agency is attached with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. One consulting agency namely M/s Deloitte LLP had been attached with Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED), an autonomous body under the Ministry, from 01.04.2018 to 31.07.2020.

(b) M/s Deloitte LLP was involved in the following broad activities:—

- (i) Preparation and operationalization of long-term perspective plan and strategies for TRIFED.
- (ii) Assisting the Management in Conceptualizing, Planning, and Implementing Flagship Programs of the Ministry and repositioning and institutionally strengthening TRIFED to assume a pan India role.

M/s Deloitte LLP helped TRIFED on convergence, including Agri/Floriculture/Horticulture/Medicinal& aromatic plants/other interventions, supported by strong Branding and Marketing to ensure round-the-year income generating opportunity. The convergence partners include M/o MSME (SFURTI, ESDP), AYUSH/NMPB, ICAR, MoFPI (FSSAI, FME), District Mineral Funds, Article 25(1) grants and CSR.

(c) The detail of fund allocated to the consulting agency during last three year is as under:—

Sl. No.	Period/Financial Year	Amount allocated (₹)
1.	2018-2019	₹94,00,000
2.	2019-2020	₹94,00,000
3.	2020-21 (upto 31.07.2020)	₹31,33,000
TOTAL		₹2,19,33,000

#### **Funds for Chhattisgarh under Article 275 of Constitution**

†1407. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided to the State Government of Chhattisgarh under Article 275 of the Constitution during the last three years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the nature of prescribed development works on which the said funds could be spent under Article 275;

(c) whether development works have been carried out in the districts of Chhattisgarh by spending the said funds;

(d) if so, the names of such districts; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): (a) and (b) Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution are intended to address need of plugging critical gaps. It is only additive to State Efforts for Tribal Development, with fund flow under Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP). The scheme envisages prioritization among sectoral activities such as education, health, agriculture and allied activities, other income generating schemes and administrative structure.

- During the year 2017-18 and 2018-19, an amount of ₹ 10964.49 lakh and ₹ 11354.92 lakh respectively were released in Education Sector.
- During the year 2019-20, a total amount of ₹ 22500.77 lakh was released, out of which ₹ 21245.77 lakh was for Education Sector and ₹ 1255.00 lakh was for Health Sector

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. As per reports submitted by the State Government, development works under the scheme have been carried out in the districts of Bastar, Kondagaon, Dantewada, Sukma, Bijapur, Narayanpur, Kanker, Sarguja, Balrampur, Surajpur, Koriya, Bilaspur, Gaurella-Pendra-Marwahi, Dhamtari, Rajnandgaon, Kabirdham, Raigarh, Korba, Jashpur, Gariaband, Durg and Baloda Bazar.

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Van Dhan Vikas Kendras in Chhattisgarh**

†1408. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise number of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras (VDVKs) constituted in Chhattisgarh and the number of members affiliated to Self-Help Groups under the scheme; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government is planning to identify the top performing kendras, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): (a) The district-wise number of VDVks along with number of members affiliated to Self-Help Groups under the scheme is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) No, Sir. However, para 5.4 of the guidelines to the scheme 'Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain' states that the performance of Van Dhan Kendras set up under Stage-I shall to be assessed on half-yearly basis (*i.e.* after 4-6 months of Kendra establishment). Assessment of respective Kendras shall be performed by District Level Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DLCMC) and finalized by State Level Coordination and Monitoring Committee (SLCMC).

***Statement***

*District-wise number of VDVks in Chhattisgarh along with number of members affiliated to Self-Help Groups*

Sl. No.	District Name	No. of VDVks	No. of SHGs	No. of Beneficiaries
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Balod	2	30	600
2.	Balodabazar	3	45	900
3.	Balrampur	8	120	2400
4.	Bijapur	4	60	1200
5.	Bilaspur	3	45	900
6.	Dantewada	5	75	1500
7.	Dhamtari	5	75	1500
8.	Dharamjaigarh	8	120	2400
9.	East Bhanupratappur	4	60	1200



1	2	3	4	5
10.	Gariyaband	5	75	1500
11.	Jagdarpur	8	120	2400
12.	Jashpur	4	60	1200
13.	Kanker	5	75	1500
14.	Katghora	6	90	1800
15.	Kawardha	5	75	1500
16.	Keshkal	4	60	1200
17.	Khairagarh	3	45	900
18.	Kondagaon	4	60	1200
19.	Korba	6	90	1800
20.	Korea	6	90	1800
21.	Mahasamand	3	45	900
22.	Manendragarh	4	60	1200
23.	Marvahi	4	60	1200
24.	Naraynapur	3	45	900
25.	Raigarh	3	45	900
26.	Rajnandgaon	4	60	1200
27.	Sukma	4	60	1200
28.	Surajpur	8	120	2400
29.	Surguja	4	60	1200
30.	West Bhanupratappur	4	60	1200
GRAND TOTAL		139	2085	41700

Source : (TRIFED's VDVK MIS - <https://trifed.tribal.gov.in/Chhattisgarh-0>).

**Tribal communities in the country**

†1409. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of tribal communities identified in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government proposes to include more castes/communities in Scheduled Tribes category; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): (a) There are over 700 Scheduled Tribes notified under Article 342 of the Constitution of India, spread over different States and Union Territories (UTs) of the Country. State/UT-wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The Government of India on 15.6.1999 and further amended on 25.6.2002, laid down the modalities for deciding the claims for inclusion in, exclusion from and other modifications in orders specifying Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lists. As per these modalities, only those proposals which have been justified and recommended by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration and concurred in by the Registrar General of India (RGI) as well as the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) are to be considered for amendment of legislation. Proposals for inclusion in and other amendments in the list of Scheduled Tribes of any State/UT are processed according to these modalities which is an on-going process.

***Statement***

<b>Andhra Pradesh</b>		6.	Gond, Naikpod, Rajgond, Koitur
1.	Andh, Sadhu Andh	7.	Goudu (in the Agency tracts)
2.	Bagata	8.	Hill Reddis
3.	Bhil	9.	Jatapus
4.	Chenchu	10.	Kammara
5.	Gadabas, Bodo Gadaba, Gutob	11.	Kattunayakan
	Gadaba, Kallayi Gadaba, Parangi	12.	Kolam, Kolawar, Mannervarlu
	Gadaba, Kathera Gadaba, Kapu	13.	Konda Dhoras, Kubi
	Gadaba		

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

14.	Konda Kapus	31.	Yenadis, Chella Yenadi, Kappala Yenadi, Manchi Yenadi, Reddi Yenadi
15.	Kondareddis		
16.	Kondhs, Kodi, Kodhu, Desaya Kondhs, Dongria Kondhs, Kuttiya Kondhs, Tikiria Kondhs, Yenity Kondhs, Kuvinga	32.	Yerukulas, Koracha, Dabba Yerukula, Kunchapuri Yerukula, Uppu Yerukula
17.	Kotia, Benth Oriya, Bartika, Dulia, Holva, Sanrona, Sidhopaiko	33.	Nakkala, Kurvikaran
18.	Koya, Doli Koya, Gutta Koya, Kammara Koya, Musara Koya, Oddi Koya, Pattidi Koya, Rajah, Rasha Koya, Lingadhari Koya (ordinary), Kottu Koya, Bhine Koya, Rajkoya	34.	Dhulia, Paiko, Putiya (in the districts of Vishakhapatnam and Vijayanagaram)
<b>Arunachal Pradesh</b>			
All tribes including the following:—			
19.	Kulia	1.	Abor
20.	Malis (excluding Adilabad, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Mahbubnagar, Medak Nalgonda, Nizamabad and Warangal districts)	2.	Aka
21.	Manna Dhora	3.	Apatani
22.	Mukha Dhora, Nooka Dhora	4.	Nyishi
23.	Nayaks (in the Agency tracts)	5.	Galo
24.	Pardhan	6.	Khampti
25.	Porja, Parangiperja	7.	Khowa
26.	Reddi Dhoras	8.	Mishmi, Idu, Taroan
27.	Rona, Rena	9.	Momba
28.	Savaras, Kapu Savaras, Maliya Savaras, Khutto Savaras	10.	Any Naga tribes
29.	Sugalis, Lambadis, Banjara	11.	Sherdukpen
30.	Valmiki (Scheduled Areas of Vishakhapatnam, Srikakulam, Vijayanagram, East Godavari and West Godavari districts)	12.	Singpho
		13.	Hrusso
		14.	Tagin
		15.	Khamba
		16.	Adi

<b>Assam</b>	(xx)	Kuki
I. In the autonomous districts of Karbi	(xxi)	Lengthang
Anglong and North Cachar Hills.	(xxii)	Lhangum
1. Chakma	(xxiii)	Lhoujem
2. Dimasa, Kachari	(xxiv)	Lhouvun
3. Garo	(xxv)	Lupheng
4. Hajong	(xxvi)	Mangjel
5. Hmar	(xxvii)	Misao
6. Khasi, Jaintia, Synteng, Pnar, War,	(xxviii)	Riang
Bhoi, Lyngngam	(xxix)	Sairhem
7. Any Kuki tribes, including: -	(xxx)	Selnam
(i) Biate, Biete	(xxxi)	Singson
(ii) Changsan	(xxxii)	Sitlhou
(iii) Chongloi	(xxxiii)	Sukte
(iv) DOUNGEL	(xxxiv)	Thado
(v) Gamalhou	(xxxv)	Thangngeu
(vi) Gangte	(xxxvi)	Uibuh
(vii) Guite	(xxxvii)	Vaiphei
(viii) Hanneng	8.	Lakher
(ix) Haokip, Haupit	9.	Man (Tai- Speaking)
(x) Haolai	10.	Any Mizo (Lushai) tribes
(xi) Hengna	11.	Karbi
(xii) Hongsungh	12.	Any Naga tribes
(xiii) Hrangkhwal, Rangkhoh	13.	Pawi
(xiv) Jongbe	14.	Synteng
(xv) Khawchung	15.	Lalung
(xvi) Khawathlang, Khothalong	II. In the State of Assam including the	
(xvii) Khelma	Bodoland Territorial Areas District	
(xviii) Kholhou	and excluding the autonomous	
(xix) Kipgen	districts of Karbi Anglong and	
	North Cachar Hills:—	

1. Barmans in Cachar	14. Ho
2. Boro, Borokachari	15. Karmali
3. Deori	16. Kharia, Dhelki Kharia, Dudh Kharia, Hill Kharia
4. Hojai	17. Kharwar
5. Kachari, Sonwal	18. Khond
6. Lalung	19. Kisan, Nagesia
7. Mech	20. Kora, Mudi-Kora
8. Miri	21. Korwa
9. Rabha	22. Lohara, Lohra
10. Dimasa	23. Mahli
11. Hajong	24. Mal Paharia, Kumarbhag Paharia
12. Singhpho	25. Munda, Patar
13. Khampti	26. Oraon, Dhangar (Oraon)
14. Garo	27. Parhaiya
<b>Bihar</b>	28. Santal
1. Asur, Agaria	29. Sauria Paharia
2. Baiga	30. Savar
3. Banjara	31. Kawar
4. Bathudi	32. Kol
5. Bedia	33. Tharu
6. Omitted	<b>Chhattisgarh</b>
7. Binjhia	1. Agariya
8. Birhor	2. Andh
9. Birjia	3. Baiga
10. Chero	4. Bhaina
11. Chik Baraik	5. Bharia Bhumia, Bhuinhar Bhumia, Bhumiya, Bharia, Paliha, Pando
12. Gond	6. Bhattra
13. Gorait	

7.	Bhil, Bhilala, Barela, Patelia	24.	Kol
8.	Bhil Mina	25.	Kolam
9.	Bhunja	26.	Korku, Bopchi, Mouasi, Nihal, Nahul Bondhi, Bondeya
10.	Biar, Biyar	27.	Korwa, Hill Korwa, Kodaku
11.	Binjhwar	28.	Majhi
12.	Birhul, Birhor	29.	Majhwar
13.	Damor, Damaria	30.	Mawasi
14.	Dhanwar	31.	Munda
15.	Gadaba, Gadba	32.	Nagesia, Nagasia
16.	Gond, Arakh, Arrakh, Agaria, Asur, Abujh Maria, Badi Maria, Bada Maria, Bhatola, Bhimma, Bhuta, Koilabhuta, Koliabhuti, Bhar, Bisonhorn Maria, Chota Maria, Dandami Maria, Dhuru, Dhurwa, Dhoba, Dhulia, Dorla, Gaiki, Gatta, Gatti, Gaita, Gond Gowari, Hill Maria, Kandra, Kalanga, Khatola, Koitar, Koya, Khirwar, Khirwara, Kucha Maria, Kuchaki Maria, Madia, Maria, Mana, Mannewar, Moghya, Mogia, Monghya, Mudia, Muria, Nagarchi, Nagwanshi, Ojha, Raj, Sonjhari Jhareka, Thatia, Thotya, Wade Maria, Vade Maria, Daroi	33.	Oraon, Dhanka, Dhangad
17.	Halba, Halbi	34.	Pao
18.	Kamar	35.	Pardhan, Pathari, Saroti
19.	Karku	36.	Pardhi, Bahelia, Bahellia, Chita Pardhi, Langoli Pardhi, Phans Pardhi, Shikari, Takankar, Takia [In (i) Bastar, Dantewara, Kanker, Raigarh, Jashpurnagar, Surguja and Korba districts, and (ii) Katghora, Pali, Kartala and Korba tahsils of Korba district, (iii) Bilaspur, Pendra, Kota and Takhatpur tahsils of Bilaspur district, (iv) Durg, Patan Gunderdehi, Dhamdha, Balod, Gurur and Dondilohara tahsils of Durg district, (v) Chowki, Manpur and Mohala Revenue Inspector Circles of Rajnandgaon district, (vi) Mahasamund Saraipali and Basna tahsils of Mahasamund district, (vii) Bindra-Navagarh Rajim and Deobhog tahsils of Raipur district, and (viii) Dhamtari, Kurud and Sihava tahsils of Dhamtari district]
20.	Kawar, Kanwar, Kaur, Cherwa, Rathia, Tanwar, Chhatri		
21.	Khairwar, Kondar		
22.	Kharia		
23.	Kondh, Khond, Kandh		

37. Parja	8. Dhanka, Tadvi, Tetaria, Valvi
38. Sahariya, Saharia, Seharla, Sehria, Sosia, Sor	9. Dhodia, Dhodi
39. Saonta, Saunta	10. Dubla, Talavia, Halpati
40. Saur	11. Gamit, Gamta, Gavit, Mavchi, Padvi
41. Sawar, Sawara	12. Gond, Rajgond
42. Sonr	13. Kathodi, Katkari, Dhor Kathodi, Dhor Katkari, Son Kathodi, Son Katkari
<b>Goa</b>	
1. Dhodia	14. Kokna, Kokni, Kukna
2. Dubla (Halpati)	15. Omitted
3. Naikda (Talavia)	16. Koli Dhor, Tokre Koli, Kolcha, Kolgha
4. Siddi (Nayaka)	17. Kunbi (in the Dangs district)
5. Varli	18. Naikda, Nayaka, Cholivala Nayaka, Kapadia Nayaka, Mota Nayaka, Nana Nayaka
6. Kunbi	19. Padhar
7. Gawda	20. Omitted
8. Velip	21. Pardhi, Advichincher, Phanse Pardhi (excluding Amreli, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Kutch, Rajkot and Surendranagar districts)
<b>Gujarat</b>	
1. Barda	22. Patelia
2. Bavacha, Bamcha	23. Pomla
3. Bharwad (in the Nesses of the forests of Alech, Barada and Gir)	24. Rabari (in the Nesses of the forests of Alech, Barada and Gir)
4. Bhil, Bhil Garasia, Dholi Bhil, Dungri Bhil, Dungri Garasia, Mewasi Bhil, Rawal Bhil, Tadvi Bhil, Bhagalia, Bhilala, Pawra, Vasava, Vasave	25. Rathawa
5. Charan (in the Nesses of the forests of Alech, Barada and Gir)	26. Siddi, Siddi-Badshan (in Amreli, Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Rajkot and Surendranagar districts)
6. Chaudhri (in Surat and Valsad districts)	27. Omitted
7. Chodhara	

28. Varli	<b>Jharkhand</b>
29. Vitola, Kotwalia, Barodia	1. Asur, Agaria
30. Bhil, Bhilala, Barela, Patelia	2. Baiga
31. Tadvī Bhil, Bawra, Vasave,	3. Banjara
32. Padvi	4. Bathudi
<b>Himachal Pradesh</b>	5. Bedia
1. Bhot, Bodh	6. Binjhia
2. Gaddi	7. Birhor
3. Gujjar	8. Birjia
4. Jad, Lamba, Khampa	9. Chero
5. Kanaura, Kinnara	10. Chik Baraik
6. Lahaula	11. Gond
7. Pangwala	12. Gorait
8. Swangla	13. Ho
9. Beta, Beda	14. Karmali
10. Domba, Gara, Zoba	15. Kharia, Dhelki Kharia, Dudh Kharia, Hill Kharia
<b>Jammu and Kashmir</b>	16. Kharwar
1. Balti	17. Khond
2. Beda	18. Kisan, Nagesia
3. Bot, Boto	19. Kora, Mudi-Kora
4. Brokpa, Drokpa, Dard, Shin	20. Korwa
5. Changpa	21. Lohra
6. Garra	22. Mahli
7. Mon	23. Mal Paharia, Kumarbhag Paharia
8. Purigpa	24. Munda, Patar
9. Gujjar	25. Oraon, Dhangar (Oraon)
10. Bakarwal	26. Parhaiya
11. Gaddi	27. Santal
12. Sippi	



28.	Sauria Paharia	19.	Kathodi, Katkari, Dhor Kathodi,
29.	Savar		Dhor Katkari, Son Kathodi, Son
30.	Bhumij		Katkari
31.	Kawar	20.	Kattunayakan
32.	Kol	21.	Kokna, Kokni, Kukna
<b>Karnataka</b>			
1.	Adiyan	22.	Koli Dhor, Tokre Koli, Kolcha,
2.	Barda		Kolgha
3.	Bavacha, Bamcha	23.	Konda Kapus
4.	Bhil, Bhil Garasia, Dholi Bhil, Dungri Bhil, Dungri Garasia, Mewasi Bhil, Rawal Bhil, Tadvil Bhil, Bhagalia, Bhilala, Pawra, Vasava, Vasave	24.	Koraga
5.	Chenchu, Chenchwar	25.	Kota
6.	Chodhara	26.	Koya, Bhine Koya, Rajkoya
7.	Dubla, Talavia, Halpati	27.	Kudiya, Melakudi
8.	Gamit, Gamta, Gavit, Mavchi, Padvi, Valvi	28.	Kuruba (in Coorg district)
9.	Gond, Naikpod, Rajgond	29.	Kurumans
10.	Gowdalu	30.	Maha Malasar
11.	Hakkipikki	31.	Malaikudi
12.	Hasalaru	32.	Malasar
13.	Irular	33.	Malayekandi
14.	Iruliga	34.	Maleru
15.	Jenu Kuruba	35.	Maratha (in Coorg district)
16.	Kadu Kuruba	36.	Marati (in south Kanara district)
17.	Kammara (in South Kanara district and Kollegal taluk of Mysore district)	37.	Meda, Medara, Medari, Gauriga, Burd
18.	Kaniyan, Kanyan (in Kollegal taluk of Mysore district)	38.	Naikda, Nayaka (including Parivara and Talawara), Cholivala Nayaka, Kapadia Nayaka, Mota Nayaka, Nana Nayaka, Naik, Nayak, Beda, Bedar, and Valmiki
		39.	Palliyan
		40.	Paniyan

41. Pardhi, Advichincher, Phanse Pardhi, Haranshikari	16. Kurichchan, Kurichiyan
42. Patelia	17. Kurumans, Mullu Kuruman, Mulla Kuruman, Mala Kuruman
43. Rathawa	18. Kurumbas, Kurumbar, Kurumban
44. Sholaga	19. Maha Malasar
45. Soligaru	20. Malai Arayan, Mala Arayan
46. Toda	21. Malai Pandaram
47. Varli	22. Malai Vedan, Malavedan
48. Vitolia, Kotwalia, Barodia	23. Malakkuravan
49. Yerava	24. Malasar
50. Siddi (in Belgavi, Dharwad and Uttar Kannada districts)	25. Malayan, Nattu Malayan, Konga Malayan (excluding the areas comprising the Kasargode, Connanore, Wayanad and Kozhikode districts)
<b>Kerala</b>	
1. Adiyar	26. Malayarayar
2. Arandan, Aranadan	27. Mannan
3. Eravallan	28. Marati (of the Hosdurg and Kasargod Taluks of Kasargod District)
4. Hill Pulaya, Mala Pulayan, Kurumba Pulayan, Karavazhi Pulayan, Pamba Pulayan	29. Muthuvan, Mudugar, Muduvan
5. Irular, Irulan	30. Palleyan, Palliyan, Palliyar, Paliyan
6. Kadar, Wayanad Kadar	31. Omitted
7. Omitted	32. Omitted
8. Kanikaran, Kanikkar	33. Paniyan
9. Kattunayakan	34. Ulladan, Ullatan
10. Kochuvelan	35. Uraly
11. Omitted	36. Mala Vettuvan (in Kasargode and Kannur districts)
12. Omitted	37. Ten Kurumban, Jenu Kurumban
13. Koraga	
14. Omitted	
15. Kudiya, Melakudi	

38.	Thachanadan, Moopan	Thachanadan	Dorla, Gaiki, Gatta, Gatti, Gaita, Gond Gowari, Hill Maria, Kandra, Kalanga, Khatola, Koitar, Koya, Khirwar, Khirwara, Kucha Maria, Kuchaki Maria, Madia, Maria, Mana, Mannewar, Moghya, Mogia, Monghya, Mudia, Muria, Nagarchi, Nagwanshi, Ojha, Raj, Sonjhari Jhareka, Thatia, Thotya, Wade Maria, Vade Maria, Daroi
39.	Cholanaickan		
40.	Mavilan		
41.	Karimpalan		
42.	Vetta Kuruman		
43.	Mala Panickar		
<b>Madhya Pradesh</b>			
1.	Agariya	17.	Halba, Halbi
2.	Andh	18.	Kamar
3.	Baiga	19.	Karku
4.	Bhaina	20.	Kawar, Kanwar, Kaur, Cherwa, Rathia, Tanwar, Chattri
5.	Bharia Bhumia, Bhuinhar Bhumia, Bhumiya, Bharia, Paliha, Pando	21.	(Omitted)
6.	Bhattra	22.	Khairwar, Kondar
7.	Bhil, Bhilala, Barela, Patelia	23.	Kharia
8.	Bhil Mina	24.	Kondh, Khond, Kandh
9.	Bhunja	25.	Kol
10.	Biar, Biyar	26.	Kolam
11.	Binjhwar	27.	Korku, Bopchi, Mouasi, Nihal, Nahul Bondhi, Bondeya
12.	Birhul, Birhor	28.	Korwa, Kodaku
13.	Damor, Damaria	29.	Majhi
14.	Dhanwar	30.	Majhwar
15.	Gadaba, Gadba	31.	Mawasi
16.	Gond; Arakh, Arrakh, Agaria, Asur, Badi Maria, Bada Maria, Bhatola, Bhimma, Bhuta, Koilabhuta, Koliabhuti, Bhar, Bisonhorn Maria, Chota Maria, Dandami Maria, Dhuru, Dhurwa, Dhoba, Dhulia,	32.	Omitted
		33.	Munda
		34.	Nagesia, Nagasia
		35.	Oraon, Dhanka, Dhangad

36.	Panika [In (i) Chhatarpur, Datia, Panna, Rewa, Satna, Shahdol, Umaria, Sidhi and Tikamgarh districts, and (ii) Sevda and Datia Tahsils of Datia district]	<b>Maharashtra</b>
37.	Pao	1. Andh
38.	Pardhan, Pathari, Saroti	2. Baiga
39.	Omitted	3. Barda
40.	Pardhi, Bahelia, Bahellia, Chita Pardhi, Langoli Pardhi, Phans Pardhi, Shikari, Takankar, Takia [In (i) Bastar, Chhindwara, Mandla, Raigarh, Dindori, Seoniand Surguja districts, (ii) Baihar Tahsil of Balaghat District, (iii) Betul, Bhainsdehi and Shahpur tahsils of Betul district, (iv) Patan tahsil and Sihora and Majholi blocks of Jabalpur district, (v) Katni (Murwara) and Vijaya Raghogarh tahsils and Bahoriband and Dhemerkheda blocks of Katni district, (vi) Hoshangabad, Babai, Sohagpur, Pipariya and Bankhedi tahsils and Kesla block of Hoshangabad district, (vii) Narsimhapur district, and (viii) Harsud Tahsil of Khandwa district]	4. Bavacha, Bamcha
41.	Parja	5. Bhaina
42.	Sahariya, Saharia, Seharla, Sehria, Sosia, Sor	6. Bharia Bhumia, Bhuinhar Bhumia, Pando
43.	Saonta, Saunta	7. Bhattra
44.	Saur	8. Bhil, Bhil Garasia, Dholi Bhil, Dungri Bhil, Dungri Garasia, Mewasi Bhil, Rawal Bhil, Tadvil Bhil, Bhagalia, Bhilala, Pawra, Vasava, Vasave
45.	Sawar, Sawara	9. Bhunjia
46.	Sonr	10. Binjhar
		11. Birhul, Birhor
		12. Omitted
		13. Dhanka, Tadvil, Tetaria, Valvi
		14. Dhanwar
		15. Dhodia
		16. Dubla, Talavia, Halpati
		17. Gamit, Gamta, Gavil, Mavchi, Padvil
		18. Gond, Rajgond, Arakh, Arrakh, Agaria, Asur, Badi Maria, Bada Maria, Bhatola, Bhimma, Bhuta, Koilabhuta, Koilabhuti, Bhar, Bisonhorn Maria, Chota Maria, Dandami Maria, Dhuru, Dhurwa, Dhoba, Dhulia, Dorla, Gaiki, Gatta, Gatti, Gaita, Gond Gowari, Hill Maria, Kandra, Kalanga, Khatola, Koitar, Koya, Khirwar, Khirwara, Kucha

	Maria, Kuchaki Maria, Madia, Maria, Mana, Mannewar, Moghya, Mogia, Monghya, Mudia, Muria, Nagarchi, Naikpod, Nagwanshi, Ojha, Raj, Sonjhari Jhareka, Thatia, Thotya, Wade Maria, Vade Maria	38.	Pardhi, Advichincher, Phans Pardhi, Phanse Pardhi, Langoli Pardhi, Bahelia, Bahellia, Chita Pardhi, Shikari, Takankar, Takia
19.	Halba, Halbi	39.	Parja
20.	Kamar	40.	Patelia
21.	Kathodi, Katkari, Dhor Kathodi, Dhor Kathkari, Son Kathodi, Son Katkari	41.	Pomla
22.	Kawar, Kanwar, Kaur, Cherwa, Rathia, Tanwar, Chattri	42.	Rathawa
23.	Khairwar	43.	Sawar, Sawara
24.	Kharia	44.	Thakur, Thakar, Ka Thakur, Ka Thakar, Ma Thakur, Ma Thakar
25.	Kokna, Kokni, Kukna	45.	Omitted
26.	Kol	46.	Varli
27.	Kolam, Mannervarlu	47.	Vitolia, Kotwalia, Barodia
28.	Koli, Dhor, Tokre Koli, Kolcha, Kolgha	<b>Manipur</b>	
29.	Koli Mahadev, Dongar Koli	1.	Aimol
30.	Koli Malhar	2.	Anal
31.	Kondh, Khond, Kandh	3.	Angami
32.	Korku, Bopchi, Mouasi, Nihal, Nahul, Bondhi, Bondeya	4.	Chiru
33.	Koya, Bhine Koya, Rajkoya	5.	Chothe
34.	Nagesia, Nagasia	6.	Gangte
35.	Naikda, Nayaka, Cholivala Nayaka, Kapadia Nayaka, Mota Nayaka, Nana Nayaka	7.	Hmar
36.	Oraon, Dhangad	8.	Kabui, Inpui, Rongmei
37.	Pardhan, Pathari, Saroti	9.	Kacha Naga, Liangmai, Zeme
		10.	Koirao, Thangal
		11.	Koireng
		12.	Kom
		13.	Lamgang
		14.	Mao
		15.	Maram

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16.	Maring	(ii)	Changsan
17.	Any Mizo (Lushai) tribes	(iii)	Chongloi
18.	Monsang	(iv)	Doungel
19.	Moyon	(v)	Gamalhau
20.	Paite	(vi)	Gangte
21.	Purum	(vii)	Guite
22.	Ralte	(viii)	Hanneng
23.	Sema	(ix)	Haokip, Haupit
24.	Simte	(x)	Haolai
25.	Suhte	(xi)	Hengna
26.	Tangkhul	(xii)	Hongsungh
27.	Thadou	(xiii)	Hrangkhwal, Rangkhoh
28.	Vaiphei	(xiv)	Jongbe
29.	Zou	(xv)	Khawchung
30.	Poumai Naga	(xvi)	Khawathlang, Khothalong
31.	Tarao	(xvii)	Khelma
32.	Kharam	(xviii)	Kholhou
33.	Any Kuki tribes	(xix)	Kipgen
34.	Mate	(xx)	Kuki
<b>Meghalaya</b>		(xxi)	Lengthang
1.	Chakma	(xxii)	Lhangum
2.	Dimasa, Kachari	(xxiii)	Lhoujem
3.	Garo	(xxiv)	Lhouvun
4.	Hajong	(xxv)	Lupheng
5.	Hmar	(xxvi)	Mangjel
6.	Khasi, Jaintia, Synteng, Pnar, War, Bhoi, Lyngngam	(xxvii)	Misao
7.	Any Kuki tribes, including:-	(xxviii)	Riang
(i)	Biate, Biete	(xxix)	Sairhem

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(xxx) Selnam	(ii) Changsan
(xxxi) Singson	(iii) Chongloi
(xxxii) Sitlhou	(iv) Dounghel
(xxxiii) Sukte	(v) Gamalhou
(xxxiv) Thado	(vi) Gangte
(xxxv) Thangngeu	(vii) Guite
(xxxvi) Uibuh	(viii) Hanneng
(xxxvii) Vaiphei	(ix) Haokip or Haupt
8. Lakher	(x) Haolai
9. Man (Tai Speaking)	(xi) Hengna
10. Any Mizo (Lushai) tribes	(xii) Hongsungh
11. Mikir	(xiii) Hrangkhwal or Rangkhoh
12. Any Naga tribes	(xiv) Jongbe
13. Pawi	(xv) Khawchung (xvi) Khawathlang or Khothalong
14. Synteng	(xvii) Khelma
15. Boro Kacharis	(xviii) Kholhou
16. Koch	(xix) Kipgen
17. Raba, Rava	(xx) Kuki
<b>Mizoram</b>	(xxi) Lengthang
1. Chakma	(xxii) Lhangum
2. Dimasa (Kachari)	(xxiii) Lhoujem
3. Garo	(xxiv) Lhouvun
4. Hajong	(xxv) Lumpheng
5. Hmar	(xxvi) Mangjel
6. Khasi and Jaintia, (Including Khasi, Synteng or Pnar, War, Bhoi or Lyngngam)	(xxvii) Misao
	(xxviii) Rieng
7. Any Kuki tribes, including:—	(xxix) Sairhem
(i) Baite or Beite	(xxx) Selnam

(xxxi) Singson	7. Bhumia
(xxxii) Sitlhou	8. Bhumij, Teli Bhumij, Haladipokhria
(xxxiii) Sukte	Bhumij, Haladi Pokharia Bhumija,
(xxxiv) Thado	Desi Bhumij, Desia Bhumij, Tamaria
(xxxv) Thangngeu	Bhumij
(xxxvi) Uibuh	9. Bhunjia
(xxxvii) Vaiphei	10. Binjhal, Binjhwar
8. Lakher	11. Binjhia, Binjhoa
9. Man (Tai-Speaking)	12. Birhor
10. Any Mizo (Lushai) tribes	13. Bondo Poraja, Bonda Paroja, Banda
11. Mikir	Paroja
12. Any Naga tribes.	14. Chenchu
13. Pawi	15. Dal
14. Synteng.	16. Desua Bhumij
15. Paite	17. Dharua, Dhuruba, Dhurva
<b>Nagaland</b>	18. Didayi, Didai Paroja, Didai
1. Naga	19. Gadaba, Bodo Gadaba, Gutob
2. Kuki	Gadaba, Kapu Gadaba, Ollara
3. Kachari	Gadaba, Parenga Gadaba, Sano
4. Mikir	Gadaba
5. Garo	20. Gandia
<b>Odisha</b>	21. Ghara
1. Bagata, Bhakta	22. Gond, Gondo, Rajgond, Maria
2. Baiga	Gond, Dhur Gond
3. Banjara, Banjari	23. Ho
4. Bathudi, Bathuri	24. Holva
5. Bhottada, Dhotada Bhotra, Bhatra,	25. Jatapu
Bhattara, Bhotora, Bhatara	26. Juang
6. Bhuiya, Bhuyan	27. Kandha Gauda
	28. Kawar, Kanwar



29.	Kharia, Kharian, Berga Kharia, Dhelki Kharia, Dudh Kharia, Erenga Kharia, Munda Kharia, Oraon Kharia, Khadia, Pahari Kharia	50.	Munda, Munda Lohara, Munda Mahalis, Nagabanshi Munda, Oriya Munda
30.	Kharwar	51.	Mundari
31.	Khond, Kond, Kandha, Nanguli Kandha, Sitha Kandha, Kondh, Kui, Buda Kondh, Bura Kandha, Desia Kandha, Dungaria Kondh, Kutia Kandha, Kandha Gauda, Muli Kondh, Malua Kondh, Pengo Kandha, Raja Kondh, Raj Khond	52.	Omanatya, Omanatyo, Amanatya
32.	Kisan, Nagesar, Nagesia	53.	Oraon, Dhangar, Uran
33.	Kol	54.	Parenga
34.	Kolah Loharas, Kol Loharas	55.	Paroja, Parja, Bodo Paroja, Barong Jhodia Paroja, Chhelia Paroja, Jhodia Paroja, Konda Paroja, Paraja, Ponga Paroja, Sodia Paroja, Sano Paroja, Solia Paroja
35.	Kolha	56.	Pentia
36.	Koli, Malhar	57.	Rajuar
37.	Kondadora	58.	Santal
38.	Kora, Khaira, Khayara	59.	Saora, Savar, Saura, Sahara, Arsi Saora, Based Saora, Bhima Saora, Bhimma Saora, Chumura Saora, Jara Savar, Jadu Saora, Jati Saora, Juari Saora, Kampu Saora, Kampa Soura, Kapo Saora, Kindal Saora, Kumbi Kancher Saora, Kalapithia Saora, Kirat Saora, Lanjia Saora, Lamba Lanjia Saora, Luara Saora, Luar Saora, Laria Savar, Malia Saora, Malla Saora, Uriya Saora, Raika Saora, Sudda Saora, Sarda Saora, Tankala Saora, Patro Saora, Vesu Saora
39.	Korua	60.	Shabar, Lodha
40.	Kotia	61.	Sounti
41.	Koya, Gumba Koya, Koitur Koya, Kamar Koya, Musara Koya	62.	Tharua, Tharua Bindhani
42.	Kulis		
43.	Lodha, Nodh, Nodha, Lodh		
44.	Madia		
45.	Mahali		
46.	Mankidi		
47.	Mankirdia, Mankria, Mankidi		
48.	Matya, Matia		
49.	Mirdhas, Kuda, Koda		

<b>Rajasthan</b>		3.	Eravallan
1.	Bhil, Bhil Garasia, Dholi Bhil, Dungri Bhil, Dungri Garasia, Mewasi Bhil, Rawal Bhil, Tadvi Bhil, Bhagalia, Bhilala, Pawra, Vasava, Vasave	4.	Irular
2.	Bhil Mina	5.	Kadar
3.	Damor, Damaria	6.	Kammara (excluding Kanyakumari district and Shenkottah taluk of Tirunelveli district)
4.	Dhanka, Tadvi, Tetaria, Valvi	7.	Kanikaran, Kanikkar (in Kanyakumari district and Shenkottah taluk and Ambasamudram taluks of Tirunelveli district)
5.	Garasia (excluding Rajput Garasia)	8.	Kaniyan, Kanyan
6.	Kathodi, Katkari, Dhor Kathodi, Dhor Katkari, Son Kathodi, Son Katkari	9.	Kattunayakan
7.	Kokna, Kokni, Kukna	10.	Kochu Velan
8.	Koli Dhor, Tokre Koli, Kolcha, Kolgha	11.	Konda Kapus
9.	Mina	12.	Kondareddis
10.	Naikda, Nayaka, Cholivala Nayaka, Kapadia Nayaka, Mota Nayaka, Nana Nayaka	13.	Koraga
11.	Patelia	14.	Kota (excluding Kanyakumari district and Shenkottah taluk of Tirunelveli district)
12.	Seharia, Sehria, Sahariya.	15.	Kudiya, Melakudi
<b>Sikkim</b>		16.	Kurichchan
1.	Bhutia (including Chumbipa, Dophthapa, Dukpa, Kagatey, Sherpa, Tibetan, Tromopa, Yolmo)	17.	Kurumbas (in the Nilgiris district)
2.	Lepcha	18.	Kurumans
3.	Limboo	19.	Maha Malasar
4.	Tamang	20.	Malai Arayan
<b>Tamil Nadu</b>		21.	Malai Pandaram
1.	Adiyan	22.	Malai Vedan
2.	Aranadan	23.	Malakkuravan
		24.	Malasar

25. Malayali (in Dharmapuri, North Arcot, Pudukottai, Salem, South Arcot and Tiruchirapalli districts)	11. Kattunayakan
26. Malayekandi	12. Kolam, Kolawar
27. Mannan	13. Konda Dhoras, Kubi
28. Mudugar, Muduvan	14. Konda Kapus
29. Muthuvan	15. Kondareddis
30. Palleyan	16. Kondhs, Kodi, Kodhu, Desaya Kondhs, Dongria Kondhs, Kuttiya Kondhs, Tikiria Kondhs, Yenity Kondhs, Kuvunga
31. Palliyan	17. Kotia, Benthoriya, Bartika, Dulia, Holva, Sanrona, Sidhopaiko
32. Palliyar	18. Koya, Doli Koya, Gutta Koya, Kammara Koya, Musara Koya, Oddi Koya, Pattidi Koya, Rajah, Rasha Koya, Lingadhari Koya (ordinary), Kottu Koya, Bhine Koya, Rajkoya
33. Paniyan	19. Kulia
34. Sholaga	20. Manna Dhora
35. Toda (excluding Kanyakumari district and Shenkottah Taluk of Tirunelveli district)	21. Mukha Dhora, Nooka Dhora
36. Uraly	22. Nayaks (in the Agency tracts)
<b>Telangana</b>	23. Pardhan
1. Andh, Sadhu Andh	24. Porja, Parangiperja
2. Bagata	25. Reddi Dhoras
3. Bhil	26. Rona, Rena
4. Chenchu	27. Savaras, Kapu Savaras, Maliya Savaras, Khutto Savaras
5. Gadabas, Bodo Gadaba, Gutob Gadaba, Kallayi Gadaba, Parangi Gadaba, Kathera Gadaba, Kapu Gadaba	28. Sugalis, Lambadis, Banjara
6. Gond, Naikpod, Rajgond, Koitur	29. Thoti (in Adilabad, Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Mahbubnagar, Medak, Nalgonda, Nizamabad and Warangal districts)
7. Gouda (in the Agency tracts)	
8. Hill Reddis	
9. Jatapus	
10. Kammara	

30. Yenadis, Chella Yenadi, Kappala Yenadi, Manchi Yenadi, Reddi Yenadi	15. Orang
31. Yerukulas, Koracha, Dabba Yerukula, Kunchapuri Yerukula, Uppu Yerukula	16. Riang
32. Nakkala, Kurvikaran	17. Santal
<b>Tripura</b>	18. Tripura, Tripuri, Tippera
1. Bhil	19. Uchai.
2. Bhutia	<b>Uttarakhand</b>
3. Chaimal	1. Bhotia
4. Chakma	2. Buksa
5. Garoo	3. Jaunsari
6. Halam, Bengshel, Dub, Kaipeng, Kalai, Karbong, Lengui, Mussum, Rupini, Sukuchep, Thangchep	4. Raji
7. Jamatia	5. Tharu
8. Khasia	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>
9. Kuki, including the following sub-tribes:-	1. Bhotia
(i) Balte (ii) Belalhut (iii) Chhalya (iv) Fun (v) Hajango (vi) Jangtei (vii) Khareng (viii) Khephong (ix) Kuntei (x) Laifang (xi) Lentei (xii) Mizel (xiii) Namte (xiv) Paitu, Paite (xv) Rangcha (xvi) Rangkhole (xvii) Thangluya	2. Buksa
10. Lepcha	3. Jaunsari
11. Lushai	4. Raji
12. Mag	5. Tharu
13. Munda, Kaur	6. Gond, Dhuria, Nayak, Ojha, Pathari, Raj Gond (in the districts of Mehrajganj, Sidharth Nagar, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria, Mau, Azamgarh, Jonpur, Balia, Gazipur, Varanasi, Mirzapur and Sonbhadra)
14. Noatia, Murashing	7. Kharwar, Khairwar (in the districts of Deoria, Balia, Ghazipur, Varanasi and Sonbhadra)
	8. Saharya (in the district of Lalitpur)
	9. Parahiya (in the district of Sonbhadra)
	10. Baiga (in the district of Sonbhadra)

11. Pankha, Panika (in the districts of Sonbhadra and Mirzapur)	21. Korwa
12. Agariya (in the district of Sonbhadra)	22. Lepcha
13. Patari (in the district of Sonbhadra)	23. Lodha, Kheria, Kharia
14. Chero (in the districts of Sonbhadra and Varanasi)	24. Lohara, Lohra.
15. Bhuiya, Bhuinya (in the district of Sonbhadra)	25. Magh
	26. Mahali
	27. Mahli
	28. Mal Pahariya
<b>West Bengal</b>	29. Mech
1. Asur	30. Mru
2. Baiga	31. Munda
3. Bedia, Bediya 4. Bhumij	32. Nagesia
5. Bhutia, Sherpa, Toto, Dukpa, Kagatay, Tibetan, Yolmo	33. Oraon
6. Birhor	34. Parhaiya
7. Birjia	35. Rabha
8. Chakma	36. Santal
9. Chero	37. Sauria Paharia
10. Chik Baraik	38. Savar
11. Garo	39. Limbu (Subba)
12. Gond	40. Tamang
13. Gorait	
14. Hajang	
15. Ho	
16. Karmali	
17. Kharwar	
18. Khond	
19. Kisan	
20. Kora	
	<b>Andaman and Nicobar</b>
	1. Andamanese, Chariar, Chari, Kora, Tabo, Bo, Yere, Kede, Bea, Balawa, Bojigiyab, Juwai, Kol
	2. Jarawas
	3. Nicobarese
	4. Onges
	5. Sentinelese
	6. Shom Pens

<b>Dadar and Nagar Haveli</b>	<b>Lakshadweep</b>
1. Dhodia	Throughout the Union territory: -
2. Dubla including Halpati	Inhabitants of the Laccadive, Minicoy and
3. Kathodi	Aminidivi Islands who, and both of whose
4. Kokna	parents, were born in those islands.
5. Koli Dhor including Kolgha	'Provided that the children who are born
6. Naikda or Nayaka	to inhabitants of Lakshadweep in any
7. Varli	other place in the mainland of India shall
<b>Daman and Diu</b>	be deemed to be inhabitants born in the
Throughout the Union territory:	islands if such children settle permanently
1. Dhodia	in the islands'.
2. Dubla (Halpati)	Explanation:- The term "settle permanently"
3. Naikda (Talavia)	shall have the same meaning as defined
4. Siddi (Nayaka)	under clause 3(I)(d) of the Lakshadweep
5. Varli.	Panchayats Regulation, 1994.
	<b>Puducherry</b>
	Irular (including Villi and Vettaikaran)

### **National Institute of Tribal Research**

1410. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria Government intends to put in place to select organizations such as NGOs to collaborate with the National Institute of Tribal Research;

(b) the details of steps Government will take through the National Institute of Tribal Research to protect tribal culture, languages, habitats and cultivation and production practices such as cloth weaving;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up educational programmes regarding tribal affairs under the Institute; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): (a) Ministry of Tribal Affairs intends to establish a National Tribal Research Institute (NTRI) at Delhi to act as body of knowledge & research and as a think tank for tribal development.

However, no proposal for collaboration with NGOs is under consideration of the Ministry.

(b) The NTRI envisages to serve the purpose of mentoring and hand holding support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) located in various States, and to ensure quality and uniformity in research works, evaluation studies, training, awareness generation among tribals, showcasing of rich tribal heritage including languages, habitats and cultivation and production practices such as cloth weaving etc. NTRI may also house auditorium for national level conferences.

(c) and (d) No such proposal of setting up educational programmes is under consideration through the NTRI.

#### **Ashram schools in the country**

1411. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of Ashram Schools currently functional in the country, State/UT wise;

(b) whether there has been any proposal by the State Governments to set up new Ashram Schools in the country in the last five years;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) whether the current Ashram Schools are enough for the tribal students?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): (a) State-wise list of functional Ashram Schools in the country, which were funded by Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) for construction, is tabulated below:—

Sl. No.	State/UT	Functional Ashram Schools
1.	Andhra Pradesh including Telangana	188
2.	Assam	1
3.	Chhattisgarh	128
4.	Goa	1
5.	Gujarat	164

Sl. No.	State/UT	Functional Ashram Schools
6.	Jharkhand	3
7.	Karnataka	23
8.	Kerala	14
9.	Madhya Pradesh	303
10.	Maharashtra	90
11.	Odisha	63
12.	Rajasthan	0
13.	Sikkim	1
14.	Tripura	24
15.	Uttar Pradesh	5
16.	Uttarakhand	10
TOTAL		1018

(b) and (c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) was earlier running a separate scheme "Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas" under which funds were provided to State Governments for construction of Ashram schools. However, since 2018-19, the intervention of Ashram schools has been subsumed under the scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS). Though proposal for construction of new Ashram Schools has not been received from State Governments, funds have been sanctioned by MoTA for upgradation and creation of facilities in the existing Ashram Schools. Details of the funds released to the State Governments based on the proposals received from them with respect to Ashram Schools are as under:—

(i) Funds provided under the erstwhile Scheme "Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas" during 2015-16 to 2017-18:—

Sl. No.	Financial Year	States	Amount Released (₹ in lakh)
1.	2015-16	Goa	300.00
2.	2016-17	No Funds released	
3.	2017-18	Goa	356.02
4.	Sikkim		343.98



- (ii) Funds released to the State Governments under the scheme of SCA to TSS during 2017-18 to 2019-20 is as under:—

Sl. No.	Year	States	Amount approved for release (₹ in lakh)
1.	FY 2017-18	Jharkhand	1200.00
2.		Madhya Pradesh	950.53
3.		Maharashtra	5164.00
4.		Chhattisgarh	732.50
5.		Karnataka	491.85
6.		West Bengal	1025.97
7.	FY 2018-19	Karnataka	636.00
8.		Madhya Pradesh	135.54
9.		Maharashtra	2931.36
10.	FY 2019-20	Chhattisgarh	1412.62
11.		Karnataka	564.00
12.		Maharashtra	2333.96
13.		Telangana	349.11
14.		West Bengal	1613.25

(d) Government lays special attention for the educational development of Scheduled Tribes in the country. Apart from funds provided for construction of Ashram School, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sanctioned 566 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) across the country out of which about 350 schools are functional. It is envisaged to have an EMRS by the year 2022 in each block having 50% or more ST population and at least 20,000 ST persons.

Besides, Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing the Scheme 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiya' as an integrated scheme of school education wherein financial assistance is provided to States /Union Territories for setting up residential schools / hostels. The scheme reaches out to girls and children belonging to Scheduled Caste

(SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), minority communities and transgender. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) implemented by M/o Human Resource Development (MHRD), provides for free and compulsory elementary education to all children in the age group of 6 to 14 years including ST children. Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) scheme provides for residential schools for girls at upper primary level; a minimum of 75% seats are for minority, SC, ST and OBC girls. KGBVs cover 69% ST girls in ST Special Focus Districts. Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS) scheme envisages setting up of one Navodaya Vidyalaya in each district of the country. These residential schools impart good quality modern education to rural talented children irrespective of their socio-economic background including ST children.

Based on the data compiled by Ministry of Rural Development under Mission Antyodaya, as on 31.08.2019, out of 1,17,064 villages / habitations with tribal population more than 25% of total population, the position of availability of schools is as under:—

Availability of school

School Type	No. of villages
Primary	61230
Middle School	26155
High School	10642
>Senior Secondary school	5519

**Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana in West Bengal**

1412. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of States where the Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana is being implemented;

(b) the details of funds released by Government under this programme since its commencement and the utilization of such funds, State-wise including West Bengal;

(c) whether the economic standard of tribals is being affected positively by the said scheme;

(d) whether the said scheme has been successful in achieving its objective; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): (a) and (b) Government of India launched "Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana (VKY)" during 2014-15 for holistic development of tribal people across the country. The VKY has been adopted as a strategic process. This process envisages to ensure delivery of goods and services to the tribal population across the country with outcome-oriented approach while striking at the critical gaps through appropriate convergence of resources and institutional mechanism. In 2014-15, an amount of ₹ 100.00 crore was allocated under VKY, which was released to ten States having Scheduled Areas. During 2015-16, allocation of ₹ 200.00 crores was made for 21 States based on their perspective plan. In 2016-17, only a token provision of ₹ 1.00 crore was made that was released to State Government of Rajasthan. The details of the funds released to the State Governments including Government of West Bengal during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 under VKY are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) to (e) Since 2016-17, separate allocation of funds under VKY has been discontinued and it has been envisaged that the fund requirement under the VKY strategy will be fulfilled out of the TSP [now called as Schedule Tribe Component(STC)]funds, which caters to sectoral development including support for education, health, power, roads, sanitation, water supply, livelihood etc. by way of specific fund allocation under various schemes / programmes of concerned Central Ministries and the State Governments. Details of allocation of STC/TSP funds during last six years is as under:

	(₹ in crore)					
TSP Component	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Central Ministries	16,111	15,628	19,873	25,999	31,803	43958
State Component	86,075	1,00,558	1,11,295	1,39,710	1,57,531	173284*
Funds under MoTA	3,850	4,550	4,799	5,293	6,000	7340
TOTAL	1,06,036	1,20,736	1,35,967	1,71,002	1,95,334	224582

\* provisional

Based on the data compiled by Ministry of Rural Development under Mission Antyodaya, as on 31.08.2019, out of 1,17,064 villages / habitations with tribal population more than 25% of total population, the position of availability of infrastructure facilities is given in the Statement-II.

***Statement-I***

*State-wise details of funds released under VKY for the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 and utilization reported by the States*

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	2014-15		2015-16	
		Funds Released	Utilization reported	Funds Released	Utilization reported
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1000.00	1000.00	500.00	300.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	600.00	600.00
3.	Assam	0	0	852.00	852.00
4.	Bihar	0	0	760.00	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	1000.00	1000.00	1384.50	1273.44
6.	Gujarat	1000.00	1000.00	1723.00	1419.32
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1000.00	700.10	0	0
8.	Jharkhand	1000.00	1000.00	1344.80	1344.80
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	500.00	0
10.	Kerala	0	0	300.00	300.00
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1000.00	1000.00	1909.28	1418.00
12.	Maharashtra	1000.00	0	1400.00	0
13.	Mizoram	0	0	490.50	490.50
14.	Nagaland	0	0	766.65	766.65
15.	Odisha	1000.00	1000.00	1650.00	1650.00
16.	Sikkim	0	0	382.43	207.00
17.	Rajasthan	1000.00	1000.00	1046.42	1046.42
18.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	700.00	351.94
19.	Telangana	1000.00	1000.00	427.42	427.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
20.	Tripura	0	0	613.00	613.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	200.00	0
22.	West Bengal	0	0	2450.00	2025.00
TOTAL		10000.00	8700.10	20000.00	15085.07

**Statement-II***Tribal Dominated Village-wise availability of infrastructure - All India*

Sl. No.	Village-wise Infrastructure Details	No. of villages out of Tribal Dominated Villages (117047 Total Villages)
1	2	3
1.	Availability of banks in the village	10945
	If bank not available the distance where facility is available	
	< 1 km	1674
	1-2 km	5785
	2-5 km	24751
	5-10 Km	34106
	>10 Km	39786
2.	If bank not available in the village	12639
	Availability Of bank/Business	
	Correspondent with internet connectivity	
3.	Availability of ATM	8173
4.	Villages connected to All weather road	77551
5.	Villages with internal cc/ brick road	67531
6.	Availability of Public Transport	
	Bus	33009
	Van	13978
	Auto	34144
7.	Availability of Internet Cafe/Common Service Centre	19979

1	2	3
8.	Availability of electricity for domestic use	1-4 hrs 7868 5-8 hrs 19586 9-12 hrs 35010 >12 hrs 47407
9.	Availability of Public Distribution System (PDS)	58068
10.	Availability of markets	Mandis 2989 Regular market 5631 weekly haat 18327
11.	Availability of Piped tap water	100% habitations covered 12150 50-100% 17658 < 50% habitation covered 18647 only one habitation is covered 6936
12.	Availability of telephone services	Landline 1012 Mobile 87650 Both 10847
13.	Availability of Post office/Sub-Post office	22808
14.	Availability of school	Primary 61230 Middle School 26155 High School 10642 >Senior Secondary school 5519
15.	Availability of Vocational Educational centre/ITI/RSETI/DDU-GKY	9366
16.	Availability of Sub centre	PHC 3453
	If Sub Centre not available in the village, distance of the nearest place where facility is available	CHC 7114 Sub Centre 18185 < 1 km 2164

1	2	3
	1-2 km	7110
	2-5 km	23365
	5-10 Km	25144
	>10 Km	28031
17.	Availability of Veterinary Clinic Hospital	15654
18.	If Veterinary Clinic not available in the village, distance of the nearest place where facility is available	< 1 km 1379
		1-2km 4844
		2-5km 21356
		5-10 Km 31518
		>10 Km 42412
19.	Availability of drainage facilities	Closed drainage 5247
		open pucca 3270
		drainage covered with tiles slab
		open pucca 16585
		drainage uncovered
		open kuccha 33882
		drainage

Source: Census 2011 & Mission Antodaya data.

Sl. No.	Item	No. of households out of total households
		21444823
1.	Total No. of household using clean energy (LPG/Bio gas)	9359939
2.	No of household with kuccha wall and kuccha roof	9114133

#### Residential schools for tribal students in Tamil Nadu

1413. SHRI K.P. MUNUSAMY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to promote residential schools for tribal students of tribal dominated areas in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the financial assistance provided to the State;

(c) whether the Central Government is formulating any scheme for compulsory education in tribal areas in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): (a) and (b) The details of Central schemes being implemented to promote residential schools for tribal students of tribal dominated areas in the country, including in Tamil Nadu, is as under:-

- **Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS):** Ministry of Tribal Affairs has initiated the setting up EMRSs since 1997-98 for imparting quality education to tribal children in their own environment in remote areas across the country. Every EMRS has an intake of 480 students. As per the budget announcement 2018-19, every block having 50% or more ST population and at least 20,000 ST population shall have an EMRS by 2022.
- As on 19.09.2020, a total of 566 EMRSs have been sanctioned by the Ministry, out of which 285 are functional. A total of 8 EMRSs have been sanctioned for the State of Tamil Nadu and all are reported to be functional as on date. The details of 8 EMRSs in Tamil Nadu is as under:-

Sl. No.	District	Block/ Taluka	Village/ Habitation	Name of the School
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Villupuram (Kalakuruchi)	Kalrayan Hills (Chinnasalem)	Vellimalai	EMRS Vellimalai
2.	Salem	Peddanaicken- palayam	Puthiragoun- dampalayam	EMRS Abinavam
3.	Thiruvanna Malai	Jawathu Hills	Athipattu	EMRS Athipattu
4.	The Nilgiris	Udhagamandalam	Nanjanad	EMRS Kodapmundu
5.	Namakkal	Kolli Hills	Edappulinadu	EMRS Sengarai
6.	Tirupattur	Kandili	Vishamangalam	EMRS Vishamangalam



1	2	3	4	5
7.	Kanchipuram	Thiruporur	Pattipulam	EMRS Pattipulam
8.	Salem	Yercaud	Melur	EMRS Yercaud

(Note:-Ministry has recently developed performance dashboard for monitoring of various schemes <http://dashboard.tribal.gov.in>)

Financial assistance provided to the State of Tamil Nadu during the last three years for EMRSs is as under:-

Fund released for EMRSs (₹ in lakh)			
State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Tamil Nadu	1420.80	1218.40	6356.07

- **Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes:** Under this scheme, funds are provided to NGOs working in health and education sectors. Funds provided to the NGOs for running Residential Schools in the State of Tamil Nadu during the year 2019-20 amounted to ₹ 34.0924 lakh
- **Scheme of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Area:** The objective of the scheme is to provide residential schools for STs in an environment conducive to learning so as to increase the literacy rate among the tribal students and to bring them at par with other population of the country. The scheme has been revised with effect from the financial year 2008-09. Under the revised scheme, State Governments are eligible for 100% central share for construction of Girls' only Ashram Schools and also for construction of Boys' only Ashram Schools in naxal affected areas (as identified by Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time). The funding pattern for the other Boys' Ashram Schools is on 50:50 basis, while cent percent assistance is given to UTs for construction of both Girls only and Boys' only Ashram Schools. The scheme covers primary, middle, secondary and senior secondary level of education. It has been decided to discontinue the Scheme from 2018-19 and the intervention has been subsumed under the Scheme Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS).

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise.

**Literacy rate among tribals**

1414. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the literacy rate among tribals is very low in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government proposes to implement any scheme for imparting education to tribals in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): (a) and (b) As per Census 2011, literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes (STs) was 59% whereas the overall literacy rate was 73% at all India level. State / UT-wise over all literacy rates, of ST population and gaps are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

As per Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) report 2017-18 published by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, literacy rate for STs is 67.7% and corresponding figure over all is 76.9%. Whereas the PLFS 2018-19 report reveals an improvement in literacy rate of STs at 69.4% as compared to 78.1% over all.

The reasons for low literacy level of STs include the following:—

- (i) Distance between the home and school;
- (ii) Lack of awareness and understanding of the value of formal education among illiterate elders;
- (iii) Shortage of teachers: due to remoteness of habitations, teachers are often reluctant to work in schools in tribal areas; teachers from other areas are not familiar with local tribal languages and dialects;
- (iv) Tribal students face difficulties in understanding the contents in prescribed text books which are not in their dialects.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Tribal Affairs has been implementing a separate Central Sector Scheme 'Eklavya Model Residential Schools' (EMRSs) from 2019-20. Earlier, EMRSs were set up in the States/ UT under the Special Area Programme 'Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India' of Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The objective

of EMRS is to provide quality upper primary, secondary and senior secondary level education to Scheduled Tribe (ST) students to enable them to access the best opportunities in education and to bring them at par with the general population. In total 566 schools have been sanctioned across the country out of which 285 are currently functional. Further, Government is implementing a number of schemes / programmes to increase the literacy rates and education level of STs, which are given in the Statement-II.

**Statement-I**

*Literacy Rates of All Population, ST Population and Gaps: Census 2011*

Sl. No.	India/State/UT	Persons		
		All	ST	Gap
1	2	3	4	5
	<b>India</b>	73	59	14.0
1.	Jammu and Kashmir*	67.2	50.6	16.6
2.	Himachal Pradesh	82.8	73.6	9.2
3.	Uttarakhand	78.8	73.9	4.9
4.	Rajasthan	66.1	52.8	13.3
5.	Uttar Pradesh	67.7	55.7	12.0
6.	Bihar	61.8	51.1	10.7
7.	Sikkim	81.4	79.7	1.7
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	65.4	64.6	0.8
9.	Nagaland	79.6	80	-0.4
10.	Manipur	76.9	72.6	4.3
11.	Mizoram	91.3	91.5	-0.2
12.	Tripura	87.2	79.1	8.1
13.	Meghalaya	74.4	74.5	-0.1
14.	Assam	72.2	72.1	0.1
15.	West Bengal	76.3	57.9	18.4
16.	Jharkhand	66.4	57.1	9.3

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Odisha	72.9	52.2	20.7
18.	Chhattisgarh	70.3	59.1	11.2
19.	Madhya Pradesh	69.3	50.6	18.7
20.	Gujarat	78	62.5	15.5
21.	Daman and Diu**	87.1	78.8	8.3
22.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli**	76.2	61.9	14.3
23.	Maharashtra	82.3	65.7	16.6
24.	Telangana	66.5	49.5	17.0
25.	Andhra Pradesh	67.4	48.8	18.6
26.	Karnataka	75.4	62.1	13.3
27.	Goa	88.7	79.1	9.6
28.	Lakshadweep	91.8	91.7	0.1
29.	Kerala	94	75.8	18.2
30.	Tamil Nadu	80.1	54.3	25.8
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	86.6	75.6	11.0

*Note:* No Notified Scheduled Tribes in Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, NCT of Delhi and Puducherry as in 2011.

\* Before bifurcation

\*\* Before merger

### ***Statement-II***

*Government schemes / programmes inter-alia being implemented to increase the literacy rates and education level of STs*

- (i) Ashram Schools: Funds are provided to States for setting up residential schools for STs for primary, middle, secondary and senior secondary levels of education.
- (ii) ST Hostels: Central assistance is given to States/UTs/Universities for construction of new hostel buildings and/or extension of existing hostels.

- (iii) Scheme of Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts: 100% Grant-in-Aid is given to NGO / Voluntary Organizations for running and maintenance of educational complexes for ST girls.
- (iv) Post Matric Scholarship and Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students studying in classes IX & X.
- (v) Funds are provided under Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSP), Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution and Scheme for Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) for various interventions relating to improvement of education including construction of hostels, schools, construction of boundary walls in schools, construction of playground, toilets and arrangement of drinking water, kitchen garden in schools etc.
- (vi) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is also being implemented in conjunction with the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 for universalisation of elementary education for all children in the 6-14 age group.
- (vii) The National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT) in the National Curriculum Framework, 2005 (NCF) makes it clear that language and culture are important to all children's learning including Scheduled Tribes. SSA aims to develop context specific interventions.
- (viii) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) are residential schools from class VI to XII for girls belonging to disadvantaged groups such as SC, ST, OBC, Minority and Below Poverty Line (BPL). The objective behind establishing KGBVs is to ensure access to quality education to girls from disadvantaged groups by setting up residential schools and to reduce gender gaps at all levels of school education. Out of 5930, 858 KGBVs have been sanctioned in 109 Schedule Tribe Special Focus Districts (ST SFDs) having 25% and above ST population out of which 661 are operational with the enrolment of 64.44% ST Girls.
- (ix) States are also advised for expansion of scope of education for Tribal children to include sports, physical education, vocational education, Tribal Art, painting, crafts, health, hygiene and nutrition, traditional food (minor millet) in school meals, etc., to make the school education useful, relevant and interesting for the children and tribal communities.

**Allocation of funds to consulting agencies**

1415. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) how many consulting agencies have been attached with the Ministry and its affiliated bodies, the details thereof;
- (b) the major works which have been accomplished by these agencies during the last five years; and
- (c) amount allocated to these agencies during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has engaged the services of two consultancy agencies to support implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Conditional Cash Transfer.

- (c) The details of funds released to the consulting agencies during the year 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 are ₹ 58,78,000, ₹ 4,97,05,327, and ₹ 3,80,86,622 respectively.

1416. *The Question was cancelled.*

**Social security for AWWs, women and children during pandemic**

1417. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) are being provided social security benefits during the COVID-19 crisis, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the measures taken by the Ministry to ensure availability of food to the children who benefitted from Mid Day Meal Scheme; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has data pertaining to the use of Jan Aushadhi Kendras by women during the pandemic, if not, the steps ensured by the Ministry to make the Kendras easily accessible?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Under the Social Security benefits, Anganwadi Workers (AWWs)/ Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) are covered under the following Insurance Schemes:—

**Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY):** AWWs and AWHs in the age group of 18 to 50 years are covered under PMJJBY for life cover of ₹2.00 lakh (covers life risk, death due to any reason).

**Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY):** AWWs and AWHs in the age group of 18-59 years are covered under PMSBY for accident cover of ₹ 2.00 Lakh (for accidental death and permanent full disability) /₹1.00 Lakh (for partial but permanent disability).

**Anganwadi Karyakartri Bima Yojana (AKBY) (modified):** AWWs/AWHs in the age group of 51 to 59 years are covered under the AKBY (modified) as long as they are engaged for life cover of ₹30,000/- (covers life risk, death due to any reason).

AWWs/AWHs in the age group of 18-59 years are also provided Female Critical Illness %benefits of ₹20,000/- on diagnosis of identified illness {invasive cancers (malignant tumour) manifest in the organs *viz.* Breast, Cervix Uteri, Corpus Uteri, Ovaries, Fallopian Tubes and Vaginal/vulva} and scholarships to their children studying in 9th to 12th Standard (including ITI courses). Scholarship of ₹300/- per quarter per child is available for two children per family.

In view of the special circumstances prevailing in the country due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the life cover for AWWs/AWHs in the age group of 51-59 years (closed group as on 01.06.2017) has been increased from ₹30,000/- to ₹2,00,000/-.

Although, above Social Security Insurance Schemes for Anganwadi Workers/ Helpers have now been transitioned to full premium payment regime with effect from 1st April, 2020. Ministry has requested DFS, Ministry of Finance to reinstate the previous convergence of Insurance Schemes of PMJJBY/PMSBY/AKBY/FCI, etc upto 31st May, 2021.

(b) During COVID-19, State Governments and UT Administrations were advised to provide Food Security Allowance (FSA) comprising of foodgrains, pulses, oil etc.

(equivalent to cooking cost) to all eligible children till such time their schools are closed due to aforesaid pandemic. The modalities for this purpose may be decided by the respective States and UTs, suitable to the prevailing circumstances. States and UTs were further advised that all the precautionary measures to face the situation arising out of COVID-19 should be followed.

(c) Data pertaining to the use of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadi Kendras (PMBJKs) by women during the pandemic is not quantifiable, as the PMBJK doesn't keep records based on caste, creed, gender, economic status, etc. To make these Kendras easily accessible the Government has decided to open 10500 PMBJKs across the country covering all the districts by March 2025. Under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) about 6611 PMBJKs are functional across the country as on 18.09.2020 covering 732 districts. The Department has also launched a mobile application "Janaushadhi Sugam" for facilitating the general public by providing a digital platform for availing host of user-friendly options like - locate nearby PMBJK (direction guided through Google Maps), search janaushadhi medicines, analyse product comparison of Generic vs Branded medicine in the form of MRP & overall Savings, etc.

#### **Fund allocated under POSHAN Abhiyaan in Maharashtra**

1418. SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds allocated / released / utilised under the POSHAN Abhiyaan in all the districts of Maharashtra during the last two years;

(b) whether Government has received proposals to provide balanced diet under the POSHAN Abhiyaan from the districts of Maharashtra;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of action taken with regard to the above mentioned proposals?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The amount of funds released and utilised under the POSHAN Abhiyaan in the States of Maharashtra during the last two years are as indicated hereunder:



(₹ in Lakh)

2018-19			2019-20		
Central funds released	Utilization as on 31.03.2019		Central funds released	Utilization as on 31.03.2020	
	Central Share	State Share		Central Share	State Share
20989.28	11557.19	2855.24	33061.47	32037.00	7975.19

(b) to (d) POSHAN Abhiyaan, aims to improve nutritional indicators of women and children by way of leveraging technology, encouraging Jan Bhaagidari and convergence with other Schemes and programmes with similar and supporting objective. The Abhiyaan also aims to improve service delivery under Anganwadi services scheme, *inter-alia*, and ensure enabling environment for better nutritional management, in partnership with all stakeholders. The State of Maharashtra receives periodic allocations for Supplementary Nutrition under the Anganwadi Services Scheme of Government of India.

#### **Increase in domestic violence against women**

1419. SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Commission for Women has registered more than two fold increase in domestic violence complaints since the nationwide lockdown, the month-wise data for last six months, State-wise;

(b) the action Government would take to have a robust plan and provide adequate budget to support services to survivors and ensure proper implementation of laws against domestic violence; and

(c) the total number of complaints received by the Ministry, State-wise for the last six months and how many complaints were addressed, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) From the beginning of lockdown due to Covid 19 pandemic, the National Commission for Women (NCW) launched an Ad campaign through electronic media and social media inviting women who have suffered any kind of

violence to come forward and report it. Further, in addition to handling complaints received through regular modes, NCW has also launched a WhatsApp number 7217735372 on 10.04.2020 for reporting domestic violence cases. The additional modes provided by NCW facilitated reporting of cases, including from women who had been experiencing violence at home for past several years. The complaints received by NCW are acted upon by coordinating with victims, police and other authorities to provide necessary assistance.

The month-wise and State-wise data indicating number of complaints registered with NCW under the category "Protection of women against domestic violence", received from March 2020 till 20th September, 2020 is given in the Statement-I (*See below*). Month-wise and State-wise data of total complaints registered/ received by NCW relating to crime against women and deprivation of their rights, since March, 2020 is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Maintenance of law and order, protection of life and property of citizens including prevention of domestic violence against women is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Nevertheless, giving high priority to safety of women, the Central Government has also taken a number of initiatives in this regard during the last six months. The Government has ensured that their schemes of One Stop Centres (OSCs), Universalisation of Women Help Line (WHL), Ujjawala Homes, SwadharGreh, Emergency Response Support System (112) and various authorities under women centric laws such as 'The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006' etc. remain operational and available for providing assistance to women during the aforesaid period. The Government has also undertaken sensitisation programs for the concerned officials of States and UTs for this purpose.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise and month-wise data indicating number of complaints registered with NCW under the category "Protection of Women against domestic violence", received during the last six months, i.e. from March 2020 till 18th September, 2020*

Sl. No.	State	March	April	May	June	July	August	September (till 20.09.2020)	Received through Whatsapp	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	2	1	1	5	4	3	13	30
2.	Assam	4	6	3	2	-	2	-	14	31
3.	Bihar	6	20	31	31	43	29	16	78	254
4.	Chandigarh	-	1	1	3	-	1	-	2	8
5.	Chhattisgarh	3	5	1	4	3	5	1	12	34
6.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
6.	Delhi	63	60	94	76	119	115	76	181	784
7.	Goa	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	5
8.	Gujarat	6	4	6	11	2	8	1	17	55
9.	Haryana	22	13	15	27	41	19	17	75	229

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10.	Himachal Pradesh	3	4	4	5	2	2	2	7	29
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	1	2	6	3	3	-	6	22
12.	Jharkhand	6	6	7	12	9	10	4	33	87
13.	Karnataka	5	18	12	21	17	11	4	49	137
14.	Kerala	2	5	2	4	3	3	1	13	33
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4	17	7	16	36	18	5	46	149
16.	Maharashtra	17	45	60	59	56	56	22	143	458
17.	Manipur	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
18.	Meghalaya	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
19.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
20.	Odisha	3	2	1	2	3	9	1	12	33
21.	Puducherry	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
22.	Punjab	5	10	10	14	19	13	5	27	103
23.	Rajasthan	10	15	8	11	30	27	5	67	173
24.	Tamil Nadu	11	10	13	14	17	10	16	46	137
25.	Telangana	4	4	7	9	7	5	-	15	51

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Unstarred Questions

26.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
27.	Uttar Pradesh	110	47	85	110	208	163	55	190	968
28.	Uttarakhand	-	3	3	6	12	13	3	11	51
29.	West Bengal	10	16	19	16	24	12	5	80	182
30.	Miscellaneous								297	297
TOTAL		298	315	393	461	660	537	243	1443	4350

**Statement-II**

*Month-wise and State-wise data of complaints registered/ received by NCW since March, 2020*

Sl. No.	State	March	April	May	June	July	August	September (till 20.09.2020)	Domestic Violence complaints Received through WhatsApp	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	10
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	10	14	11	15	18	16	10	13	107
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

Written Answers to

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Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	10
4.	Assam	7	10	6	7	5	7	1	14	57
5.	Bihar	52	54	78	106	138	98	56	78	659
6.	Chandigarh	4	3	2	6	7	7	4	2	35
7.	Chhattisgarh	5	17	7	12	19	15	6	12	93
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	4	8
9.	Daman and Diu	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	4
10.	Delhi	154	128	217	240	338	278	167	181	1697
11.	Goa	2	3	1	-	1	1	-	2	10
12.	Gujarat	14	15	16	29	22	20	8	17	141
13.	Haryana	76	40	73	103	181	117	67	75	731
14.	Himachal Pradesh	5	6	9	11	9	7	6	7	60
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	6	5	13	10	11	3	6	55
16.	Jharkhand	11	13	19	36	37	31	19	33	199
17.	Karnataka	26	35	56	53	45	40	18	49	322
18.	Kerala	6	10	23	13	12	18	11	13	106
19.	Lakshadweep	-	-	-	1	-	-	1		

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Unstarred Questions

20.	Madhya Pradesh	51	34	56	68	106	71	50	46	479	Written Answers to [22 September, 2020]
21.	Maharashtra	52	95	118	156	127	116	58	143	865	
22.	Manipur	-	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	5	
23.	Meghalaya	2	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	6	
24.	Nagaland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
25.	Odisha	9	9	9	12	14	20	6	12	91	
26.	Puducherry	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	5		
27.	Punjab	21	26	42	37	56	48	25	27	281	
28.	Rajasthan	48	39	83	82	118	96	40	67	572	
29.	Tamil Nadu	32	27	46	64	47	41	39	46	341	
30.	Telangana	17	10	20	23	22	19	8	15	134	Unstarred Questions
31.	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	4	
32.	Uttar Pradesh	699	159	530	876	1,461	966	600	190	5,470	
33.	Uttarakhand	17	9	21	33	55	41	15	11	201	
34.	West Bengal	24	36	47	43	55	41	18	80	342	
35.	Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	297	291	
TOTAL		1,347	800	1,500	2,043	2,914	2,128	1,235	1443	13,410	307

**Legal age for marriage**

1420. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is reconsidering the legal marriage age for women, which currently stands at 18;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) if not, whether Government would review the legal marriage age for women in the near future; and
- (d) the main recommendations of the Task-Force set up by the Ministry to examine issues such as age of motherhood among girls, and the correlation between age of marriage and Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR)?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) A Task Force has been constituted to examine the correlation of age of marriage and motherhood with (i) health, medical well-being and nutritional status of mother and neonate/infant/child, during pregnancy, birth and thereafter, (ii) key parameters like Infant Mortality Rate (IMR), Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR), Total Fertility Rate (TFR), Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB), Child Sex Ratio (CSR) etc. and (iii) any other relevant points pertaining to health and nutrition in this context.

The report of the Task Force has not been received by the Government.

**National Nutrition Mission**

1421. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the activities undertaken by the National Nutrition Mission since it was set up in 2017;
- (b) the budget allocated and utilized for the National Nutrition Mission during the last three years;
- (c) whether funds under this mission was distributed to State Governments over these years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?



THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The major activities undertaken under the POSHAN Abhiyaan (earlier known as National Nutrition Mission) include Information Technology Applications (ICDS-Common Application Software); capacity building of front-line functionaries; measuring height and weight of children below six years of age for early detection of stunting, incentivizing States/UTs for achievement of goals; setting up of National Nutrition Resource Centre (NNRC) at National level and State Nutrition Resource Centre in States/Union Territories; community mobilization through community based events, creating awareness and promotion of Jan Bhaagidari; ensuring convergence with stakeholders at different levels, etc.

(b) The details of Budget allocated and utilized under POSHAN Abhiyaan during last three years are as under:—

(₹ in crore)

2017-18			2018-19			2019-20		
BE	RE	Expenditure*	BE	RE	Expenditure*	BE	RE	Expenditure*
1500.00	950.00	879.48	3000.00	3000.00	2590.67	3400.00	3400.00	1879.23

\* including expenditure at Central level

(c) and (d) The details of State-wise funds released under POSHAN Abhiyaan during the last three years are given in the Statement.

#### *Statement*

*State-wise funds released under POSHAN Abhiyaan during the last three years*

(Amount ₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Released in FY 2017-18 + Unspent balance of ISSNIP	Released in FY 2018-19	Released in FY 2019-20	Total Released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,572.41	8,604.68	13296.52	24473.61
2.	Bihar	7,063.44	15,001.67	25465.00	47530.11

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Chhattisgarh	1,668.12	9,629.51	0.00	11297.63
4.	Delhi	945.95	2,206.88	0.00	3152.83
5.	Goa	238.07	197.78	0.00	435.85
6.	Gujarat	3,036.66	11,228.04	14863.00	29127.69
7.	Haryana	400.97	5,992.46	0.00	6393.43
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1,557.26	4,153.15	4960.00	10670.41
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	388.59	8,343.52	0.00	8732.11
10.	Jharkhand	2,429.59	5,110.45	0.00	7540.04
11.	Karnataka	3,351.05	9,870.89	0.00	13221.94
12.	Kerala	1,273.37	6,491.91	0.00	7765.28
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4,067.20	15,894.17	17883.00	37844.37
14.	Maharashtra	2,572.31	20,989.28	33061.47	56623.06
15.	Odisha	4,600.46	10,571.65	0.00	15172.11
16.	Puducherry	39.24	393.70	497.00	929.94
17.	Punjab	819.51	6,090.33	0.00	6909.84
18.	Rajasthan	4,216.26	9,680.99	8941.00	22838.25
19.	Tamil Nadu	1,340.51	12,210.93	11509.00	25060.44
20.	Telangana	1,736.94	8,595.70	7003.00	17335.64
21.	Uttar Pradesh	8,440.60	29,582.87	16166.00	54189.47
22.	Uttarakhand	1,866.25	4,301.57	7086.00	13253.82
23.	West Bengal	5,545.27	19,294.11	0.00	24839.38
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	52.93	2,663.35	0.00	2716.28
25.	Assam	2,298.27	15,492.36	14171.00	31961.63
26.	Manipur	340.46	3,865.37	0.00	4205.83
27.	Meghalaya	462.98	1,713.27	2802.80	4979.05

1	2	3	4	5	6
28.	Mizoram	119.38	957.65	1498.00	2575.03
29.	Nagaland	163.74	1,251.97	2298.17	3713.88
30.	Sikkim	98.59	328.47	923.00	1350.06
31.	Tripura	277.91	3,695.72	0.00	3973.63
32.	Andaman and Nicobar	100.22	416.89	307.62	824.73
33.	Chandigarh	158.88	306.82	526.97	992.67
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	108.83	129.32	436.16	674.31
	Daman and Diu *	42.06	197.66	446.98	686.70
35.	Ladakh	-	-	45.82	45.82
36.	Lakshadweep	60.00	138.90	126.75	325.65
TOTAL		64,454.28	2,55,593.98	1,84,314.26	5,04,362.52

\* Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu merged.

### Higher number of incidents of domestic violence

1422. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

SHRI K. R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received higher number of incidents of domestic violence during COVID-19 lockdown, as against the corresponding period last year;

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide help and succour to the victims, the details thereof;

(c) whether WhatsApp, e-mail and One Stop Centres for lodging complaints have been provided and duly given wide publicity for the potential victims; and

(d) whether counselling centres have been provided to provide mediation and conciliatory efforts, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh

Schedule to the Constitution of India. Maintenance of law and order, protection of life and property of citizens including prevention of crime against women is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Nevertheless, giving high priority to safety of women and children, the Central Government has also taken a number of initiatives in this regard during the last six months. The Government has ensured that their schemes of One Stop Centres (OSCs), Universalisation of Women Help Line (WHL), Ujjawala Homes, Swadhar Greh, Emergency Response Support System (112) and various authorities under women and child centric laws such as 'The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006', etc. remain operational and available for providing assistance to women during the period. The Government has also undertaken sensitisation programs for the concerned officials of States and UTs for this purpose.

Further, the National Commission for Women (NCW), in addition to handling complaints through regular mode, helps women in distress through a dedicated WhatsApp Number at 72177 35372 for reporting domestic violence cases. Since the launch of this number on 10.04.2020, 1443 cases of domestic violence have been reported on this number. Further, NCW takes cognizance of the grievances relating to domestic violence reported in social media. The complaints received by NCW are acted upon by coordinating with victims, police and other authorities to provide immediate assistance.

#### **Allocation of funds under POSHAN Abhiyaan**

1423. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated, sanctioned, released and spent under POSHAN Abhiyaan in the State of Andhra Pradesh, district-wise during the last five years and the current year, year-wise;

(b) the physical targets set and achieved during the above period, district-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether there is any impact on implementation of the scheme due to COVID-19 pandemic; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and in what manner the Ministry is planning to push in the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The details of the funds released to and utilized by the State of Andhra Pradesh under POSHAN Abhiyaan during the last three years are as indicated hereunder:—

(₹ in lakh)

FY 2017-18 and FY 2018-19				FY 2019-20		
Central funds released		Utilization as on 31.03.2019		Central funds released	Utilization as on 31.03.2020	
2017-18	2018-19	Central Share	State Share		Central Share	State Share
2572.41	8604.68	3011.16	752.79	13296.52	10682.46	2572.42

(b) POSHAN Abhiyaan aims to reduce the level of stunting, under-weight and low birth weight children @ 2% per annum and reduce the level of anemia among children, Adolescent girls and women @ 3% per annum. The results of the POSHAN Abhiyaan can be known after the programme has completed its tenure.

(c) and (d) As per the directions issued by Ministry of Home Affairs, under Disaster Management Act, 2005, all the Anganwadi Centres across the country were closed to limit the impact of COVID-19. However, to ensure continuous nutritional support to Anganwadi beneficiaries, Anganwadi Workers and Helpers have been distributing supplementary Nutrition at the doorsteps of the beneficiaries. Further, this Ministry has issued necessary directions to the States/UTs to ensure distribution of food items and nutrition support by Anganwadi workers, once in 15 days, at the doorstep of beneficiaries. In addition, Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers have been assisting the local administration in community surveillance, creating awareness or other works assigned to them from time to time.

**One Stop Centres in Andhra Pradesh**

1424. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of One Stop Centres (OSCs) set up in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise;
- (b) the details of funds allocated and spent on OSCs since implementation of the scheme, year-wise and district-wise;
- (c) the physical targets set and achieved during the above period; and
- (d) whether there are any plans to expand the scheme to make it more effective and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Out of the 14 One Stop Centres (OSCs) approved for 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh, 13 are operational, except one additional OSC in Chittoor District. The district-wise and year-wise details of fund released and utilised in the districts of Andhra Pradesh are given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (d) No proposal is under consideration for expansion of OSC scheme in Andhra Pradesh.

**Statement**

*District-wise funds released and utilised in Andhra Pradesh during the years 2015-16 to 2020-21*

		(₹ in lakh)										
Sl. No.	District	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21
		Re.	ut.	Re.	Ut.	Re.	Ut.	Re.	Ut.	Re.	Ut.	Re.
1.	Anantpuram	0.00	0.00	19.41	19.41	40.00	0.00	15.81	6.97	27.31	0.00	7.50
2.	Chittor A	0.00	0.00	19.41	19.41	24.25	24.25	21.25	11.65	40.16	10.24	5.00
3.	Chittor B	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	East Godavari	0.00	0.00	28.41	28.41	0.00	0.00	47.12	10.07	15.00	14.99	5.00
5.	Guntur	0.00	0.00	19.41	19.41	48.69	0.00	21.61	17.13	15.00	0.00	7.50
6.	Kadapa	0.00	0.00	19.41	19.41	48.50	0.00	20.13	15.87	19.43	23.92	5.00
7.	Kurnool	0.00	0.00	28.41	28.41	0.00	0.00	48.67	16.22	15.00	23.87	5.00
8.	Nellore	0.00	0.00	19.41	19.41	48.69	0.00	23.52	23.26	27.46	23.95	5.00
9.	Prakasm	0.00	0.00	28.41	28.41	0.00	0.00	50.03	14.04	15.00	13.11	5.00
10.	Srikakulam	0.00	0.00	28.41	28.41	0.00	0.00	38.63	10.87	15.00	0.00	7.50
11.	Vijyawada	13.19	13.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.75	0.00	26.60	18.07	5.00
12.	Visakhapatnam	0.00	0.00	19.41	19.41	42.00	0.00	29.28	16.34	15.00	0.00	7.50
13.	Vizianagaram	0.00	0.00	19.41	19.41	42.00	0.00	33.62	22.51	15.00	0.00	7.50
14.	West Godavari	0.00	0.00	19.41	19.41	36.00	0.00	16.20	12.08	15.00	15.58	5.00

Re. = Released; Ut. = Utilised

Written Answers to

[22 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

315

1425. *The Question was cancelled.*

### **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme**

1426. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme, districts selected/covered and the Child Sex Ratio (CSR) thereunder along with the funds allocated, released and utilized under the scheme during each of the last five years and the current year, State/UT-wise and year-wise;

(b) the details of expenditure incurred on advertisement of the BBBP Scheme, year-wise;

(c) whether Government has made any impact assessment of the scheme, if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the details of Child Sex Ratio at present and the sex ratio before the year 2014 State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme addresses the issues relating to declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and aims to change the mindset of people so as to make them appreciate the value of girl child. It is a tri-ministerial, convergent effort of Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health & Family Welfare and Human Resource Development. The State-wise districts covered and the Child Sex Ratio (CSR) (as per Census 2011) thereunder is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). State/UT-wise funds allocated/ released and utilized under the scheme during last five years and the current year are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) The details of expenditure on advertisement of the BBBP Scheme, year-wise is as under:—

(Amount in crore)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Expenditure on Media advocacy
1.	2014-15	18.91
2.	2015-16	24.54
3.	2016-17	29.79



Sl. No.	Financial Year	Expenditure on Media advocacy
4.	2017-18	135.70
5.	2018-19	160.13
6.	2019-20	23.679
7.	2020-21*	0.9671

\*As on 17th September, 2020

(c) Evaluation of BBBP scheme carried out by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), August, 2020 has indicated a positive behavioural change towards the value of girl child.

(d) Sex Ratio at Birth (as per Health Management Information System of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) has been set as a parameter for monitoring the progress of this Scheme. Sex Ratio at Birth has shown an improving of 16 points at National level from 918 (2014-15) to 934 (2019-20).

The State/UT-wise Child Sex Ratio as per census 2011 is given in the Statement-III.

**Statement-I**

*State-wise districts covered under BBBP Scheme and the Child Sex Ratio as per Census 2011 thereunder*

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
	<b>INDIA</b>		918
1.	Andaman and Nicobar (01)	Nicobars	945
2.	Andhra Pradesh (08)	Y.S.R.	918
3.		Anantapur	927
4.		Chittoor	931
5.		Prakasam	932
6.		Krishna	935
7.		Kurnool	938
8.		Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore	939

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
9.	Arunachal Pradesh (06)	Guntur	945
10.		Dibang Valley	889
11.		West Siang	941
12.		Upper Siang	946
13.		Lower Dibang Valley	948
14.		Kurung Kumey	983
15.	Assam (03)	East Kameng	1001
16.		Kamrup Metropolitan	946
17.		Dhemaji	950
18.	Bihar (17)	Cachar	954
19.		Vaishali	904
20.		Patna	909
21.		Muzaffarpur	915
22.		Bhojpur	918
23.		Begusarai	919
24.		Lakhisarai	920
25.		Samastipur	923
26.		Saran	926
27.		Khagaria	926
28.		Rohtas	931
29.		Nalanda	931
30.		Purba Champaran	933
31.		Madhubani	936
32.		Bhagalpur	938
33.		Sheikhpura	940
34.		Banka	943

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
35.		Nawada	945
36.	Chandigarh (01)	Chandigarh	880
37.	Chhattisgarh (02)	Raigarh	947
38.		Bijapur	978
39.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (03)	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	926
40.		Daman	897
41.		Diu	929
42.	Goa (01)	North Goa	939
43.	Gujarat (22)	Surat	835
44.		Mahesana	842
45.		Gandhinagar	847
46.		Ahmadabad	857
47.		Rajkot	862
48.		Anand	884
49.		Amreli	886
50.		Patan	890
51.		Bhavnagar	891
52.		Surendranagar	896
53.		Kheda	896
54.		Vadodara	897
55.		Banas Kantha	898
56.		Porbandar	903
57.		Sabar Kantha	903
58.		Jamnagar	904
59.		Junagadh	907

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
60.	Haryana (21)	Kachchh	921
61.		Valsad	925
62.		Panch Mahals	932
63.		Narmada	941
64.		Dohad	948
65.		Mahendragarh	775
66.		Jhajjar	782
67.		Rewari	787
68.		Sonipat	798
69.		Ambala	810
70.		Kurukshetra	818
71.		Rohtak	820
72.		Karnal	824
73.		Yamunanagar	826
74.		Kaithal	828
75.		Bhiwani	832
76.		Panipat	837
77.		Gurgaon	830
78.		Jind	838
79.		Faridabad	843
80.		Hisar	851
81.		Fatehabad	854
82.		Sirsa	862
83.		Panchkula	863
84.		Palwal	866
85.		Mewat	906

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
86.	Himachal Pradesh (08)	Una	875
87.		Kangra	876
88.		Hamirpur	887
89.		Solan	899
90.		Bilaspur	900
91.		Mandi	916
92.		Shimla	925
93.		Sirmaur	928
94.	Jammu and Kashmir (20)	Jammu	795
95.		Pulwama	829
96.		Kathua	831
97.		Badgam	832
98.		Anantnag	841
99.		Samba	779
100.		Baramula	863
101.		Ganderbal	863
102.		Rajouri	865
103.		Srinagar	865
104.		Shupian	878
105.		Kupwara	879
106.		Kulgam	885
107.		Udhampur	886
108.		Bandipore	892
109.		Punch	893
110.	Ladakh (01)	Reasi	919
111.		Kishtwar	924

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
112.		Ramban	925
113.		Doda	933
114.		Leh	946
115.	Jharkhand (11)	Dhanbad	916
116.		Hazaribagh	933
117.		Giridih	942
118.		Bokaro	923
119.		Kodarma	949
120.		Ramgarh	927
121.		Ranchi	938
122.		Purbi Singhbhum	923
123.		Palamu	945
124.		Saraikela-Kharsawan	943
125.		Deoghar	950
126.		Jamtara	954
127.	Karnataka (05)	Bijapur	931
128.		Bagalkot	935
129.		Haveri	946
130.		Gadag	947
131.		Dakshina Kannada	947
132.	Kerala (01)	Thrissur	950
133.	Lakshadweep (01)	Lakshadweep	911
134.	Madhya Pradesh (42)	Morena	829
135.		Gwalior	840
136.		Bhind	843
137.		Datia	856

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
138.		Rewa	885
139.		Tikamgarh	892
140.		Shivpuri	893
141.		Sheopur	897
142.		Chhatarpur	900
143.		Indore	901
144.		Satna	910
145.		Guna	910
146.		Narsimhapur	911
147.		Sehore	912
148.		Sidhi	914
149.		Panna	914
150.		Dewas	918
151.		Hoshangabad	919
152.		Rajgarh	920
153.		Shajapur	920
154.		Bhopal	920
155.		Ashoknagar	921
156.		Singrauli	923
157.		Jabalpur	923
158.		Burhanpur	924
159.		Sagar	925
160.		Vidisha	926
161.		Mandsaur	927
162.		Neemuch	927
163.		Dhar	928

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
164.	Maharashtra (31)	Damoh	928
165.		Ujjain	930
166.		East Nimar	932
167.		Raisen	932
168.		West Nimar	938
169.		Ratlam	939
170.		Katni	939
171.		Jhabua	943
172.		Umaria	943
173.		Barwani	948
174.		Anuppur	950
175.		Seoni	953
176.		Bid	807
177.		Jalgaon	842
178.		Ahmadnagar	852
179.		Buldana	855
180.		Aurangabad	858
181.		Washim	863
182.		Kolhapur	863
183.		Osmanabad	867
184.		Sangli	867
185.		Jalna	870
186.		Hingoli	882
187.		Solapur	883
188.		Pune	883
189.		Parbhani	884



Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
190.		Nashik	890
191.		Latur	889
192.		Satara	895
193.		Dhule	898
194.		Nanded	910
195.		Akola	912
196.		Mumbai Suburban	913
197.		Mumbai City	914
198.		Wardha	919
199.		Sindhudurg	922
200.		Yavatmal	922
201.		Thane	924
202.		Nagpur	931
203.		Raigarh	935
204.		Amravati	935
205.		Ratnagiri	936
206.		Nandurbar	944
207.	Manipur (08)	Senapati	893
208.		Tamenglong	917
209.		Chandel	921
210.		Ukhrul	923
211.		Bishnupur	933
212.		Thoubal	935
213.		Imphal East	943
214.		Churachandpur	948
215.	Meghalaya (02)	Ribhoi	953

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
216.		East Khasi Hills	964
217.	Mizorum (02)	Saiha	932
218.		Serchhip	949
219.	Nagaland (07)	Longleng	885
220.		Mon	912
221.		Phek	913
222.		Tuensang	933
223.		Peren	935
224.		Mokokchung	949
225.		Wokha	956
226.	NCT of Delhi (09)	South West	845
227.		North West	865
228.		East	871
229.		West	872
230.		North	873
231.		North East	880
232.		South Delhi	885
233.		New Delhi	894
234.		Central	905
235.	Puducherry (01)	Yanam	921
236.	Punjab (20)	Tarn Taran	820
237.		Gurdaspur	821
238.		Amritsar	826
239.		Muktsar	831
240.		Mansa	836
241.		Patiala	837

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
242.		Sangrur	840
243.		Sahibzada Ajit Singh Nagar	841
244.		Fatehgarh Sahib	842
245.		Barnala	843
246.		Firozpur	847
247.		Faridkot	851
248.		Bathinda	854
249.		Ludhiana	860
250.		Moga	860
251.		Rupnagar	863
252.		Hoshiarpur	865
253.		Kapurthala	871
254.		Jalandhar	874
255.		Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar	885
256.	Odisha (15)	Nayagarh	855
257.		Dhenkanal	877
258.		Anugul	889
259.		Ganjam	908
260.		Cuttack	914
261.		Khordha	916
262.		Debagarh	927
263.		Sundargarh	946
264.		Sambalpur	940
265.		Kendrapara	926
266.		Jajapur	926
267.		Jharsuguda	943

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
268.	Rajasthan (33)	Bhadrak	942
269.		Baleshwar	943
270.		Kalahandi	957
271.		Jhunjhunun	837
272.		Sikar	848
273.		Karauli	852
274.		Ganganagar	854
275.		Dhaulpur	857
276.		Jaipur	861
277.		Dausa	865
278.		Alwar	865
279.		Bharatpur	869
280.		Sawai Madhopur	871
281.		Jaisalmer	874
282.		Hanumangarh	878
283.		Jodhpur	891
284.		Tonk	892
285.		Bundi	894
286.		Jalor	895
287.		Sirohi	897
288.		Nagaur	897
289.		Pali	899
290.		Kota	899
291.		Ajmer	901
292.		Churu	902
293.		Rajsamand	903

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
294.		Barmer	904
295.		Bikaner	908
296.		Jhalawar	912
297.		Chittaurgarh	912
298.		Baran	912
299.		Dungarpur	922
300.		Banswara	934
301.		Udaipur	924
302.		Bhilwara	928
303.		Pratapgarh	933
304.	Sikkim (01)	North	929
305.	Tamil Nadu (11)	Cuddalore	896
306.		Ariyalur	897
307.		Dharmapuri	913
308.		Namakkal	914
309.		Salem	916
310.		Perambalur	913
311.		Viluppuram	941
312.		Tiruvannamalai	930
313.		Thiruvallur	946
314.		Tiruchirappalli	947
315.		Chennai	950
316.	Telangana (08)	Hyderabad	914
317.		Warangal	923
318.		Nalgonda	923
319.		Mahbubnagar	925

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
320.		Rangareddy	933
321.		Adilabad	934
322.		Karimnagar	935
323.		Nizamabad	948
324.	Tripura (01)	South Tripura	951
325.	Uttar Pradesh (68)	Baghpat	841
326.		Gautam Buddha Nagar	843
327.		Ghaziabad	850
328.		Meerut	852
329.		Bulandshahr	854
330.		Agra	861
331.		Muzaffarnagar	863
332.		Mahamaya Nagar	865
333.		Jhansi	866
334.		Mathura	870
335.		Etawah	875
336.		Aligarh	877
337.		Etah	879
338.		Firozabad	881
339.		Jalaun	881
340.		Bijnor	883
341.		Mainpuri	884
342.		Hamirpur	886
343.		Saharanpur	887
344.		Farrukhabad	889
345.		Mahoba	892

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
346.		Kanpur Nagar	873
347.		Varanasi	885
348.		Allahabad	893
349.		Kanshiram Nagar	893
350.		Auraiya	896
351.		Kanpur Dehat	897
352.		Kannauj	898
353.		Budaun	899
354.		Hardoi	899
355.		Ballia	900
356.		Mirzapur	902
357.		Banda	902
358.		Sant Ravidas Nagar (Bhadohi)	902
359.		Shahjahanpur	903
360.		Jyotiba Phule Nagar	903
361.		Bareilly	903
362.		Chitrakoot	907
363.		Fatehpur	907
364.		Ghazipur	908
365.		Gorakhpur	909
366.		Chandauli	911
367.		Pilibhit	912
368.		Lucknow	915
369.		Moradabad	916
370.		Lalitpur	916
371.		Pratapgarh	917

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
372.		Jaunpur	918
373.		Azamgarh	919
374.		Unnao	920
375.		Kheri	921
376.		Sultanpur	922
377.		Kaushambi	923
378.		Sonbhadra	925
379.		Deoria	925
380.		Gonda	926
381.		Mau	926
382.		Rae Bareli	926
383.		Shrawasti	928
384.		Kushinagar	929
385.		Basti	929
386.		Sitapur	930
387.		Mahrajganj	931
388.		Faizabad	931
389.		Ambedkar Nagar	932
390.		Bara Banki	932
391.		Bahraich	935
392.		Siddharthnagar	935
393.	Uttarakhand (13)	Pithoragarh	816
394.		Champawat	873
395.		Hardwar	877
396.		Dehradun	889
397.		Chamoli	889



Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
398.		Tehri Garhwal	897
399.		Udham Singh Nagar	899
400.		Nainital	902
401.		Bageshwar	904
402.		Garhwal	904
403.		Rudraprayag	905
404.		Uttarkashi	916
405.		Almora	922

*Note:* Districts in normal font selected in **Phase-I (2014-15)**

Districts shown in **Bold** selected in **Phase-II (2015-16)**

Districts shown in *Italics* selected in **Expansion Phase (2017-18)**

*List of districts selected under Media Advocacy and Outreach: (235 districts)*

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
1.	Andaman and Nicobar (02)	South Andaman	969
2.		North & Middle Andaman	974
3.	Andhra Pradesh (05)	Srikakulam	954
4.		Vizianagaram	960
5.		Visakhapatnam	961
6.		West Godavari	964
7.		East Godavari	968
8.	Arunachal Pradesh (10)	Tirap	961
9.		Lower Subansiri	966
10.		Lohit	966
11.		Upper Subansiri	970
12.		West Kameng	973
13.		Papum Pare	977
14.		Changlang	979

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
15.	Assam(24)	Tawang	986
16.		East Siang	988
17.		Anjaw	991
18.		Kokrajhar	954
19.		Hailakandi	954
20.		Morigaon	956
21.		Karbi Anglong	959
22.		Lakhimpur	959
23.		Sivasagar	960
24.		Tinsukia	960
25.		Barpeta	961
26.		Dibrugarh	962
27.		Goalpara	963
28.		Golaghat	963
29.		Nagaon	964
30.		Jorhat	964
31.		Sonitpur	966
32.		Baksa	966
33.		Dima Hasao	967
34.		Nalbari	967
35.		Kamrup	967
36.		Chirang	968
37.		Dhubri	968
38.		Darrang	969
39.		Bongaigaon	969
40.		Karimganj	969

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
41.	Bihar(21)	Udalguri	973
42.		Jehanabad	922
43.		Munger	922
44.		Sheohar	929
45.		Madhepura	930
46.		Sitamarhi	930
47.		Darbhanga	931
48.		Saharsa	933
49.		Buxar	934
50.		Siwan	940
51.		Arwal	940
52.		Kaimur (Bhabua)	942
53.		Aurangabad	944
54.		Supaul	944
55.		Pashchim Champaran	953
56.		Purnia	954
57.		Gopalganj	954
58.		Jamui	956
59.		Araria	957
60.		Gaya	960
61.		Katihar	961
62.		Kishanganj	971
63.	Chhattisgarh (16)	Janjgir - Champa	950
64.		Bilaspur	961
65.		Surguja	962
66.		Durg	963

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
67.		Korba	966
68.		Koriya	968
69.		Raipur	968
70.		Mahasamund	971
71.		Dhamtari	973
72.		Uttar Bastar Kanker	978
73.		Jashpur	980
74.		Kabeerdham	983
75.		Rajnandgaon	986
76.		Narayanpur	989
77.		Bastar	994
78.		Dakshin Bastar Dantewada	1005
79.	Goa (01)	South Goa	946
80.	Gujarat(04)	Bharuch	920
81.		Navsari	923
82.		Tapi	953
83.		The Dangs	964
84.	Himachal Pradesh(04)	Chamba	953
85.		Kullu	962
86.		Kinnaur	963
87.		Lahul & Spiti	1033
88.	Jammu and Kashmir (01)	Kargil	977
89.	Jharkhand(12)	Godda	960
90.		Sahibganj	960
91.		Garhwa	960
92.		Gumla	963

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
93.		Khunti	964
94.		Dumka	966
95.		Chatra	967
96.		Latehar	968
97.		Simdega	969
98.		Lohardaga	970
99.		Pakur	975
100.		Pashchimi Singhbhum	983
101.	Karnataka(25)	Belgaum	934
102.		Mandya	939
103.		Bidar	942
104.		Gulbarga	943
105.		Dharwad	944
106.		Bangalore	944
107.		Chitradurga	947
108.		Davanagere	948
109.		Raichur	950
110.		Bangalore Rural	950
111.		Yadgir	951
112.		Chamarajanagar	953
113.		Chikkaballapura	953
114.		Uttara Kannada	955
115.		Koppal	958
116.		Udupi	958
117.		Tumkur	959
118.		Bellary	960

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
119.	Kerala(13)	Shimoga	960
120.		Mysore	961
121.		Kolar	962
122.		Ramanagara	962
123.		Chikmagalur	969
124.		Hassan	973
125.		Kodagu	978
126.		Alappuzha	951
127.		Ernakulam	961
128.		Kasaragod	961
129.		Idukki	964
130.		Kottayam	964
131.		Thiruvananthapuram	964
132.	Madhya Pradesh(08)	Wayanad	965
133.		Malappuram	965
134.		Palakkad	967
135.		Kozhikode	969
136.		Kannur	971
137.		Kollam	973
138.		Pathanamthitta	976
139.		Harda	928
140.		Shahdol	950
141.		Chhindwara	956
142.		Betul	957
143.		Balaghat	967
144.		Dindori	970

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
145.		Mandla	970
146.		Alirajpur	978
147.	Maharashtra(04)	Bhandara	950
148.		Chandrapur	953
149.		Gondiya	956
150.		Gadchiroli	961
151.	Manipur	Imphal West	949
152.	Meghalaya(05)	West Khasi Hills	967
153.		South Garo Hills	974
154.		Jaintia Hills	976
155.		West Garo Hills	976
156.		East Garo Hills	980
157.	Mizoram(06)	Lunglei	963
158.		Lawngtlai	967
159.		Champhai	971
160.		Mamit	979
161.		Aizawl	979
162.		Kolasib	980
163.	Nagaland(04)	Zunheboto	948
164.		Kiphire	948
165.		Dimapur	966
166.		Kohima	985
167.	Odisha(15)	Jagatsinghapur	929
168.		Puri	932
169.		Subarnapur	952
170.		Balangir	955

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
171.		Bargarh	957
172.		Mayurbhanj	960
173.		Kandhamal	962
174.		Rayagada	965
175.		Kendujhar	967
176.		Gajapati	967
177.		Baudh	978
178.		Koraput	979
179.		Nuapada	981
180.		Malkangiri	992
181.		Nabarangapur	998
182.	Puducherry(03)	Karaikal	969
183.		Puducherry	970
184.		Mahe	978
185.	Sikkim(03)	South District	953
186.		East District	960
187.		West District	964
188.	Tamil Nadu(21)	Krishnagiri	926
189.		Madurai	932
190.		Dindigul	934
191.		Theni	934
192.		Karur	939
193.		Vellore	944
194.		Tiruppur	952



Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
195.		Erode	953
196.		Virudhunagar	955
197.		Coimbatore	956
198.		Thanjavur	957
199.		Thiruvavarur	958
200.		Nagapattinam	959
201.		Kancheepuram	959
202.		Sivaganga	960
203.		Pudukkottai	960
204.		Tirunelveli	960
205.		Ramanathapuram	961
206.		Thoothukkudi	963
207.		Kanniyakumari	964
208.		The Nilgiris	985
209.	Telangana (02)	Medak	952
210.		Khammam	958
211.	Tripura (03)	West Tripura	952
212.		Dhalai	968
213.		North Tripura	969
214.	Uttar Pradesh (03)	Rampur	924
215.		Sant Kabir Nagar	942
216.		Balrampur	950
217.	West Bengal (19)	Kolkata	933
218.		Koch Bihar	948

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	Name of Districts	Census 2011
219.		Bankura	949
220.		Purba Medinipur	946
221.		Maldah	950
222.		Bardhaman	951
223.		Hugli	952
224.		Uttar Dinajpur	953
225.		Puruliya	953
226.		Darjiling	953
227.		Jalpaiguri	955
228.		North Twenty Four Parganas	956
229.		Dakshin Dinajpur	957
230.		Birbhum	959
231.		Nadia	960
232.		Haora	962
233.		South Twenty Four Parganas	963
234.		Paschim Medinipur	963
235.		Murshidabad	968

**Statement-II***Status of Funds under BBBP for Multi Sectoral Action in Districts.**(Amount in lakhs)*

Sl. No.	State	Total Fund Available 2015-16	Utilization during 2015-16	Total Fund Available 2016-17	Utilization during 2016-17	Total Fund Available 2017-18	Utilization during 2017-18	Total Fund Available 2018-19	Utilization during 2018-19	Total Fund Available 2019-20	Utilization during 2019-20	Total Fund Available 2020-21
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32.51	18.32	14.18	7.39	32.51	17.87	196.50	94.73	200.00	137.49	200.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	32.51	32.51	0.00	0.00	32.51	27.05	170.87	103.34	241.65	208.85	150.00
3.	Assam	32.51	0.00	32.51	2.78	32.51	20.24	25.00	11.37	86.65	53.55	62.50
4.	Bihar	32.51	2.72	29.78	17.99	32.51	10.02	418.00	15.16	425.00	11.43	413.57
5.	Chattisgarh	32.51	22.42	10.08	0.00	47.00	34.03	49.50	14.67	69.61	58.30	26.19
6.	Goa	32.51	0.00	32.51	8.40	24.11	20.49	3.62	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
7.	Gujarat	205.70	0.00	205.70	38.39	280.24	81.31	588.48	156.45	710.25	423.16	531.36
8.	Haryana	365.86	254.54	205.39	27.30	570.66	214.01	536.56	199.46	522.67	209.11	433.74
9.	Himachal Pradesh	40.30	25.61	14.69	6.89	97.52	6.13	252.59	190.64	293.48	229.85	200.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	216.15	141.10	88.00	52.29	298.62	234.43	422.90	192.67	552.67	284.40	472.40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11.	Leh	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0	25.00	20.15	45.73	37.96	16.39
12.	Jharkhand	27.89	4.73	23.16	23.16	0.00	0.00	313.37	54.59	298.95	77.57	266.95
13.	Karnataka	29.55	29.55	0.00	0.00	32.51	32.51	140.78	79.39	125.00	99.71	125.00
14.	Kerala	32.51	0.95	31.55	23.91	13.75	4.81	35.79	2.83	25	17.14	25.00
15.	Madhya Pradesh	134.49	51.84	105.40	56.24	150.46	84.47	1021.93	356.85	1264.41	637.38	1004.23
16.	Maharashtra	339.73	157.00	182.73	53.66	424.46	138.71	799.74	261.71	832.06	308.37	735.49
17.	Manipur	15.13	0.00	15.13	15.13	44.95	44.95	269.45	241.94	398.55	367.73	200.00
18.	Meghalaya	32.46	32.46	16.23	0.85	32.51	23.78	24.70	24.53	67.53	57.80	50.00
19.	Mizoram	32.51	32.50	0.01	0.00	32.51	32.51	100.00	75.00	100.00	75.00	37.50
20.	Nagaland	32.51	24.05	32.51	23.30	32.51	32.51	295.52	228.36	320.33	276.73	143.56
21.	Odisha	32.51	10.47	22.04	21.33	32.51	15.19	119.63	3.29	375.00	11.99	363.01
22.	Punjab	401.95	0.00	401.95	312.37	600.61	482.39	554.71	360.55	941.94	637.12	458.63
23.	Rajasthan	305.35	75.33	266.11	90.26	421.55	117.13	857.64	151.88	886.62	403.45	723.49
24.	Sikkim	32.51	32.51	32.51	25.84	48.76	48.76	50.00	47.50	50.00	50.00	25.00
25.	Tamil Nadu	32.51	32.51	0.00	0.00	30.88	13.70	446.78	306.57	324.31	291.63	274.56

344 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

26.	Telangana	32.51	5.60	26.91	6.72	31.51	7.18	217.20	143.67	309.42	218.33	143.73
27.	Tripura	32.51	32.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00	20.94	12.50
28.	Uttar Pradesh	384.62	0.00	384.62	0.00	661.35	106.45	1798.05	396.29	1798.32	913.62584	1394.76
29.	Uttarakhand	86.87	4.07	82.79	16.67	167.94	126.11	323.45	207.32	638.43	527.21	297.35
30.	Andaman and Nicobar	32.51	17.05	16.25	5.43	32.49	24.03	25.00	20.64	33.27	28.09	25.00
31.	Chandigargh	32.51	27.79	4.72	0.00	24.24	0.00	24.89	0.00	28.22	0.00	25.00
32.	Dadar Nagar Haveli	32.51	0.58	31.93	15.78	32.51	16.11	16.40	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
33.	Daman and Diu	30.25	13.93	16.32	1.72	26.50	12.43	39.06	14.65	61.91	15.01	46.89
34.	NCT Delhi	147.53	0.00	147.53	23.65	221.73	78.92	261.95	101.99	232.51	27.57	218.89
35.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	2.65	25.00	23.52	12.50
36.	Puducherry	12.10	0.00	12.10	10.20	30.01	30.01	25.00	25.00	25.00	22.32	12.50
TOTAL		3328.6	1082.65	2485.34	887.65	4574.44	2138.24	10499.06	4105.84	12384.49	6762.33	9177.69

*Note:* The total amount available for a particular year includes amount released to the district in that year plus the amount unspent from previous year. Release in any year is made after adjusting the unspent amount of previous year. In 2020-21, UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and UT of Daman and Diu were merged hence the total amount available for the newly created UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu is ₹ 71.89 lakh. State of West Bengal is not implementing multi-sectoral intervention of BBBP scheme.

Written Answers to

[22 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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***Statement-III****State/UT-wise Child Sex Ratio (as per Census 2011)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Census 2011
	<b>India</b>	918
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	968
2.	Andhra Pradesh*	939
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	972
4.	Assam	962
5.	Bihar	935
6.	Chandigarh	880
7.	Chhattisgarh	969
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	926
9.	Daman and Diu	904
10.	Goa	942
11.	Gujarat	890
12.	Haryana	834
13.	Himachal Pradesh	909
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	862
15.	Jharkhand	948
16.	Karnataka	948
17.	Kerala	964
18.	Lakshadweep	911
19.	Madhya Pradesh	918
20.	Maharashtra	894
21.	Manipur	930
22.	Meghalaya	970
23.	Mizorum	970

Sl. No.	State/UT	Census 2011
24.	Nagaland	943
25.	Delhi	871
26.	Odisha	941
27.	Puducherry	967
28.	Punjab	846
29.	Rajasthan	888
30.	Sikkim	957
31.	Tamil Nadu	943
32.	Tripura	957
33.	Uttar Pradesh	902
34.	Uttarakhand	890
35.	West Bengal	956

\* Telangana was the part of Andhra Pradesh during the Census 2011.

#### **Increase in atrocities on women and children during lockdown**

1427. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the increasing cases of domestic violence against women during the lock down period;

(b) if so what actions were taken by Government to provide counselling and solution to this issue;

(c) whether Government has seriously taken note of the increasing sexual atrocities against children/ women in various States including Uttar Pradesh;

(d) how many incidents of sexual violence and rape were reported in the last one year in various States; and

(e) the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (e) 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. State-wise and year-wise total number of cases of child marriage is available on the website of NCRB at <https://ncrb.gov.in>.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Maintenance of law and order, protection of life and property of citizens including prevention of crime against women and children is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

Nevertheless, giving high priority to safety of women and children, the Central Government has also taken a number of initiatives in this regard during the last six months. The Government has ensured that their schemes of One Stop Centres (OSCs), Universalisation of Women Help Line (WHL), Ujjawala Homes, Swadhar Greh, Child Care Institutions, Child Line (1098), Emergency Response Support System (112) and various authorities under women and child centric laws such as 'The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006', 'The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012' etc. remain operational and available for providing assistance to women and children during the period. The Government has also undertaken sensitisation programs for the concerned officials of States and UTs for this purpose. The OSCs, WHLs etc. also provide counselling services to women approaching them. Further, Ministry of WCD has collaborated with National Institute of Mental Health and Allied Sciences (NIMHANS) and Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Services (IHBAS), Delhi for providing counselling support through their help lines/ tele-counselling numbers etc.

#### **Setting up of fast track courts for POCSO cases**

1428. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there has been a substantial increase in the offence against children across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has set up adequate number of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) under the POCSO Act, 2012; and



(d) if so, the details of Fast Track Courts set up under the POCSO Act, 2012 since the passing of legislation?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The number of cases registered under offence against children, across the country, is available at <https://ncrb.gov.in/en/crime-india>.

(c) and (d) The Government implements a scheme for setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) for expeditious trial and disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO Act. As on 26.08.2020, there are 597 FTSCs functional out of which 321 are exclusive POCSO courts.

#### **Sexual abuse cases of children reported online**

1429. SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of child sexual abuse cases reported from March 2020 onwards via online portals, helplines or any other mediums;
- (b) the number of evictions of perpetrators for the same complaints;
- (c) whether Government has taken measures to fast track investigation into such cases, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has undertaken steps to increase awareness of such crimes amongst parents, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The number of child sexual abuse cases reported from March 2020 onwards on various platforms is as under:—

- (i) As reported by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the total number of child pornography/rape and gang rape complaints lodged in the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal (NCRP) from 01.03.2020 to 18.09.2020 is 13244.
- (ii) As reported by National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), information of 420 cases of child sexual abuse has been received by NCPCR from 1st March, 2020 till 31st August, 2020 via online portals, helplines and other media.

(iii) As reported by Childline India Foundation (CIF), 3941 calls have been received by CIF regarding child sexual cases from 1st March, 2020 to 15th September, 2020.

(b) "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects as per Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Action in cases of child sex abuse is taken by concerned Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) as per the extant provisions of law.

(c) The Central Government has taken several measures to fast track investigations in cases of child sexual abuse. These steps include mechanism for online reporting of child sex abuse cases, accessibility of reported incidents to concerned Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), improving cyber forensic facilities, training of Law Enforcement Officers/Judges/ Public Prosecutors, spreading awareness etc.

The Government implements a scheme for setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) for expeditious trial and disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO Act. As on 26.08.2020, there are 597 FTSCs functional out of which 321 are exclusive POCSO courts.

(d) Section 43 of the POCSO Act provides that the Central Government and every State Government shall take all measures to give wide publicity to the provisions of the Act. In accordance with this, the Government has taken various steps from time to time to create awareness of the provisions of the POCSO Act through electronic and print media, consultations, workshops and training programmes with stakeholders concerned.

Various other steps taken include sending messages through telecom service providers, messages through Government's twitter handle @CyberDost, conducting cyber awareness programmes in different cities, radio spots/jingles on FM Radio, publishing of handbook for Adolescents/Students, and introduction of a chapter on cyber security in CBSE syllabus etc.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (SCPCRs), who are mandated to monitor the implementation of the POCSO Act, have developed and circulated information, education and communication (IEC) material on POCSO Act and that is available on [www.ncpcr.gov.in](http://www.ncpcr.gov.in).

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**MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION****Need to take effective steps to save children from abuse**

**श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा** (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, मैं सदन के माध्यम से यह सूचना दे रहा हूँ कि यह बड़ी दुखद स्थिति है कि भारतवर्ष बच्चों के लिए एक असुरक्षित देश बनता जा रहा है। कोविड-19 के कारण लॉकडाउन होने से सभी स्कूल बंद हो गए हैं तथा बच्चे घर पर हैं। राष्ट्रीय बाल आयोग ने सूचना दी है कि लॉकडाउन के शुरुआती दो चरणों के दरमियान लगभग 92,000 child abuse के case प्रकाश में आए हैं। यह अभूतपूर्व है तथा अत्यंत ही दुखद एवं चिंतनीय है। राष्ट्रीय आंकड़े बताते हैं कि लगभग 52 परसेंट बच्चे child abuse के शिकार बनाए जाते हैं। जो बच्चे child abuse के शिकार होते हैं, वे अपमान एवं उपेक्षा के कारण जीवन में लम्बे समय तक traumatised रहते हैं तथा विकृत मनोविज्ञान के साथ वे जीते हैं और child abuse का दुष्चक्र निरंतर चलता रहता है। इसकी कीमत पूरे समाज तथा संस्कृति एवं राष्ट्र को देनी पड़ती है। यह आवश्यक हो गया है कि भारत में traumatised बच्चों की शुरुआती स्थिति में ही पहचान करके मनोवैज्ञानिक शिक्षक के माध्यम से मनोवैज्ञानिक उपचार प्रारम्भ कर दिया जाना चाहिए। यह भी आवश्यक है कि देश में अगले 10 वर्षों तक चाइल्ड फोकस्ड प्लानिंग की जानी चाहिए तथा स्थानीय निकायों को सीधे तौर पर बच्चों को सुरक्षित माहौल देने के लिए जवाबदेह बनाया जाना चाहिए, धन्यवाद।

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं 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 also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I also 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.

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA (Tripura): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**श्री सभापति:** धन्यवाद, रवि प्रकाश जी। डा. अशोक बाजपेयी।

**Need to take action against national and multinational companies for providing substandard hybrid seeds to farmers**

**डा. अशोक बाजपेयी** (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं आपकी अनुमति से एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर सदन का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। आज देश में तमाम राष्ट्रीय और बहुराष्ट्रीय कम्पनियाँ बड़े पैमाने पर हाइब्रिड और बहुत उन्नतशील बीजों का व्यापार करती हैं। भोलाभाला किसान दुकान से जो बीज मिलता है, उनके ऊपर इश्तहार में, कुछ छपा होता है या दुकानदार बताता है कि यह बहुत उन्नतशील बीज है, हाइब्रिड सीड है, बहुत महंगा बीज खरीद कर ले आता है। वह खेत की तैयारी करता है और उसके बाद बुवाई करता है, सिंचाई करता है और सारी लागत लगाता है। जब फसल तैयार होने का समय होता है, जब फसल लहलहाती है, लेकिन उस फसल में बाल नहीं आती है, दाना नहीं पड़ता है, तो उस समय वह किसान ठगा जैसा महसूस करता है और उसकी साल भर की सारी पूँजी चली जाती है। उसका बीज में भी पैसा गया, लागत भी गई और एक दाना उपज भी नहीं हुई।

मान्यवर, आज insecticides और pesticides की यही स्थिति बनी हुई है। जब भी किसान की फसल में कोई बीमारी लगती है, तो वह बाजार से कीटनाशक दवाएं लाता है और उनका छिड़काव करता है, लेकिन उन दवाओं का कोई प्रभाव नहीं पड़ता, बल्कि फसलें नष्ट हो जाती हैं। इस तरह से ये जो व्यापारी हैं, वे चाहे बीज के व्यापारी हों, चाहे insecticides या pesticides के व्यापारी हों, ये बड़े पैमाने पर किसानों को ठगने का काम कर रहे हैं। इनके ऊपर कोई ऐसी रोक लगाई जाए, कोई ऐसा प्रतिबंध लगाया जाए, कोई ऐसा कानून बनाया जाए कि इस तरीके का जो अधोमानक बीज होगा या अधोमानक कीटनाशक होंगे, उनकी जिम्मेदारी इन पर होगी और फसल की क्षतिपूर्ति कराने का काम भी इनसे कराया जाएगा।

मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करते हुए शासन से अपेक्षा करता हूँ कि वह इस संदर्भ में आवश्यक कदम उठाए।

**प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा** (बिहार): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री रामकुमार वर्मा** (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**DR. SASMIT PATRA** (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**DR. AMAR PATNAIK** (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**श्री सभापति:** वेंलेल्वना जी, आप बोलिए। वेंलेल्वना जी कहाँ हैं?

#### **Need to provide help to the victims of earthquake in Mizoram**

**SHRI K. VANLALVENA** (Mizoram): Hon. Chairman, I would like to mention about the incidence of enormous earthquakes that have happened during this year. At Champhai District and some parts of Serchhip District in Mizoram, near the border areas, more than 100 times, earthquakes have been happening in Mizoram only during this year. When I came down to Delhi, in the month of July, to attend the oath taking ceremony, I visited Secretary, Dr. Rajeevan, Ministry of Earth Sciences at his chamber and I gave him a memorandum to send the investigation agent to the State of Mizoram. But, till today, I have not received any answer or any response. I don't know the reason. So many people of Mizoram say that if such enormous earthquakes had been happening in other States of India, the Government would not have been ignoring them. Sir, I kindly request the hon. Minister of Earth Sciences and National Disaster Management Authority the following four points. Number one, to send investigation agency to the State of Mizoram immediately; number two, to give compensation to the victims; number three, to provide adequate shelter to the victims; and, number four, to provide adequate food materials to the State of Mizoram.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): 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. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Hon. Members, I am sorry if I am not able to look at you straight up because of my cervical problem. Turning this side, immediately turning that side and then looking up is creating problem for me. Please bear with me. Don't think I am not showing the needed concern or respect to you, or anybody who is speaking. Now, Dr. Santanu Sen.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir,...\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. This will not go on record. You have misused my permission. That will not go on record. Santanu Senji, it is not going on record. Now, Kumar Ketkarji.

#### **Need to rescue Indian fishermen arrested by Pakistan**

SHRI KUMAR KETKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, 10 fishing boats and nearly 56 fishermen have been captured and arrested by Pakistani Maritime Security. And, this is happening again and again. Already 270 Indian fishermen are in their custody, in the jails. And, over 1200 fishing boats have been captured and confiscated by Pakistan so far. Sir, most of the boats are from the State of Gujarat. What is the Government doing to get the fishermen and the boats back and released from Pakistani Jails?

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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\*Not recorded.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised 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 विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (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।

चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR CHAIRMAN: Shri Jaishankarji, please take note of what he has said, about the fishermen in Pakistan.

#### **Need for establishment of an AIIMS in the State of Kerala**

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, with your permission, I would like to invite the attention of the Central Government to a long-pending request of Government of Kerala regarding the sanction of an All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in the State.

The request has a very significant importance in the time of COVID-19 pandemic. At present, sixteen AIIMS are working and another eight are under development. It is well known that the Kerala's achievement in health sector is a model for the country. The State is maintaining high quality right from the Primary Health Sector to medical colleges. As directed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Government of Kerala has earmarked 200 acres of land at Kozhikode District for the establishment

[Shri K. Somaprasad]

of AIIMS. But, there is no further response from the Union Ministry. This is an injustice and discrimination.

Sir, I request the Central Government, considering the prevailing Covid pandemic situation, an AIIMS may be sanctioned in Kerala immediately. Thank you, Sir.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**Need to revamp the expert panel constituted to study Indian culture to reflect inclusivity**

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Union Minister for Culture, Mr. Prahalad Singh Patel, had informed the Parliament by way of a written reply that a sixteen Member Committee has been constituted to study the origin and evolution of Indian Culture dating back to around 12,000 years. Sir, we are very happy and proud that India's culture and tradition and history are to be studied and it is to be welcomed. But, the composition of the Committee --among several other things,-- leave out certain main categories of the people. Sir, six members on the panel are professors or academics, who specialize in the study of Sanskrit language. The panel also includes a controversial person. Sir, we are agonized that Tamil, a holy language, the oldest language in the country and many scholars are there, there is no representation from Tamil language or Tamil scholars. So also the Southern languages have no representation. Sir, minorities in India include tribes, women, other marginalized groups such as transgenders, North-East population and religious minorities. It is important to include members from these communities to learn the history and culture of pre-colonial India. These were the communities most affected by the entry of colonial powers. Sir, many members in this Committee create a sense of apprehension that history will be written through the eyes of the oppressor than the oppressed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right, Mr. Siva.



SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, one moment, I am just completing. Sir, it is important to know the origin of caste system and how conditions were of its origin. Similarly, it is important to understand the cruelty inflicted on the community of Dalits. All this happen only when the history is studied as it is and not twisted to suit the privileged few. Sir, Dravidian Culture has always been celebrated ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI N.R. ELANGO (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI L. HANUMANTHAIAH (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised 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 विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (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।

चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Siva. This suggestion has to be kept in mind and it has to be passed on to the Minister of Culture. The Minister of Irrigation is here, please take note of it and pass it on to the Minister of Culture. This is a good suggestion that has to be looked into. The next Zero Hour Mention is of Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

**Need for establishment of a new Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) at Visakhapatnam**

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the Central Administrative Tribunals (CAT) are established under Article 323 (A) of the Constitution, primarily, for adjudication of disputes and complaints with respect to service matters of public servants and post-holders working under the Central Government.

The State of Andhra Pradesh is the largest and thickly populated State without a bench of a Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT). Sir, Andhra Pradesh currently has over about 50,000 Central Government employees with over 60 per cent residing in its executive capital at Visakhapatnam. Due to the absence of a Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) Bench in Andhra Pradesh, the petitioners, many of whom are retired, have to travel to Hyderabad, in Telanaga, even for adjudication of their matters and for resolution of their disputes. This inter-State travel is causing great inconvenience to many of the petitioners. Visakhapatnam is ideal for a new CAT bench, as it has many Central Government offices such as steel plant, shipping and port trusts, HSL, DCIL, Railways, Airport, Customs, HPCL, LIC, etc., there are many public sector undertakings that are located in Visakhapatnam wherein thousands of employees are working. Sir, I would, therefore, request the hon. Law Minister to take steps towards setting up of a new CAT Bench with its Chairman and Members in Visakhapatnam. Thank you, Sir.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**Need to fill the vacancies in Government Departments and Ministries**

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे (कर्नाटक): चेयरमैन सर, कोरोनावायरस महामारी और बिना सोचे-समझे लगाए गए लॉकडाउन के कारण जहां उद्योग-धंधे चौपट हो गए हैं, वहीं नौकरीपेशा लोगों के लिए यह महामारी विकराल संकट बनकर आई है। लोगों के रोज़गार छिन गए और बेरोज़गारी बढ़ गई है। वर्ल्ड बैंक ने भारत को सलाह दी थी कि बेरोज़गारी पर काबू पाने के लिए भारत को हर वर्ष 81 लाख नौकरियां पैदा करनी होंगी। जब नरेन्द्र मोदी जी प्रधान मंत्री बने थे, तो

उन्होंने देश के युवाओं से वादा किया था कि हर वर्ष वे 2 करोड़ युवाओं को रोज़गार दिलवाएंगे, लेकिन स्थिति यह है कि देश में 14 करोड़ लोग बेरोज़गार हो गए हैं।

सर, नई नौकरियां पैदा करना तो दूर, गवर्नमेंट सेक्टर, पब्लिक सेक्टर, हेल्थ सेक्टर, एजुकेशन, पुलिस इत्यादि में जो लगभग 20 लाख वेकेंसीज़ खाली पड़ी हैं, उन पर भी सरकार भर्ती नहीं कर रही है। उदाहरण के तौर पर केन्द्रीय विद्यालय में 5,950 पद, पुलिस फोर्स में 5,28,396 पद और मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एजुकेशन में 263 पद खाली पड़े हैं। मंत्रालयों में एससी/एसटी और ओबीसी के 9,165 पदों का बैकलॉग चल है। हाईकोर्ट में कम से कम 400 जजेज़ की वेकेंसीज़ खाली हैं, साथ ही सुप्रीम कोर्ट में भी जजेज़ की वेकेंसीज़ खाली हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right Khargeji.

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** इसके अलावा Central Universities, teaching staff, non-teaching staff में कम से कम 5,000 पद खाली हैं। 2019 के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, Indian Post में कम से कम 56,506 पद खाली हैं। Indian Railways में 2,50,410 वेकेंसीज़ खाली हैं, साथ ही Government Elementary Schools में 10 लाख से भी ज्यादा वेकेंसीज़ खाली हैं।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह अनुरोध करता हूँ कि ये जो 20 लाख नौकरियों के पद खाली हैं, जल्द से जल्द इनमें emergency recruitment करके ज्यादा से ज्यादा युवाओं को नौकरी दी जानी चाहिए। मैं आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि आप सरकार को डायरेक्शन दें कि यदि नई वेकेंसीज़ क्रिएट करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है, तो कम से कम जो वेकेंसीज़ खाली पड़ी हैं, उन वेकेंसीज़ को भरे जाने का अगर आदेश करेंगे, तो अच्छा होगा।

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद** (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, 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 also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI N.R. ELANGO (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**श्री नीरज डांगी** (राजस्थान): सर, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**SHRI M. SHANMUGAM** (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH** (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**श्री पी.एल. पुनिया** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN** (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA** (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता** (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): सर, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**श्री राजमणि पटेल** (मध्य प्रदेश): सर, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**DR. FAUZIA KHAN** (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI** (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI** (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**DR. AMAR PATNAIK** (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**श्री सभापति:** धन्यवाद, खरगे जी। जिन मेम्बर्स को भी एसोसिएट करना है, वे कृपया स्लिप भरकर भिजवा दें।

श्री जयराम रमेश जी, आपको मेरा एक सुझाव है, आप बाद में थोड़ा चेक करिएगा। मुझे ऐसा लग रहा है कि आपकी साइड में जो सदस्य बैठे हैं, वे social distancing को follow

नहीं कर रहे हैं। मैं व्यक्तिगत रूप में नहीं, seating की बात कर रहा हूँ। कृपया आप सब ऐसी व्यवस्था रखें कि जिन मेम्बर्स को जो नम्बर एलॉट किया गया है, वे उसी हिसाब से बैठें। इस तरफ तो ज्यादा सदस्य हैं ही नहीं, बाहर हैं।

चूँकि कोविड प्रोटोकॉल जारी है, मैं उसी हिसाब से कह रहा हूँ। आपके पीछे श्री संतोष कुमार जी बैठे हैं, मेरे ख्याल में उनको सेंटर में बैठना था। ...(व्यवधान)... दोनों में से किसी एक को एडजस्ट करना चाहिए, otherwise numbers have been given by the respective parties, please follow that. डॉ. साहब, आप पहले ऊपर गए, फिर नीचे आए।...(व्यवधान)... वह ठीक है, but, distance is more important. ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं, नहीं, मैं उस ऊपर जाने की बात नहीं कर रहा हूँ। कोई ऊपर नहीं जाना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

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#### SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just you have to lay it.

#### **Demand to upgrade technology infrastructure to ensure access to justice delivery system to the poor and economically disadvantaged**

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Covid-19 has disrupted our justice system and the social distancing norm has posed a significant challenge for access to justice. Such challenges are likely to be further compounded in the post-pandemic era. As can be seen, our Court system has, in a way, transitioned from being primarily traditional, face-to-face proceedings to online video conferencing Court processes. However, there are concerns about the capacity of Courts to adopt newer technologies as well as issues relating to the impact of a new online model of justice, particularly in terms of the barriers for more vulnerable members of society. The imperative need of the hour is to ensure that the video conferencing infrastructure is upgraded, fine tuned and enhanced substantially, so that each and every Court begins working to full strength and capacity and all matters be heard. Courts in rural areas lack basic internet access and broadband infrastructure. I urge that the Government should step in to bring in newer technologies and upgrade infrastructure to ensure that the poor and the economically disadvantaged have access to justice delivery.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री सभापति: श्री विजय कुमार, कन्याकुमारी लोक सभा में पहुंच गए।

**Demand for resumption of transmission of Tamil Services of the External Services  
Division of All India Radio, New Delhi**

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, since its inception in early 1940s, the Tamil Unit of External Services Division (ESD), All India Radio, continued to render valuable and significant services to Tamil listeners within the country and also Indian diaspora for decades together. Its morning broadcast from the Studios of Delhi from 5.30 a.m. to 6.15 a.m. have had a substantial number of listeners for its rich content including a commentary on international and national matters besides a news bulletin and for the reason of its transmission from strategically located New Delhi. This broadcast had a broad base of listeners that was created over the years due to its contents including dissemination of information pertaining to Government, its policies like 'Look East Policy', news of national and political importance, etc. Since the announcement of lockdown due to Covid-19 pandemic, this broadcast has been stopped abruptly and it was not resumed thereafter. It is significant to say that the Tamil Unit of External Services Division has rendered important services by reaching out to a large chunk of Tamil knowing population of South Eastern and far Eastern Asian countries with a passionate listeners' base. Many interviews of well-known personalities from all fields including former President, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, and former Union Law Minister, Jana Krishnamurthy, were aired by the Tamil Unit of ESD.

Considering the importance of radio as an effective and affordable medium to everybody and Tamil transmission services being made from strategically located AIR, New Delhi, I urge the Government to take immediate steps to resume Tamil Services of External Services of All India Radio from New Delhi.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri A. Vijayakumar.

SHRI A. MOHAMMEDJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri A. Vijayakumar.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Resumption of transmission of Tamil Services of External Service Division of All India Radio: Prakashji, the Minister is there and he is taking note.

**Demand to include nine communities of the State of Odisha in the list of  
Scheduled Tribes**

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, nine communities of Odisha, namely, Konda Reddy, Mooka Dora, Paharia (Kamar), Dhurava, Dhurua, Durua, Kui (Kandha), Jhodia, Odiya Kandha have been demanding for their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribe list for many decades.

The State Government of Odisha had already submitted the lists of Scheduled Tribe Communities to the Government of India from time to time for their inclusion. Shri Naveen Patnaik, hon. Chief Minister of Odisha had submitted a letter on 30th May, 2011, and, subsequently, on 3rd November, 2012 for inclusion of the Scheduled Tribes from Odisha. It is a long-standing demand of these poor tribal communities.

Sir, the State of Odisha is unique to have 62 tribes including 13 particularly vulnerable tribal groups each with its own way of life. The State of Odisha has always held the development of tribal areas and the welfare of tribal people, preservation and promotion of their cultural heritage.

Sir, the task force constituted by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India in 2014 has specially recommended for including these communities in the Scheduled Tribe list.

Sir, through you, I request the Government of India to take immediate action for their inclusion.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री सभापति: आप हिन्दी बोल रहे हैं।

श्री भास्कर राव नेक्कांति (ओडिशा): मैं तेलुगु, हिन्दी और उड़िया बोल लेता हूँ।

श्री सभापति: अच्छा तेलुगू, हिन्दी, उड़िया और अंग्रेज़ी, ठीक है।

**Demand to include State specific crops within the ambit of the  
Minimum Support Price**

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Rajasthan): Sir, the Central Government is requested for inclusion of State specific crops within the ambit of Minimum Support Price and declare the Minimum Support Price of these crops. State specific crops like cluster bean, moth, cowpea, cumin, coriander, garlic, castor, aloe vera and mehandi should be included within the ambit of the MSP. Rajasthan is a leading State in the area and production of these crops. Also, these crops are main crops in many districts of Rajasthan.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K.C. Venugopal.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K.C. Venugopal.

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K.C. Venugopal.

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL (Madhya Pradesh): I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K.C. Venugopal.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri K.C. Venugopal.



**Demand to extend the insurance coverage period for Covid frontline warriors  
under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana**

SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY (Karnataka): Sir, under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana, our Finance Minister had announced and started implementing insurance coverage of ₹ 50 lakh to COVID frontline warriors, including doctors, nurses, ASHA workers, medical and sanitary workers, paramedics and others who have been racing against time to provide critical medical care to COVID patients in Government hospitals and COVID centres.

The scheme, which was started initially on 30th March, ended in June. Further, the Government of India has extended this scheme for a further period of three months up to 30.09.2020.

There are more than 22 lakh public healthcare providers, including community health workers, standing as shield to protect patients inflicted with Coronavirus. There are no signs of this pandemic disappearing in the immediate future. Eminent doctors, scientists and epidemiologists have also been saying that virus may stay for at least another 6-12 months. I strongly feel that our frontline warriors should also be protected. But the validity of insurance scheme is only up to 30.09.2020 which needs to be extended.

Hence, I request hon. Prime Minister to extend this scheme for a further period of six months which will not only encourage our COVID frontline warriors but will also motivate them to work with more dedication and devotion.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**Demand for EPF pension for the retired employees of the Neyveli Lignite  
Corporation (NLC) India Ltd.**

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Neyveli Lignite Corporation India Limited is a Mahanavaratna company and EPF Pension Scheme, 1995 is applicable to

[Shri M. Shanmugam]

the employees who are all members of Family Pension Scheme, 1971. But the Government of India permitted those employees, who had not opted Family Pension Scheme, 1971, to get their pension after paying the dues of the contribution with interest. Since most of the CPSUs have formulated separate pension schemes, it was not accepted by EPF organisation. When the trade unions went to court, the Supreme Court also upheld the EPFO decision in 2003. The Court allowed the employees to receive the pension after paying pension contribution from 1995 to 2003. Unfortunately, the EPFO did not permit (i) the employees who are not a member of Family Pension Scheme, 1971; and (ii) the employees who retired between 1995 and 2003 but willing to pay their contribution, even after the court direction to allow them to join the scheme. Repeatedly, the RPF Commissioner, Tiruchirappalli, approached the court to drag on the case but all cases were dismissed by the court.

Therefore, I urge upon the Minister of Labour to intervene in the case to resolve the long-pending issue of poor employees who retired from service before 2003; most of them have expired and their families are also suffering like anything. It is the right time to give justice at least to the families of those deceased pensioners by sanctioning family pension. Thank you.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri M. Shanmugam.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri M. Shanmugam.

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri M. Shanmugam.

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़): सर,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: फूलो देवी जी, This is not Zero Hour; this is just a Special Mention.

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़): सर, मैं इसे सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ।

**Demand to construct four-lane road from Dhantari to Bastar Division Headquarter Jagdalpur in the State of Chhattisgarh**

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, बस्तर संभाग छत्तीसगढ़ का पिछड़ा इलाका है, जहाँ से रायपुर तक केवल सड़क मार्ग द्वारा ही जाया जा सकता है। बस्तर संभाग के पिछड़ेपन

के कारणों में से सबसे प्रमुख यातायात के अल्प साधन ही हैं। इससे यहाँ पर्यटन की संभावनाओं पर भी ग्रहण लग गया है। केन्द्र सरकार ने बस्तर संभाग में यात्री परिवहन की अधिकता को देखते हुए सिंगल लेन के चौड़ीकरण और उन्नयन की स्वीकृति दी थी, लेकिन बस्तर में फोर लेन की आवश्यकता है।

केन्द्रीय सड़क परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्रालय ने भारतमाला परियोजना के तहत रायपुर, विशाखापट्टनम एक्सप्रेस-वे को मंजूरी दी है। यह एक्सप्रेस-वे बस्तर संभाग के कांकेर व कोंडागांव तक तो आ गया है, लेकिन इसमें भी जगदलपुर-नगरनार मार्ग को शामिल नहीं किया गया है।

महोदय, वर्तमान में 700 करोड़ रुपए की लागत से रायपुर से धमतरी तक फोर लेन सड़क बनाने का कार्य किया जा रहा है, जिससे रायपुर से धमतरी तक तो यातायात सुगम हो जाएगा, लेकिन धमतरी से जगदलपुर तक टू-लेन सड़क होने के कारण समस्याएँ यथावत बनी रहेंगी।

अतः आपके माध्यम से मेरा निवेदन है कि धमतरी से बस्तर संभाग मुख्यालय जगदलपुर तक फोर लेन सड़क बनाई जाए, जिससे क्षेत्र का विकास संभव हो सकेगा।

**श्रीमती छाया वर्मा** (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

**श्री पी. एल. पुनिया** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**डा. सस्मित पात्रा** (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**Demand to confer the status of classical language to Manipuri  
(Meiteilon) language**

SHRI MAHARAJA SANAJAOBA LEISHEMBA (Manipur): Hon. Chairman, Sir, the Government of India has established four criteria for granting classical status to the modern Indian languages. As of now, the Union Government has granted classical language status to six languages that fulfil the criteria. If the criteria to grant classical status to a language are considered, then Manipuri language certainly qualifies to be classical language. However, no language of the Sino-Tibetan (particularly Tibeto-Burman sub-family) which has been one of the major language families of India has been considered for the status of Classical language.

I strongly believe that there are ample evidence, both literary and material, to prove that Manipuri language fulfils the criteria laid down by the Government of India for granting the status of classical language.

[Shri Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba]

Therefore, I request the Government through this august House, to grant classical language status to Manipuri language.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I wish to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I too wish to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I too wish to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

**Demand to restrain the Government of Andhra Pradesh from setting up  
three State capitals**

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, 2014 is a Central Act enacted by Parliament. This Act stipulates a common capital for residual State of Andhra Pradesh and successor State of Telangana for 10 years. A separate capital for the residual State of Andhra Pradesh will be set up in the meantime. As per the enabling provision of the A.P. Reorganization Act, a suitable place was selected and it was developed as new capital for the residual State by adopting land pooling concept. Farmers were expecting return for their contribution in construction of new capital. Central Government released ₹ 2,500 crore to build new capital. Hon. Prime Minister of India attended the bhoomi poojan ceremony for construction of new capital. The proposed capital city of Amaravati was selected under Smart City Mission and substantial amount has been spent on this.

But to everybody's surprise, the new Government which assumed office last year scrapped the Amaravati Capital City project and came with an idea of establishing three capitals for Legislature, Executive and Judiciary at Amaravati, Vishakhapatnam and Kurnool respectively. It is unimaginable to have three capitals for a State having only 13 districts. Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, which are considered as big states on the basis of population-wise and extent-wise, have only one capital. If this trend is allowed, it will lead to opening of pandora's box.

I, therefore, urge the Central Government to take necessary steps to restrain the State Government from taking steps in contravention to a Central Act.

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## SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, resumption of the discussion on the Indian Institutes of Information Technology Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020...(Interruptions)... Who was speaking at that time? ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Minister...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH(Karnataka): Sir, the Leader of the Opposition would like to speak. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the LoP wants to say something, he would rise from his seat. Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the Leader of the Opposition would like to speak. ...(Interruptions)... You had promised yesterday...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would allow him. You may please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Zero Hour and Special Mentions are over now. Mr. Azad, do you want to say something?

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): जी हाँ, सर।...(व्यवधान)...

†آفانڈ حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد): جی ہاں سر۔۔۔(مداخلت)...

श्री सभापति: कृपया आप बोलिए। पुनिया जी, कृपया आप बैठिए। I will call you. Your name is there in the list.

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: माननीय चेयरमैन सर, सदन में पिछले दो दिनों में जो कुछ भी हुआ, मैं नहीं समझता कि उससे कोई भी खुश है चाहे उस साइड से या इस साइड से। यह हमारा परिवार है, बहुत बड़ा परिवार है, जो इस सदन में 130 करोड़ लोगों को represent करता है और आप परिवार के मुखिया हैं। घर के अंदर भी परिवार के मुखिया और परिवार के लोगों के बीच में झगड़े होते हैं। I am sorry that you are not feeling well. आपको प्रॉब्लम है, इसलिए आप आगे ही देखिए।

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد: ماننئیے چنرمین سر، سدن میں پچھلے دو دنوں میں جو کچھ بھی ہوا، میں نہیں سمجھتا کہ اس سے کوئی بھی خوش ہے چاہے اس سائیڈ سے یا اس سائیڈ سے۔ یہ ہمارا پریوار ہے، بہت بڑا پریوار ہے، جو اس سدن میں 130 کروڑ کو represent کرتا ہے اور آپ پریوار کے مکھیہ ہیں، گھر کے اندر بھی پریوار کے مکھیہ اور پریوار کے لوگوں کے بیچ میں جھگڑے ہوتے ہیں۔ I am sorry that you are not feeling well. آپ کو پرابلم ہے، اس لیے آپ آگے ہی دیکھیئے۔

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When I turn, I have a problem.

**श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद:** सर, आप इस तरफ मत देखिए, आप सुविधा के अनुसार देखिए। इधर देखने की जरूरत नहीं है। मैं यहाँ जो भी बोलूँगा, यह न परिवार के मुखिया के खिलाफ है, न उनकी अनुपस्थिति में जो पार्लियामेंट का संचालन करते हैं या हमारे सरकार में रहने वाले साथी हैं, उनके खिलाफ है। यह मालूम नहीं है कि कब तक कोविड रहेगा, लेकिन पार्लियामेंट में मेरे सिर्फ पाँच महीने रह गए हैं, अगर तब तक कोविड रहा, तो यह मेरी आखिरी स्पीच भी हो सकती है। मैं थोड़ा इसके पीछे जाना चाहता हूँ।

†**جناب غلام نبی آزاد:** سر، آپ اس طرف مت دیکھنیے، آپ سویدھا کے مطابق دیکھنیے۔ ادھر دیکھنے کی ضرورت نہیں ہے۔ میں یہاں جو بھی بولوں گا، یہ نہ پریوار کے مکھیہ کے خلاف ہے، نہ ان کی غیر موجودگی میں جو پارلیمنٹ کا سنجال کرتے ہیں یا ہمارے سرکار میں رہنے والے ساتھی ہیں، ان کے خلاف ہے۔ یہ معلوم نہیں ہے کہ کب تک کووڈ رہے گا، لیکن پارلیمنٹ میں میرے صرف پانچ مہینے رہ گئے ہیں، اگر تب تک کووڈ رہا، تو یہ میری آخر اسپیچ بھی ہو سکتی ہے۔ میں تھوڑا اس کے پیچھے جانا چاہتا ہوں۔

**श्री सभापति:** मगर संक्षेप में, प्लीज़। मैं आपको आगे मौका दूँगा। Why are you thinking that it is his last speech?

**श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद:** सर, इस सदन में यह टाइम की कमी ही हमारी सौतन बन गई है। इसी के कारण सब झगड़े हो गए। मैं उसी पर आता हूँ। मैं अपनी पहली बात को खत्म करके इसी पर आता हूँ। सर, ये लोग एक-एक स्टेट को represent करते हैं, कोई 20 करोड़ लोगों को represent करते हैं, हमारे यादव जी तो 22 करोड़ लोगों को represent करते हैं, मैं शायद सबसे छोटी स्टेट को represent करता हूँ... करोड़ों लोगों को जो represent करते हैं; इनके करोड़ों लोग इन्हें देखते हैं और वे इन्हें सुनना चाहते हैं। सर, यह टाइम तो अपने हाथ में है। हम चार घंटे की बजाय दस घंटे बैठें, एक महीने की बजाय दो महीने बैठें, लेकिन यहाँ पार्लियामेंट में आने के पीछे जो लक्ष्य है, चाहे उस तरफ के साथी हों या इस तरफ के साथी हों, वह लक्ष्य तो पूरा होना चाहिए। वह लक्ष्य दो मिनट में पूरा नहीं होता, तीन मिनट में नहीं होता। इतने बड़े विषय होते हैं; ऐसा लगता है कि हमारा सारा टाइम यहाँ नोक-झोंक में ही लग जाता है। एक-एक मिनट के लिए हम ऐसे लड़ते हैं, जैसे बॉर्डर पर लड़ रहे हैं। मेरा तो यह कहना होगा कि हम टाइम के बंधन में पार्लियामेंट की सीमाओं को न बाँधें और अगर हम हमारे एमपीज़ को, चाहे वे छोटी पार्टी से हों या बड़ी पार्टी से हों; टाइम के बंधन में न बाँधें, तो इससे हमारी de escalation 90 परसेंट होगी। जब एमपी यहाँ बोलता है, तो वह खुश होकर जाना चाहता है, लेकिन वह चेयर के साथ लड़ाई करके, झगड़ा करके, तू-तू, मैं-मैं करके

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

जाता है। सर, वैसे ही पब्लिक में political leaders का stock बहुत कम है, खत्म हो गया है और उस stock को हम यहाँ टाइम के झमेले में लड़-लड़कर ज़ीरो खुद बना देते हैं। मेरा चेयरमैन से सभी एमपीज़ की तरफ से निवेदन होगा, चाहे बड़ी पार्टी हो या छोटी पार्टी हो; इसे हम समय में न बाँधें, एक समुद्र को हम एक कुएं में बंद करने की कोशिश न करें। यह एक समुद्र है। यह मेरा आप सबसे निवेदन होगा।

सर, मैं दूसरी बात जो कहना चाहता था; यह तो आपने याद दिलाया, इसलिए मैंने इसका भी उल्लेख किया। सर, इंग्लिश में एक मुहावरा है, जिसे हम proverb कहते हैं - 'the last straw which broke the camel's back'. I think, day before yesterday was the last straw which broke the camel's back. इसके पीछे एक तो यह टाइम का सिस्टम है। कोई एक मिनट मिलने से नाराज़ है कि मैं अपनी बात पूरी नहीं कर पाया। आज स्टैंडिंग कमिटीज़ के पास बिल नहीं जाते हैं, आज सेलेक्ट कमिटीज़ के पास बिल नहीं जाते हैं। यह भी उसके पीछे एक बहुत बड़ी धारणा है। सभी बिल पास करने की कोशिश की जाती है। जो एमपीज़ बोलना चाहते हैं, वे बोल नहीं पाते। सर, यह झगड़ा क्यों हुआ? नहीं होना चाहिए था। मैं इसे एप्रूव नहीं करता हूँ कि कोई माइक तोड़े या टेबल पर चढ़े, कोई एप्रूव नहीं करता है, लेकिन जैसा कि मैंने कहा, the last straw which broke the camel's back; वह बड़ा जमा हो गया था, इसलिए जब वह बाहर निकलकर आया, तो बहुत बड़ा तूफान बन गया। मैंने माननीय चेयरमैन को भी बताया था, मैंने स्पीकर को भी बताया था कि लोक सभा के पास एक बड़ा advantage है कि वे तीन से छः बैठते हैं, वे तीन से नौ बजे तक भी बैठ सकते हैं, इसलिए एक हफ्ता तीन से छः उनको दे दीजिए और एक हफ्ता हमको दे दीजिए, ताकि हम भी नौ-दस बजे तक बैठ सकें, जितना बोलना है, बोल सकें। लेकिन वह माना नहीं गया। अब हमको चार घंटे में ही काम करना है; मैं चेयर और सरकार की मजबूरी भी जानता हूँ, लेकिन sense of House पर ही झगड़ा हो गया और मैं बार-बार कह चुका हूँ कि the sense of House does not mean numbers. फिर तो रूलिंग पार्टी वही होती। तब तक सरकार बनेगी ही नहीं, जब तक उसके पास नंबर नहीं होगा, फिर तो opposition... सर, sense of House, the majority of the political parties है। परसों के लिए मैं कहूँगा कि 18 पार्टीज़ एक साइड थीं और एक पार्टी एक साइड थी, क्योंकि चाहे बाकी इश्यूज़ पर साथ न हों, लेकिन उस विषय पर दो-तीन एनडीए की पार्टीज़ भी इस साइड थीं। एक दूसरी पार्टी से 18 पार्टीज़ एक साइड थीं और उसी पर सारा झगड़ा हो गया और उसके चलते...(व्यवधान)... मैं खत्म कर रहा हूँ।...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد: سر، اس سدن میں یہ ٹائم کی کمی ہی ہماری سوتن بن گئی ہے۔ اس کی وجہ سے سب جھگڑے ہو گئے۔ میں اسی پر آتا ہوں۔ میں اپنی پہلی بات کو ختم کر کے اسی پر آتا ہوں۔ سر، یہ لوگ ایک ایک اسٹیٹ کو represent کرتے ہیں۔ کوئی 20 کروڑ لوگوں کو represent کرتے ہیں، ہمارے یادو جی تو بائیس کروڑ لوگوں کو

†Transliteration in Urdu script.



[श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद]

represent کرتے ہیں۔ میں شاید سب سے چھوٹی اسٹیٹ کو represent کرتا ہوں۔۔۔  
 کروڑوں لوگوں کو جو represent کرتے ہیں، ان کو کروڑوں لوگ دیکھتے ہیں اور وہ  
 ان کو سننا چاہتے ہیں۔ سر، یہ ٹائم تو اپنے ہاتھ میں ہے۔ ہم چار گھنٹے کی بجائے دس  
 گھنٹے بیٹھیں، ایک مہینے کی بجائے دو مہینے بیٹھیں، لیکن یہاں پارلیمنٹ میں آنے کے  
 پیچھے جو لکشن ہے، چاہے اس طرف کے ساتھی ہوں یا اس طرف کے ساتھی ہوں وہ  
 لکشن تو پورا ہونا چاہیئے۔ وہ لکشن دو منٹ میں پورا نہیں ہوتا، تین منٹ میں نہیں  
 ہوتا۔ اتنے بڑے موضوع ہوتے ہیں، ایسا لگتا ہے کہ ہمارا سارا ٹائم یہاں نوک جھونک  
 میں ہی لگ جاتا ہے۔ ایک ایک منٹ کے لیے ہم ایسے لڑتے ہیں، جیسے بارڈر پر  
 لڑ رہے ہیں۔ میرا تو یہ کہنا ہوگا کہ ہم ٹائم کے بندھن میں پارلیمنٹ کی سیماؤں کو نہ  
 باندھے اور اگر ہم ہمارے ایم پیز کو، چاہے وہ چھوٹی پارٹی سے ہوں یا بڑی پارٹی سے  
 ہوں، ٹائم کے بندھن میں نہ باندھیں، تو اس سے ہماری de escalation نوے فیصد ہوگی۔  
 جب ایم پی یہاں بولتا ہیں، تو وہ خوش ہو کر جانا چاہتا ہے، لیکن وہ چنیر کے ساتھ لڑائی  
 کر کے، جھگڑا کر کے، تو تو، میں میں کر کے جاتا ہے۔ سر، ویسے ہی پبلک میں پبلک  
 لیڈرس کا اسٹاک بہت کم ہے، ختم ہو گیا ہے اور اس اسٹاک کو ہم یہاں ٹائم کے جھمیلے  
 میں لڑ لڑ کر زیر و خود بنادیتے ہیں۔ میرا چنیرمین صاحب سے بھی ایم پیز کی طرف سے  
 نویدن ہوگا، چاہے بڑی پارٹی ہو یا چھوٹی پارٹی ہو، اسے ہم وقت میں نہ باندھیں، ایک  
 سمندر کو ہم ایک کوئیں میں بند کرنے کی کوشش نہ کریں۔ یہ ایک سمندر ہے۔ یہ میرا  
 آپ سب سے نویدن ہوگا۔

سر، میں دوسری بات جو کہنا چاہتا تھا، یہ تو آپ نے یاد دلایا، اس لیے میں نے  
 اس کا بھی الیکھ کیا۔ سر، انگلش میں ایک محاورہ ہے، جسے ہم proverb کہتے ہیں۔ -

the last straw which broke the camel's back. I think, day before yesterday

was the last straw which broke the camel's back. اس کے پیچھے ایک تو یہ



ٹائم کا سسٹم ہے۔ کوئی ایک منٹ مہینے سے ناراض ہے کہ میں اپنی بات پوری نہیں کر پایا۔ آج اسٹینڈنگ کمیٹیز کے پاس بل نہیں جاتے ہیں، آج سلیکٹ کمیٹیز کے پاس بل نہیں جاتے ہیں۔ یہ بھی اس کے پیچھے ایک بہت بڑی دھارنا ہے۔ سبھی بل پاس کرنے کی کوشش کی جاتی ہے۔ جو ایم پیز بولنا چاہتے ہیں، وہ بول نہیں پاتے۔ سر، یہ جھگڑا کیوں ہوا؟ نہیں ہونا چاہیئے تھا۔ میں اسے ایپروو نہیں کرتا ہوں کہ کوئی مائیک توڑے یا ٹیبل پر چڑھے، کوئی ایپروو نہیں کرتا ہے، لیکن جیسا کہ میں نے کہا، the last straw which broke the camel's back, وہ بڑا جمع ہو گیا تھا، اس لیے جب وہ باہر نکل کر آیا، تو بہت بڑا طوفان بن گیا۔ میں نے ماننیے چنیرمین کو بھی بتایا تھا، میں نے اسپیکر کو بھی بتایا تھا کہ لوک سبھا کے پاس ایک بڑا ایڈوائسج ہے کہ وہ تین سے چھ بیٹھتے ہیں، وہ تین سے نو بجے تک بھی بیٹھ سکتے ہیں، اس لیے ایک ہفتہ تین سے چھ ان کو دے دیجیئے اور ایک ہفتہ ہم کو دے دیجیئے، تاکہ ہم بھی نو دس بجے تک بیٹھ سکیں، جتنا بولنا ہے، بول سکیں۔ لیکن وہ ماننا نہیں گیا۔ اب ہم کو چار گھنٹے میں ہی کام کرنا ہے، میں چنیر اور سرکار کی مجبوری بھی جانتا ہوں، لیکن sense of House پر ہی جھگڑا ہو گیا اور میں بار بار کہہ چکا ہوں کہ the sense of House does not mean numbers. پھر تو رولنگ پارٹی وہی ہوتی۔ تب تک سرکار بنے گی ہی نہیں، جب تک اس کے پاس نمبر نہیں ہوگا، پھر تو اپوزیشن۔۔۔ سر، sense of House, the majority of the political party ہے۔ پرسوں کے لیے میں کہوں گا کہ 18 پارٹیز ایک سائیڈ تھیں اور ایک پارٹی ایک سائیڈ تھی، کیوں کہ چاہے باقی ایشوز پر ساتھ نہ ہوں، لیکن اس موضوع پر دو تین این ڈی اے کی پارٹیز بھی اس سائیڈ تھیں۔ ایک دوسری پارٹی سے 18 پارٹیز ایک سائیڈ تھیں اور اسی پر سارا جھگڑا ہو گیا اور اس کے چلتے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ میں ختم کر رہا ہوں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you going to give a judgment? ...*(Interruptions)*... Do you want to give a judgment? ...*(Interruptions)*... The Leader of the Opposition has got enough experience. He is capable of speaking. मैंने आपको रोका नहीं।...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: सर, मैं किसी की निंदा नहीं कर रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं सिर्फ यही कहूँगा कि यह time constraint ही हमारी सबसे बड़ी लड़ाई का मुद्दा बन गया। ऐसे में बिल कैसे पास होगा? सर, सदन कैसे चलता है? जहाँ तक मेरा अपना 41 साल का इस सदन, उस सदन और तीसरे सदन, विधान सभा का अनुभव है, उसमें मैंने देखा है कि हिन्दुस्तान के संविधान के आधार पर, हिन्दुस्तान के कानून के आधार पर, हमारी इस पार्लियामेंट के प्रोसिज़र के आधार पर, established practices के आधार पर, established conventions के आधार पर co-ordination होना चाहिए। वह co-ordination तीन लेवल पर होनी चाहिए। First, इसमें गवर्नमेंट के अंदर भी co-ordination होनी चाहिए, पार्लियामेंटरी अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर और जो उसके बिल्स हैं, उनके बीच में co-ordination होना चाहिए, अपोज़िशन और सरकार के बीच में co-ordination होना चाहिए, लेकिन सरकार और चेयर के बीच में co-ordination नहीं होना चाहिए। मुझे लगता है कि यह बुरी तरह से suffered है, यह co-ordination ठीक नहीं है। अगर यह नहीं होता, तो उस बिल को पास करने की इतनी जल्दी नहीं होती। मुझे नहीं मालूम, सरकार के पास बहुमत था या नहीं था, लेकिन उसमें यह हुआ कि उसमें जो रिजॉल्यूशंस हैं, उन पर वोटिंग नहीं हो पाई। जो बिल क्लॉज़ बाई क्लॉज़ पास होना था, वह नहीं हो पाया। जो अमेंडमेंट्स दी गई थीं, उन पर डिविज़न होना चाहिए था। सर, डिविज़न बहुत जरूरी है। वह एमपी, जिसने अमेंडमेंट्स दी हैं या जिसका रिजॉल्यूशन है, अगर वह डिविज़न माँगता है और वह नहीं होता है, तो वह बिल ही पास नहीं हो सकता।

सर, मैं यहाँ अरुण जेटली जी द्वारा वर्ष 2016 में कही गई बात को क्वोट करना चाहता हूँ। He said, 'That the Government becomes illegitimate if the Speaker refuses the division of vote.' वे इसको 'illegitimate' कहते हैं। वर्ष 2016 में उत्तराखंड के अंदर, the Government of India went to the Supreme Court against the Uttarakhand High Court's order. उस पर क्या plea ली गई? The division demanded was not given. Government of India डिविज़न के बाद सुप्रीम कोर्ट तक पहुँच जाती है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد: سر، میں کسی کی نندا نہیں کر رہا ہوں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ میں صرف یہی کہوں گا کہ یہ time constraint ہی ہماری سب سے بڑی لڑائی کا مدعہ بن گیا۔

ایسے میں بل کیسے پاس ہوگا؟ سر، سدن کیسے چلتا ہے؟

جہاں تک میرا اپنا 41 سال کا اس سدن، اُس سدن اور تیسرے سدن، ودھان سبھا کا

تجربہ ہے، اس میں میں نے دیکھا ہے کہ ہندستان کے سمودھان کے ادھار پر، ہندستان کے قانون کے ادھار پر، ہماری اس پارلیمنٹ کے پروسیجر کے ادھار پر، established

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

practices کے آدھار پر، established conventions کے آدھار پر co-ordination بونا چاہیئے۔ وہ co-ordination تین لیول پر بونا چاہیئے۔ فرسٹ اس میں گورنمنٹ کے اندر بھی co-ordination ہونی چاہیئے، پارلیمنٹری افیئرس منسٹر اور جو اس کے بل ہیں، ان کے بیچ میں co-ordination بونا چاہیئے، اپوزیشن اور سرکار کے بیچ میں کوآرڈینیشن بونا چاہیئے۔ لیکن سرکار اور چئیر کے بیچ co-ordination نہیں بونا چاہیئے۔ مجھے لگتا ہے کہ یہی طرح سے suffered ہے، یہ co-ordination ٹھیک نہیں ہے۔ اگر یہ نہیں ہوتا، تو اس بل کو پاس کرنے کی اتنی جلدی نہیں ہوتی۔ مجھے نہیں معلوم، سرکار کے پاس بہومت تھا یا نہیں تھا، لیکن اس میں یہ ہوا کہ اس میں جو ریزولوشنس ہیں، ان پر ووٹنگ نہیں ہو پائی۔ جو بل کلارز بائی کلارز پاس ہونا تھا، وہ نہیں ہو پایا۔ جو امینڈمنٹ دی گئیں تھیں، ان پر ڈویژن بونا چاہیئے تھا سر ڈویژن بہت ضروری ہے۔ وہ ایم پی، جس نے امینڈمنٹس دی ہیں یا جس کا ریزولوشن ہے، اگر وہ ڈویژن مانگتا ہے اور وہ نہیں ہوتا ہے، تو وہ بل ہی پاس نہیں ہو سکتا۔

سر، میں یہاں ارون جیٹلی جی کے ذریعہ سال 2016 میں کہی گئی بات کو کیوٹ

کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔ He said, 'That the Government becomes illegitimate if the

Speaker refuses the division of vote.' وہ اس کو illegitimate کہتے ہیں۔ سال 2016

میں اترکھنڈ کے اندر the Government of India went to the Supreme Court

against the Uttarakhand High Court's order. The plea لی گئی؟

division demanded was not given. Government of India کے بعد سپریم

کورٹ تک پہنچ جاتی ہے۔ ... (مداخلت) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Arun Jaitleyji is no more. He has also said that it is the tyranny of minority. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, he has not quoted Shri Arun Jaitley with disrespect. ...(Interruptions)...He quoted Mahatma Gandhi. ...(Interruptions)...He quoted Jawharlal Nehru. ...(Interruptions)...He has quoted Shri Arun Jaitley respectfully, not disrespectfully. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Azadji, please conclude. ...(Interruptions)... I cannot be dictated by you. ...(Interruptions)... I will not accept it. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Everybody has a right to quote Shri Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am saying. There is nothing wrong. ...(Interruptions)... You must also remember that he also said that it is the tyranny of opposition. ...(Interruptions)... So, don't create controversy. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: सर, मैं यहाँ एलओपी रहूँ या कोई दूसरा एलओपी रहे, लेकिन यहाँ कुछ सालों में एलओपी का स्तर भी बहुत नीचे गिर गया। पहले एलओपी पर कोई समय-सीमा नहीं थी। मैंने पिछले 35 सालों में तीन प्राइम मिनिस्टर्स के साथ पार्लियामेंटरी अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर रहा, तब एलओपी पर कभी कोई बंदिश नहीं थी। यहाँ बोलने के लिए अरुण जेटली जी 10 दफा खड़े होते थे, सुषमा स्वराज जी 20 दफा खड़ी होती थीं। तब उन पर न तो बोलने की सीमा थी, न समय की सीमा थी, लेकिन अब हम भी सीमा में बँध गए और हमारा एलओपी न होने के बराबर हो गया। ये तमाम चीज़ें लोकतंत्र के फेवर में नहीं हैं।

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : سر، میں یہاں ایل۔اوپی۔ رہوں یا کوئی دوسرا ایل۔اوپی۔ رہے، لیکن یہاں کچھ سالوں میں ایل۔اوپی۔ کا پیمانہ بھی بہت نیچے گر گیا۔ پہلے ایل۔اوپی۔ پر کوئی وقت کی پابندی نہیں تھی۔ میں نے پچھلے 35 سالوں میں تین پرائم منسٹرس کے ساتھ پارلیمنٹری افیئرس منسٹر رہا، تب ایل۔اوپی۔ پر کبھی کوئی بندش نہیں تھی۔ یہاں بولنے کے لئے ارون جیٹلی جی دس دفعہ کھڑے ہوتے تھے، سشما سوراج جی بیس دفعہ کھڑی ہوتی تھیں۔ تب ان پر نہ تو بولنے کی سیما تھی، نہ وقت کی سیما تھی، لیکن اب ہم بھی سیما میں بندھ گئے اور ہمارا ایل۔اوپی۔ نہ ہونے کے برابر ہو گیا۔ یہ تمام چیزیں لوک تنتر کے حق میں نہیں ہے۔

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank You.

**श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद:** सर, मैं अब आखिर में एक-दो लाइंस में रिक्वेस्ट करूँगा, जो हमारी माँग है। सरकार ने कल कैबिनेट में कुछ एमएसपी अनाउंस किया। यह भी कुछ co-ordination की कमी है, उस मिनिस्टर के बीच में, कैबिनेट के बीच में और प्रधान मंत्री के बीच में। परसों जब आप बिल लाए थे, तब सारी चर्चा एमएसपी पर हो रही थी और उस वक्त आपने एमएसपी अनाउंस नहीं किया। अब जब हंगामा हो गया, तोड़-फोड़ हो गई, ये तमाम चीज़ें हो गई उसके बाद आप एमएसपी लाते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह एमएसपी तो पहले लाना चाहिए, कैबिनेट की मीटिंग पहले करनी चाहिए।

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : سر، میں اب آخر میں ایک دو لائنس میں درخواست کروں گا، جو ہماری مانگ ہے۔ سرکار نے کل کابینہ میں کچھ ایم۔ایس۔پی۔ اناؤنس کیا۔ یہ بھی کچھ کو-آرڈینیشن کی کمی ہے، اس منسٹر کے بیچ میں، کابینہ کے بیچ میں اور پردھان منتری کے بیچ میں۔ پرسوں جب آپ بل لانے تھے، تب ساری چرچہ ایم۔ایس۔پی پر ہو رہی تھی اور اس وقت آپ نے ایم۔ایس۔پی۔ اناؤنس نہیں کیا۔ اب جب ہنگامہ ہو گیا، توڑ پھوڑ ہو گئی، یہ تمام چیزیں ہو گئیں، اس کے بعد آپ ایم۔ایس۔پی۔ لاتے ہیں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ ایم۔ایس۔پی۔ تو پہلے لانا چاہئے، کابینہ کی میٹنگ پہلے کرنی چاہئے۔

MR. CHAIRMAN: Azadji, please conclude. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद:** आज गवर्नमेंट का advertisement निकला है- 'One-Nation-One-Market'. हमें कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। आपने पहले भी कहा है, 'One-Nation-One-Tax', 'One-Nation-One-Ration Card.' भगवान के लिए, खुदा के लिए 'one-nation-one-party' की तरफ मत जाइए, वरना यह हटकर रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : آج گورنمنٹ کا advertisement نکلا ہے، 'One-Nation-One-Market' . ہمیں کوئی آپتی نہیں ہے۔ آپ نے پہلے بھی کہا ہے، 'One-Nation-One-Tax', 'One-Nation-One-Ration Card.' بھگوان کے لئے، خدا کے لئے 'one-nation-one-party' کی طرف مت جائیے، ورنہ یہ ہٹ کر رہا ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very good. यह अच्छा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इससे सबको सहमत होना चाहिए।

†Transliteration in Urdu script.



श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: सर, लास्ट में मेरा इस गवर्नमेंट से किसानों की तीन चीज़ों के बारे में निवेदन है। जब तक ये तीन चीज़ें नहीं होती हैं -- कि गवर्नमेंट को एक दूसरा बिल लाना चाहिए। जिसमें प्राइवेट प्लेयर्स पर यह अंकुश लगाना चाहिए कि वे एमएसपी से नीचे नहीं खरीदें। That is number one. ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : سر، لاسٹ میں میرا اس گورنمنٹ سے کسانوں کی تین چیزوں کے بارے میں نویدن ہے۔ جب تک یہ تین چیزیں نہیں ہوتی ہیں -- کہ گورنمنٹ کو ایک دوسرا بل لانا چاہئے۔ جس میں پرائیویٹ پلیئرس پر یہ بندش لگنی چاہئے کہ وہ ایم۔ایس۔پی۔ سے نیچے نہیں خریدیں۔ ٹیٹ از نمبر ون ... (مداخلت) ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. پلیز، आप बैठ जाइए।

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: मेरे भाई सदन के बाहर हम क्या-क्या बोलते हैं, मैं उसकी बात नहीं करता हूँ। सदन के अंदर बिल लाना चाहिए, जिसमें आप कोर्ट में जा सकते हैं, बाहर कहने पर हम कोर्ट नहीं जा सकते।

दूसरा यह कि एमएसपी जो भी announce होना चाहिए, वह "C2" स्वामीनाथन फॉर्मूला पर होना चाहिए।

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : میرے بھائی سدن کے باہر ہم کیا کیا بولتے ہیں، میں اس کی بات نہیں کرتا ہوں۔ سدن کے اندر بل لانا چاہئے، جس میں آپ کورٹ میں جا سکتے ہیں، باہر کہنے پر ہم کورٹ نہیں جا سکتے۔  
دوسرا یہ کہ ایم۔ایس۔پی۔ جو بھی انوائنس ہونا چاہئے، 'سی-2' سوامی ناتھن فارمولہ پر ہونا چاہئے۔

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

एक माननीय सदस्य: वही हुआ है।

श्री सभापति: پلیز، आप बात मत कीजिए।

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: तीसरा यह कि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट और फूड कॉरपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया किसी भी एजेंसी के द्वारा जो खरीद करेगी, वह एमएसपी से नीचे नहीं होनी चाहिए।

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : تیسرا یہ کہ اسٹیٹ گورنمینٹ اور فوڈ کارپوریشن آف انڈیا کسی بھی ایجنسی کے ذریعے جو خرید کرے گی، وہ ایم۔ایس۔پی۔ سے نیچے ہونی چاہئے۔

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: उसके साथ ही हमारे जो colleagues हैं, जिनको rest of the Session के लिए suspend किया गया है, उनका भी वह आदेश वापस लेना चाहिए। ये तीन चीजें जो किसानों से संबंधित हैं...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : میرے اس کے ساتھ ہی ہمارے جو colleagues ہیں، جن کو rest of the Session کے لئے سسپینڈ کیا ہے، ان کا بھی وہ آرڈر واپس لینا چاہئے۔ یہ تین چیزیں جو کسانوں سے سمبندھت ہیں۔

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: जब तक सरकार इनको वापस नहीं लेती है, हम सत्र का boycott करते हैं। ... (व्यवधान)...

†جناب غلام نبی آزاد : جب تک سرکار ان کو واپس نہیں لیتی ہے، ہم سیشن کا بائیکاٹ کرتے ہیں ... (مداخلت) ...

श्री सभापति: बीच में ऐसे बोलना ठीक नहीं है।

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV(Rajasthan): Sir, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am just coming to you. If the LoP has made a statement... Bhupenderji, please.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please.

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: सर, गुलाम नबी जी ने जो विषय उठाया है...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL(Rajasthan): Sir, ... (Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए। ... (व्यवधान) ... I have not called you. ... (Interruptions).. There is no debate going on. ... (Interruptions).. Debate is already over. He has announced it. ... (Interruptions)..

*(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber)*

SHRIMATI ARPITA GHOSH(West Bengal):\*

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no; please. ...*(Interruptions)*... प्लीज़, आप लोग बैठ जाइए। This is not the way. It will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will not go on record, Arpitaji. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*... It will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the media and let everybody note that this type of bizarre slogans are not allowed in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE(West Bengal): Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not your seat. Go back to your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; I will not allow you. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will not allow you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Go to your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Go to your seat first. ...*(Interruptions)*... Go to your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Hon. Members, I have something to say before the Government's response. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have something to say before... Ram Gopalji, do you want to say something?

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, जो कुछ पिछले दो दिनों में हुआ, उससे कोई सहमत नहीं हो सकता और आज उससे मेरा मन दुखी भी है। इस पूरे एपिसोड में एक चीज़ अवश्य ऐसी रही जिसके लिए मैं सत्ता पक्ष के सदस्यों को धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा कि उन्होंने बहुत संयम बरता और किसी तरह की कोई बात नहीं कही, लेकिन एक चूक संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी से हुई, वे हमारे मित्र हैं, बहुत अच्छे आदमी हैं। एक स्थिति ऐसी बन सकती थी कि जब वे चेयर से यह कह सकते थे कि दस मिनट के लिए सदन की कार्यवाही स्थगित कर दें और विपक्ष के नेताओं से बात करके आगे कार्यवाही करें।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव**: अब जो कुछ हुआ, कभी-कभी ऐसा होता है। अतीत में भी हुआ है, यहां नहीं... यहां भी हुआ है, लेकिन मैं पुरानी बात कह रहा हूं। वर्ष 1907 में जब सूरत में तिलक साहब और गोखले जी के बीच में जो हुआ तो पट्टाभि सीतारमैया जी ने उस जूतमपैजार को लेकर कहा कि 'When tempers run high, even great men lose balance.' हम तो बहुत छोटे लोग हैं, लेकिन चेयर बहुत बड़ी है, हम चेयर पर कभी उंगली उठा भी नहीं सकते। मैं पोलिटिकल साइंस का स्टूडेंट रहा हूं और मैं जानता हूं कि इसका महत्व क्या है। फिर भी मैं यह अपील

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\*Not recorded.



ज़रूर करना चाहूंगा कि गलती हुई है, विपक्ष के लोगों से भी, और जो बड़े होते हैं उनका दिल और बड़ा होना चाहिए।

**श्री सभापति:** राम गोपाल जी, right. हम आपकी बात समझ रहे हैं।

**प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव:** "क्षमा बड़न को चाहिए, छोटन को उत्पात।" इसलिए मेरा अनुरोध है कि जो आपने लोगों के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई की है, आप उनका suspension रद्द कर दें और अगर आप चाहें, तो मैं आप से सम्पूर्ण सदस्यों की ओर से माफी मांगता हूँ, apologize करता हूँ।

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Thank you Ram Gopalji. Keshav Raoji. Please, no bhashan, only suggestions.

**DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Telangana):** I would simply make some points.

Sir, the great respect that we have for you needs no repetition at all and, particularly, me. But the question is, what happened two days back is condemnable, and we are all sorry for it. That we know; we share your view. ...(*Interruptions*)...

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Please.

**DR. K. KESHAVA RAO:** But one thing which has not been understood yesterday is 'what exactly happened.' Up to one o'clock, everything went right. It is only at one o'clock when they wanted an extension of time, all these kinds of disturbances came in. Why? It is because somebody felt, 'sense of the House is not in favour of an extension'. While the Ruling Party thought that they have the number, that is they have the majority. In his own wisdom, the Deputy Chairman had taken a stand. It was challenged and not only was it challenged, we asked for a division. Sir, if you see Rule 252. Today 'The Hindu' gave an editorial, bashing us all. We are feeling so bad about what exactly Hindu wrote.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Right, Keshav Rajoji.

**DR. K. KESHAVA RAO:** That is why we asked for division. Even yesterday, Sir, you had moved the Suspension Motion. You had moved the Suspension Motion and we asked for the division. You did not give us. Rule 252 says, you should give three minutes' time for division. The time is also there in Rule 252(4)(c) that you should give into division. So, Sir, as you are pained, and whenever you use the words that 'you are pained', we really feel pained. But, at the same time, you are not giving us time to express our pain while your pain is being expressed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right, Keshav Rajoji.

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO: Sir, in the last, again, I join Prof. Ram Gopalji to say that under Rule 256, under which the Law Minister says that they have suspended us, under Rule 256 (2), you have a right to terminate it on the Motion. Now, our request here is that it may be taken as a Motion. You have that right in the Rules. That may be taken and the suspension be terminated.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Tiruchi Siva. Only suggestion, please. What is your suggestion?

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Yes, Sir.

We wholeheartedly agree, Sir, that the Chair has exorbitant powers. At the same time, the Members have also some rights. Sir, two days before the manner in which the two important Bills were passed in this House was unprecedented, and a Member who has moved an Amendment must be given an opportunity to move that, to make a comment or speech on that and then when it is put to vote, if the Member asks for a division, it must be allowed. Sir, repeatedly, we were asking for that. It was totally denied and our basic democratic rights ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your suggestion?

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: So, Sir, we were agonized and it is condemnable. I think, it doesn't reflect precedents of this august House, and so also the incidents that happened after that were triggered only by the way we were treated. The Bill was not passed in the proper manner. The Members were not listened to, and we stand by the Opposition. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. Before the Ministers reply, I have some observations to make from the Chair because the Chair has been dragged into this unnecessarily. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am not giving any permission when I am on my legs.

What I am saying, the people are not able to hear. I said, the Chair has been dragged. That is why I will make some remarks and then allow the Government to give their version and then finally decide it. It is between the Government and the Opposition and the House. I don't come in the way. You don't want any action! Okay. You decide. You want any action, you decide. You want to withdraw the action, you decide. You

want to increase this, all these things are within the House powers. My point is very simple. ...(Interruptions)... नहीं, मैं खड़ा हूँ। ...(Interruptions)... This is about myself. I am not giving explanation on behalf of the Government. I will never give it also. That is for the Government and the Ruling Party, whatever they want to say. The Leader of the Opposition has made certain observations. I know him very well. He is a very experienced man, very sober, and also very gentle. Subsequently, Ram Gopal Yadavji made some very good suggestions. Then, Keshava Raoji also expressed concern and agony, as also Mr. Siva. My point is, at no time, the Chair -- Chair is not the Chairman alone; Chair is also the Deputy Chairman and the Panel of Vice-Chairmen -- should be dragged into this controversy. Let me say that from my side. Then you said 'unprecedented'. What is unprecedented? Fifteen Bills have been passed in the din, in this House and in the other House. If you want instances, I would give them, but I don't want to do that. I can make it available to Members later. Bills have been passed in the din in the recent past, before I became the Chairman, including important Bills.

Then, talking about suspension, this is not the first time. I am not happy about the suspensions. After all, they are my Members, they are our countrymen. The action is on their conduct, not the person. Try to understand that. We don't have anything against any Member as far as I am concerned. I have a long list of how people have been suspended in this House and in the other House. I am not using that example to justify things. I was convinced about the Minister's Motion and that is why I allowed it. And then, at no time, so far, has there been a division on the decision of suspension. If there are any shortcomings in the observations, you can write to me or meet me later. I am always ready to be corrected. Then, coming to the suspension of a Member who has been named by the Chair, the Rule says, "If a Member is so named by the Chairman he shall forthwith put the question on a motion being made, no amendment, adjournment or debate being allowed, that the Member (naming him) be suspended from the service of the Council for a period not exceeding the remainder of the Session." So, this was done as per the rules. That is my observation and my ruling also.

Coming to the issue of not allowing the Motion, the rule clearly says that it should be a resolution to remove the Deputy Chairman, and not a motion. The Opposition or any Member has got a right to move a resolution, but if you go through the text, or the beginning itself, it is a No Confidence 'Motion'. It should have been

[Mr. Chairman]

a resolution. I am not on the technical point alone. Article 90 of the Constitution says, "(c) may be removed from his office by a resolution of the Council passed by a majority of all the then members of the Council: Provided that no resolution for the purpose of clause (c) shall be moved unless at least fourteen days notice has been given of the intention to move the resolution." There was no 14 days' prior notice. That is clear. That is the rule. At any time, if you have the numbers. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO: No, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wait. Let me complete.

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO: Sir, 14 days are not there in this Session.. ...(*Interruptions*)... How have they continued?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, agreed.

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO: So you can have the power.. ...(*Interruptions*)... to remove them from House. That is your judgement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, you are right. It is not judgement, that is the rule. The rule says, '14 days'. He is right. After 14 days, we have to take up that resolution if the resolution is in order. Now, only two or three days have gone by since I received the notice. Now, one, the notice is not in order because it mentions 'Motion' and not 'Resolution' and, second is the 14 days' time. Now, the interpretation is, within that time-period, the Deputy Chairman shall not preside over the House. That is wrong. That would be after I agree to take it up for consideration. When the resolution is under the consideration of the House, the person against whom the resolution has been moved is not supposed to preside over the House. That is the rule position. Please try to understand.

Then, coming to the issue, people are trying to put the blame on the Chair for extending the time of the House. Members may ask for extension of time, or may say that the time is sufficient, whatever it may be, and then the Chair would come to a conclusion, because the Chair is guided by the time allotted. The time allotted was four hour. According to the information that we have, Members who had given their names were allowed to speak. All Members, who have given the names, have been allowed to speak. So, Members spoke according to the time allotted to their parties. That is one.

Secondly, the Minister was to reply. So, the Deputy Chairman asked the Minister to give the reply and then go ahead. Then, I come to the issues raised with regard to 'division'. Yes; Members have a right to ask for division on different occasions. On that occasion also, they asked for division. The proceedings say, thirteen times the Deputy Chairman, from here, said, "Please go to your seats; I will allow division". You can verify it on record. If there is something wrong, you can again bring it to our notice and we can rectify the mistakes for future. Thirteen times! 13 बार उन्होंने यहां से announce किया। ...*(व्यवधान)*... But they have not gone. That is as far as the procedures are concerned. Now, I give the instances where Members of different parties, including the ruling party, were suspended earlier. Ruling party Members were also suspended in the House when the House had taken up a particular resolution. Secondly, there are a number of instances where the House has passed the Bills without division, in din also. It is not a healthy thing; I do agree. But there are a number of instances. Thirdly, the Deputy Chairman gave a caution and told them thirteen times. I don't want to prolong it from my side. I am coming to what Ram Gopalji, Keshava Raoji and others have said. To err is human. Emotions में थोड़ा हो गया। I am happy that, at least, some leaders said what happened was not good, but some leaders are justifying it. It is a different matter. I have not named anybody; I don't want to name anybody. Please read today's newspapers. In the heat or, sometimes, in emotion, the Members do something and then, later on, realizing it, they say that they should not have done it or make a statement that they should not have done it. But you go through today's newspapers. The Indian Express has carried an interview of all the eight Members who have been suspended. They all justified it. They not only justified it, they said ...*(Interruptions)*... प्लीज़, ऐसा मत करिए। We are on an emotive issue. They not only justified it, but said what wrong in that was and some of them have also confirmed that they have done it that they went to the Well. What is that? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not saying it this way or that way. ...*(Interruptions)*... जया जी, प्लीज़ ऐसा मत करिए। मैंने सबको रोका है। Even I have asked the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्रीमती जया बच्चन** (उत्तर प्रदेश): वे बोले जा रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति**: बोल रहे हैं तो रिकॉर्ड में रहेगा। आपने कुछ बोला, वे भी बोल रहे हैं। दोनों को नहीं बोलना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्रीमती जया बच्चन**: इनकी वजह से ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**10.00 A.M.**

**श्री सभापति:** किसकी वजह से क्या हुआ, वह देशवासी तय करेंगे, देश की जनता तय करेगी।

Then, getting onto the Table and dancing; nothing wrong! Tearing the papers; nothing wrong! Throwing them into the House; nothing wrong! Going to the Deputy Chairman; this side and that side! Some Members justified all this. I cannot justify it. I do agree with Ram Gopalji that somebody has done it on the spur of the moment or sometimes it happens emotionally; I do agree. If they realize, then that is a different matter and the Chair or the House or the parties should take note of that. Four hours were allocated and every party participated. Bills were passed in din earlier also. So, don't try to put the blame on the Chair or whoever was presiding over the Chair. The Deputy Chairman, I must again put it on record, acted with utmost restraint. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is your view. He handled the situation in a very deft manner.

And, then, if some people feel, "whether my way or highway", that is not the way. I will not accept it. You have the numbers. You should stay in your seat, ask for division, and if the Deputy Chairman has not allowed the division, then, I would...*(Interruptions)*... Please, when the Chair is on his legs...*(Interruptions)*... When the time has exhausted, when he tells you to go to your seats and ask for division, you don't bother. Now, you say that the Government did not have the numbers. I don't want to get into that. That is not my business, whether the Government has the numbers or does not have numbers, they will say that. When the occasion comes, it can be proved. Even today or tomorrow, at the earliest, if there is an occasion, if a Member asks for division as per the rules, the Deputy Chairman will definitely allow it and it can be proved as to who has the numbers and who does not have numbers and all.

Then, I come to the last point. I don't want to take further time. We are also pained. We are also human beings. We are doing our duty. What is happening has an effect on our health also and the health of many of the Members. Why don't you think about that also? Moreover, there is a general COVID instruction for the people. I did not know that this situation was going to come. Three days back, I had said it in the House to please follow the guidelines, keep distance and also wear masks for future. Then, what happened yesterday, in the backdrop of that, it is totally unsustainable. Then, I have directed the Secretary-General today. The entire campus is in the administrative control of the Speaker. As the Chairman, I have directed my Secretary-General to get in touch with the Lok Sabha Secretariat and see to it that proper care

is taken about the people who are protesting, though the Secretary-General reminded me and also showed me on 13th of this month, before the start of the Session -- at that time, no dispute or no hungama was there -- the rule that Members cannot use the precincts of the Parliament House for any demonstration, dharna, strike, fast or for the purpose of performing a religious ceremony also. That is the instruction. Keeping that in view, I appeal to the Members to follow the instructions. Whatever you want to say or do, do it democratically and also follow the health advisory. It is in your own interest and also in the interest of others, and also in the interest of the people of the country. Democracy means debate, discussion and decision, not disruption. Now, the Leader of the House...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, in protest we are walking out...(Interruptions)...for the entire Session. ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सभापति महोदय, आपने मेरी प्रार्थना...(व्यवधान)...

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber)

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA(Karnataka): Sir, I want to say something.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let it be over. There cannot be a remark on remarks of the Chair. ...(Interruptions)... I will give you a chance. Now, the Leader of the House.

सभा के नेता (श्री थावरचन्द गहलोत): माननीय सभापति महोदय, आपने नेता प्रतिपक्ष को बोलने का अवसर दिया और उन्होंने अपनी बातें रखीं। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Sir, please allow me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give you an opportunity. The Leader of the House is speaking.

श्री थावरचन्द गहलोत: दो दिन पूर्व की जो घटना है, उन्होंने उसको दुखद बताया, परंतु दुखद बताने के साथ ही साथ उसको सही ठहराने की कोशिश की और आसन्दी से जो-जो निर्णय हुए, उनको गलत ठहराने की कोशिश की।...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Sir...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give you an opportunity. The Leader of the House is on his legs.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Sir, I will take just one minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: Sir, I would like to make a request to the Government, the Opposition and you. In my 60 years of experience, I have seen such circumstances in Bengaluru. As an Opposition leader, I worked. I would request you that the Government should also come to some understanding. Both the Opposition and the Government should sit together and help you to run the House. With all sincerity, I am requesting you. I know you. I have seen the circumstances. On 20th, when I came here and took the oath, whatever expression you had made, I am supremely happy. The only thing is whether we have come to a breaking point. No. Democracy should work. Cooperation of the Opposition is not the question of numerical strength. I will tell you when one Member, Mr. Vatal Nagaraj, was suspended, I allowed the Government to run the House smoothly, withdrawing the decision made by the Speaker. It is not the Speaker; it is the Government stand. I told that to Devaraja Urs. With experience, I tell you this. If you want to run the House, please, I am watching every day, we have not come here for protest. Sir, everybody is sincere. As far as the question of any Bill is concerned, 'x' may say something, 'y' may say something, but, ultimately, the decision of the House, we have to accept. Please think over it. ...(Interruptions)..

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is saying something. Let him complete.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: I appeal to you to think over it. I was watching the Deputy Chairman. Such a thing, I have not seen.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Devegowda ji. Now, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shri Pralhad Joshi.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL (Maharashtra): Sir, please allow me to speak. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: I appeal to the Government... ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, Devegowda ji, I take it in good spirit. ...(Interruptions)...  
Now, Shri Pralhad Joshi, Parliamentary Affairs Minister. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, please allow me. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will allow you. Please sit down. I will allow you. Please don't



force me and say hear me first and then others. ऐसा कैसे होता है? There is the Chair who has to regulate the House. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister wants to say something.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL; AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, you have expressed your agony and pain, and, equally, we are also pained. In democracy, both the Opposition and the Ruling Party should discuss together, as you rightly said. Ghulam Nabi Azad ji raised a few issues. First, he raised the issue of time restriction. उन्होंने कहा कि समय का restriction नहीं रहना चाहिए। सर, मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो समय का restriction है, यह हमारे आने के बाद या आपके आने के बाद से नहीं हुआ है, पहले से ही समय का restriction है ही, क्योंकि we have got some limitations.

I would also like to put it on record that many leaders have personally spoken to me and they have told to conclude it as early as possible. We work under your leadership and guidance, and, I always take your guidance. You were the National President of the Party when I was the District President. I always take your advice and as per your advice to talk to all other leaders. When they suggested early conclusion, I said, "If you want to conclude early, then, regarding the discussion of Bills, it all depends on you, how much time should be allocated for the discussion". The timing is allocated in the Business Advisory Committee and that is followed. Even for the Bills which were passed day before yesterday, four hours were allocated. Exact at 9.30 in the morning, you started the discussion and till 1 o'clock, it went on. At 1 o'clock, I requested for the extension of time till the disposal of those two particular Bills.

May I ask, through you, Sir, is it the first time that we have extended the timing of the House? Many times, even in this current Session, we have extended the time of the sitting twice or thrice till, 1.30 or 1.45 p.m. We have done that, Sir. The intention of the Government was that since the discussion was complete, as per the decision in the Business Advisory Committee, we wanted to complete it. They are talking about the division. As soon as I requested for the extension of time, the Members were in the Well. I appeal to them, through you, to look at the proceedings which have been recorded. As soon as I said, they came into the Well and the first person who was to move the Resolution for sending it to the Committee, whose seat is allocated in the gallery at the top, but he was here in this Well, and, he was saying -- of course, it has not gone on record -- "Sir, you please wait; I will go and move it". But even then he did not go and move the same. These are all the things. When the procedure to move

[Shri Pralhad Joshi]

the Resolution for sending it to the Committee was going on, the Deputy Chairman, many times, requested them to go back to their seats and said that he was ready to allow the division; 13 times. Is it not a painful that in this House of Elders, which is the most respected House, we saw Members going to the Deputy Chairman, almost attacking him, and, is it not true that one of the Marshalls was physically attacked? Was he not thrown away? Is it the way to behave in the House? Even after that, as you rightly said, Sir, if they express regret, the Government is not bent upon to keep them away and run the business. We are on a very strong footing, Sir. Even on this Bill, I don't want to go into the merit of this Bill, but all parties have promised in their manifestos, including Bhartiya Janta Party...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, don't go into it.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: I am not going into it. That itself is there. But in spite of that, we are ready for the discussion because we are on a very strong footing. And, last point, Sir.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, please allow us also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already called the Leader of the House. He was on his legs.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, let me just finish. Another point is, when they are talking about the numbers, on that day particularly, in our favour it was 110 and in their favour, it was 72, which can be proved again. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. ...*(Interruptions)*.. That is different. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, we also want to speak. He is saying ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: And, Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: If he feels that it is incorrect, I will ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, please allow us also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down, Praful ji. I will call you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will call you.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, if you say, I will withdraw it. I don't have any prestige issue on that. But I can very confidently say that we had the numbers and we were ready for the division also. And if they express regret and come here, today also, if there is a division, we are okay with that.

Sir, she talked about the MSP; why it is announced. Sir, it is an ongoing process. Before this also, MSP was there and now a decision has been taken when the appropriate time has come.

I would also like to say that he called it 'illegitimate', which is very, very unfortunate. I would only say that one week in the morning and one week in the evening was decided after the Speaker and the Chairman had a talk with each other. Still, if all the leaders, under your guidance, want to extend the time and discuss more, the Government is quite open. We are not running away from discussion. Once again, I appeal to them, for whatever has happened -- people went up to the Deputy Chairman, almost near him -- if they express regret, the Government is not very particular that they should be kept out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, you have made that point. Let us hear first Mr. Praful and then we will come to the Leader of the House.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was not going to speak, but after you spoke, I am feeling a little compelled to speak. My party and myself, you are aware, have never entered the Well of the House or done anything which is not in the best parliamentary traditions. We have followed that throughout. Sometimes we are misunderstood also even in the Opposition because we maintain a certain decorum in the House. Whatever happened, Sir, we agree that it was unfortunate. But considering all that, after you rose and were speaking, I felt that whatever happened in the heat of the moment, you understood the sentiments of some of the Members of the House and you, in your wisdom and in your compassion, would have agreed to withdraw the suspension of the eight Members, which happened yesterday. So, I appeal to you that it is not the question of right or wrong. We agree that when you say certain things, we take it absolutely as words of wisdom and guidance. I once again appeal to you that in the best interest and the best traditions of the Parliamentary democracy, though these incidents should not have happened in this august House, if you could consider and withdraw the suspension, it will be going a long way in building the trust deficit which has developed between the ruling side and the opposition side.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Ram Chandra Prasad Singh ji. Sorry, Leader of the House, one minute. Normally it does not happen.

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): सभापति जी, इमोशन्स के बारे में बोला जा रहा है।  
...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, if you are not taking any decision, I may be considered to withdraw. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever you want to do, you can do. ...(*Interruptions*)...  
When you say something, you must be ready to hear the other side also.  
...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: No, Sir, if you are not responding, ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can't respond without the House accepting whatever you say.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, please give a message ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you want to make your point and don't want to hear the others, I leave it to you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: Sir, I expected you to respond. I appeal to you, Sir,  
...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You were not there when I made a mention. I said it.  
...(*Interruptions*)... If they feel sorry, then it can be done. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: If you were...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL: We withdraw from the House. ...(*Interruptions*)..

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: We withdraw from the House. ...(*Interruptions*)..

*(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. ...(*Interruptions*)... Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)... Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh. ...(*Interruptions*)... Keshava Rao ji, then it will be unending.  
...(*Interruptions*)... Dharmendra ji. ...(*Interruptions*)... Anybody who makes a speech or

suggestion must wait for others also to speak and hear their suggestions, and then if you are not satisfied with the Government response, you can protest. If you say 'what I say everybody must hear and I will not hear others,' this is not fair. And then you make an appeal to the Chair. The Chair can go by the mood of the House or what is proposed before me. Even later I cannot. I would have advised the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs provided the Member shall not have gone on record justifying their action. Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh.

**श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह:** सर, यहाँ emotions के बारे में चर्चा की गई। Emotion और intention में बहुत फर्क है। जो emotion है, वह spur of the moment में होता है। वह कुछ minutes last करेगा, कुछ घंटे last करेगा, लेकिन यह कई दिनों तक कर रहा है। सर, intention क्या था? अभी यहाँ एक माननीय सांसद थे, वे चले गए, वे division की माँग कर रहे थे। वे एक सीनियर सांसद हैं। सर, मैं तो यहाँ बैठा था, प्रसन्न जी भी थे। वहाँ जा कर वे एक बार नहीं, तीन बार, चार बार कागज फाड़ कर हरिवंश बाबू पर फेंक रहे थे। अगर वे division की माँग करते हैं, तो कम से कम order रहेगा, तब तो division होगा! वे बार-बार बोल रहे थे। सर, इसलिए intention को देखा जाना चाहिए। जिस तरह से वहाँ किया गया, हरिवंश बाबू के ऊपर slap दिखाया गया, सर, यह तो हरिवंश बाबू की शालीनता है कि कोई भी unprecedented घटना नहीं घटी। यह कोई अच्छी चीज नहीं है। आप ऐसा करें भी और ऊपर से दादागिरी भी करें! सर, आपने आदेश दिया, अगर ये लोग बात करते हैं, लोकतंत्र में विश्वास करते हैं, तो ये क्यों नहीं सदन छोड़ कर गए? तब तो आप कोई भी आदेश करेंगे, उसका पालन नहीं होगा। इतना ही नहीं, ये बाहर जाकर धरने पर बैठ गए, जैसे लगता है कि देश की आजादी के लिए लड़ाई लड़ रहे हैं। सर, यह चीज, जो intention है, उसको देखा जाना चाहिए। To err is human, वह ठीक है, लेकिन अगर गलती के पीछे आपकी मंशा गलत है, तो उसको माफ नहीं किया जाना चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the House. I am sorry, Thaawarchand ji, this has never happened. Once the Leader is on his legs, he must be given the chance. But I yielded because of the age and seniority of Devegowda ji. Now I am seeing a tendency...(Interruptions)... Some people say 'first hear me' whatever...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA (Himachal Pradesh): Then they don't listen to the ruling party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the practice. ...(Interruptions)... The Leader of the House.

**श्री थावरचन्द गहलोत:** सर, मैंने आपका आदेश शिरोधार्य किया।

माननीय सभापति महोदय, आपने नेता, प्रतिपक्ष को बोलने का अवसर दिया। उन्होंने लंबी-चौड़ी बातें करके कोशिश यह की है कि विपक्ष की कोई गलती नहीं है, बल्कि आसंदी की गलती है। यह कदापि उचित नहीं है। उस दिन की घटना को हर कोई दुखद और निंदनीय बता रहा है। एलओपी ने भी यह कहा कि वह घटना दुखद थी, अच्छी नहीं थी और जो दुखद और अच्छी घटना नहीं थी, उसको उन्होंने आसंदी के खिलाफ बोल कर सिद्ध करने की कोशिश की कि जो कुछ हुआ था, वह उचित हुआ था और आसंदी ने गलत निर्णय किया था। मैं यह उचित नहीं समझता हूँ और यह बात रिकॉर्ड में लाना चाहता हूँ। घटना की जानकारी तो सबने दे दी, मैं उसको दोहराना नहीं चाहता। मेरा भी 35 साल का संसदीय जीवन है। मैंने जीवन में इतनी दुखद घटना कभी भी नहीं देखी थी। माइक तोड़ देना, आपकी टेबल पर यहाँ साइड में आकर बैठ जाना, हरिवंश जी के ऊपर हाथ उठाना, माइक तोड़ने के साथ-साथ ही टेबल पर भी चढ़ जाना, रूल्स की किताबें फाड़ना, बिल की कॉपी फाड़ना, इस प्रकार का जो घटनाक्रम है, वह दुखद है और बहुत निंदनीय है। एलओपी ने भी इस बात की निंदा की है; दुखद है, यह भी कहा है; उसके बाद भी उन्होंने आसंदी पर आक्षेप किया, यह कदापि उचित नहीं है। आसंदी ने जो निर्णय किया, वह उचित किया है। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि आसंदी का निर्णय सर्वोपरि है। आसंदी के निर्णय की अवमानना करना उचित नहीं है।

माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय उपसभापति, श्री हरिवंश जी ने आज 22 सितम्बर की तारीख में आपको एक पत्र लिखा है। मैं उस पत्र को पढ़ना चाहता हूँ।

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, प्लीज़...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री थावरचन्द गहलोत:** सर, कृपया आप मुझे अनुमति दीजिए।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, किसी दूसरे का पत्र आप नहीं पढ़ सकते। प्लीज़...(व्यवधान)....I can read if I want. It will be in public domain.

**श्री थावरचन्द गहलोत:** सर, मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है कि या तो आप मुझे इस पत्र को पढ़ने की अनुमति दें या आप पढ़कर सुनाएं।

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, नहीं, आपने सुझाव दिया, यह ठीक है।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री थावरचन्द गहलोत:** सर, कृपया मुझे अनुमति दे दीजिए।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, नहीं, प्लीज़...(व्यवधान).... आपको जो कहना है, कह दीजिए।

**श्री थावरचन्द गहलोत:** उन्होंने आपको पत्र लिखकर उस घटना की जानकारी दी है, साथ ही उनके जीवन में उन्होंने अभी तक क्या-क्या किया है, उन सब बातों की भी जानकारी दी है।

उस दिन की घटना का सारा वर्णन उस पत्र में दिया गया है और आपसे आग्रह किया गया है कि इस प्रकार की घटना नहीं होनी चाहिए और इस पर कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए। सर, मैं उस पत्र को पढ़ना चाहता हूँ, कृपया मुझे पढ़ने दीजिए।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, प्लीज़...(व्यवधान)... नहीं, प्लीज़...(व्यवधान).... Thank you. Now that the leader of the House has mentioned it, I would tell the House that the Deputy Chairman wrote a letter to me expressing his commitment to democracy, the way he was conducting the House, what has happened, how he was treated and then he said that there was a need to arouse the conscience of the people. ...(Interruptions)... मुझे क्या कहना है, यह मेरे ऊपर छोड़ दीजिए। आपने सुझाव दिया, उसको मैं जरूर देखूंगा।...(व्यवधान)... He said that he wants to observe, what you call, not hunger strike, but self-fast to make the Members, who have behaved in such a manner, realize and introspect. इसी आशा से उन्होंने ऐसा किया। This is the Gandhian way; this is the JP way. So, keeping that in mind, we should not make controversies; we should not try to score political points. It was also brought to my notice that आज सुबह हरिवंश जी खुद घर से चाय बनाकर लाए और जो सदस्य वहां धरने पर बैठे हैं, उन सबको चाय पिलाई। यह मानवता और गांधीवादी पद्धति केवल आज नहीं, शुरू से ही वे अपनाते रहे हैं। उनके जीवन के बारे में हम सबको मालूम है, इसीलिए सब लोगों ने अपने विवेक के आधार पर, उपसभापति के रूप में उनको चुनकर यहां भेजा। मैं जानता हूँ कि उनको कितनी पीड़ा हुई होगी। बाहर उन्होंने इसकी कोई डिटेल् नहीं बताई कि यहां उनके बारे-बारे में क्या-क्या बोला गया। That is why, I used the word 'yesterday'. He was not only accused but he was also abused. यह नहीं होना चाहिए। If people do not realize what they have done is wrong and if they justify it, then I leave it to their wisdom and I leave it to the wisdom of the people who are saying - नहीं, नहीं, जो हो गया सो हो गया। ठीक है, जो हो गया, हो गया। The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs also said that provided they realize it. We want the House to run. As Chairman and Deputy Chairman, we want the House to run. We want full participation, we want everybody to give their views and then finally, the House to come to a conclusion. That is why I always say, I repeat it, discuss, debate and then decide and not disrupt. This is one. Secondly, the Government proposes; the Opposition opposes; and the House disposes. But you must allow the House to dispose it. You don't allow the House to function and then create this thing. That is not a healthy trend. If you accept that, then people will start doing that. That is why I appeal to all the leaders of different parties to understand the need to maintain decency and decorum, standards and values of this great House. We are Elders' House. The scenes which are appearing on television are paining every Indian and hurting the image of this august House. Now, trying to put

[श्री सभापति]

the blame on somebody else, trying to put the blame on the Chair and trying to make it very simple as if it was concerning with only that particular Bill is not fair. So, let everybody do some introspection. Then, if there is some procedural thing, what is to be followed, that can be followed. Members are free to convey to me or bring to my notice also, I am always willing to go through that. जैसा मैंने कहा, मुझे बताया गया कि इतना सब होते हुए भी आज उपसभापति, श्री हरिवंश जी संसद परिसर में धरने पर बैठे हुए सांसदों के लिए स्वयं सुबह की चाय आग्रहपूर्वक लेकर गए। हरिवंश जी की पहल हमारे उत्कृष्ट लोकतांत्रिक संस्कारों को दिखाती है, उनकी पहल लोकतंत्र के लिए एक शुभ संकेत है। मैं अभी भी कह रहा हूँ, मेरी हिन्दी ठीक है, ऐसा मैं समझता हूँ। अंततः वे हमारे सदस्य हैं, जो बाहर बैठे हैं, वे हमारे सदस्य हैं। उन लोगों को भी समझ में आना चाहिए कि उन्होंने यह जो काम किया है, वह स्वीकार्य नहीं है। पार्लियामेन्टरी पद्धति में उसको स्वीकार नहीं कर सकते। उन्होंने जो किया, उसे वे लोग set right करने के लिए पश्चाताप कर रहे हैं तो बतायें। हम आगे बढ़ेंगे, यह अच्छा होगा, लोकतंत्र के लिए अच्छा होगा। इसलिए मैं अपील करता हूँ to all people, please follow the rules, regulations and try to keep up the standards of this one.

And for the sake of record, I want to further say that that day full time was allotted for discussion. The discussion was over. Mr. Deputy Chairman went on record thirteen times saying 'that he is willing to go for division if you go to your seats, if the House is in order.' Creating disorder and then asking point of order is not going to make any help. I am just reiterating that. Then, as far as the House traditions are concerned, as I told you, I am not happy to quote them. How many times Members were suspended, when, who; all those details are there for some of the people who want to make study. I appeal to the media also, please understand the issue fully. Do not try to focus only on one incident and then try to put it in such a way. Try to understand the background of the entire issue. And my duty, my worry is running the House. You make fiery speech within the parliamentary system. Attack the Government, no problem at all. ...(Interruptions)... The Government must respond and they would respond to their ability. You are not happy. What is the way in Parliament? Talk out, walk out or vote out; otherwise, democracy would be all out. This has to be understood by one and all. Often I have been saying this because this new tendency has come. ...(Interruptions)... Please understand this and see to it that everybody follows this thing.

The hon. Minister of Education was speaking about the IIIT Laws (Amendment)



Bill, 2020. He can continue and then the House would sit as long as it is necessary and then Chair would decide after taking the sense of the House. I once again appeal to all the parties, their leaders, please rethink, retrospect, come back to the House and participate in the discussion.

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(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

## GOVERNMENT BILLS

### The Indian Institutes Of Information Technology Laws

#### (Amendment) Bill, 2020\*

शिक्षा मंत्री (श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक'): उपसभापति महोदय, कल मैंने भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी अधिनियम, 2014 का और संशोधन करने वाले तथा भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान प्राइवेट, पब्लिक भागीदारी अधिनियम, 2017 का संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक को यहां प्रस्तुत किया था और मैंने कहा था कि हमारे देश में कुल 25 ट्रिपल आईटीज़ हैं और जिनमें जिन पांच को विशुद्ध तरीके से केन्द्र सरकार संचालित करती है, उनमें प्रयागराज, ग्वालियर, जबलपुर, कांचीपुरम और कुर्नूल है और जो 15 ट्रिपल आईटीज़ हैं, वे पीपीपी मोड में संचालित हो रहे हैं, वे 2017 के अधिनियम से संचालित हो रहे हैं। उपसभापति जी, हम इस बिल के माध्यम से भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान अधिनियम, 2014 की धारा 41(3) के अंतर्गत भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों की काउंसिल की सदस्यता में उत्पन्न शाब्दिक बेमेल को समाप्त करना चाहते हैं, जिसमें एक जगह निर्वाचित के स्थान पर नामनिर्दिष्ट शब्द की स्थापना होनी है, ताकि 41(3), धारा 40 के अनुरूप हो जाए और अधिनियम में समरूपता हो जाए और इस अधिनियम की जो मूल भावना है, वह उसके अंदर समाहित हो जाए।

उपसभापति जी, 2017 का जो अधिनियम है, इस अधिनियम के तहत सार्वजनिक निजी भागीदारी में भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों में से 15 संस्थान हैं, जिनमें श्री सिटी, चित्तूर (आंध्र प्रदेश), गुवाहाटी (असम), वडोदरा (गुजरात), सोनीपत (हरियाणा), ऊना (हिमाचल प्रदेश), रांची (झारखंड), धारवाड़ (कर्नाटक), कोट्टयम (केरल), नागपुर (महाराष्ट्र), पुणे (महाराष्ट्र), सेनापति (मणिपुर), कोटा (राजस्थान), तिरुचिरापल्ली (तमिलनाडु), कल्याणी (पश्चिम बंगाल) और लखनऊ (उत्तर प्रदेश) में हैं। ये संस्थान ट्रिपल आईटी पीपीपी मोड अधिनियम, 2017 के प्रावधानों के अंतर्गत संचालित हो रहे हैं और इसी में जो 5 नए संस्थान हैं, जो कि सूरत (गुजरात), भोपाल (मध्य प्रदेश), भागलपुर (बिहार), अगरतला (त्रिपुरा) और रायचूर (कर्नाटक) में स्थित हैं और जो अभी संचालित हुए हैं। अब हम इन पाँचों को इस अधिनियम के तहत लाने के लिए आज यह प्रस्ताव सदन के सामने

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\* Further discussion continued from the 21st September, 2020.

[श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक']

लाए हैं। ये संस्थान इस अधिनियम के अंतर्गत आने से राष्ट्रीय महत्व के संस्थान हो जाएंगे और इन्हें डिप्लोमा, डिग्री, पीएच.डी., इत्यादि उपाधियाँ देने का कानूनी अधिकार मिल जाएगा। महोदय, मुझे सदन को यह कहते हुए खुशी है कि इन ट्रिपल आईटीज़ में कुल मिलाकर लगभग 14,000 विद्यार्थी बी.टेक, एम.टेक व पीएच.डी. की शिक्षा प्राप्त कर रहे हैं तथा लगभग 450 संकाय सदस्य अध्यापन करा रहे हैं। सार्वजनिक-निजी भागीदारी में भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान स्थापित करने का उद्देश्य एक तो उद्योग की सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी की आवश्यकता के अनुसार उनके पाठ्यक्रमों को तैयार करना और विद्यार्थियों को उद्योगों की आवश्यकता के अनुसार विकसित करना है तथा दूसरा, सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी के क्षेत्र में उच्च गुणवत्तापूर्ण शोधकार्य को शीर्ष प्राथमिकता देना है। ये नए संस्थान इन दोनों उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति में बहुत अहम रोल अदा करेंगे।

उपसभापति जी, मुझे यह कहते हुए खुशी है कि यह देश का एक ऐसा नवीनतम मॉडल है, जो अद्भुत है। इसके माध्यम से भारत सरकार, राज्य सरकार और उद्योगों के बीच एक समन्वय करके ऐसे विद्यार्थियों को तैयार करना है, जो राष्ट्र की प्रगति में अपना शिखर स्थान सुनिश्चित कर सकें। आज ये जो पाँच संस्थान इसके साथ जुड़ रहे हैं, ये निश्चित रूप में भारत का गौरव बढ़ाएँगे, हमारे आईआईआईटीज़ ने पूरी दुनिया में हमारा गौरव बढ़ाया है। इन पाँचों को भी इसके साथ समाहित करते हुए मैं सदन से विनम्र अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि वह इस महत्वपूर्ण बिल को सर्वसम्मति से पारित करे।

*The question was proposed.*

**श्री उपसभापति:** धन्यवाद, माननीय मंत्री जी। श्री पी. एल. पुनिया। Not present. श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा।

**श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा (असम):** माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे 'The Indian Institutes of Information Technology Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020' पर बोलने की अनुमति दी। मैं अपनी पार्टी का भी धन्यवाद ज्ञापित करता हूँ कि मुझे इस पर बोलने का मौका दिया गया। मैं इस बिल के समर्थन में बोल रहा हूँ। मैं यह कदम उठाने के लिए सरकार को धन्यवाद ज्ञापित करता हूँ। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में यह सरकार एक positive attitude लेकर चल रही है। ऑनरेबल एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर ने बिल मूव करते समय जो बोला है, वे पहले लोक सभा में भी बोल चुके हैं, मैं इसके लिए उनको भी धन्यवाद ज्ञापित करता हूँ कि वे आज इस बिल को इस सदन में लाये। रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक' जी मंत्री बनने के बाद नई एजुकेशन पॉलिसी के अंतर्गत बहुत सारे परिवर्तन लाने पर विचार भी कर रहे हैं। इसके लिए हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर, ऑनरेबल नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने परमिशन दी और केबिनेट में लाने का विचार भी किया। सर, ऑनरेबल मंत्री जी ने बताया कि इंडिया में जो हमारे उच्च शिक्षा संस्थान हैं, National Institutes of Information Technology, उन्हें बढ़ावा देने के लिए जो कदम उठाने

चाहिए, वे कदम उठा रहे हैं। उन्होंने बताया कि information technology के पाँच इंस्टीट्यूट्स सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट चला रही है और बाकी 15 भी चल रहे हैं। इनमें जो बाकी पाँच रह गए थे, जैसे सूरत, भोपाल, भागलपुर, अगरतला और रायचूर, इन पाँचों को institutes of national importance बनाने की घोषणा कर रहे हैं। सर, मैं देख रहा हूँ हमारी गवर्नमेंट, ऑनरेबल मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में अपनी पॉलिसी में विश्वस्तरीय संस्थान बनाने की व्यवस्था को बढ़ावा दे रही है। मेरे घर के पास ही National Institute of Design है, उसको अभी इससे जोड़ा नहीं गया है, फिर भी National Institute of Design, Jorhat, Assam को institute of national importance घोषित किया गया है और इससे इसे बहुत बढ़ावा भी मिल रहा है।

सर, ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर ने पीपीपी मॉडल के बारे में बताया। यह पीपीपी मॉडल एक अनोखा मॉडल है, जहाँ पर राज्य सरकार, केन्द्र सरकार और उद्योग, तीनों मिलकर चलाएंगे। यह first मॉडल है, जो अच्छी तरह से चलेगा। मंत्री जी का जो आश्वासन है, यह सिर्फ आश्वासन नहीं है, जो प्रतिश्रुति है, जो उन्होंने बोला है, I think in the long run it will continue, हमें इसका बहुत अच्छा फल मिलेगा। The Bill is declaring the remaining five IIITs in PPP, along with the existing 15 Indian Institutes of Information Technology in Public Private Partnership mode as 'Institutions of National Importance' with powers to award degree. यह व्यवस्था पहले नहीं थी, लेकिन अब अवॉर्ड देने की जो व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं, this will entitle them to use B.Tech, M.Tech or Ph.D degree as issued by the Universities. It will also enable the Institutes to attract enough students required to develop a strong research base in the country in the field of information technology. मैं मंत्री जी को इसके लिए धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि वे इसे केबिनेट में लेकर आए और केबिनेट ने इसे वरीयता दी। प्राइम मिनिस्टर नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में पूरे देश में जो विश्व संस्थान हैं; इसको मैं फिर दोहरा रहा हूँ और प्राइम मिनिस्टर को इसके लिए धन्यवाद भी देता हूँ। कोई कुछ भी बोले, वह बात अलग है, लेकिन हम लोग देख रहे हैं, देश देख रहा है कि इसे तरक्की की तरफ बढ़ाने की व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं। सर, जहाँ तक मेरी जानकारी है, ये 5 IIITs, Societies Registration Act, 1860 के अंतर्गत रजिस्टर्ड थे। इनमें कुछ कमी नहीं थी, लेकिन अब institutes of national importance घोषित होने के बाद they can award degrees. सर, अभी देश में जो नई एजुकेशन पॉलिसी बनाने की बात है, उसमें information technology की बहुत importance है और इसको ध्यान में रखते हुए ऑनरेबल मंत्री जी ने पाँच आईआईआईटीज़ को institutes of national importance घोषित किया है। सर, जब हम त्रिपुरा पहुंचे, तब अगरतला के स्टूडेंट्स मुझसे बोल रहे थे कि हमारा फ्यूचर क्या होगा? Institutes of national importance घोषित होने के बाद इन पाँचों आईआईआईटीज़ के स्टूडेंट्स का मनोबल बढ़ेगा and they will be secured in future. इससे उन्हें नौकरी मिलेगी या जो information technology में हाथ बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, उन्हें रास्ता मिलेगा और जो फ्यूचर विज़न है, उसे आगे ले जा सकेंगे।

[श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा]

सर, आप जानते हैं कि Indian Institutes of Information Technology Act, 2014 and the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Public-Private Partnership) Act, 2017 को संशोधित किया गया है। यह technology के challenge का सॉल्यूशन करने में महत्वपूर्ण साबित होगा। Information and technology में challenge को लेकर अभी सब लोग कोविड की बात कर रहे हैं। मुझे लगता है कि कोविड के टाइम में information technology का ज्यादा महत्व रहेगा, post-Covid period में information technology की और importance बढ़ेगी। सर, हमारी सरकार और माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने सत्ता संभालने के बाद maximum संस्थानों को वर्ल्ड क्लास बनाने के लिए ट्राई किया। सिर्फ आईआईआईटीज़ ही नहीं; आईआईआईटीज़ तो हैं ही; आईआईटीज़ को और ऊँची मर्यादा देने की भी सोच रहे हैं और इसकी problems solve करने के लिए ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर ने भी बोला है। He personally told us that teacher appointment, technical support, इसको meet करने के लिए जितना सपोर्ट चाहिए, हम लोगों की सरकार प्रयास कर रही है। जब यह meet होगा, जब problems solve हो जाएँगी, उसके बाद हम सोचते हैं कि IIITs की मर्यादा बढ़ेगी और बाकी institutions की मर्यादा भी बढ़ने वाली है। यह मैंने अपने डिस्ट्रिक्ट में importance घोषित करने के बारे में बोला। जब जोरहाट में NID स्थापित हुआ, तो इसका महत्व नहीं था। बाद में, जब Ministry of Commerce ने इसको national importance का घोषित किया, तो उसके बाद मैं देख रहा हूँ कि इसकी importance बढ़ रही है। चाहे अगरतला हो, भोपाल हो या रायचूर हो, इन पाँचों IIITs का महत्व बढ़ेगा। इनमें पढ़ने वाला, इनमें एजुकेशन लेने वाला information technology की तरफ आकर्षित होगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे अच्छा और कुछ नहीं हो सकता है। इस टाइम का यह एक बुलंद कदम है, जिसे हमारी सरकार ने उठाया है।

सर, मैं देख रहा हूँ कि केवल IIITs और हायर स्टडीज़ ही नहीं, बल्कि हमारी सरकार ने "दीन दयाल उपाध्याय ग्रामीण कौशल्य योजना", PMKKKY, जैसी योजनाएँ भी शुरू की हैं। कौशल विकास के लिए जो-जो काम करने चाहिए, उनमें भी यह सरकार अपना हाथ आगे बढ़ा रही है तथा unemployment की problem को solve करने की व्यवस्था भी कर रही है।

डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं माननीय पोखरियाल जी को इस बात के लिए धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि एक एजुकेशन मिनिस्टर होने के नाते वे काफी प्रयास कर रहे हैं। उन्होंने अपने बयान में कहा है कि information technology के क्षेत्र में पहली बार ऐसा PPP मॉडल आया है। यह पहली बार आया है, ऐसा उन्होंने लोक सभा में भी कहा है और आज यहाँ भी कह रहे हैं। वह राज्य सरकार, केन्द्र सरकार और उद्योगों के बीच ज्वाइंट मैनेजमेंट से चलेगा। वह 1,000 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा की लागत से स्थापित होने वाला है, जिसमें 50 परसेंट राशि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट देगी, 35 परसेंट राशि राज्य सरकार देगी तथा 15 परसेंट राशि उद्योग क्षेत्र से आएगी, ऐसी हम लोगों की जानकारी है। यह संस्थान jointly चलेगा और अच्छे से चलेगा। यह इसलिए भी

अच्छा है कि जो इंडस्ट्रियल सेक्टर है, उसमें लोगों की जो जरूरत है, उसके मुताबिक वे लोग information technology में स्टूडेंट्स देने का विचार भी कर रहे हैं।

मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ और मंत्री जी को भी धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में कुछ अलग व्यवस्था भी की गई है। जहाँ पर सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को 50 परसेंट देना था, वहाँ पर वह 57.5 परसेंट दे रही है। वहाँ पर राज्य सरकार 35 परसेंट दे रही है तथा उद्योग क्षेत्र के लोग वहाँ institutions के लिए 7.5 परसेंट देने वाले हैं। इस तरह, यह तीन क्षेत्रों की जो व्यवस्था है, यह निश्चित रूप से सफल होगी। माननीय एचआरडी मिनिस्टर ने कहा है कि उन institutions को चलाने के लिए उनको सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से जितनी हेल्प चाहिए, उतनी हेल्प उनको दी जाएगी। बाकी जो 15 IIITs हैं, वे इस समय अच्छी तरह से चल रहे हैं।

सर, मैं मंत्री जी से इस टाइम पर एक रिक्वेस्ट करना चाहता हूँ। गुवाहाटी में एक IIIT है, जो कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट की एक महत्वपूर्ण जगह है। यह मणिपुर में भी है और त्रिपुरा में भी है। त्रिपुरा में यह national importance का हो गया है। सर, आप जानते हैं कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का जो स्टूडेंट था, जो युवा था, वह पहले बन्दूक पकड़ता था। वहाँ पहले बहुत extremism था, separatism था, बहुत कुछ था। जब हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर सत्ता में आए, तो उसके बाद आप देखिए कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट शांत हो गया। वे कितनी बार नॉर्थ-ईस्ट गए, यह शायद आपको मालूम नहीं होगा। प्राइम मिनिस्टर हर समय नॉर्थ-ईस्ट पहुँचते हैं। हम लोगों के होम मिनिस्टर अमित शाह भी North-East पहुँचते हैं। एक टाइम ऐसा था, जब कांग्रेस के जमाने में एक प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने "बाय-बाय नॉर्थ-ईस्ट" बोल दिया था। My heart goes to the people of North-East, ऐसा बोलकर Chinese aggression के समय उन्होंने नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को छोड़ दिया था, लेकिन इस टाइम हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर उसको अपना रहे हैं। वे उसको इतना अपना रहे हैं कि वे हर सेंट्रल मिनिस्टर को नॉर्थ-ईस्ट जाने के लिए बोल रहे हैं। ऐसा पहले कभी नहीं हुआ था। हम लोगों को भाषा की भी प्रॉब्लम है। मेरे पास अरुणाचल प्रदेश के एमपी बैठे हुए हैं, उनकी ओर भी हमारी तरह लैंग्वेज में प्रॉब्लम है। हम न तो अच्छी हिन्दी बोल पाते हैं और इंग्लिश ही बोल पाते हैं, इसीलिए हम लोगों को काफी प्रॉब्लम होती है, फिर भी मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यहाँ पर जितने सेंट्रल मिनिस्टर्स बैठे हुए हैं, इन्होंने नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को अपने दिल में बिठाया, उस पर थोड़ा ध्यान दिया और अब देखिए कि वहाँ extremism खत्म हो रहा है। अब तो ऐसा हो गया है कि हम लोग इंडिया का पार्ट हैं, ऐसा माना जाता है। अगरतला को इसमें इन्क्लूड करके आपने बहुत अच्छा किया। मैंने कल देखा, एक वामपंथी त्रिपुरा में बोल रहा था, त्रिपुरा की तरक्की हो रही है। अगरतला में information technology को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए मंत्री जी ने जो व्यवस्था की है, उसके लिए मैं उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

अब मैं फिर एक रिक्वेस्ट करूँगा कि गुवाहाटी को इसलिए भी महत्व देना चाहिए, क्योंकि it is a hub of North-East. यह नॉर्थ-ईस्ट का gateway है। इसको अगर आपने बढ़ावा दिया,

[श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा]

तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। आप मणिपुर में देखिए, वहाँ पहले कितनी खराब स्थिति थी, लेकिन हमारी गवर्नमेंट आने के बाद, वहाँ एन. बीरेन सिंह जी के आने के बाद अब कितना अच्छा हो गया! सर्बानन्द सोनोवाल जी के चीफ मिनिस्टर बनने के बाद असम की तरक्की आगे की ओर जा रही है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री जी इसको अपने ध्यान में लाएँ। मैं एक बात सुन रहा था। इसकी पोजीशन क्या होगी?, इसका placement क्या होगा? इस तरह से कुछ लोग बोलते थे। National Institute of Information Technology की जो बातें हैं, मंत्री जी बहुत sensitive हैं, हमारी गवर्नमेंट बहुत सेंसिटिव है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि direct नौकरी तो होगी, indirectly डेटा बेस, data analysis का काम भी होगा और वे लोग स्वयं का कुछ कर सकेंगे। पूरे विश्व में इंडियन स्टूडेंट्स और यूथ्स के ह्यूमन रिसोर्स की कोई कमी नहीं है। ह्यूमन रिसोर्स आगे बढ़ेगा और ह्यूमन रिसोर्स आगे बढ़ने के बाद वे self employment भी कर सकेंगे, क्योंकि इस तरक्की करने वाली दुनिया में information technology की इतनी importance है, इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं हो सकती। लोग कभी-कभी हंसते हैं कि तुम्हारी गवर्नमेंट ने क्या दिया? महोदय, इनके national importance के बनने के बाद the students will get scope in North-Eastern States, not only in North-Eastern States, but, all over the world. हर क्षेत्र में इन यूथ्स को ज़रूर कुछ न कुछ मिलेगा, not only IITs, आप देखिए कि जो आईटीआई है, उसने skill development करके हम लोगों को जितना आगे बढ़ाया है, वह कोई सोच भी नहीं सकता। सिर्फ गवर्नमेंट की ही नौकरी होगी, ऐसा तो नहीं है, बाकी private sector is also run by these youths whether they have studied in IITs or ITIs. मुझे कोई बोल रहा था कि आपके लिए बिल आ रहा है, उसमें रिजर्वेशन का क्या होगा? मंत्री जी बैठे हुए हैं। रिजर्वेशन गवर्नमेंट के रूल्स एण्ड रेगुलेशंस के मुताबिक होंगे, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes और बाकी लोगों का जो रिजर्वेशन होना चाहिए, उसके लिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो रूल्स हैं, उनका पालन होगा। इसमें किसी को कोई संदेह नहीं होना चाहिए।

मैं, मंत्री जी से एक रिक्वेस्ट करना चाहता हूँ, शायद वे इससे सहमत हों और वे बोल भी रहे हैं और उस विषय में बोलेंगे। महोदय, सिर्फ सॉफ्टवेयर ही नहीं, बल्कि हार्डवेयर के बारे में भी सोचना चाहिए। हार्डवेयर के बारे में सोचना चाहिए, क्योंकि Made in India, Make in India, Stand up India, Start up India आदि के बारे में हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब जो भी बोल रहे हैं, उन्हें लगाने की व्यवस्था भी है। हम लोग हार्डवेयर बाहर बना रहे हैं। अगर मोबाइल बना रहे हैं तो सॉफ्टवेयर बाहर से ला रहे हैं। हार्डवेयर का इंडिया में कुछ हो। महोदय, इसका कोर्स भी यहां पर include होना चाहिए, तभी self employment होगा। यदि बाहर से आएगा, जैसे चाइना से आ रहा है, कोरिया से आ रहा है। 'मेड इन इंडिया' का ऐसा मॉडल होना चाहिए, जैसे प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने बोला 'वोकल फॉर लोकल'। हम लोगों को आत्मनिर्भर भारत में भी इसे जोड़ना चाहिए। मैं मंत्री जी से रिक्वेस्ट करूंगा कि इसको जोड़िए, वे ज़रूर जोड़ेंगे, क्योंकि जब प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने बोला है, कैबिनेट ने पास किया है तो इसको जोड़ने की व्यवस्था

भी होगी। कोई कुछ बोले, विरोधी पक्ष क्या बोलता है, मैं उसमें नहीं जाना चाहता। मैं चाहता हूँ कि प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने जैसे आत्मनिर्भर भारत की बात बोली, Information technology में, IIITs में आत्मनिर्भर भारत की व्यवस्था को साकार करने का एक मौका मिलेगा और यह मिलने वाला है।

महोदय, मैं यह सोच रहा हूँ कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो प्लेसमेंट की बात बोली, definitely placement मिलेगा। यह प्लेसमेंट की ही व्यवस्था है। यह जो टेक्निकल एजुकेशन है, यह प्लेसमेंट की ही व्यवस्था है। नौकरी की व्यवस्था से प्लेसमेंट, self employment की व्यवस्था जेनरेट करने के लिए व्यवस्था है। माननीय मंत्री जी ने technical terms के बारे में introduction में बोला है, मैं उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने इस बारे में सोचा है।

महोदय, मैं New Education Policy में मंत्री जी से रिक्वेस्ट करूंगा कि क्या New Education Policy right from lower primary school, लोकल प्राइमरी स्कूल से टेक्निकल टर्म को सिखाने की थोड़ी-थोड़ी व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए, फिर वे बाद में टेक्निकल बन सकते हैं। कई बार मैट्रिक पास करने के बाद स्टूडेंट्स के मन में प्रॉब्लम आती है कि क्या पढ़ूँ? मैं नेशनल लेवल पर इसको देना चाहता हूँ। मैं बहुत खुश हूँ कि आपने नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को ध्यान में रखा, पूरे देश को ध्यान में रखा। पहले हमने कभी नहीं सोचा था। एक समय था जहाँ पर बोला गया था कि 'My heart goes out to the people of North-East', ऐसा नहीं हुआ। मेरे हार्ट में प्राइम मिनिस्टर बस गए। मोदी जी बार-बार बोल रहे हैं कि नॉर्थ ईस्ट देश का इंजन है, इसको आगे बढ़ाना चाहिए। नॉर्थ ईस्ट के लोग पहले जो महसूस करते थे, अभी ऐसा नहीं होगा और नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट और इनफॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी, जो देश के तकनीकी क्षेत्र में माननीय पोखरियाल जी अपने नेतृत्व में लाना चाहते हैं, हर मिनिस्ट्री में... ऐसा नहीं है कि कोई एक मिनिस्ट्री, बल्कि मैं देख रहा हूँ कि हर मिनिस्ट्री नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को कुछ न कुछ देने के लिए व्यवस्था कर रही है। मैं धन्यवाद देता हूँ और विश्व में मान्यता प्राप्त इंस्टीट्यूशन को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में विचार को आगे बढ़ाएं। मैं इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ बिल का समर्थन करते हुए अपना वक्तव्य समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Lok Sabha passed the Indian Institutes of Information Technology Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020. The Indian Institutes of Information Technology Act of 2014 and Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Public-Private Partnership) Act, 2017 are the unique initiatives of the Government of India to impart knowledge in the field of Information Technology to provide solutions to the challenges faced by the country. Introduction of the Indian Institutes of Information Technology Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2020 will amend the principal Acts of 2014 and 2017. It will grant statutory status to five Indian Institutes of Information Technology in Public Private Partnership mode at Surat, Bhopal, Bhagalpur, Agartala and Raichur

[Shri A. Vijaya Kumar]

and declare them as Institutions of National Importance along with already existing 15 Indian Institutes of Information Technology under the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Public-Private Partnership) Act, 2017. Speaking after the passing of the Bill, Union HRD Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' thanked the Members of the House for their support in passing the Bill. Shri Pokhriyalji said that the Bill will encourage IIITs to promote the study of information and technology in the country through their innovative and quality methods. The Minister said that the Bill will declare the remaining five IIITs along with the existing 15 Indian Institutes of Information Technology in Public Private Partnership mode as 'Institutions of National Importance' with powers to award degrees. The Minister said that under the leadership of the Prime Minister, Modi ji, our Indian institutions are performing well in the global institutional rankings and he hoped that in future all these IIITs will also make a mark in the world's top institutions. He informed that among the higher education institutions in the country, the Indian Institutes of Technology have improved their global rankings significantly. There are now 24 Indian higher education institutes in the QS list of 1000 global institutes in 2020 against 14 in 2017. Similarly, there are now 36 Indian higher education institutes in Times Higher Education (THE) global 1000 institutes against 3 in 2013. He assured that with this step, all these institutions will be able to spread the information related to information and technology in the country in a better way. Our Minister informed that this Bill will entitle them to use the nomenclature of Bachelor of Technology, Master of Technology or PhD degree as issued by a University or Institution of National Importance. It will also enable the Institutes to attract enough students required to develop a strong research base in the country in the field of information technology, he added. IIITs are envisaged to promote higher education and research in the field of Information Technology. Under the Scheme of setting up of 20 new IIITs in Public Private Partnership mode as approved by the Union Cabinet on 26.11.2010. Sir, 15 IIITs are already covered by the IIIT (PPP) Act, 2017, while remaining five IIITs are to be included under the Schedule of the Act. The objective of the present proposal is for formalization of IIITs at Surat, Bhopal, Bhagalpur, Agartala and Raichur. After passage of the Act by the Parliament, they will be covered under the IIIT (PPP) Act, 2017, similar to the other 15 IIITs established under the scheme in PPP mode. The emerging need of the industry and the economy, as a whole for skilled technical manpower is expected to be met from the talent pool of trained personnel of the



institutes. Every institution shall be open to all persons irrespective of gender, caste, disability, domicile, ethnicity and social or economic background. With this I support this Bill. Thank you, Sir.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank you for this opportunity to speak on this very important Bill this morning. The Indian Institute of Information Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2020 is a very important Bill and I thank the hon. Minister for bringing it to the floor for passage. Firstly, because I am a Member of the Standing Committee on HRD, I have seen up close how the Ministry of Education has been working so hard not only on the National Education Policy but also to ensure that virtual education from school to higher education continues seamlessly. For that, I would like to thank the hon. Minister and his Ministry for all the good work that they are doing in the field of education.

Sir, specifically on this Bill, I welcome this on behalf of my party, Biju Janata Dal and Shri Naveen Patnaik. Declaring these five IIITs as institutes of national importance and providing them degree-granting power is welcome, along with the change in terms of the nomenclature from 'elected' to 'nominated'. I have a specific question to the hon. Minister if he would clarify in his reply. In 2017, 15 IIITs were provided institutes of national importance status and degree-granting power because the concerned law, that is there on the IIIT Act of 2017, does not provide for it. Again, in 2020, you have come back for five IIITs to be accorded institutes of national importance status and for degree-granting. My specific question is on the degree-granting aspect. Can't we amend the original Act of IIIT 2014 and the IIIT Public-Private-Partnership Act, 2017 and incorporate these provisions there so that we don't have to come back repeatedly for granting degree-granting status to these institutions? If we had already made that change in the parent Act, we would not have had to undertake in regular areas or in regular iterations this kind of changes.

Sir, there are certain aspects and I would like to take this opportunity to talk about IIIT Bhubaneswar. I come from Odisha. IIIT Bhubaneswar has been doing well. There are a couple of concerns and I would like to place them with the hon. Minister. In August, this year, some of the students of IIIT Bhubaneswar boycotted classes relating to fees. If the hon. Minister may kindly look into the matter as to what the issue is relating to fees that is troubling the students at IIIT Bhubaneswar, it would be nice.

**11.00 A.M.**

[Dr. Sasmit Patra]

I have a proposal through the hon. Minister to the IIIT Bhubaneswar. Right now, Covid is going on and it being a pandemic, the Governments both at the Centre and the State of Odisha have been working on solutions and digital applications. May I request the hon. Minister to consider establishing a research centre in IIIT Bhubaneswar for Covid solutions and application development along with an incubator which would develop not only applications on the digital mode for ensuring Covid management but also take it forward into a start up eco-system? I would also request the hon. Minister to consider that just like the National Law University, Odisha has a domicile status of 33 per cent for the Odisha domicile, the hon. Minister may consider a domicile status of 33 per cent for Odisha students in the IIIT Bhubaneswar, if applicable.

Sir, I take this opportunity also to speak briefly about the Central University in Odisha, though I am digressing from the main legislation. The appointment of faculty and non-teaching staff is moving at a very slow pace. I hope, the hon. Minister will consider and see how best we can expedite it. Specifically, Sir, there are specific activities of national importance that are being accorded to IIITs. I believe, it is a good step forward. Firstly, internationalization and globalization of technological cooperation is required. The second is development of research centres and incubation labs. The third is nurturing world-class faculty and doctoral research. The fourth is curriculum development and introduction of entrepreneurship development incubators. The fifth is the equity support for IIITs to develop start-up eco-system just like Stanford in the U.S. has an eco-system of start-ups coming from the technology, so that they will be able to do that.

Finally, Sir, is the academic eco-system. It is to create experiential learning at global standards and in the end is placement and career development for the students at a global standard. Usually we look at jobs as one of the aspects of placements. Rather IIITs at an international level in our country should consider building world class entrepreneurs. We talk about Mr. Sundar Pitchai as the head of Google. India, through the IIITs, should develop hundreds of such Sundar Pitchais who will take India forward. I thank the hon. Minister, I thank his work, I welcome this Bill and we support this Bill. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad. Not present. Shri P. Wilson. Not present. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman Sir, I, on behalf of my Party, stand to support this Bill. I could observe several positives in this Bill and I would like to highlight and bring to your kind notice three of the positives. The IIITs have to attract enough students required to develop a strong research base in the field of Information Technology of India. So, it is one of the positive aspects and secondly, with youth being the future of India, more institutes of national importance increases the prospects of getting jobs because IITs and IIITs are considered to be institutes of par excellence. Provisional certificates have been granted earlier in respect of these institutes. The hon. Minister now is making them as institutes of national importance. They got provisional certificates and not degrees. They were given provisional certificates earlier. They got it earlier from these institutes, served as an impediment for them in getting jobs in several organisations and this problem would be solved now. Sir, nationally recognised IIITs in India could also make it a hub for foreign nationals to come to India and then as their intended staff to study in India so that more students will come to India for study. I have a few suggestions to make to the hon. Minister, Shri Pokhriyal. In fact, the Minister has pointed out in his speech that Andhra Pradesh has got only one IIIT in PPP model in Chittoor. I urge upon the hon. Minister to build another IIIT in Vishakhapatnam. Vishakhapatnam, being the proposed executive capital and most populated city of Andhra Pradesh, would be an ideal location in terms of the number of enrolment of students. Another suggestion is, apart from just giving national importance to these new institutes of Government, I request the hon. Minister to focus on the existing ones also because, I will give you an example, IIM Vishakhapatnam was set up by the Ministry of HRD in 2015 and till now there is no adequate infrastructure for IIM, Vishakhapatnam and operates from the makeshift campus in Andhra University. Similarly, the Central University in Anantapur is also suffering from lack of infrastructure and has problems of infrastructure. The third suggestion which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is, when this particular Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha, it was envisaged that the Bill would help to meet the needs of technical manpower by increasing the pool of trained personnel coming out of these institutes. That was the objective. That is what was envisaged. I would like to ask the Government on how it plans to hold skilled manpower in India because many students who have passed out of the examinations in these institutions are migrating to other countries and then serving in that country. So, how to hold the skilled manpower in India and how to work out the plan accordingly? Are there any

[Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy]

changes in the job market for more people choosing India as their place of work instead of other countries? Sir, the last suggestion that I would like to make is, there needs to be a shift in the perspective in which we see the IITs. There is a perspective. The IIITs are considered to be reasonably good institutions. However, they are often considered to be sub-part of the IITs and IITs are considered to be superior than IIITs. Majority of students later choose IIT due to quality of education it provides and the image it has got. Thus, some measures, such as standardization of courses, setting up standards for faculty of these institutes must be considered to attract the maximum students and these IIITs to be treated at par with IITs.

With these suggestions, I support the Bill. Thank you.

**श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह** (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ और माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को और माननीय मंत्री जी को बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि जो भागलपुर में IIIT है, उसको नेशनल इंपॉर्टेंस देने के लिए इस बिल में उसको भी रखा गया है। हम सब अवगत हैं कि जब स्वर्गीय अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी प्रधान मंत्री थे और डा. मुरली मनोहर जोशी साहब एचआरडी मिनिस्टर थे, तब IIIT का कॉन्सेप्ट आया था और उसी समय शुरू में ही पांच जगहों पर इसकी स्थापना हुई थी। मैं इस बात की इसलिए चर्चा कर रहा हूँ कि उस समय माननीय नीतीश बाबू रेल मंत्री थे और हम लोगों ने भी इच्छा जाहिर की थी कि यह बिहार में खोला जाए। दुर्भाग्य से इसे बहुत वर्ष लग गए और अब खोला गया है, तो देर आयद दुरुस्त आयद, इसलिए मैं मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ। हमारा टेक्निकल एजुकेशन का जो यह पूरा का पूरा सिस्टम है और बिहार जैसे प्रदेश में तो आप जानते हैं कि जहां बहुत कम संस्थाएं थीं, आपको यह जानकर आश्चर्य होगा कि वर्ष 2005 से पहले वहां सिर्फ तीन इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज हुआ करते थे। नीतीश बाबू के नेतृत्व में वहां पर जब एनडीए की सरकार आई, तो आपको यह जानकर बड़ा हर्ष होगा कि सभी जिलों में एक-एक इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज की स्थापना की गई है। सभी जिलों में एक-एक पोलिटेक्निक की स्थापना की गई है। हमारे जिले के जितने sub-divisions हैं, उन सभी में आईटीआईज़ की स्थापना की गई है। पहले हमारे बिहार के बहुत सारे बच्चे अच्छी संस्थाएं न होने के कारण बाहर जाते थे, कई बार अपमानित भी होते थे और कई बार उनकी हत्या भी हो जाती थी। अब बिहार में हमारे नीतीश बाबू के नेतृत्व में एनडीए की सरकार है। वहां इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था की गई है और टेक्निकल एजुकेशन में इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर को बढ़ाया गया है, उससे निश्चित रूप से जो हमारे भागलपुर का IIIT है, उसको नेशनल इंपॉर्टेंस मिलेगी और हमारे पूरा का पूरा जो टेक्निकल एजुकेशन का सेक्टर है, उसको बढ़ावा मिलेगा।

उपसभापति महोदय, मेरे इसमें मंत्री जी से दो ही अनुरोध हैं। इसमें सबसे जरूरी है कि जो फैकल्टी हो और खासकर मैं अपने भागलपुर के बारे में कहना चाहूंगा, चूंकि वह पटना से

थोड़ा दूर है, हो सकता है कि अच्छी फैकल्टी वहां नहीं मिल पाती होगी। इसलिए मेरा अनुरोध है, चूंकि आपने institutions को बनाया है, उसको नेशनल इंफॉर्टेंस का दर्जा मिला है, तो इस प्रकार का हमारे पास pool होना चाहिए कि हम लोग वहां पर अच्छी से अच्छी फैकल्टी उनको दे सकें। जैसा विजयसाई रेड्डी जी कह रहे थे कि standardization हो जाना चाहिए। अब बच्चों के बीच कहीं भी यह फीलिंग नहीं होनी चाहिए और जिस बात की चर्चा कर रहे थे कि हम IIT में पढ़ रहे हैं कि IIIT में पढ़ रहे हैं।

आप इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी के संबंध में जानते हैं। पहले इंडस्ट्रियल रिवॉल्यूशन आया और इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी का जमाना आ गया है, तो निश्चित रूप से उसमें इस प्रकार की शिक्षा दी जानी चाहिए कि इसका सीधा-सीधा तारतम्य जो हमारी इंडस्ट्रीज़ हैं, जो हमारे उद्योग हैं, जो खासकर कि इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी है और आगे आने वाले समय में किस प्रकार से जो आर्टिफिशियल इन्टेलिजेंस है, बायो टेक्नोलॉजी है, इनको एक तरह से dovetail करना चाहिए, जिससे कि हमारे बच्चे institution में शिक्षा ग्रहण करें और वहां से निकलें, तो उनको लगे कि मैंने जो शिक्षा ग्रहण की है, उससे देश की, समाज की और खुद की सेवा करने का अच्छा मौका मिलेगा। मैं मंत्री जी से चाहूंगा कि पूरी की पूरी चीजों को एक पर्सपेक्टिव में लेकर चलें। बहुत अच्छी बात है आज हमारे पास 25 ऐसे national institutions हो जाएंगे और निश्चित रूप से इससे हमारे देश का जो एक परिदृश्य है, खासकर कि टेक्नोलॉजी के क्षेत्र में, वह और अच्छा होगा। इन्हीं शुभकामनाओं के साथ और इन्हीं विचारों के साथ, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए, अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

**श्री उपसभापति:** धन्यवाद, राम चन्द्र बाबू। प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा। उपस्थित नहीं हैं। श्री नारायण दास गुप्ता जी। उपस्थित नहीं हैं। श्री कनकमेदला रवींद्र कुमार जी।

**SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh):** Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank you for having given me this opportunity. I rise to support this Bill, but, at the same, I would like to suggest a few suggestions to the hon. Minister. Number one, it is under PPP model. So, the infrastructural facilities have to be looked into at the first instance. Since it involves technical experience in a subject, infrastructural facilities are more important for commencing or establishing any institute.

My second issue is about the fee structure. As it is under PPP model, the expenses have to be borne by the students who are studying in these institutions. So, it is marginalising the poor and common people of the country. How would the poor meritorious students be able to get admission in these institutions which are imparting better education, of international standards?

[Shri Kanakamendala Ravindra Kumar]

My third issue is the quality of education. Quality of education is one of the major challenges being faced by the country. Even the New Education Policy, of which the draft has already been circulated, has also given thrust upon having higher education as also improving the quality of higher education. Is there any quality assessment review mechanism in place for this purpose? I request the hon. Minister to have it. There should be a quality assessment review mechanism. It should have a key role. It is required to establish such mechanism. Likewise, we have to also consider these things. What is the rate of placement of these 15 institutions? Placements also play an important role in the growth of IIIT institutions, which are already having this during the last three to four years.

My final request is this. At present, in Andhra Pradesh, there is only one institution. I request the hon. Minister of Education that one more IIIT institution has to be established in Amaravati, which is the present Capital of State of Andhra Pradesh. I also urge the hon. Minister to establish one Central University in the new born State of Amaravati, since it has been recently bifurcated by virtue of the A.P. Reorganisation Act, 2014. These institutes are very much necessary for the growth of the new born States. I, once again, request the hon. Minister to establish these two institutions in Amaravati. Finally, I congratulate the hon. Minister for taking initiatives for instituting them. I request the hon. Minister to start the same institution in Andhra Pradesh also. I support the Bill. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ravindra Kumarji. Now, Shri Rajaram; not present. Shri Binoy Viswam; not present. Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta; not present. माननीय मंत्री जी, अब आप ब्रीफली जवाब दें।

**श्री रमेश पोखरियाल निशंक:** माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आभारी हूँ कि माननीय सदस्यगण ने इस विधेयक को बहुत गहराई से पढ़ा है। इसकी क्या खूबियाँ हैं और भविष्य में यह कितना सशक्त बनकर देश के निर्माण में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकता है, इस ओर भी उन्होंने ध्यान आकर्षित किया है।

उपसभापति जी, हमारे देश के यशस्वी प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने इस प्रौद्योगिकी को सेवा का श्रेष्ठ माध्यम माना है। उन्होंने कहा है कि प्रौद्योगिकी श्री घसड़ में है। इसमें स्पीड है, गति है, इसमें सादगी है और इसमें सेवा है। प्रौद्योगिकी तेज है, प्रौद्योगिकी सरल है और प्रौद्योगिकी लोगों की सेवा करने का सबसे शानदार तरीका है। यह एक महान शिक्षक भी है, जितना

हम तकनीक के बारे में सीखते हैं और जितना अधिक हम प्रौद्योगिकी के माध्यम से सीखें, उतना ही बेहतर है। यह हमारे देश के प्रधान मंत्री जी का एक बहुत ही स्पष्ट vision रहा है, जिसमें उन्होंने कहा है कि प्रौद्योगिकी का देश के विकास में, व्यक्ति के विकास में, आर्थिकी संयोजन में और हर क्षेत्र में किस तरीके से उपयोग किया जा सकता है, किस तरीके से उसकी उत्कृष्टता बढ़ाई जा सकती है। उन्होंने इस दिशा में न केवल लगातार चिंता की है, बल्कि उसका रास्ता प्रशस्त करने का भी काम किया है, फिर वह चाहे 21वीं सदी का स्वर्णिम भारत हो, चाहे मेक इन इंडिया, डिजिटल इंडिया, स्किल इंडिया, स्टार्ट-अप, स्टैंड-अप के रास्ते से गुजरता हो। ऐसा भारत जो स्वच्छ भारत हो, समृद्ध भारत हो, सशक्त भारत हो, आत्मनिर्भर भारत हो और श्रेष्ठ भारत हो। प्रौद्योगिकी के माध्यम से हम अभी जो नई शिक्षा नीति लाए हैं, वह उस स्वर्णिम भारत की नींव को और मजबूत करेगी।

महोदय, मुझे खुशी है कि कामाख्या जी ने इसे शुरू किया है। वे हमारे बहुत अभिन्न मित्र हैं और मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में हमारी गवर्नमेंट ने पूरी ताकत के साथ - शायद देश की आजादी के बाद पहली बार वहाँ पर विकास के तमाम आयाम स्थापित हुए हैं और हमने इस बिल में भी नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को शीर्ष प्राथमिकता दी है। हमने जहाँ भारत सरकार का 50 प्रतिशत, राज्य सरकार का 35 प्रतिशत और 15 प्रतिशत उद्योग क्षेत्र का रखा है, वहीं नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में उद्योग की जो सहभागिता है, उसका भी भारत सरकार 50 प्रतिशत देगी, ऐसी व्यवस्था करके फिर से नॉर्थ-ईस्ट को प्राथमिकता दी है। उनके जो सुझाव थे, मैं उनके लिए उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम निश्चित रूप से उनके सुझावों को लेकर आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। उन्होंने नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के लिए जो सुझाव दिए हैं, उनमें एनआईटी में 50 प्रतिशत सीटें राज्य के छात्रों के लिए आरक्षित हैं। हमारी एनआईटीज़ हार्डवेयर के लिए भी बहुत तेजी से काम कर रही हैं। मुझे उन्हें बताते हुए खुशी है कि हमारी एनआईटीज़ नॉर्थ-ईस्ट में बहुत अच्छा काम कर रही हैं और राष्ट्रीय महत्व के संस्थान घोषित करने की दिशा में ही यह काम हुआ है। उन्होंने जो सुझाव दिए हैं, हम उनमें से काफी कुछ पर काम कर रहे हैं, लेकिन मैं उन्हें आश्वासन दे रहा हूँ कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट के विकास में हमारे ये तकनीकी संस्थान बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण साबित होंगे।

महोदय, आदरणीय ए. विजयकुमार जी ने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर की बातें की हैं, उन्होंने बहुत सारे सुझाव दिए हैं, डा. सस्मिता पात्रा जी ने बहुत सारे सुझाव दिए हैं, वि.विजयसाई रेड्डी जी, आंध्र प्रदेश को तो हमने लगातार आईआईटी, एनआईटी, ट्रिपल आईटी, दो-दो केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय एवं और भी बहुत सारी चीजें दी हैं। उनके जो सुझाव हैं, हमने उन्हें भी समाहित किया है। आदरणीय राम चन्द्र प्रसाद जी ने भी जिस बात को कहा है, मैं उस संदर्भ में कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमने बिहार में भी बहुत सारे संस्थानों को आगे बढ़ाया है। आंध्र प्रदेश से हमारे माननीय सदस्य ने जो कहा है, मैं उसके लिए उन्हें केवल इतना आश्वासन देना चाहता हूँ कि जो हमारी आईआईटीज़ हैं, उन्होंने पूरे विश्व लेवल पर हिंदुस्तान का माथा ऊँचा किया है, फिर वह चाहे माइक्रोसॉफ्ट हो, चाहे गूगल हो। राष्ट्रीय ही नहीं, बल्कि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर की उन शीर्ष संस्थाओं पर हमारी आईआईटीज़ से निकलने वाले छात्र आज पूरी दुनिया में भारत का मान-सम्मान बढ़ा रहे हैं।

[श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक']

महोदय, जहाँ तक "आसियान" देशों के शोध और अनुसंधान का विषय है, मैं सदन को बताना चाहता हूँ कि "आसियान" के दस देशों के 1,000 से भी अधिक छात्र अनुसंधान के लिए हमारे यहाँ की आईआईटीज़ में आ रहे हैं। हम लोगों ने आईआईटीज़ को और तेजी से आगे बढ़ाने की कोशिश की है।

उपसभापति जी, मैं एक बार फिर आप सभी का अभिनंदन करता हूँ और निवेदन करता हूँ कि इस बिल को सर्वसम्मति से पारित किया जाए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Institutes of Information Technology Act, 2014 and to amend the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Public-Private Partnership) Act, 2017, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

"कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।"

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

#### **The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Statutory Resolution and The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020 would be discussed together. Shri Binoy Viswam, Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar, Shri K. C. Venugopal and Shri Digvijaya Singh to move the Statutory Resolution. Shri Binoy Viswam – not present; Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar – not present; Shri K. C. Venugopal – not present; Shri Digvijaya Singh – not present. So, Statutory Resolution not moved. Now, Shri Danve Raosaheb Dadarao would move the motion for consideration of The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020.



**उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव):** महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

"कि आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम, 1955 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक पर, लोक सभा द्वारा पारित रूप में, विचार किया जाए।"

**श्री उपसभापति:** माननीय मंत्री जी, क्या आप संक्षेप में इस पर कुछ बोलना चाहेंगे?

**श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव:** सर, मैं अंत में बोलूँगा।

*The question was proposed.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Motion for Reference of the Bill to Select Committee. Shri Tiruchi siva; not present. Shri Digvijaya Singh; not present. Shri Gopal Narayan Singh.

**श्री गोपाल नारायण सिंह (बिहार):** उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस बिल का पूर्ण रूप से समर्थन करता हूँ। सबसे पहले मैं इस मंत्रिमंडल का और खास कर प्रधान मंत्री जी का धन्यवाद करूँगा, जो वे 50-55 सालों के बाद इस अधिनियम में जो static position थी, उसको तोड़ने के लिए इस संशोधन बिल को लाए। मान्यवर, जब से यह सरकार बनी, तब से लगातार किसानों के प्रति sympathy दिखाते हुए किसान की आमदनी बढ़ाने के लिए प्रधान मंत्री जी की commitment थी। उसको पूरा करने के लिए बहुत-सी योजनाएँ और सुविधाएँ किसानों को दी गईं, जिनके चलते किसानों को काफी सुविधाएँ मिलीं और पैदावार में काफी वृद्धि हुई। इसका ज्वलंत उदाहरण है कि कोरोना के बाद फसल उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता लगभग 15-20 परसेंट बढ़ गई है और फसलों की बुवाई भी सबसे ज्यादा हुई है। अब समस्या यह उठती है कि यह जो फसल पैदा हो रही है, उसकी purchasing कैसे की जाए और किसानों को लाभ कैसे दिया जाए। इस समस्या के समाधान के लिए इस बिल को लाया गया है। हमारे पास सिर्फ FCI या दो-तीन सरकारी योजनाएँ या PACS के माध्यम से ही किसानों से फसल खरीदी जाती थी, जिसमें काफी धाँधली भी होती थी। हमारे यहाँ इसमें invest करने वाले लोगों की कमी थी, जिसके चलते purchaser, यानी खरीद करने वाले लोगों की संख्या कम थी, जिससे किसान 6-6 महीने, 7-7 महीने ज्यादा दाम के लालच में पैदावार अपने घर में ही रखते थे, जिसके चलते काफी बरबादी भी होती थी। इस amendment के माध्यम से अब इसमें लोगों की पूँजी invest करने की बात बढ़ेगी। बड़े-बड़े, छोटे-छोटे rice mills होंगे या flour mills होंगे, उनकी बढ़ोतरी होगी, जिसके चलते खरीदारों की संख्या बढ़ेगी। इससे हमारी फसल को बाहर विदेशों में भी export करने की व्यवस्था होगी, जिसके चलते इसमें किसानों को काफी लाभ मिलने वाला है। इसलिए हम चाहेंगे कि सभी लोग इसका समर्थन करें और इस बिल को सर्वसम्मति से पास करें।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष, (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) पीठासीन हुए]

[श्री गोपाल नारायण सिंह]

दूसरी चीज मैं कहूँगा कि मैं विगत दो दिनों से contract के बारे में बातें सुन रहा हूँ। हमारे देहात में जिसके पास खेती की जमीन नहीं है और जिसके पास खेत है तथा वह खेती नहीं कर सकता है, तो आज भी मालगुजारी के माध्यम से contract labour पर contract के हिसाब से वहाँ खेती की जाती है। बीच में हरेक स्टेट में बटाईदारी भी है, कमीशनों के चलते, जिसके चलते लोग डर गए थे। वे खेत-जमीन रहते हुए उसको किसी को बटाईदारी पर देने में या contract पर देने में डरते थे। इस अमेंडमेंट विधेयक के आने के बाद अब स्पष्ट हो गया कि जिसके पास जमीन है, लेकिन जो खेती नहीं कर सकता है, वह गांव के लोगों को अपनी जमीन मालगुजारी पर, जिसको ठेका भी कहते हैं, देकर फसल की उगाई कर सकता है। इससे गांव वाले भी लाभ उठाएंगे और जमीन वाले को भी लाभ मिलेगा, इस तरह से जो एक static व्यवस्था थी, उसमें काफी प्रगति होगी।

आज हमारे किसानों में उत्साह है, क्योंकि व्यवस्थाओं में जिस तरह से सुधार हो रहा है, उनके चलते किसानों की आमदनी बढ़ेगी। अब यह प्रमाणित होने लगा है कि लोगों में आत्मनिर्भरता बढ़ रही है, फसल अच्छी हो रही है और अनाज अब सरप्लस में जा रहा है। इस फैसले के बाद हम और भी सुपर-सरप्लस में जाएंगे। अगर किसान को समय पर आमदनी नहीं होती है, पैसा नहीं मिलता है...(व्यवधान)...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर):** गोपाल नारायण जी, कृपया आप मास्क लगा लीजिए।

**श्री गोपाल नारायण सिंह:** महोदय, अगर खरीदने वालों की संख्या नहीं बढ़ाई जाती है, तो फिर इतनी अधिक फसल पैदा करने के बाद भी किसान की जो स्थिति है, वह सुधरने वाली नहीं है। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री की जो कल्पना है कि 2022 तक हम किसानों की आमदनी दुगुनी कर देंगे, उसके लिए यह संशोधन अति आवश्यक था, इसलिए उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस संशोधन विधेयक का पूर्ण रूप से समर्थन करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

**SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN (Tamil Nadu):** Sir, the very sharp rise in prices of food and essential commodities was a phenomenon that characterized the last few years. Some of those inflationary trends have persisted in the present Government's tenure as well. Though overall inflation has been kept under check, food inflation has not been effectively tackled. Some decisive action by the Government of India is essential to ensure that the common person is protected against rapid rise in prices, particularly of food and essential commodities.

In Tamil Nadu, the State Government under the capable and determined leadership of hon. Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has taken a large number of measures

to ensure that the common people and the poor and the vulnerable are protected against the rise in prices of essential commodities. You are all well aware that one of the first decisions of the hon. Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, on assumption of office in May, 2011 was to announce and implement the free supply of 20 kilograms of rice per month through the Public Distribution system to about 1.3 crore families in the State. Tamil Nadu's PDS is the best functioning Public Distribution System in the country as recognized by many economists and scholars both in India and abroad. The supply of free rice in the PDS has greatly helped the vast majority of families in the State and protected them against the rise in food prices.

The well-functioning Public Distribution System in Tamil Nadu has also been effectively leveraged by the State Government to reach other essential commodities to the people of the State at reasonable prices. One litre of refined palm oil is supplied at ₹25 and one kilogram each of *urad* and *tur* dal are supplied at ₹30 per kg. to all family card holders as part of the special Public Distribution System. The State Government incurs an expenditure of ₹1,861 crore on the special PDS out of its own budgetary resources every year. This has been a bulwark protecting the common people in the State against the abnormally high price rises of pulses and edible oils in recent months. It is to be pointed out that Government of India was giving a subsidy at the rate of ₹15 per kg. of palm oil till 30.09.2013 and upto ₹20 per kg. of *dal* till 31.03.2013. This has since been given a go-by. To contain food inflation and protect the poor, it is essential to revive this subsidy.

With the change in eating habits, many families consume pulses in excess of what is supplied in the special PDS each month, which they purchase in the open market. In order to moderate the increases in prices of *dal* in the open market in the State, the Government of Tamil Nadu has also launched a Market Stabilisation Fund with a provision of ₹100 crore for effective market intervention through the cooperative wholesale stores network. A total of 230 tonnes of *urad dal* and 120 tonnes of *toor dal* were supplied through this mechanism which helped to substantially bring down market prices, effectively curbing the hoarding tendency through market means.

Recently, when the Government of India imported 5,000 metric tonnes of un-milled *toor* and offered it to the States, Tamil Nadu was the first State to lift 1,000 metric tonnes. This quantity was processed and supplied through the co-operative network at ₹110 per kg.

[Shri S. R. Balasubramoniyam]

The Government of Tamil Nadu, under the hon. Chief Minister's leadership, has also launched several initiatives to make available fresh vegetables to consumers in the urban areas, while at the same time, ensuring that vegetable farmers get remunerative prices. Through the co-operative network, farm fresh vegetable outlets have been established in the large cities in the State to ensure that fresh vegetables sourced directly from the farms are sold in many outlets. The Horticulture Department has also launched a major initiative to encourage peri-metro vegetable cultivation to meet the needs of the urban consumers, while earning remunerative prices.

The Amma Canteen Scheme, a brain-child of the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, which is now renowned across the world and studied by Governments and experts from different parts of India and the world, has also had a salutary impact on keeping a check on food prices in Tamil Nadu. In Amma Canteens, idlis with sambar is supplied at ₹1, curd-rice at ₹3 and sambar-rice at ₹5.

There are a number of other commodities which are also supplied at reasonable prices in Tamil Nadu. I would specifically like to highlight the Amma Mineral Water, Amma Salt, and Amma Cement programmes which ensure availability at reasonable prices of commodities which are prone to price increase due to cartelization and other factors. These interventions have had a salutary effect on market prices of such commodities. VAT on domestic LPG has also been completely exempted to ensure that price of domestic LPG is kept reasonable in spite of deregulation of LPG prices.

Through many such innovative and imaginative schemes, the Government of Tamil Nadu, under the leadership of the hon. Chief Minister, Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has managed to ensure that the common people in the State have been protected against the ill-effects of price rise. This is no mean achievement.

The Government of India, which has many of the macro-economic management levers under its control, can contribute even more to controlling price rise in the country. They have clearly not done enough to ensure that domestic production is encouraged and increased and timely imports are facilitated and ensured.

Our leader, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, late Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, had rightly cautioned against the implementation of the Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme in areas where availability and price level of commodities is a key concern.

What can the Government of India do to bring down the prices and protect the poor? It can subsidize food items including pulses and edible oils; roll back the additional excise duty levied on petrol and diesel announced earlier this year; enable cheaper movement by rail by reducing the freight rates for essential commodities; reduce the toll fee collected, particularly from freight vehicles; and, provide adequate input subsidy to farmers to encourage production of pulses and oilseeds with assured price and purchase mechanism. Thank you, Sir.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर): डा. अमर पटनायक जी, आप बोलिये। आपके पास छः मिनट का समय है।

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, first, I would like to congratulate you. The stated purpose of this Bill is increasing the competitiveness in the agriculture sector and enhancing the income of the farmers, and the regulatory system needs to be liberalized while protecting the interest of consumers. So, there are two stakeholders here, the farmer and the consumer. And, it is also a part of the entire farm sector transformation that the Government has been talking about. We have passed two Bills. This is actually a part of that entire transformation process. There are many good points in this. The most important is that it makes the entire regime very stable and it also supports the farm Bills in terms of carrying it through the entire contract farming sponsors. So, what has the Bill done is that it has tried to have a carve-out for the contract farming sponsors. But while doing this, what is important is that it has kept the existing PDS system unchanged, which basically means that the Government would still continue to procure at the Minimum Support Price. I think that, probably, settles the debate about the MSP, even though, probably, it should have been mentioned much more clearly in the two farm Bills. Now, I will come to the provisions of the Bill. Let me mention the concerns. First concern is, the Bill says that in extraordinary circumstances, the power to resort to the provisions of bringing in the regulations rests with the Government because of various conditions like calamity of grave nature, and, it says, natural calamity. There may be a situation of manmade calamity like gas leak and other things. So, what would happen in those situations? I want to urge the Government to consider this.

Secondly, and, this is the most important point about the mention of price in Clause 2(b) which says that any action on imposing stock limits shall be based on price rise, and, this price is not the price that is being given to the farmers. This confusion

[Dr. Amar Patnaik]

should be made clear. It is the consumer price. Sir, price here has two components. One is the consumer price and the other is the farmers' or the producers' price. The consumer price is decided by the market. If there are more number of buyers, the price will be different, and, the farmers price, which is the Minimum Support Price, is the cost+ kind of a price. How do you reconcile both those things? These are the things which have to be clarified and clarity has to be brought in these provisions.

Another important point is about the stock limits. How have these limits been fixed? What is the rationale? Is it giving too much of space to the contract sponsors at the cost of the farmers? Is it giving too much of liberty to the contract sponsors to play around with the market, which ultimately may affect the farmers? So, I would urge the Government and the hon. Minister to consider keeping the storage element in the entire value chain out of the ambit of this particular Bill. The value chain participant will enjoy the value addition but will the farmers, the small and marginal farmers, enjoy the value addition, and, if they do it, how will they do it? Generally, it is the farmers who bear the losses and the buyers get the profits. Unless you make sure that the profits trickle down, there may be problem of implementation of this new Bill. The intention definitely is to ensure that the farmers get better price because of the contract sponsors and because of his ability to sell his produce by value addition. But it has to be ensured that the contract, which is signed with the land owner, finally also goes to the sharecroppers in terms of sharing of the profits. This is one concern that I have.

While supporting the Bill, I would like to mention another important thing, which is research in agriculture. Will the Bill actually take agricultural research into the value chain process so that it helps indirectly the very farmers, whom it is trying to help by bringing in this particular Bill? The traditional agricultural practices have a lot of value, which bring out different kinds of products. These will actually be brought into the scheme of things so that the farmers, who are producing various kinds of esoteric products, could actually have a market through a contract sponsor not only outside their farm gate, in the entire country, but maybe outside the country in the export market. Sir, the market development is very essential to ensure that the small and marginal farmers and the sharecroppers get the benefit of value chain transformation that is going to take place. I think, it should be ensured either through proper designing

of the rules, that will subsequently flow from the Bill, or, at some stage, while preparing the amendments, which might probably come in, if the hon. Minister so desires. In that case, it is the farmers, the sharecroppers who would probably be convinced that these three Bills, two farmers Bills as well as this Essential Commodities Bill, will ultimately help them in getting more price than what they are getting now. It has definitely opened the market, it has liberalized the markets, and, equally important is the point that that the sharecroppers, the farmers and the small and marginal farmers, who constitute about sixty per cent or more, and, in a State like Odisha it is even more, get the benefits of the value chain addition process. In the value chain add process, there are four elements -- processing, packaging, transport and distribution and storage. As I said, and I reiterate, storage could be taken out separately because there is a possibility that the contract sponsor may manipulate the storage process to get a better price without passing it on to the farmers, while transportation and distribution is essential for aggregation which is required for economies of scale which currently the farmer is not able to do. So, giving a very balanced picture, I would say, the Bill is extremely positive in intent, but there could be implementation problems which should be taken care of while making the rules. Thank you so much, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): The next speaker is Shri Tiruchi Siva; not present. Shri Vijayasai Reddy, not present. The next speaker is Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh.

**श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह** (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं आपको बधाई देता हूँ।

मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ और यह बिल आज के एग्रीकल्चर के प्रोडक्शन की स्थिति के अनुरूप है। सर, जो The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 बना, उसके background में देखिए; उस समय हमारे एग्रीकल्चर की क्या स्थिति थी? एग्रीकल्चर इकोनॉमी क्या थी? हम लोग उसे scarcity era कहते थे। उसमें अभाव था; हमारे पास इतने food grains नहीं थे। लोग भुखमरी के शिकार हो जाते थे, अकाल पड़ता था, बहुत लोगों की मौतें होती थीं, इसीलिए यह कानून 1955 में बना। हम लोग बाहर के देशों पर आश्रित थे। हम सब लोग PL-480 का नाम जानते हैं; किस प्रकार हमारे ऊपर एक तमाचा था और इतना ही नहीं लोग मजाक में कहते थे कि हिन्दुस्तान में एग्रीकल्चर की स्थिति ship to mouth है। जहाज से अनाज आता था, तब हमारे लोगों को खाना मिलता था। लेकिन आज आप देखिए; जब इस देश में agriculture revolution हुआ और उसके बाद चाहे खाद्यान्न का उत्पादन हो, फलों का उत्पादन हो, सब्जी का उत्पादन हो, सब में हम लोगों ने इतनी प्रगति की है कि उस समय हमारा scarcity era था, तो आज हमारी

[श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह]

granaries overflow हुई हैं। आज हमारे पास इतना अनाज भी है, हमारे पास इतने फल भी हैं, जो न सिर्फ हमारे खाने के लिए पर्याप्त हैं, बल्कि हम एक्सपोर्ट करने की स्थिति में हैं। इसके लिए जरूरी है कि scarcity era को ध्यान में रखते हुए जो कानून बनाया गया था, उसमें अमेंडमेंट किया जाए। उस समय हरेक चीज़ में स्टॉक लगा दिया जाता था और इसके चलते लोग डरते थे। जो बहुत बड़े-बड़े storage बनने चाहिए थे, cold storage बनने चाहिए थे, granaries बननी चाहिए थी, silos बननी चाहिए थीं, जिसमें प्राइवेट इन्वेस्टमेंट भी आता, इस कानून के डर से वह इन्वेस्टमेंट नहीं आ रहा था कि अगर उनके पास स्टोर कर रखा है और कल आपने स्टॉक की सीमा गिरा दी, तो पता चला कि उनको जेल जाना पड़ रहा है। अब यह जो हटा दिया गया है निश्चित रूप से, इससे प्रोडक्शन तो बढ़ेगा ही, साथ ही लोगों को अपने अनाज, फल, सब्जी को स्टोरेज में रखने की सुविधा भी मिलेगी, जिससे हमारे किसानों को बेहतर price मिल सकेगा। जो हमारे consumer हैं, अब अगर देहात में किसान से दो रुपए किलो टमाटर ले रहे हैं, लेकिन दिल्ली में 40 रुपए किलो बिक रहा है, तो 38 रुपए की खपत हो जाती थी। इसके पीछे कारण यह था कि हमारे पास जो कोल्ड चेन होनी चाहिए, हमारे पास जो स्टोरेज की facility होनी चाहिए, वह नहीं होती थी। इसके पीछे एक भी एक बाधक था, जिसके समाप्त होने से निश्चित रूप से इस क्षेत्र में लोग ज्यादा इन्वेस्ट करेंगे और किसानों को और ज्यादा अच्छा मूल्य मिल पाएगा और हमारे देश की overall खाद्यान्न की स्थिति और प्रोडक्शन की स्थिति में बेहतरी आएगी। यह बहुत ही अग्रगामी सोच का बिल है, इसलिए मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): The next speaker is Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha; not present. Shri Rajaram, not present. Shri M.V. Shreyams Kumar, not present. Dr. Fauzia Khan, not present. Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Firstly, I congratulate you, Sir, for being in the Chair. Thank you for giving me this opportunity. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it has been stated that farmers have been unable to get better prices due to lack of investment in cold storage, warehouses, processing and export as entrepreneurs get discouraged by the regulatory mechanism in the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. Farmers are still facing problems in procurement centres, though FCI has a good mechanism of stock management system. It is a computerised system. How will they ensure that this is also followed by the private players? How will they know how much stock is there with each company or each player present in this? This needs to be clarified. Other than this, the installed capacity determines the stock limit. Is it going to be based on annual installed capacity, or monthly installed capacity or daily installed capacity? That is something which needs to be clarified.



In the parent Act, restrictions were there for agro-companies and traders. Now these restrictions have been removed for all the commodities. It provides them to purchase and store any quantities and hence indulge in hoarding. The provision of the Bill once implemented will allow them to build huge storage and processing facilities and that will lead to complete market domination. This means that they may dictate terms to farmers which is likely to lead to less price to farmers and not more income. When there is rise in prices in retail market, the benefit is not passed on to the farmers, but when there is fall in the price, the loss is passed on to the farmers.

Another issue is cooperative federalism. Agriculture is supposed to be in the State List. In view of all these sensitive problems, I request and urge the hon. Minister that it requires a cautious approach by the Government. Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Shri Anil Desai; not present. Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta; not present. Shri G.K. Vasan.

SHRI G. K. VASAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, this is part of a larger scheme envisaged in the Union Government's farm sector reform that would benefit not only the farming community but also the society at large. We all know that our farmers have tried hard to ensure food security for our country. Our farming community is enormous in size. It has huge population. Still we see farmers struggling to get remunerative prices in a centralised market atmosphere. I would like to say that lack of storage facilities and restriction on inter-State movement of foodstuff have left farmers selling their stock at whatever price their commodities command rather than waiting for the demand to pick up. At the same time, restriction in commodity movements leads to black-marketing and exploitation of product pricing.

Another very important point is that whenever there is a natural calamity, there is a price hike from the trade to jack up prices of commodities and extract maximum benefit from the common man. We have seen this at the time of COVID-19. When the country is still under the grip of COVID-19, we are in the process of still finding a suitable and successful vaccine for the people. At the same time, there is also a feeling among the people that there will be escalation of COVID-19. Under these circumstances, I would like to say that at the time of COVID-19 panic still going on, the price of hygiene products like sanitizers, gloves, masks, COVID kits, etc., has risen in a very

[Shri G.K. Vasan]

exorbitant way. If a free market of commodities and other essentials for daily life in pandemic times is permitted, there will be balance in the market. In such a situation, the producers will get adequately remunerative prices and consumers will also be free from exploitation.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

To conclude, Sir, I am sure the Government, which is keen on raising the income of the common man, especially farmers, will take care of the interests of the poorer sections and will continue to take steps in future also. With these words, my Party, Tamil Maanila Congress (Moopanar), supports this Bill.

**श्री उपसभापति:** माननीय मंत्री जी, अब आप जवाब दें।

**श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव:** माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, जिन सदस्यों ने इस बिल पर चर्चा की और इसको समर्थन दिया, उनके प्रति मैं आभारी हूँ।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, भारत सरकार ने 65 साल पुराने "आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम, 1955" का संशोधन करने के लिए 5 जून, 2020 को एक अध्यादेश जारी किया। अध्यादेश के माध्यम से आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम, 1955 की धारा (3) में एक नई उपधारा (1) जोड़ी गई है, जिसके अंतर्गत भारत सरकार ने अपने अधिकारों को परिभाषित किया है। उपसभापति महोदय, यह ऑर्डिनेंस 5 जून, 2020 को लाया गया था, जिस समय पूरा देश महामारी से ग्रस्त था, पूरे देश में लॉकडाउन घोषित था, किसानों की फसल कटी थी और कोई खरीददार नहीं था। व्यापारियों द्वारा माल उठाने में दिक्कतें थीं और दूसरी ओर वस्तुओं की मांग बढ़ रही थी। इसलिए किसानों को केंद्रबिंदु मानकर ऑर्डिनेंस लाया गया था। इन परिस्थितियों में यह आवश्यक था कि किसानों को अपनी उपज बेचने का अवसर प्रदान हो और consumers को आवश्यक वस्तुएं आसानी से मिलें। महोदय, इसलिए यह ऑर्डिनेंस लाया गया था।

उपसभापति महोदय, जब भारत स्वतंत्र हुआ, तब देश की जनसंख्या 40 करोड़ थी। गेहूं, चावल, दाल जैसे खाद्यान्नों की देश में कमी थी। डिमाण्ड और सप्लाई की चेन ठीक रखने के लिए और कीमतों को नियंत्रित रखने के लिए आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम की ज़रूरत थी, तब आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम, 1955 लाया गया था। महोदय, जब समय-समय पर देश की कृषि उपज की स्थिति की समीक्षा की गई तो तुलनात्मक विश्लेषण में यह निर्देशित किया गया कि देश आत्मनिर्भर बनने की दिशा में तेज़ी से आगे बढ़ रहा है। वर्ष 1955 के बाद कृषि क्षेत्र में कुछ बड़े बदलाव हुए। हरित क्रांति और खेती की प्रक्रिया में तकनीकी प्रगति के बाद कृषि उत्पादन में बड़ी मात्रा में वृद्धि हुई।

उपसभापति महोदय, वर्ष 1955-56 में गेहूं का उत्पादन सौ लाख मीट्रिक टन था, जो अब वर्ष 2018-19 में एक हजार लाख मीट्रिक टन से भी अधिक है, जो दस गुना बढ़ा है। चावल का उत्पादन 250 लाख मीट्रिक टन था, जो आज 1100 लाख मीट्रिक टन हुआ है, यह चार गुना बढ़ा है। दलहन और तिलहन का उत्पादन दो गुना बढ़ा है। यदि ये आंकड़े देखें तो यह स्पष्ट होता है कि भारत अब खाद्यान की दृष्टि से आत्मनिर्भर बना है। उपसभापति महोदय, भारत में बड़े पैमाने पर कृषि उत्पादन होने के कारण सबसे अधिक नुकसान फलों और सब्जियों का पाया गया है। फूड प्रोसेसिंग डिपार्टमेंट की एक वार्षिक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार वर्ष 2012-13 के उत्पादन आंकड़ों पर अगर नज़र डाली जाए तो प्रमुख कृषि उपज की हारवेस्टिंग के बाद नुकसान का आकलन किया गया, जिसका अनुमान 92 हजार करोड़ रुपये लगाया गया। उपसभापति महोदय, यह फूड प्रोसेसिंग डिपार्टमेंट की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट वर्ष 2012-13 की है। महोदय, यह जो नुकसान हो रहा था, इसका कारण था कि अपने देश में स्टोरेज की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं थी, सप्लाई चेन ठीक नहीं थी। महोदय, इसको कम करने के लिए हमारे पास प्रोसेसिंग सुविधा होनी चाहिए थी। आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम का यह संशोधन इन वस्तुओं को सप्लाई चेन से जुड़े लोगों को प्रोत्साहन प्रदान करेगा। महोदय, कृषि क्षेत्र में निवेश को बढ़ावा मिलेगा और साथ ही भंडारण सुविधा में विस्तार और तकनीकी सुविधा के कारण होने वाले नुकसान को कम करने में सहायता होगी।

उपसभापति महोदय, इन सारी चीज़ों पर चर्चा करने के लिए नीति आयोग द्वारा मुख्य मंत्रियों की एक समिति बनायी गई थी। इस समिति ने उपरोक्त बातों के संदर्भ में चर्चा की और पंजाब, मध्य प्रदेश, ओडिशा, महाराष्ट्र, हरियाणा, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, गुजरात और उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री इस समिति के सदस्य थे। इस समिति ने अपनी राय दी है कि जो अपने देश में कानून है, इस कानून के कारण लोग निवेश नहीं करते हैं, क्योंकि जो सरकार का कानून है, इसमें stock limit है। अगर कोई व्यापारी निवेश करने के लिए आता है और stock करता है, तो सरकार stock की सीमा लगाती है और फिर सरकार उसको ज़ब्त करके जमा कर लेती है। अभी यह प्रावधान किया गया है कि अगर कोई निवेशक आता है और stock रखता है, तो अभी जो कानून में provision किया गया है, उसमें stock सीमा नहीं है। सरकार ने अब विशिष्ट परिस्थितियों में stock सीमा लगाने का provision अपने पास रखा है। Stock सीमा लगाने का एक कारण है। विशिष्ट परिस्थिति का मतलब यह है कि अगर कहीं सूखा पड़ता है या देश में युद्ध की परिस्थिति हो जाती है, दालों, सब्जियों और अनाज के भाव ज्यादा बढ़ते हैं, तो ऐसे समय में stock सीमा लग सकती है। यदि कोई इसमें से भी import करता है, और उसके पास किसी देश के ऑर्डर हैं, तो उस पर stock सीमा नहीं लगेगी। यदि आपके पास कोई processing plant है और यदि plant की क्षमता के मुताबिक आपके पास stock है, तो उस पर भी stock सीमा नहीं लगेगी। इस कानून में यह प्रावधान किया है।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को आश्वासन देना चाहता हूँ कि जो यह 1955 का कानून था, इसमें अभी बदलाव लाया गया है, यह बदलाव मोदी जी का दृष्टिकोण है।

[श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव]

मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि विशेष रूप से हमारे प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी के दृष्टिकोण से लाए गए इस कानून से हमारे किसानों और ग्राहकों को जरूर फायदा मिलने वाला है। माननीय मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में किसानों की आय दोगुनी करना, हमारा संकल्प है। इस संकल्प पूर्ति की दिशा में यह विधेयक मोदी सरकार का एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपको यह विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि 'Ease of Doing Business' की दिशा में 'Vocal For Local' को केन्द्र बिन्दु मानकर मोदी सरकार विशेष रूप से काम करने में प्रतिबद्ध है। यह बिल किसानों के हित में, ग्राहकों के हित में भी काम करेगा, यह मैं आश्वासन देता हूँ और साथ ही मैं यह प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि इस विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please go to your seat. Be very brief on clarification. We would just move further. Please be very brief.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I have a few issues, which I request the hon. Minister to clarify. The power to regulate the supply by the Central Government is very narrow as it does not cover the situations of pandemic and the needed lockdowns which could also be the reasons for price increase. My second point of query to which the clarification can be given is what sort of steps are being taken in this regard. As Naddaji has rightly said, the Essential Commodities Act is being regulated as there was a rise in the volume of the commodities. But, then, the Government may also show the data -- that is the reason why this Essential Commodities Act is being amended -- on the action taken against the hoarders, as to how many have been sent to jail.

Sir, there are two more clarifications. In order to make the improvements -- as was introduced in the State of Andhra Pradesh -- the Central Government may also introduce a comprehensive end-to-end software solution called PMAPP to obtain the information about the agricultural prices from every village and to undertake the corresponding market intervention.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, this is my last clarification. The Government has to take steps for establishing the marketing e-platform, as is done in Andhra Pradesh, to connect every farmer in the country with buyers and traders throughout the country as had been passed in the Farmer's Bill yesterday. Two Bills have been passed relating to farmers and the same would have to be implemented. Thank you very much.

**12.00 Noon**

**श्री उपसभापति:** माननीय मंत्री जी, आप बहुत briefly कुछ कहना चाहेंगे?

**श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव:** सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्यों ने जिस बात का जिक्र किया है, जवाब देते समय मैंने उन सभी बातों का ध्यान रखा है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Motion of Shri Tiruchi Siva for Reference of The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020 to Select Committee was not moved as he was not present. So, we are moving further.

I shall now put the Motion moved by Shri Danve Raosaheb Dadarao for consideration of The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Bill, 2020 to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill. In Clause 2, there are 17 Amendments. Amendments (Nos. 4 to 6) by Shri K.C. Venugopal, not present; Amendments (Nos. 11 to 18) by Shri Tiruchi Siva, not present; Amendments (Nos. 19 to 21) by Shri Digvijaya Singh, not present; Amendments (Nos. 25 to 27) by Shri Binoy Viswam; not present. The Amendments are not moved.

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 3 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Danve Raosaheb Dadarao to move that the Bill be passed.

**श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव:** महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

"कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।"

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

**The Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Statutory Resolution and the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020 to be discussed together. Shri Binoy Viswam; not present. Shri K.C. Venugopal; not present. Shri Digvijaya Singh; not present. So, the Resolution is not moved. Now, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to move a Motion for consideration of the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir, with your permission, I move: "That the Bill further to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration. "

*The question was proposed.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There is one Motion by Shri Tiruchi Siva for reference of the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020 as passed by Lok Sabha to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha. The Member may move the Amendment at this stage without any speech. Shri Tiruchi Siva; not present. So, the Motion is not moved. The Motion for Consideration of the Bill is now open for discussion. Shri Digvijaya Singh; not present. Now, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw.

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW (Odisha): Yes, Sir, from Lok Sabha.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please.

**श्री अश्वनी वैष्णव:** उपसभापति महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं आपको साधुवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि आपने हिंसा का जवाब अहिंसा से दिया। भगवान बुद्ध की पवित्र भूमि बिहार से आप आते हैं। आपको बहुत-बहुत साधुवाद। उपसभापति महोदय, यह बिल बहुत important है। जब भी बैंकिंग की बात आती है, बैंकिंग की चर्चा होती है, तो बड़ी-बड़ी संख्याएं, बहुत complex words ये सब आते हैं और उसके पीछे जो human angle होता है, जो मानवीय चेहरा होता है, उसे कई बार हम भूल जाते हैं। यह बिल उस human angle वाला बिल है। यह बिल जो साधारण, मेहनतकश, मिडिल क्लास और ऐसे परिवार जो अपने बच्चों की पढ़ाई के लिए, किसी आपदा के लिए, अपने बच्चों की नौकरी के समय के लिए एक-एक पैसा जोड़ते हैं, तो यह बिल उन सब बचत करने वालों को बचाने वाला बिल है। इस बिल को बहुत ध्यान से पास करना चाहिए, बहुत ध्यान से देखना चाहिए क्योंकि यह बिल बचत करने वालों को बचाने के लिए है।

उपसभापति महोदय, इस बिल में दो मुख्य प्रावधान हैं। पहला प्रावधान है, कोऑपरेटिव बैंक्स, जिनका supervision 1965 से RBI के द्वारा अलग-अलग amendments करके होता गया। आज

कोऑपरेटिव बैंक्स में reconstruction हो पाए - अगर कोई बैंक फेल होने की परिस्थिति में है, तो उसके reconstruction का प्रावधान, जैसे commercial banks में होता है, वैसे ही RBI कर सके - यह प्रावधान सबसे पहला प्रावधान है। दूसरा प्रावधान इसमें यह है कि अगर किसी भी बैंक का reconstruction करना पड़े, तो वह कैसे किया जाए। महोदय, मैंने बैंकों का काफी लम्बे समय तक का इतिहास पढ़ा है, कई देशों के बैंकों के प्रावधान मैंने पढ़े हैं - बैंक फेल होना बहुत साधारण बात है, पिछले दो-ढाई सौ वर्षों में कई बैंक फेल हुए हैं - जब बैंक फेल होता है, तो उसे कैसे reconstruct करें, जिससे जिन लोगों ने बचत की है, अपनी मेहनत का एक-एक पैसा बचाकर बैंक में मुसीबत के समय के लिए रखा है, उन्हें कैसे बचाया जाए, उसके लिए reconstruction की स्कीम को बिना moratorium लगाए RBI कर सके, वह दूसरा प्रावधान है। यह बहुत important प्रावधान है। मैं hon. Finance Minister श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ, साधुवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में इतनी संवेदनशीलता दिखायी और समाज के उस तबके को, उस वर्ग को, जिसे इस protection की जरूरत है, उस वर्ग को आपने इस बिल के ज़रिए protection दिया, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

उपसभापति महोदय, इस बिल की जरूरत क्यों पड़ी, उसके संबंध में मैं अति संक्षेप में दो उदाहरण दूंगा - YES Bank और PMC Bank का उदाहरण। YES Bank के promoters ने जब लोगों की मेहनत की कमाई को swindle करने की कोशिश की, तो गवर्नमेंट एकदम चौकन्नी थी, उसने तुरंत action लिया, criminal action लिया, बैंक का management चेंज किया, बैंक में fresh capital inject किया, properties के attachments किए, जिन्होंने गलती की थी, उन्हें तुरंत सज़ा दी और जिन लोगों ने अपनी मेहनत के पैसे YES Bank में रखे हुए थे, उन सबको बचाने के लिए तुरंत एक reconstruction scheme सरकार लेकर आयी। उपसभापति महोदय, मैं कोई अतिशयोक्ति नहीं कर रहा हूँ। आज दुनिया भर में YES Bank की reconstruction scheme की तारीफ हो रही है। क्यों तारीफ हो रही है - क्योंकि मात्र 13 दिन में उस बैंक के अंदर जो भी problems थीं, उन्हें solve करके उस बैंक में फिर से confidence लाया गया और एक institution को बचाया गया। इस प्रकार उस बैंक से जुड़े हुए जो लाखों परिवार थे, उन्हें बचाया गया। महोदय, मैं जानता हूँ कि हममें से बहुत से लोग निम्न मध्यमवर्गीय परिवारों से आते हैं, मैं भी उसी तरह के परिवार से आता हूँ। मुझे याद है, मेरे पिताजी केवल दो shirts रखते थे और जब कभी भी जो कुछ भी पैसा बचता था, उसे वे नज़दीक के State Bank of India में जमा कराते थे, ताकि बच्चों की पढ़ाई के समय, उनकी higher education के समय वह पैसा काम आए, बेटियों की शादियों के समय वह पैसा काम में आए। तो इस तरह के जो लाखों परिवार थे, उनका एक भी पैसा - माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी और माननीय फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर महोदय को धन्यवाद कि उनका एक भी पैसा कहीं भी जा नहीं पाया, हर बचत करने वाले को उसकी बचत की हुई पूंजी की सुरक्षा मिली। बहुत सावधानी से, बहुत तेजी से और बहुत अच्छी तरह से YES Bank में जो action लिया गया, उसी तरह का action PMC Bank में भी लिया गया। महोदय, जो लोग कहते हैं कि हम cooperative व्यवस्था के साथ छेड़छाड़ कर रहे हैं,

[श्री अश्वनी वैष्णव]

मैं उन्हें बताना चाहता हूँ कि PMC का क्या meaning था - Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative Bank. उसमें से Cooperative शब्द को पहले ही हटा दिया गया था, उसे कम कर दिया गया था, उसे मात्र 'C' रखा गया था - 'PMC Bank' और सारा focus बैंक पर कर दिया गया था। क्यों बैंक पर focus कर दिया गया - क्योंकि बैंक कहते ही लोगों में trust आता है, बैंक शब्द अपने आपमें एक ऐसा शब्द है, जिसके बारे में लोगों के मन में एक अलग धारणा है कि अगर मेरा पैसा बैंक में है तो वह safe है।

(उपसभाध्यक्ष, डा. सस्मित पात्रा पीठासीन हुए)

महोदय, मुम्बई के चौपाटी में भेलपूरी बनाने वाले एक व्यक्ति ने अपनी ज़िंदगी की सारी मेहनत की कमायी इसलिए वहां रखी थी, ताकि वह एक छोटा सा फ्लैट खरीदे। उसकी पूंजी को PMC के लोग उड़ाकर ले गए। क्या उस वक्त आरबीआई और सरकार ने अपनी तरफ से पूरा एक्शन लिया? ईडी ने प्रॉपर्टीज़ एटैच कीं और क्रिमिनल एक्शन लिए गए, लेकिन कानून में जो कमी थी जिसके कारण पीएमसी बैंक का reconstruction नहीं किया जा सकता था, उसी कमी को दूर करने के लिए माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी इस बिल को लेकर आई हैं, उनको साधुवाद है और हमें इस बिल को तुरंत पास करना चाहिए। दो बैंकों के उदाहरण से यह स्पष्ट होता है कि इस बिल की जरूरत क्यों है। मैं मानता हूँ कि राजनीतिक दलों में मतभेद होता है और unfortunately आज हमारे साथी हमारे साथ नहीं हैं, लेकिन जो भी दल middle-class को सपोर्ट करते हैं, जो भी दल मेहनतकशों को सपोर्ट करते हैं, जो भी दल उस मजदूर को, उस रेहड़ी वाले को, उस खोमचे वाले को सपोर्ट करते हैं, जो कि अपनी मेहनत की कमाई का एक-एक पैसा जोड़ने की इच्छा रखता है, बचत करता है, आज उन सभी दलों से मेरा अनुरोध है कि इस बिल को unanimously पास करें। यह बिल बचत करने वालों को बचाने के लिए है।

महोदय, दो-तीन छोटे-मोटे विषय कई फोरम्स में उठाए गए हैं। पहला विषय है कि cooperative structure को इससे नुकसान होगा। कतई नुकसान नहीं होगा। यह भ्रम फैलाने वाली बात है। Cooperative structure का मूल है- democratic system, one share, one vote. इस पद्धति को बिल्कुल बदला नहीं जा रहा है। कोई भ्रम में न आए। हर प्रकार की बात को एकदम क्लियर करें और बिल को पढ़ें। इस व्यवस्था को बिल्कुल बदला नहीं जा रहा है।

दूसरा, कहा जा रहा है कि स्टेट की पावर ले ली जाएगी और यह भी कहा जा रहा है कि भाई federal system है, हमारी सारी पावर ले गए। आप पढ़ लो, बिल में साफ लिखा हुआ है, No Board of a Bank which is registered under the Registrar of Cooperative Societies of a State will be superseded by RBI without State consultation. स्टेट का कन्सल्टेशन तो बिल में compulsory रख गया है, तो क्यों भ्रम फैलाया जाए? माननीय मोदी जी cooperative federalism में विश्वास करते हैं। उनका आज तक का आचरण इस चीज़ को



क्लीयरली दिखाता है कि स्टेट मजबूत हो और जब स्टेट मजबूत होंगे, तभी राष्ट्र मजबूत होगा। इसलिए इस तरह के भ्रम को बिल्कुल न फैलाया जाए। तीसरा विषय कहा जाता है कि आरबीआई के पास इतना regulatory load है, तो वह क्या करेगा? उनके ऊपर पहले से बोझा था। ऐसी बात नहीं है। हमको आरबीआई के नेतृत्व पर पूरा विश्वास है। उन्होंने जिस तरह से IL&S का, जो इतना बड़ा incident था, उस incident को manage किया, उसके लिए आरबीआई, फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर और प्रधान मंत्री जी साधुवाद के पात्र हैं। Financial pandemic हो सकता था। बड़े-बड़े financial sector के specialist उस वक्त कह रहे थे कि IL&FS के कारण financial pandemic हो जाएगा, Lehman Brothers जैसी परिस्थिति हो जाएगी, depression हो जाएगा और कई तरह की बड़ी-बड़ी बातें हुई थीं। किस तरीके से, किस सूझ-बूझ के साथ, कितनी गहराई के साथ सोचकर उस IL&FS के सिस्टम के crisis को मैनेज किया। इसके लिए आरबीआई, फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर और प्रधान मंत्री जी को बहुत-बहुत साधुवाद है। आरबीआई ने already, जैसी हम बात कर रहे हैं दो departments को, supervisory departments को merge किया है। एक Special Supervisory Cadre बनाया है और उन्होंने अभी एक College for Supervisors भी गठित किया है। हमको आरबीआई के नेतृत्व पर पूरा विश्वास है। आरबीआई के ऊपर regulatory load अधिक नहीं बढ़ेगा और वह उस लोड को लेने में सक्षम है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं conclude करूंगा। इकोनॉमिक पॉलिसी के तीन पिलर्स होते हैं, monetary policy, fiscal policy और credit policy. Credit policy का जो बेस है, वह बेस होता है - फाइनेंशियल सिस्टम। मेरे बहुत सारे मित्र, मेरे classmates फाइनेंशियल सिस्टम में हैं। मैं उनसे मिलता हूँ और बातचीत करता हूँ। फाइनेंशियल सिस्टम की अपनी एक विशेषता है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप भी ओडिशा से आते हैं। उड़िया भाषा जो भगवान जगन्नाथ महाप्रभु ने अपनी भक्तों को दी, वह अति मीठी भाषा है। उसमें सदियों का wisdom समाया हुआ है। उसमें एक छोटी सी उड़िया \* , यानी उड़िया proverb है। \* यानी दूसरों के पैसों से काम करना। बैंकिंग सिस्टम, फाइनेंशियल सिस्टम हमेशा दूसरों के पैसों से काम करता है, कैसे? हमने पैसों की बचत की, उस बचत के पैसे का आगे लोन लिया जाता है, इधर से लोन उठाया और फिर दूसरी जगह लोन दिया। यह जो व्यवस्था है, इस व्यवस्था में, जिसमें दूसरे के पैसे को व्यवहार में लाया जा रहा है, उस व्यवस्था में रेगुलेटरी सिस्टम अति strong होना जरूरी है। इसलिए जरूरी है, क्योंकि हम केवल उन संख्याओं के, उन कानूनों के और उन रेगुलेशन्स के उन रेगुलेशन्स और उन संख्याओं के पीछे जो मानवीय चेहरा है, जो परिवार है, जो मेहनतकश लोग हैं, जो लोग अपने बच्चों की पढ़ाई के लिए एक-एक पैसा जोड़ रहे हैं, उन सबको बचाने के लिए जो भी रेगुलेशन लाना पड़े, जो कानून में बदलाव लाना पड़े, वह सब बदलाव लाना चाहिए। यह बिल भी उसी तरह का एक बिल है। इसलिए मेरा सभी से निवेदन है कि वे unanimously इस बिल को सपोर्ट करें, धन्यवाद।

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to put forward my view and the views of my party on the Banking

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\*The Hon' ble Member spoke in Odia.

[Shri A. Vijayakumar]

Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2020. The necessity of the Bill was realized after some of the incidents concerning co-operative banks unearthed in recent times. There should be someone to vouch the functioning of our co-operative banks and this Bill is in this direction. The Bill provides to bring our 1,482 Urban Co-operative Banks and 58 multi-state co-operative banks under the control of the Reserve Bank of India. However, primary agricultural credit societies and co-operative societies whose principal business is long-term financing for agricultural development have been exempted, which is a very good step and I appreciate our hon. Finance Minister for this. The very interesting part of the Bill is that the Reserve Bank of India can initiate a scheme for reconstruction or amalgamation without imposing a moratorium. However, under Clause 4 of the Bill, it is stated that no person will be entitled to demand payment towards surrender of shares issued to him or her by a co-operative bank. Further a co-operative bank cannot withdraw or reduce its share capital. In this connection, I request the hon. Minister to see that a needy person with genuine reasons should be allowed to withdraw his hard-earned money put in any co-operative bank. He or she may be seeking the money maybe for any other genuine reasons. Therefore, he or she may be allowed to withdraw or surrender his or her shares for refund of money. Now, the Government has come forward with more strict measures by way of this Bill. I would like to urge upon the hon. Finance Minister to allow registration of multi-state co-operative banks across the country, as the same has been kept in abeyance for quite some time. I must congratulate the hon. Finance Minister that she took special care to ensure that the co-operative banks in the country run professionally. On the stipulations made regarding the Board of Directors that they must have at least 51 per cent of members with special knowledge or experience in areas such as accountancy, banking, economics or law; the Reserve Bank of India may direct a bank to reconstitute its Board, if it does not conform to the requirements; if the bank does not comply, RBI may remove individual directors and appoint suitable persons. It is needless to say that nowadays any organization can run or make profit, if it is followed professionally. Therefore, this provision is in the right direction. With these words, I conclude my speech, and I support the Bill on behalf of my party A.I.A.D.M.K. Thank you, Sir.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, since the hon. Finance Minister is here and my friend, Ashwiniji was speaking, let me just start by saying that I served as the Auditor-General of Co-operative Societies in Odisha for good three years, when Shri

Ashwini Vaishnaw was the Chairman of the Urban Co-operative Bank, Cuttack. So, I can tell you that I have a lot of happiness to say that this Bill has been made and brought into this House by hon. Finance Minister, and I must compliment her because the challenges that the Urban Co-operative banks faced over a long period of time are well-known. It has been there in several Committee Reports. For example, lack of professional management, conflict of interests, related party transactions, recovery problem, NPA not under control, sometimes wrongly depicted, prudential norms not being followed, poor monitoring mechanism, poor infrastructure, rigid structure, capital inadequacy, a number of these things have been addressed in this Bill. I, on behalf of the party, Biju Janata Dal, support the move of the Government and hon. Finance Minister in particular. The key points which have been stated by hon. Vaishnawji relate to scheme for reconstruction, the issuance of shares and securities by these Banks, the control over the Board of Directors, in consultation with the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, provision of allowing the Bank to reach out to the market to increase its capital, exemption for some portion of Cooperative Banks which are involved in agricultural sector and long-term finance. Now some of these are very good steps in this direction to reduce these challenges. Having said so, I am very tempted to quote this. This is a Latin phrase which says that '*quis custodiet ipsos custodes*', which means, who guards the guardians, who will watch the watchman, who will police the police. Now, this was given by Juvenal from his Satires, Plato in his Republic and Socrates and, as late as, John Stuart Mill in Consideration on Representative Government. Why do I say so? I say this because the RBI which is going to regulate these Urban Cooperative Banks, what is its accountability, what has been its performance, what is the accountability of the regulatory power that it enjoys? Is it going to be overstretched? Now, let me quote some figures, the latest figures of April-June of RBI Report itself relating to frauds in public sector Banks. It is ₹19,964 crores by RBI's own Reports between April and June, SBI cornering ₹2050 crores in 2325 cases, Bank of India ₹5124 crores in 47 cases. Several frauds, as Vaishnawji was saying, all of us know about it, the PNB Bank, the Yes Bank, the ICICI Bank, etc. Now, I am not saying that frauds will not happen. But let us look at the mechanism that is available with the RBI. The mechanism is onsite audits and offsite surveillance. How effective are they? Now, when you are adding 1482 Urban Cooperative Banks and 50 Multistate Cooperative Banks to safeguard the deposits of 8.6 crore depositors, ₹4.84 lakh crore, we have to examine the efficacy of the RBI's mechanism or existing mechanism to monitor these Banks. Can

[Dr. Amar Patnaik]

RBI regulate it? You see that these Urban Cooperative Banks were always under the RBI's regulations and supervision to some extent because nobody can do banking in this country without RBI's permission. RBI had some amount of supervision and despite that some of the scams that we talked about did happen. But what happened to the responsibility? I am here talking about the RBI, I am not here talking about the Government. We must understand that the Government and the RBI are different. RBI is an autonomous institution. The Government has acted very fast, very promptly. As Ashwiniji was mentioning, but the RBI happens to be an opaque body, what has happened to the internal control mechanisms that exist there? What happens to the action to be taken against the auditors when they fail to report some of the issues that have come out in PMC? I think the country may need to know about that. RBI had a grading system. It came out with CAMEL System in 2009, it came out with the Review of SAF, the Supervisory Action Framework in 2012. It revised it in 2020. Then Raghuram Rajanji came with AQR in 2014. But let us look at the Report of K.C. Chakrabarty, the ex. Deputy Governor of RBI.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Hon. Member, please conclude.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: He says that the skill side of the people within RBI to exercise supervision is very weak. They can be updated only to a certain extent and not more. Why not hire certified fraud examiners? They are internationally certified. Why can't they be hired by RBI to increase its supervisory role?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Hon. Member, you need to conclude, please.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Sir, the most important thing that I would like to say is that while it is a good thing what the Government has done, but the new regulation will put the banks and urban cooperative banks under a strict regime of RBI. But, the actual supervision should improve. These banks are giving loans to small people and the MSMEs. Hence, there is a high risk. Therefore, their internal control mechanism has to be very robust and they need to be reviewed from time to time very strictly. Their NDTL has to be monitored. They have to be professionalized. Through this Bill, the RBI should safeguard the depositors. That is what I would end with. Thank you so much, Sir, Mr. Vice-Chairman and thank you, Madam Finance Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Now, Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav. He is not present. Dr. K. Keshava Rao, not present. Now, Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh.

**श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह** (बिहार): वाइस-चेयरमैन महोदय, मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ। हम सब जानते हैं कि separation of powers की Union और State की हमारी जो लिस्ट है, उसमें 'Banking' हमारी Union List के 45वें नम्बर पर है और 'Cooperatives' हमारी State List के 32वें नम्बर पर है। अगर हम सिर्फ cooperatives को deal करेंगे, जहाँ banking नहीं है, तो यह राज्य का domain होता है, इसको रजिस्ट्रार देखता है, लेकिन cooperatives जैसे ही banking का काम शुरू कर देती हैं, तो इसमें RBI आ जाता है। इसलिए बहुत लोग इस बात की चर्चा करते हैं कि इस बिल से राज्य के अधिकार का erosion होगा, यह बिल्कुल असत्य है। यहाँ हमें इस चीज को देखना है कि इस बिल में बहुत स्पष्ट किया गया है कि cooperative का main काम agriculture के development का है। जो Primary Agriculture Cooperative Society है, ऐसी agriculture society agriculture के development के लिए काम करती है, उसको इससे बाहर रखा गया है। यह बहुत स्पष्ट है। अभी आप banks के बारे में वैष्णव जी को भी सुन रहे थे और अमर जी को भी सुन रहे थे, आजकल हमारे जो cooperative banks हैं, इनमें depositors का 5 लाख करोड़ रुपए के आस-पास पैसा जमा है। यह कैसे सुरक्षित रहे, इसके लिए जरूरी है कि हमारे जो बड़े-बड़े cooperative banks हैं, उनका professional management हो। अभी तक यह होता था कि इसको स्टेट का रजिस्ट्रार देखता था। उनका जो Board of Directors होता था, आप सब जानते हैं और अब ऐसा होगा कि इसमें RBI का role बढ़ा है, तो उनका जो management होगा, जो personnel होंगे, उनका जो selection होगा, निश्चित रूप से उसमें quality आएगी। इससे professional management बढ़ेगा। इससे उनका जो लक्ष्य है, उसकी पूर्ति में सहायता मिलेगी। Cooperative banks में सबसे बड़ी परेशानी यह होती है कि इसमें तरह-तरह के scams हो जाते हैं, क्योंकि आप miss करते हैं, कभी उनका accounts नहीं होता है और वहाँ बहुत unprofessional लोग रहते हैं। इससे इन सबकी संभावनाएँ कम रहेंगी। यह व्यवस्था हो जाने से निश्चित रूप से यह संभावना अच्छी होगी कि हमारे cooperative banks में depositors के जो पैसे हैं, वे सुरक्षित रहेंगे और वे अपना व्यापार भी कर पाएँगे। अमर जी खास कर RBI के role के बारे में जो एक बात कह रहे थे, निश्चित रूप से RBI के पास बहुत सारे regulatory काम हैं। यह तो एक अच्छा कदम है और निश्चित रूप से RBI इन चीजों को देखेगा कि जब वह इसमें supervision के लिए, monitor करने के लिए जा रहा है, तो उसके लेवल पर कैसे और manpower हो, जिससे हमारा जो पूरे का पूरा cooperative bank का सिस्टम है, वह transparent हो, उसमें लोगों का विश्वास हो, जो depositors हैं, उनका money भी safe रहे और पहले जो घटनाएँ घटी हैं, वे न हों।

महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. With regard to the provisions of this legislation, on replacement of Section 3 of the Banking Regulation Act, it is not applicable to the Primary Agricultural Credit Societies. On Amendment of Section 45, the RBI is having an authority to make a scheme for protecting the interests of the public in the event of reconstruction. Section 56 is with regard to the applicability of Banking Regulation Act. It is extended to all cooperative banks. It is made applicable to all the banks. My request is, it appears that the Reserve Bank of India is a regulator and it is becoming the authority of all cooperative banks. It has to be noted that this Bill is having far-reaching consequences for the cooperative sector movement. Banking is within the purview of the Union List, but at the same time, the cooperative sector is in the State List. So, the States should be taken into confidence for this purpose. The cooperative sector in India has played a very pivotal, important role in the banking industry. My suggestion is that the cooperative sector of banking and cooperative sector of financing should be promoted and encouraged. Though this Bill requires changes in the cooperative movement, but it is under the exclusive control of the RBI. I urge upon the hon. Minister to see to it that the identity of the cooperative movement is promoted and it should continue though it is under the purview of the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill. Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Shri Binoy Viswam; not present. Shri Anil Desai; not present. Shri Ashok Siddharath; not present. Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta; not present. Shri Praful Patel; not present. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir for giving me this opportunity. At the outset, I would like to appreciate the hon. Finance Minister for introducing this Bill. It is a right step in the right direction by the Government in protecting the interests of the depositors associated with the cooperative banks. The need of the hour is not to let more cooperative banks slip into poor financial conditions with problematic balance sheets. So, this Bill achieves this objective of not letting the cooperative banks slip into bad financial condition. The Bill looks into these aspects and suggested reforms at the administrative and financial levels of the cooperative bank. However, I would like to bring it to the kind notice of the hon. Finance Minister and make a few suggestions. The Vishakapatnam Cooperative Bank has become the biggest cooperative bank in South India and has achieved the milestone

in July 2020 by crossing the total business of ₹ 6000 crores and with more than 88,000 members. With so many cooperative banks in losses in the country, I request the hon. Minister to kindly look into the functioning of Vishakapatnam Cooperative Bank and take some cues in implementing a similar model for the operation of other cooperative banks also. This is another area which might be looked into by Madam Minister as to keep the spirit of cooperative movement alive. The second issue which I would like to bring to the notice of Madam is that RBI has an urban bank department which is vested with the responsibility of regulating and supervising the urban cooperative banks and yet the PMC Bank scam case has occurred. It means that the hon. Minister will look into strengthening of the Urban Banks Department of the RBI that supervises the cooperative banks. Otherwise, just giving more regulatory powers to RBI would not solve the problem of finding and fixing the issues in cooperative banks. The next suggestion which I would like to bring to the notice of Madam is the benefit of district cooperative banks attached to the State-based primary agricultural cooperative societies in disbursing and recovering the agricultural credit. It is well known to all. However, most of the DCBs, the District Cooperative Banks, are struggling across the country due to poor credit and its recovery. Andhra Pradesh has been able to solve this problem by merging district cooperative societies with the AP State Cooperative Bank. This has helped in sustainability and smooth functioning of these banks. I request the hon. Minister to kindly look into it. If the hon. Minister finds it suitable for other banks in the remaining parts of the country, it can be adopted.

There is one concern. The concern is that the RBI is overburdened and current operations are being hurt across the board. This is the allegation which is being made.

The Bill brings within its purview more than 1,500 cooperative banks. Thus, more clarity may be given on the kind of changes that are going to be made to equip the RBI in terms of human resources to handle administration of these banks.

Lastly, I request the hon. Minister to kindly look into the very amendment. Sir, 'banking' is under the Union List.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Mr. Reddy, please, conclude.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, 'incorporation, regulation and winding up of cooperative societies' is in the State List. I request the hon. Minister to kindly look into the legislative competence as far as this Bill is concerned.

With these words, our party supports this Bill. Thank you.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, thank you very much.

This is a very important Bill as has been recognized by most of the hon. Members who took part in this discussion. It is important because, in the last one-and-a-half to two years, we came to know of so many cooperative banks or cooperative societies functioning as banks and calling themselves as banks falling into difficulties. The oft repeated example is of the PMC Bank, while there are also other banks. I come from Karnataka. Bangalore has Guru Raghavendra Cooperative Bank which has had very serious difficulties.

In presenting this particular set of amendments, I wish to highlight and state upfront that this set of amendments to the Banking Regulation Act is being brought to completely protect the interests of depositors. That is why there are only a few amendments. Amendments are coming in with a singular objective of protecting the interests of the depositors.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

Sir, we wanted to protect depositors by ensuring that we don't have any more such difficulties like the ones being faced by PMC-like banks. We wanted to bring in proper management. We wanted to make sure that they are professionally run.

Sir, we also underline that if we need, if at all, to restructure any such cooperative bank, we should be able to do that without bringing in a moratorium. Restructuring without moratorium is being proposed by amending Section 45, so that we are able to give a quick recovery, quick payback and also make sure that the interests of the depositors are safeguarded. Contrasting experiences will be remembered by people, depositors and public the way in which PMC solutions getting protracted when solutions will have to be offered to depositors the way in which Yes Bank's restructuring happened. Sir, within a matter of two weeks, everything was sorted out for Yes Bank which was governed by the commercial bank rules; whereas, even till today, the PMC Bank solutions are not completely emerging, thus putting the depositors into difficulty. Therefore, since the commercial bank restructuring could happen by following commercial bank rules being extended to it -- it is governed by the commercial bank rules -- and, therefore, some kind of a solution was possible. But commercial banks' rules are not extended to cooperative societies which function as banks. That is why, here, what we underline is, this is not going to affect any of the other developmental



activities of the cooperative societies. The amendments that we are bringing in here are purely to impact on and govern those cooperative societies which do banking, which call themselves as banks, and carry forward the functioning of a bank. So, the cooperative societies doing other activities are not going to be covered. Only those cooperative societies which use the word 'bank' or function as banks will be governed by these amendments. I have explained already as to why we want to bring in these amendments. We want to bring in these to protect the interest of investors. In the last two years, I myself have met with several delegations of depositors who are in difficulty; the PMC and Guru Raghavendra Bank are two classic cases. I want to also make it clear that this set of amendments shall not apply to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies or Cooperative Societies whose primary object or principal business is providing long-term finance for agricultural development. They shall not be covered by these set of amendments. The State Cooperative laws are also not being touched. Some Members have asked, "Will it now change the voting pattern", because the cooperative societies do have this voting pattern of 'one vote, one member'. Now, when we do these amendments, is that going to affect them? Not at all. All that is governed by the State Cooperative laws. Therefore, since we have nothing to do through these amendments on the State Cooperative laws, nothing of that will change. So, although there are several other explanations that I can give justifying why we want to come up with these amendments, I think, amply, many of the hon. Members have rightly spoken about it. I don't want to elaborate. But, we should kindly remember that during the COVID period, many cooperative banks have come under stress. Their finances are also being closely monitored by the regulator, the RBI, which regulates them from 1965 onwards. We want to be clear about many of the cooperative banks and their health in terms of maintaining a certain kind of banking norms, which they may or may not follow. I will just very quickly, for the record sake, give the numbers. About 277 urban cooperative banks are reporting loss; 105 urban cooperative banks are unable to meet the minimum regulatory capital requirements; 47 are having negative networth, and 328 urban cooperative banks are having more than 15 per cent gross NPA ratio, as of March, 2019. And, with the pandemic setting in, this stress has also increased in cooperatives with gross NPA ratios of urban cooperative banks increasing from 7.27 per cent in March, 2019, to 10 per cent in March, 2020. Therefore, these changes are very much required and absolutely necessary to protect the depositors. Therefore, I appeal to you, Sir, with all the Members having spoken, I thank all of them, many of them have welcomed this. I am

[Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman]

indeed grateful to them. This is timely and required. You would also remember that the deposit insurance was also increased by us during the Winter Session, the Budget Session probably. The insurance cover has also been enhanced. With this, Sir, I seek all the Members' cooperation, through you, to have this Bill passed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Madam. Since the Statutory Resolution and the Motion for reference of the Bill to Select Committee not moved, I shall now put the motion moved by Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill. In Clause 2, there are two Amendment (Nos. 8 & 9) by Shri Digvijaya Singh. Not present. Amendments not moved.

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 3 was added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 4, there are two Amendments (Nos. 6 and 7) by Shri Praful Patel; not present.

*Clause 4 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 5 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

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**MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA - Contd.****The Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020**

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

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 21st September, 2020, agreed without any amendment to the Epidemic Diseases (Amendment) Bill, 2020, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 19th September, 2020."

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**GOVERNMENT BILLS - Contd.****The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we take up The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020. Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to move a Motion for consideration of the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 2013, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Madam, do you want to say something?

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I will speak after the Members speak.

*The question was proposed.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Shri Mahesh Poddar.

**श्री महेश पोदार** (झारखंड): महोदय, आपने मुझे इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। सर, कंपनी (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2020 की पूरे देश के व्यापार जगत को प्रतीक्षा थी। खास करके देश के उस वर्ग को जो उत्पादक है, लेकिन उपेक्षित है। टैक्स भरता है, लेकिन टारगेट किया जाता रहा है। अर्थव्यवस्था का अभिन्न अंग है, लेकिन

[श्री महेश पोदार]

हमेशा अनर्थ की आशंका से भयभीत रहता था। जुर्म से कोसों से दूर रहना चाहता है, लेकिन जिसके ऊपर हमेशा जुर्माने की तलवार लटकती रहती है। हजार झंझावात झेल लेता है, लेकिन झंझट नहीं चाहता है।

महोदय, मैंने जिन तकलीफों का जिक्र किया, वह तो देश के उद्यमी, व्यापार समुदाय के हिस्से में दशकों से थीं, लेकिन आज मैं देश के सर्वोच्च सदन में गर्व से यह कह सकता हूँ कि देश में ऐसी सरकार काम कर रही है, जिसके नेतृत्वकर्ता प्रधान मंत्री स्वतंत्रता दिवस पर अपने भाषण में ऐलानिया कहते हैं कि *wealth creator* को संदेह की दृष्टि से नहीं देखा जाना चाहिए और उनका सम्मान करना चाहिए। सरकार के वित्त मंत्री बजट भाषण की शुरुआत ही देश के उद्यमियों, व्यापारियों, करदाताओं को धन्यवाद देकर शुरू करती हैं, इसलिए मैं व्यापार जगत की ओर से और निजी तौर पर भी इस संशोधन विधेयक के लिए माननीय प्रधान मंत्री, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी, वित्त मंत्री, श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण जी और वित्त राज्य मंत्री, अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर जी के प्रति आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ और इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

महोदय, लाभ-हानि तो व्यापारियों के जीवन की रोजमर्रा की कहानी है, लेकिन उन्हें वह सम्मान पहली बार मिल रहा है, जिसके वे हकदार थे। व्यापार कारोबार में एक शब्दावली, 'भूल-चूक, लेनी-देनी' सदियों से प्रचलन में है, मतलब यह है कि जहाँ व्यापार होगा, लेन-देन होगा, वहाँ भूल-चूक स्वाभाविक है और इसे पुनः लेन-देन के जरिए ही सुलटाना बेहतर होता है। लेकिन यदि ऐसी चूकों की वजह से उद्यमी, व्यापारी को अदालतों के चक्कर काटने पड़ें, जेल जाना पड़े और जेल का भय सताता रहे, तो उसकी उद्यमिता और उसके उत्साह का क्या होगा और अंततः देश की उत्पादकता और अर्थव्यवस्था का क्या होगा? ऐसी चूकों पर पीड़क कार्रवाइयों से भयभीत उद्यमी, व्यापार जगत को राहत देने के लिए ही कंपनी (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2020 के तहत कुछ अपराधों को आपराधिक जुर्म की श्रेणी से बाहर निकाला गया है और *non compoundable* अपराधों को आर्थिक जुर्म की श्रेणी से बाहर नहीं रखा गया है। इस तरह के अपराधों की संख्या 35 थी और आज भी 35 ही रहेगी। महोदय, हमारी अदालतों में पहले से ही मुकदमों का अंबार लगा हुआ है और इस संशोधन के बाद उनमें बहुत जोर से कमी आएगी।

महोदय, इस विधेयक के माध्यम से सरकार ने साबित किया है कि वह मुश्किल के समय में भी प्रभावी कदम उठाती है। विधेयक को तैयार करने की प्रक्रिया में सभी संबंधित पक्षों से विस्तृत चर्चा की गई और मुझे विश्वास है कि इसका समर्थन और स्वागत देश का हर छोटा-बड़ा व्यापारी करेगा। आज जब हमारी कंपनियाँ वैश्विक स्तर की बनने जा रही हैं, तो हमें एक ऐसा प्लेटफॉर्म तैयार करना था, एक ऐसा माहौल तैयार करना था, जिसमें भय नहीं, बल्कि एक उम्मीद के साथ व्यक्ति कारोबार करे। इससे व्यापारी भयमुक्त होंगे, गैर-जरूरी *compliances* से राहत पाएँगे, तो उनके व्यापार की लागत घटेगी।

सर, इसमें एक और महत्वपूर्ण चीज़ की गई है। "Justice delayed is Justice denied" के सिद्धांत के तहत कई मुकदमे वर्षों-वर्षों तक कानूनी जालों में उलझे पड़े रहते थे। अब जो व्यवस्था की गई है, उसमें NCLT के और भी अधिक बेंचेज़ बनेंगे, स्पेशल कोर्ट्स के बेंचेज़ भी बनेंगे।  
...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति:** महेश जी, कृपया आप briefly अपनी बात खत्म करें।

**श्री महेश पोद्दार:** महोदय, अब मैं अपनी बात का अंत करता हूँ। कानून के जाल में जो गोरखधंधे से ... (व्यवधान)...

**श्री उपसभापति:** महेश जी, कृपया अब आप कन्क्लूड करें।

**श्री महेश पोद्दार:** जी, महोदय। उद्यमी को अकारण भय से मुक्ति मिलेगी, यह एक बहुत बड़ा बदलाव होगा और यह एक मील का पत्थर साबित होगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि जिन लोगों ने वर्ष 2013 में एक नया कानून बनाया था और उसके बाद जिसमें 100 से अधिक संशोधन हो गए, उन्हें सोचना चाहिए कि उन्होंने कितनी गलतियाँ की थीं।

महोदय, ये सारे सुधार हो रहे हैं और मैं समझता हूँ कि यह सुधार की एक प्रक्रिया शुरू हुई है और यह आगे भी चलती रहेगी, धन्यवाद।

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR, *in the Chair.*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): The next speaker is Shri Sujeet Kumar. You have got four minutes.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, in the World Bank's 'Ease of Doing Business' ranking, India is ranked 63 out of 190 countries, which is a significant improvement over the three-digit ranking of the past. But I think that there is enormous scope for a better ranking. The hon. Prime Minister has articulated his desire to see India in the top 30 in the Ease of Doing Business' rankings. The Companies (Amendment) Bill aims, precisely, to do this.

Sir, I would spell out two specific provisions in the Bill, which would be of huge benefit to businesses. The Bill aims to decriminalize many offences under the 2013 Act in case of defaults, which can be determined objectively and which otherwise lack any element of criminal intent, or which involve larger public interest.

Sir, *mensrea* is a very essential component of criminal prosecution and this is a very welcome move in the Bill that for minor technical or procedural defects without

[Shri Sujeet Kumar]

any criminal or malafide intent, the promoters or the officers involved with the company's operations will not be penalized. I think this would promote ethics and honesty in business and also provide a very conducive environment where industry would grow and generate employment in our country.

Sir, the second provision is regarding enabling the direct listing in foreign jurisdiction for companies. This is, again, a very welcome move because this would help our start-ups and entrepreneurs to raise cheaper capital in foreign jurisdiction and help develop a start-up culture in the country.

Sir, there are many other provisions, and I could go on and on, but because of paucity of time, I would rather focus on giving a few submissions and suggestions which could make the Bill more welcome. In fact, I would urge the Government to have a complete relook at the 2013 Act by forming a parliamentary committee, but I would take this opportunity to suggest some improvements in the Bill. The Bill seeks to exempt companies whose CSR obligation is below ₹ 50 lakh from constituting a CSR committee. In my view, this is not a very progressive step because it dilutes the accountability of the companies towards their CSR obligation and mandate. I urge the Government to have a relook at this. My next submission is about decriminalizing many Sections under the Act. It is very laudable and, indeed, welcome that the Bill has already provided relief under various sections of the Act by removing criminality from a host of offences. However, there are two particular Sections which have not been included in the Amendment Bill, and I urge the Government to have a relook at decriminalizing these Sections as well. These are Section 129 and Section 185. Section 129 talks of the Financial Statement; in case of any contravention with the provisions of this section, there is a provision to extend the imprisonment upto one year and impose penalty up to ₹5 lakhs. Section 185 is regarding loan to Directors. In case of any contravention with the provisions of this Section, there is a provision to extend the imprisonment upto six months and penalty upto ₹25 lakhs. I think this is very, very draconian and is being mis-utilised by the officials to intimidate and harass honest Directors and officers of the company even for genuine oversight. For listed companies where public money is involved, I can understand the need for penal provisions. But if it is a closely-held company or family business, why do we need penal provisions? I think the Government should definitely have a relook at this. The next suggestion that

I have is regarding clarity. There is no clarity in the Bill on disqualification of Directors or vacation of the office of Directors. LLP has a Law Settlement Scheme. Similar to this, I urge the Government to introduce a Company Law Settlement Scheme for filing pending Annual Accounts, Annual Returns and e-forms of the companies. Many start-ups and entrepreneurs, because of lack of awareness about the Companies Act, are unable to file, or may not get the opportunity to file, their accounts and their statutory requirements on time. So, this Bill should look into this aspect as well. Next, from the possibility of adjudication of penalties, the Government should prescribe monetary parameters or factors for levying penalties. Presently, there is no such parameter and the power is absolutely with the adjudicating officer, which is very wide and discretionary. Finally, my suggestion is regarding Significant Beneficial Ownership (SBO). The Government should provide clarity on the provisions relating to SBO. There seems to be an apparent disconnect between the provisions of the Act and the Rules. To conclude, I think the proposed Amendment Bill is aligned with the principle of providing ease of doing business and will definitely reduce the overall burden on the Court by encouraging honest stakeholders and corporate to continue the business. In the present situation of Covid, I think it is imperative that the Government introduces a more flexible framework.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर): माननीय सदस्य अब आप अपनी बात समाप्त कीजिए।

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: I am finishing in ten seconds. In the present situation of Covid, I think the Government should be large-hearted and should introduce a more flexible framework. Accordingly, the proposed amendments in the Bill are welcome. But the suggestions which I have placed to the hon. Minister may kindly be considered. I support the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): The next speaker is Shri M. Shanmugam; he is not present. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I, on behalf of my Party, rise to support this Bill. India has seen a downward revision of GDP. I would commend the hon. Finance Minister for steps that Madam is taking for reducing the tax rate for new manufacturing sector to 15 per cent and for the existing ones to 22 per cent and steps against the shell companies which are plaguing this country. There are many reforms ushered by the present Government. India needs these reforms

**1.00 P.M.**

[Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy]

more than ever. I have two suggestions to make to the hon. Finance Minister. The first is decriminalization, and direct listing in foreign jurisdiction is the second. The Bill proposes 72 Amendments to the Companies Act, 2013 to decriminalize various offences which can promote ease of doing ethical business and also ease of doing honest business. This is really appreciated. It will also boost the confidence of the investors along with giving the impetus to the business as fear of imprisonment will be reduced significantly.

The decriminalization is only for minor, procedural and technical faults which do not involve fraud...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): One minute, Mr. Reddy. It is one o'clock now.

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, I propose that the proceedings of the day be extended till the Business listed for the day is disposed of.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर): अगर सदन की सहमति है, तो कार्यवाही जारी रखी जाए?

कुछ माननीय सदस्य: सर, ठीक है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Okay, please continue, Mr. Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, the good aspect in decriminalization is that it is only for minor, procedural and technical faults, which do not involve fraud, injury to the public interest, or, non-compoundable offences. This is also appreciated.

The second suggestion, which I would like to make, is regarding the direct listing in foreign jurisdiction. The Bill empowers the Central Government to allow certain class of Indian public companies to directly list class of securities as may be prescribed in the foreign jurisdiction, which is really appreciated. This is likely to help the start-ups to tap overseas market for raising this capital. With these observations, I conclude and support this Bill.



THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): The next speaker is Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha. He is not present. Now, Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the Bill is a welcome move by the hon. Finance Minister. The Bill also reduces the penalty applicable for various violations which will enable entrepreneurs to start their new business without fear and it will also help in improving the Ease of Doing Business. Though penal provisions have been there in the statute, the monitoring mechanism of the Ministry was missing and the enforcement was dismal. However, with the draconian provisions now being removed, it is hoped that an atmosphere for faster and new investments, especially foreign investments which are very much needed in the present situation, will be created. While businessmen, entrepreneurs, companies and Directors and management can breathe due to removal of punishments in many cases, the Amendments are also aimed at bringing more transparency, honesty and good governance and reduce the scope of dubious activities by all business houses or businessmen including listed and unlisted.

The next point I wish to make relates to periodical filing. The provision pertaining to periodical filing of the financial results duly approved by the Board of Directors of unlisted companies, might increase the cost of compliance. Presently, once in a year, the annual report is being filed with the RoC. So, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister that periodic filing would expose business sensitives of closely-held companies. Hence, I suggest for consideration of the hon. Minister to address these concern at the time of subordinate legislation.

Listing of securities companies in prescribed foreign jurisdiction is also a good move. This will not only help the country but also help in building the Brand India. However, the Government should ensure that only companies with proven track record of quality and delivering on time, which would keep up the brand India, should be permitted. Although it is a good move, it has to be done with abundant caution.

The provisions pertaining to additional CSR spend being adjusted against the amount to be spent in successive years is also very good move. Similarly, if there could be a reverse provision meaning if a good project is in offing in the next financial year, the company should be allowed to conserve and spend the amount together with the next financial year's amount. In all, if CSR provisions are made for a block of three years,

[Shri Kanakamendala Ravindra Kumar]

it would help the corporates to develop the communities around in an integrated manner. It means, in all the three financial years, if a corporate spends the sums equal to the minimum prescribed CSR expenditure in any one year, it should be treated as compliance.

Finally, the Bill is a welcome move for the corporate sector and also smaller companies. I support this Bill hoping that the suggestions made by me would be taken care of while framing the rules. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Now, Shri Anil Desai, not present. Shri Praful Patel, not present. Now, the Minister to reply.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, the need of set of amendments, which we are coming up with for the Companies Act, as has rightly been spoken about by the hon. Members, and the importance of it, was long felt. The Companies Act was passed in 2013 and, since then, it has undergone so many different amendments. It has undergone so many different amendments because the stakeholders kept giving inputs saying various aspects of the Companies Act, which was passed in August, 2013, are still not helping in Companies doing their businesses without worrying about their compliance. The Standing Committee on Finance even in 2010 had very clearly recommended, and, I quote, Sir, "Transgressions purely procedural or technical in nature, should be viewed in a broader perspective while serious non-compliances or violations, including fraudulent conduct, should invite stringent, deterrent provisions." So, the recommendation of the Standing Committee even in 2010 had very clearly said that procedural and technical transgressions should be treated with a broader perspective whilst non-compliances or fraudulent conduct should be stringently handled. It is one thing that it was available even in 2010 but the Act was passed in 2013, and, after having passed the Act, we continuously feel and hear the voices of the people in the ground saying that it still has a lot of issues, and, therefore, we keep coming back to this hon. House for amendments. This time, I can put it as a small condensed one-line for what this amendment is all about. It essentially consists of two different compartments. The first one consists of 48 amendments, all of which aim at decriminalization and related matters. The decriminalization is important and also greater ease of living, both for the companies and also for citizens, is important. So, compliance related issues are being made simpler. In the second compartment, there are 13 amendments, that is, 13

Sections are getting amended, one new Chapter is getting added, and, three new Sections are being inserted. Therefore, I would like to underline the fact that the first compartment of 48 amendments are aimed at decriminalization, and, the second compartment, having all the 13 Sections, one new Chapter and three new insertions, are essentially for ease of living. In the ease of living compartment that I am talking about, there is one new Chapter that I am introducing and that is going to help many producer organizations, and, today, the producer organizations do not just remain in the manufacturing realm, they can also be in the agricultural sector, which is the primary sector, in which there can be fishermen producer, there can be farmer producers, all of whom can get covered. At this time, it would not be inappropriate if I highlight the fact that in my Budget Speech, I had very clearly mentioned that Government of India is planning to form 10,000 farmer producer organizations, all of which will have a rural impact, and, therefore, this protection, which comes through here, protection in the sense of giving ease of life for the farmer organizations, manufacturing organizations or producer organizations is equally important.

I wish to underline the fact that whilst we are doing decriminalization exercise, since 2013, the total number of penal provisions related sections was 134, and, then, it came down. Today, after we pass this Bill here, there will only be 124 sections which have total penal provisions. But what we are not touching, what remains like what it was in 2013, is the non-compoundable offences section. Thirty-five of them from 2013 remain thirty-five even today because we are not giving an opportunity for fraud, deceit or injuring public interest to go away with smaller punishments. So, those thirty-five non-compoundable sections will make sure that those who do fraud, those who do deceit and those who bring injury to public interest will all be treated with firm hands. There are a lot more things which I can say about this set of amendments, but I have heard the hon. Members speak with so much passion about the various Amendments. They have covered all the changes that I am bringing through here. Therefore, I do not need to elaborate justifying why this Companies (Amendment) Bill will have to be passed by this august House. With these words, Sir, through you, I request the hon. Members to pass this Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 2013, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 to 66 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): The hon. Minister to move that the Bill be passed.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

**The National Forensic Sciences University Bill, 2020**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): We shall now take up the National Forensic Science University Bill, 2020. Shri Amit Shah to move a motion for consideration of the National Forensic Science University, Bill 2020.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): Sir, on behalf of my hon. senior colleague, Shri Amit Shah, I move:

"That the Bill to establish and declare an institution to be known as the National Forensic Sciences University as an institution of national importance to facilitate and promote studies and research and to achieve excellence in the field of forensic science in conjunction with applied behavioural science studies, law, criminology and other allied areas and technology and other related fields, and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The question was proposed.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): The first speaker is Shri Balasubramoniyan. You have two minutes.

SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, the National Forensic Sciences University Bill, 2020 seeks to repeal the 2008 Act and to establish the Gujarat Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, and the Lok Nayak Jayaprakash

Narayan National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Sciences, New Delhi, as a university called the National Forensic Sciences University at Gujarat. The Bill declares the University to be an institution of national importance. The campuses of the university will include the campuses of the two universities.

(THE VICE-CHAIRMAN, DR. SASMIT PATRA, *in the Chair*.)

Forensic science is one of the upcoming career fields in India with a wide scope for jobs across various crime bureaus, educational institutions and law firms among others. Forensic science with criminology takes a student on a journey from crime scene to court rooms, experiencing many traditional and specialist fields of forensic investigation, allowing students to become an expert in laboratory analysis of evidence.

At the time when the country is reeling under the prevalence of plethora of crimes, particularly against women and children, the development of centre of excellence in forensic science is the need of the hour. In a wide and vast country like India, identification, analysis of *modus operandi* of crimes requires specialized knowledge.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Hon. Member, please conclude.

SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN: I have not even taken one minute.

Forensic science acts as a bridge in such special cases.

Digital India witnesses digital frauds and crime and naturally digital forensic requires maximum focus and support. Today, our country witnesses unprecedented increase in cybercrime and digital frauds. I am sure every Member in this august House knows about bank frauds, digital thefts and looting through cloned ATM debit and credit cards.

There is prevalence of frauds and siphoning using PM Jan Dhan bank accounts. When the Direct Benefit Scheme and Jan Dhan Yojana were introduced, the Government had said that it would eliminate the menace of middlemen corruption and fraud. But corruption and frauds have started to happen in those schemes. Therefore, more digital forensic experts are mandatory to monitor the functioning of Government schemes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Hon. Member, please conclude.

SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN: I will finish it. If you don't allow me, I will go.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): No, no. Go ahead.

There are only seven Central Forensic Science Laboratories in India but not a single one in Tamil Nadu. With increasing incidence of cybercrime and digital frauds in the country, there is an urgent need to create a Central Forensic Science Laboratory in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. I would request the hon. Minister to take necessary steps to establish a Central Forensic Science Laboratory in Chennai with the state-of-the-art DNA analysis unit.

The hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Shri Edappadi K. Palaniswami, has asked the Union Government to establish a National Forensic Science University in Tamil Nadu. I therefore urge the Government to create an Advanced Centre for Research in Forensic Science and Criminology in Tamil Nadu. Because of its immense contribution to nation building, Tamil Nadu deserves much more from the Centre.

**श्री मुजीबुल्ला खान** (ओडिशा): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे अपने दल की तरफ से बोलने का मौका मिला, इसलिए मैं अपने दल के अध्यक्ष को भी धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। इस बिल के अंतर्गत सरकार गुजरात फॉरेन्सिक विश्वविद्यालय को राष्ट्रीय फॉरेन्सिक विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय का दर्जा देने जा रही है और लोकनायक जयप्रकाश नारायण नेशनल इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ क्रिमिनोलॉजी एंड फॉरेन्सिक साइंस को इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ नेशनल एमिनेंस के दर्जे से नवाज़ रही है। मैं इन कदमों की दिल से तारीफ करता हूँ। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी का तहेदिल से धन्यवाद अदा करता हूँ। सर, आप जानते हैं कि आजकल ऐसा होता है कि बहुत-सी जगहों पर किसी को मार दिया जाता है और उसको आत्महत्या का रूप दे दिया जाता है। इसीलिए हमको इस बिल की बहुत जरूरत है। मैं उन लोगों को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ, जो सच्चाई को सामने लाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। महोदय, पूरी न्याय प्रणाली में क्रिमिनल जस्टिस बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बिंदु होता है और उसको मजबूत रखना हमारी जिम्मेदारी है। किसी भी असहाय या बेगुनाह को कभी सज़ा नहीं मिलनी चाहिए। जो गुनहगार है, उसको पकड़कर सज़ा हो, ऐसी कोशिश की जा सकती है। अगर हम आज भी देखेंगे, तो फॉरेन्सिक साइंस की सुविधा बहुत ही कम जगहों पर उपलब्ध है और इसकी गुणवत्ता हमेशा प्रश्न के अधीन रहती है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Hon. Member, please conclude.

**श्री मुजीबुल्ला खान:** इस बिल के माध्यम से इसकी गुणवत्ता को बढ़ाया जा सकता है। जहाँ पर जरूरत हो, वहीं पर फॉरेन्सिक एक्सपर्ट्स की संख्या भी बढ़ाई जा सकती है। इसीलिए गुजरात के फॉरेन्सिक कॉलेज को नेशनल फॉरेन्सिक साइंस यूनिवर्सिटी घोषित करना एक सही कदम है। मैं इसकी सराहना करता हूँ। यह भी एक सराहना का विषय है कि प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी ने दिल्ली के लोकनायक जयप्रकाश नारायण नेशनल इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ क्रिमिनोलॉजी एंड फॉरेन्सिक साइंसेज़

को यूनिवर्सिटी का दर्जा देने के बारे में सोचा है। इनकी संख्या बढ़ जाने से देश-विदेश में भारत के मान-सम्मान को बहुत बढ़ावा मिलेगा, रिसर्च की दुनिया में भारत का डंका बजेगा। हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि हर एक राज्य में इसकी एक शाखा होगी, जिससे इसकी गुणवत्ता को बढ़ावा मिलेगा। महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ और माननीय मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि हमारे देश को सच्चाई के रास्ते पर आगे ले जाने के लिए आप कोशिश करेंगे, धन्यवाद, जय हिन्द।

**पोत परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; तथा रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मनसुख मांडविया):** सर, जब फोरेंसिक साइंसेज़ एक राइज़िंग सेक्टर था, उस वक्त मोदी जी ने गुजरात में उसके भविष्य को देखते हुए - भविष्य में उसका क्या महत्व होगा, भविष्य में उसकी कितनी आवश्यकता होगी, उसको ध्यान में रखते हुए इस यूनिवर्सिटी की स्थापना की थी। मुझे खुशी इस बात की है कि आज के दिन भारत में ही नहीं, बल्कि एशिया की कई कंट्रीज़ में और दुनिया की कई कंट्रीज़ में ऐसे offence होते हैं और उनके इन्वेस्टिगेशन के लिए गुजरात की फोरेंसिक साइंसेज़ यूनिवर्सिटी में मामले आते हैं और उनका सॉल्यूशन वहां पर होता है। इस यूनिवर्सिटी को नेशनल यूनिवर्सिटी के रूप में हम ले जा रहे हैं, इसलिए इस अवसर पर मैं खुशी व्यक्त करता हूँ और इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ।

**THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA):** Now, hon. Member, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy. You have two minutes.

**SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh):** Sir, on behalf of my party, I rise to support this Bill. It is a good step. The University was inaugurated by the hon. Prime Minister and Gujarat is the first State in the world which has a Forensic Sciences University. It will help in mapping of crime and litigation pattern in the country. India needs to have forensic laboratories in every State because crime prevails throughout the country and not just in one State. Therefore, there is a need to have at least one university in each State to help police and law enforcement agencies with their network. It will also help in creating specialists who have good knowledge about forensics and uniformalise education in the sector which has largely been defined.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, who is sitting here: Is there any plan for expanding the network of forensic universities to Andhra Pradesh also? Hyderabad has a classic, very highly technological and superior forensic laboratory. Similar laboratories and universities should be set up in remaining parts of the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh. Thank you very much, Sir.

**श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार):** उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैं इस विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ। यह विधेयक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है और इसके माध्यम से फोरेंसिक

[श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह]

यूनिवर्सिटीज़ बनाई जा रही हैं। पुलिस में जब भी एफ.आई.आर. दर्ज होती है, तो सबसे पहले फोरेंसिक की आवश्यकता क्राइम के इन्वेस्टिगेशन में पड़ती है, डिटेक्शन ऑफ क्रिमिनल्स हैं, उनके लिए पड़ती है। आप जब चार्जशीट कोर्ट में दाखिल करते हैं, तो उसके लिए सारी चीज़ों को जुटाना पड़ता है और ट्रायल में इनको लाना पड़ता है। आज जिस प्रकार के क्राइम्स हो रहे हैं- पहले जिस तरह से इन्वेस्टिगेशन होती थी, उस प्रकार से इन्वेस्टिगेशन अब संभव नहीं है। आज की जरूरत है कि फोरेंसिक साइंसेज़ में ज्यादा से ज्यादा रिसर्च हो, अच्छी methodology लेकर आएँ, उसमें अच्छे instruments आएँ और जब इसकी पढ़ाई यूनिवर्सिटी में होगी, तो उनको इसका फायदा भी होगा। यह मेरा अनुरोध होगा कि सभी States में, खास कर crime को investigate करने में, criminals को सजा दिलाने में police को और ताकत मिले, इसके लिए आवश्यक है कि States में forensic की जितनी भी laboratories हैं, उन सभी के यहाँ कम से कम एक-एक college की स्थापना की जाए, जिसका इसका पूरे देश को फायदा मिलेगा।

महोदय, आपने मुझे यहाँ पर अपने विचार रखने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Thank you hon. Member. Hon. Minister, for your reply please.

**श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी:** उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। महोदय, मैंने लोक सभा द्वारा पारित, "The National Forensic Sciences University Bill, 2020" को इस सदन में consideration के लिए प्रस्तुत किया है। आज के समय में अपराध बहुत ज्यादा technology-based हो गए हैं। एक अच्छी, proper and scientific police investigation करने में forensic science का बहुत बड़ा योगदान होता है, इसीलिए आज national level पर एक ऐसी university होनी चाहिए। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी का vision है कि forensic science तथा इससे संबंधित क्षेत्रों के लिए हमें एक holistic और latest technology के development पर आधारित institutes का निर्माण करना चाहिए। उनकी ऐसी इच्छा थी, इसीलिए इस संदर्भ में, इस सरकार ने संसद के पिछले सत्र में National Forensic Sciences University Bill, 2020 लोक सभा में प्रस्तुत किया था। National Forensic Science भारत के trained और qualified manpower की मांग पूरा करेगा और forensic science के क्षेत्र में capacity building का फायदा भी देगा। National Forensic Science University भारत में forensic science के साथ-साथ applied behaviour research, law, criminology तथा अन्य concerned sectors में भी काम करने वाली है। मैं आप सभी लोगों को बताना चाहता हूँ कि NFSU एक Institute of National Importance होगा। यह forensic science के क्षेत्र में affiliating university भी होगी। देश की इस field में, colleges में, अन्य institutions के affiliattion में भी Gujarat University काम करे, इसके



लिए अब इसको National Forensic University का दर्जा मिलेगा। इसके साथ ही ये सबको affiliation भी दे सकते हैं। इस प्रकार ये National Forensic Science क्षेत्र में Centre of Excellency स्थापित करके इन क्षेत्रों में modern facilities प्रदान करेंगे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, GFSU ने पिछले एक दशक में अपने आपको एक बहुत ही प्रभावशाली और world-class university के रूप में विकसित किया है। GFSU is presently conducting 41 highly specialized and unique master level programmes in subjects related to forensic science and allied sciences. In fact, मुझे इस सदन को यह बताने में बहुत प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि GFSU विश्व की केवल सबसे पहली ही नहीं, बल्कि इकलौती Forensic Science University है। इसका एक बहुत बड़ा कारण यह है कि Gujarat Forensic Science University को National Forensic Science University में upgrade करने के लिए, वहाँ का infrastructure, academic experience, work culture and professionalism भी अब National Forensic Science University में आने वाला है। गुजरात सरकार ने GFSU को National Forensic Science University के रूप में upgrade करने लिए in principle approval प्रदान कर दिया है एवं अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ इसका भी अनुरोध किया है कि GFSU की संपत्ति का National Forensic Science University को अपने उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए उपयोग करना चाहिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आज बताना चाहता हूँ कि देश भर में forensic science के बहुत cases बढ़ रहे हैं, crime भी बढ़ रहे हैं। A lot of cases are pending. आज 1 लाख, 50 हजार cases pending हैं। यदि आज की latest स्थिति देखें तो, 1,83,674 cases pending हैं, because there is no manpower. Forensic science में manpower की कमी होने के कारण इतनी बड़ी संख्या में cases pending हैं। India में अलग-अलग गवर्नमेंट्स में, State Governments और Central Government की मिलाकर 8,236 posts sanction की गई हैं। उनमें से 4,097 posts manpower नहीं होने के कारण, trained post नहीं होने के कारण, qualified post नहीं होने के कारण pending हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Hon. Minister, please be brief.

श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी : जी। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आज forensic science में लगभग 1 लाख 14 हजार posts की need है। अभी NASSCOM की एक रिपोर्ट है कि इंडिया में 3.5 million cyber security experts चाहिए। उनकी रिपोर्ट में ऐसा दिया गया है। इसलिए यह University भारत सरकार का एक बहुत अच्छा कदम है। यह visionary leader, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी का कदम है। इसलिए मैं आप सब लोगों को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। इस यूनिवर्सिटी के द्वारा देश भर के हर जिले के जितने भी colleges होंगे, जितनी भी institutes होंगी, उनको हम affiliation देंगे। हम इसमें in-house training देंगे। हम पैरा-मिलिट्री और स्टेट पुलिस को भी training देंगे और judiciary को भी training देंगे। इसके साथ-साथ हम नए-नए courses लेकर नए

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students के लिए employment generation करेंगे। इस field में आने वाले दिनों में कोई कमी नहीं रहनी चाहिए। अभी यह गुजरात की number one University है। अभी दुनिया में ऐसी यूनिवर्सिटी कहीं भी नहीं है, इस दृष्टिकोण से यह भारत में number one University होगी और दुनिया में भी number one University होगी। इसलिए मैं आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि सभी माननीय सांसदों ने इसमें भागीदार होकर इसका समर्थन किया है। मैं आपके माध्यम से सभी सांसद महानुभावों को धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): I shall now put the Motion moved by hon. Minister of State, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, as passed by Lok Sabha, for consideration of The National Forensic Sciences University Bill, 2020 to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill to establish and declare an institution to be known as the National Forensic Sciences University as an institution of national importance to facilitate and promote studies and research and to achieve excellence in the field of forensic science in conjunction with applied behavioural science studies, law, criminology and other allied areas and technology and other related fields, and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 to 56 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Now, hon. Minister to move that the Bill be passed.

श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी: महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

"कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।"

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

**The Rashtriya Raksha University Bill, 2020**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Now, we shall take up the next Bill, which is The Rashtriya Raksha University Bill, 2020. Hon. Minister, Shri G. Kishan Reddy to move a motion for consideration of The Rashtriya Raksha University Bill, 2020.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): Sir, with your permission, I move:

"That the Bill to establish and declare an institution to be known as the Rashtriya Raksha University as an institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration. "

*The question was proposed.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): The first Member who is speaking is hon. Member, Shri Muzibulla Khan. You have two minutes to speak.

**श्री मुजीबुल्ला खान** (ओडिशा): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आज सदन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हूँ, मैं अपने आप को गौरवान्वित महसूस करता हूँ। आज आजादी के 70 साल बाद सरकार रक्षा के ऊपर विशेष ध्यान दे रही है और इसी कड़ी में इस बिल को लाया गया है। इस बिल के माध्यम से सरकार राष्ट्रीय रक्षा विश्वविद्यालय पर विशेष ध्यान देने जा रही है। इसके तहत वह इसको Institute of National Importance का भी दर्जा देगी, जिससे विश्वविद्यालय सक्षम बनेगा। महोदय, रक्षा शक्ति विश्वविद्यालय, गुजरात को upgrade करके राष्ट्रीय रक्षा विश्वविद्यालय बनाया जा रहा है। यह एक मायने में एक दूरदर्शी सोच है। इसके लिए मैं प्रधान मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। आज के दिनों में रक्षा और सुरक्षा का कितना महत्व है, हम सब समझते हैं। एक तरफ पाकिस्तान हमेशा संकट खड़ा करता है, तो दूसरी तरफ आजकल चीन अजीब हरकतें करता है। इस पर हमें सोचने की आवश्यकता है। यही नहीं बल्कि अंदरूनी तौर पर भी हमें सुरक्षा व्यवस्था को सुदृढ़ बनाने की कोशिश करनी होगी। इससे गुणवत्ता के अनुसंधान में भी मदद मिलेगी। इस तरीके से विश्वविद्यालय कानून व्यवस्था, क्राइम इन्वेस्टिगेशन, साइबर सुरक्षा आदि में विशेष मदद मिलेगी।

महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ और माननीय मंत्री जी और माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को फिर से धन्यवाद देते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Now, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy. You have two minutes.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I support this Bill on behalf of my party. I am happy to see the diversity of subjects chosen by the Government to be researched under the proposed university. Subjects such as police sciences including coastal policing, security, cyber security, artificial intelligence, cyber crime, studies related to gender sensitization, minorities and weaker sections, juvenile justice and such other subjects have been chosen that have relevance in today's world. This is a welcome move and shifts India's education system, which is very much needed, to a more innovative space. This Bill addresses the limitations in the diversity of subjects offered in India. All the above mentioned subjects are more application based and does not just offer theoretical knowledge. Therefore, this is very important in the present scenario. Particularly, with the rapid technological changes and the onset of AI, the Bill promises to skill our youth in areas that would be of high importance in the coming time. The research is required, especially, in the field of artificial intelligence. Several IT service companies in India have already started a massive re-skilling drive of its employees to cater to the post pandemic environment where the clients are demanding new digital expertise. The training is in the field of cloud technology, artificial intelligence, Internet of Things, etc. Thus, this Bill will help students adapt to the demands of a dynamic workspace. Therefore, this is the Bill which is very much required to be adopted by the House keeping the present technological changes in mind. Thank you very much Sir. We support the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Now, Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh.

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। पहली बार जो यह बिल लाया गया है, इसमें इस बात का ध्यान रखा गया है कि पुलिस, आप जानते हैं कि पुलिस एक्ट 1834 का बना हुआ है। उस समय पुलिस का काम सिर्फ लॉ एण्ड ऑर्डर मेनटेन करना था और आज पुलिस की जिम्मेदारी बहुत बढ़ गई है और इसे सिटिजन सेन्ट्रिक भी बनाया जा रहा है। इसलिए इसमें जितनी तरह की वहां पढ़ाई होगी, जिसकी चर्चा श्री वि. विजयसाई रेड्डी जी कर रहे थे, निश्चित रूप से इसके बारे में लोगों का ख़ास ज्ञान बढ़ेगा और जो हमारे लोग पुलिस में हैं, उनको भी इसके बारे में जानकारी दी जाएगी तो उनका ज्ञान बेहतर होगा और अच्छे ढंग से वे पूरे देश और प्रदेश में पुलिस सेवा कर पायेंगे।

महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Now, Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar. You have three minutes.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I rise to support this Bill. This is a new innovation. It states that the basic concepts and methodology of the police work are more or less similar in the entire country. There is a need to constitute the university at this juncture. There are only a few institutions in the country which provide environment, infrastructure and specialization for imparting education in police sciences and internal security. In the present scenario, in the situation prevailing in the country, it requires to meet the demands of the modern, citizen-centric policing. The university is proposed to be a university to create new knowledge through research and collaboration with different stakeholders and help to fulfill the need for a pool of trained professionals with specialised knowledge and new skill sets in various wings of policing, criminal justice system and administration system. The University will have its linkage with world-class universities in other countries. I request and urge upon the hon. Minister, though the University has a centre in Gujarat, to establish another centre in newly born State of Andhra Pradesh, at Amaravati which is the capital of Andhra Pradesh. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Thank you. Now, the hon. Minister for his kind reply.

श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, भारत में एक वर्ल्ड-क्लास, 'National Police University' स्थापित करने का सुझाव सबसे पहले आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने 2015 में DGP/IGP Conference में दिया था। 2019-20 में अपने बजट भाषण में hon. Finance Minister, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman ने भी 'National Police University' स्थापित करने की घोषणा की थी। आज उसी घोषणा के परिणामस्वरूप यह यूनिवर्सिटी इस रूप में बन कर आ रही है। देश में और पूरी दुनिया में global terrorism और बढ़ते हुए economic offences and organised crime के कारण आंतरिक सुरक्षा के लिए चुनौतियां भी बढ़ रही हैं। इस संदर्भ में यह जरूरी है कि हमारी police forces को investigation, changing laws, cyber crimes, cyber security, police sciences, new technology की latest development में शिक्षा प्रदान की जाए। Police forces को soft skills, behavioral science, professional skills, psychology आदि विषयों में भी expertise training दिए जाने की आवश्यकता है। इसी दृष्टिकोण से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी का यह विज़न है कि police training के लिए हम एक coordinated and comprehensive framework का निर्माण करें। इसी बीच गुजरात सरकार ने गृह मंत्रालय को गांधी नगर में स्थित स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की 'रक्षा शक्ति यूनिवर्सिटी' को अपग्रेड करके, एक Central University and institution of national importance बनाने का प्रस्ताव केन्द्र सरकार को दिया है। इस प्रस्ताव के मूल्यांकन के बाद यह निष्कर्ष निकाला कि financial liability के अतिरिक्त चार-पांच वर्ष में एक नया इंस्टीट्यूशन बनाने की तुलना में गुजरात सरकार के द्वारा दिया गया विकल्प ज्यादा

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economical and time effected होगा। इसी दृष्टिकोण से आज भारत सरकार ने यह निर्णय लिया है कि गांधी नगर यूनिवर्सिटी को हम तुरंत National University बनाने की घोषणा करें। यह यूनिवर्सिटी गांधी नगर में लगभग 230 एकड़ भूमि में फैली हुई है, जिसमें well developed campus है तथा state of art facilities उपलब्ध हैं। रक्षा यूनिवर्सिटी में internal security, terrorism, organized crimes, cyber crimes, economic offences, crimes related to juveniles, law and order management, crime investigation, victimology, electronic surveillance, geoinformatics cyber forensics, forensic auditing and accountancy, scientific investigation, video analysis, traffic and road safety, coastal and maritime security, forensic science, police administration, information technology and telecommunication, physical education के अलावा brain fingerprinting, layered voice analysis, cyber security tools जैसे अनेक विषयों पर गुजरात रक्षा यूनिवर्सिटी में शिक्षा प्रारम्भ की जा रही है। National university बनने के बाद तुरन्त ही इसमें काम शुरू हो जाएगा। उसके बाद देश भर के पुलिस ऑफिसर्स को, देश भर के नौजवानों को, नये लोगों को एडमिशन देकर, ट्रेनिंग देकर इसमें Certificate Courses, PG Courses, Diploma Courses या अलग-अलग courses की training दी जाएगी। पुलिस में भर्ती के लिए इन सर्टिफिकेट्स के weightage marks भी मिलते हैं। आज गुजरात यूनिवर्सिटी में जो नौजवान बच्चे पुलिस में भर्ती होने के लिए ट्रेनिंग लेते हैं, उनको 5% weightage marks भी दिए जाते हैं। इस दृष्टिकोण से यह यूनिवर्सिटी बनाया जाना बहुत जरूरी है, चूंकि दुनिया के कई देशों में police university एक systematic ढंग से establish की जा चुकी हैं। महोदय, रक्षा शक्ति यूनिवर्सिटी establishment के साथ ही हम दूसरे देशों के पुलिस विश्वविद्यालयों के साथ reciprocal agreement करके उन देशों के technology को भारत में ला सकते हैं। मैं आज इस संदर्भ में उनको जरूर धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ, जो उन्होंने इन विश्वविद्यालयों को स्थापित करने का काम किया। भारत सरकार, गुजरात सरकार के विकासोन्मुख, प्रशंसनीय दृष्टिकोण के लिए उसका आभार व्यक्त करती है। गुजरात सरकार ने स्वयं भारत सरकार को यह प्रपोजल दिया that these two well developed state-of-the-art-institutions, Gujarat Forensic Sciences University और गुजरात रक्षा शक्ति यूनिवर्सिटी को नेशनल यूनिवर्सिटी बनाया जाए। गुजरात सरकार राष्ट्र निर्माण के लिए इन यूनिवर्सिटीज़ को नेशनल यूनिवर्सिटीज़ बनाने के लिए आगे आई।

महोदय, मैं आखिर में यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि गुजरात रक्षा शक्ति यूनिवर्सिटी और Gujarat Forensic Sciences University की बात करते समय हमें यह याद करना पड़ेगा और इसके लिए उनका अभिनंदन करना पड़ेगा, जिन्होंने इनकी स्थापना की थी। गुजरात सरकार ने आज से 11 साल पहले यानी 2009 में इन दोनों यूनिवर्सिटीज़ की स्थापना की थी, जब परम आदरणीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी गुजरात के मुख्य मंत्री की जिम्मेदारी निभाते थे और देश के गृह मंत्री आदरणीय अमित शाह जी उस समय गुजरात के गृह मंत्री की जिम्मेदारी निभाते थे। मैं मोदी जी की दृष्टिकोण

और उनकी visionary leadership के लिए उनको इस सदन के माध्यम से फिर एक बार अभिनन्दन व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ। गुजरात में ये दो ही यूनिवर्सिटीज़ नहीं हैं, बल्कि वहाँ Children's University, Indian Institute of Teacher Education (IITE), Swarnim Gujarat Sports University, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, Gujarat Technological University, Gujarat National Law University, Shree Somnath Sanskrit University भी हैं। ऐसी अलग-अलग यूनिवर्सिटीज़ की स्थापना आदरणीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने गुजरात में की है। मैं देश की जनता की तरफ से इसके लिए माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने ये यूनिवर्सिटीज़ स्थापित कीं, जो आज देश के काम आ रही हैं। इस यूनिवर्सिटी को नेशनल यूनिवर्सिटी बनाने के लिए यह बिल सदन के सामने लाया गया है और सभी सांसद महानुभावों ने इस बिल का समर्थन किया है, इसके लिए मैं उनको अपनी ओर से धन्यवाद देता हूँ। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): The question is:

"That the Bill to establish and declare an institution to be known as the Rashtriya Raksha University as an institution of national importance and to provide for its incorporation and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 to 53 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी: महोदय, मैं यह प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:

"कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।"

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

**The Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of  
Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Now, we will take up the next matter of Business, i.e., the Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020. There is a Statutory Resolution also. Both of them have to be discussed together.

[Dr. Sasmit Patra]

Now, Statutory Resolution by Shri Binoy Viswam and Shri K.C. Venugopal, not present. Now, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to move a Motion for consideration of the Taxation and Other Laws (Relaxation and Amendment of Certain Provisions) Bill, 2020.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to provide for relaxation and amendment of provisions of certain Acts and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration".

*The question was proposed.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Motion moved. The Motion for consideration of the Bill is now open for discussion. Shri Sujeet Kumar.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I commend the Government for bringing this Ordinance during this COVID-19, which was not only very timely but also very human, sensitive and pro-citizens. But, with your permission, Sir, I would like to make some very specific submissions to the hon. Minister for her consideration which are in the larger interest of the nation and its citizens. Sir, as you know, during COVID-19, salaries have been cut, vendor payments are getting delayed and businesses are struggling. In such a scenario, I appeal to the Government to mitigate these hardships by making all the pending tax refunds which will improve the liquidity in the hands of the taxpayers. Sir, the limit on deduction of 10 per cent of gross revenue under Section 80g of the Income Tax Act is not applicable to donations made to PM CARES Fund. But this limit is applicable for donations made to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund. Sir, why should there be this distinction? I urge the Government, through you, Sir, to exempt these donation limits made to the CMRFs. Sir, the dates for various statutory and regulatory compliances also need to be extended further and the tax rates need to be lowered further, at least, for the MSMEs. I urge the hon. Minister to take a very large-hearted and sympathetic view on this. Sir, we all agree on the importance of MSMEs for the Indian economy and the potential of job creation by the MSMEs. But, currently they are all struggling and are in a very bad shape. Sir, instead of taxing them, the Government should instead protect them because this is the time when they need this protection more than ever. Sir, companies have been provided tax relief by reducing the tax rate from 30 per cent to 25 per cent, if the turnover does



not exceed ₹400 crores. But, in India bulk of the MSME sector is in the sole proprietorship or partnership or LLP firm itself, who do not have this tax relief. So, it is my humble submission for extending this tax relief to the MSMEs also working in the status of proprietorship, partnership or LLP. Sir, my final submission is regarding the decriminalization of offences and the double taxation. A lot was expected in this Ordinance regarding decriminalization of certain offences and the double taxation, which has not been covered in the Bill, which may promote ease of doing business by providing conducive environment to the MSME sector, particularly, for the first time offender, when there is no mens rea involved. I will give you an example, Sir. The Income Tax Department came out with a guideline vide Circular No.24 of 2019, dated 9th September, for identifying and processing cases for prosecution under the Direct Tax laws. It may be suggested, Sir, that no prosecution should be launched where the TDS has not been voluntarily...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): Please conclude.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: I am concluding, Sir. It is my humble submission that no prosecution should be launched where the TDS has been voluntarily deposited with interest before any proceedings initiated by the Department. Sir, this would be a rewarding step for the honest and law-abiding citizens. It may also be suggested that no prosecution should be launched where the tax interest or the penalty amount involved in the default does not exceed ₹25 lakh. Sir, I think this is a very welcome Ordinance which is now placed as a Bill and I wholeheartedly support this. Thank you.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I would first like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for giving the much needed relief to the people during the pandemic. With downsizing in the public sector and reduction in the salaries of several people in the private sector also, the decision to give relaxations under several provisions of taxation and other laws is a welcome move. Sir, there are several positives in the Bill but I would particularly highlight the relaxations given by the GST Council forcing the Ordinance in reducing the interest on delay in payment of GST returns by registered persons under the Act. This was a much needed move for the companies which have suffered to a great account due to the pandemic. Accordingly allowing extensions under the Vivad Se Vishwas Scheme without additional ten per cent payment also shows the Government's will to serve the honest taxpayers in the country. With this observation, I support the Bill. Thank you.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. Legislation was passed with regard to direct taxes during the last Session of Parliament. Among the substantial amendments pertaining to Income-Tax Act, one important among them is the jurisdiction of the Income-Tax authorities. How will it be implemented and how will it be hassle-free for assesseees? Apart from assessment, the tax payers have to approach the Income Tax Department for various other functions like rectification, verification, lower deduction of tax, revision, valuation, transfer of audit, etc. These functions are currently performed manually and they are done by officers within the jurisdiction of tax-payers. How will this type of activities be accomplished in the faceless scheme? I need clarification on these from the Government so that the common people are benefited.

Sir, States are now given an option to borrow or raise money from the market, which will be repaid later by the Centre. But, even to plan this borrowing from the market, the States need to know the time-line as to when they can expect the pending GST compensation. The Government has to clarify on this.

With these submissions, I request the Government to adopt a cautious approach during the Covid pandemic. I support this Bill and seek these clarifications. Thank you, Sir.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, quickly, I would like to give a brief background on where we are today. We had to bring an Ordinance because a lot of tax-related compliances were due at the time when the lockdown was announced. We realised that many of the assesseees couldn't do their compliance even if they wished to do. Therefore, we had to bring in an Ordinance and it was issued on 31st March, 2020 which, essentially, was for deferring the date of compliances both for direct and indirect taxes. Also, the customs and excises areas were to be covered similarly. Therefore, we had to bring in the Ordinance for including these deferrals of dates. Furthermore, the Vivad se Vishwas Scheme as also the Sabka Vishwas, both required date deferrals for compliance. The last date was falling in the period of the Covid lockdown. As a result, this Ordinance was brought in on 31st March, 2020. We are trying to replace that Ordinance with the Bill. Now that we are coming with the Bill, we have brought in other clauses also, which may be timely for us to do it so that the

**2.00 P.M.**

investments which are coming into the country are facilitated, making sure that the IFSC Gift City has better provisions for sovereign fund investment into this country. The new additions to this Bill, post the Ordinance, are also to make sure that the landmark decision the hon. Prime Minister made in bringing in faceless assessments in taxation, faceless now even in appeals, powers for the faceless being put at a higher level in terms of hierarchy, are all being made a part of the law itself just so that the Government's commitment towards making taxation a lot more transparent a process is clear. So, the addition over and above the Ordinance, which was introduced on 31st March, 2020 is to add these kind of amendments so that the survey powers, revisionary powers are extended to every realm of the taxation.

Also, one of the features which is being added over and above the amendments which were included in the Ordinance is to reduce the TDS and TCS rates from 100 to 75, which means we are foregoing 25 per cent. So, these are essentially to make sure that the people who have compliance-related issues, because deadlines were falling within the Covid lockdown period, are given extended dates so that they are not put to hardship.

So, largely, this is the feature and I appreciate all the Members who have spoken about it and having gone through the amendment Bill that we are bringing in, I seek their support through you, Sir, on what is a timely set of amendments.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Nirmalaji. I shall now put the motion moved by Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill further to provide for relaxation and amendment of provisions of certain Acts and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 to 11 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Minister to move that the Bill be returned.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be returned.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

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**MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA — *Contd.***

**(I) The Homeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020**

**(II) The Indian Medicine Central Council (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)

"In accordance with the provision of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 21st September, 2020, and continued on 22nd September, 2020, agreed without any amendment to the Homeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th September, 2020."

(II)

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform you that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 21st September, 2020, and continued on 22nd September, 2020 agreed without any amendment to the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th September, 2020."

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 9.00 a.m. on Wednesday, the 23rd September, 2020.

*The House then adjourned at two minutes past  
two of the clock till nine of the clock on  
Wednesday, the 23rd September 2020.*