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No. 14



Monday,
21st March, 2022
30 Phalgun, 1943 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT (FLOOR VERSION)
(PART-II)

CONTENTS

Papers laid on the Table (pages 1 - 4)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry
- *Presented* (page 4)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals
and Fertilizers - *Laid on the Table* (page 5)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on
Communications and Information Technology - *Laid on the Table* (page 5)

Leave of Absence - *Granted* (pages 6 - 7)

[P.T.O]

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Matters raised with Permission -

- Need to re-start the operations of Scooter India Limited at Lucknow (pages 7 - 8)
- Non-filling up of backlog vacancies belonging to SC/ST and OBC categories in Madhya Pradesh (pages 8 - 9)
- Need to establish cold chain warehouses in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh (pages 9 - 10)
- Exploitation of Himalayan ecosystem due to various infrastructural projects (pages 10 - 12)
- Need to re-open the Samastipur Airport in light of the increasing volume of passengers (pages 12 - 13)
- Need for a policy on third dose of COVID vaccination (pages 13 - 16)
- Need to take effective steps to deal with situation anticipated due to heat wave in the country (pages 16 - 18)
- Need to declare 21st March as Democracy Re-establishment Day (pages 18 - 19)
- Need for improvement in the assessment mechanism for disasters (pages 28 - 29)
- Need to establish new Medical Colleges in the country (pages 29 - 31)
- Need to increase the retirement age of Judges of the High Courts and the Supreme Court (pages 31 - 32)
- Need for reform in the early childhood education system (pages 32 - 34)
- Need to take urgent measures to fill the vacancies in the public sector (pages 34 - 36)
- Alleged bank defraud by ABG Shipyard Limited (pages 36 -38)

Special Mentions -

- Need for 'One Nation One Power Tariff' in the country (pages 19 -20)
- Need to ban online games/gambling (pages 20 - 23)
- Need to release under trial senior-citizens on parole or bail (pages 23 - 24)
- Exemption from educational qualifications for Professors (pages 24 -25)

[P.T.O

Need for construction of Rail Coach Factory at Palakkad (pages 25 - 27)

Decreasing female labour force participation in the country (pages 27 - 28)

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 38 - 69)

[Answers to Starred and Unstarred Questions (Both in English and Hindi) are available as Part-I to this Debate, published electronically on the Rajya Sabha website under the link <https://rajyasabha.nic.in/Debates/OfficialDebatesDateWise>]

Observations by the Chair (pages 69 -71)

Government Bills - *Returned*

The Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2022 (pages 71 - 143)

The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2022 (pages 71 - 143)

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

RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 21st March, 2022/30 Phalguna, 1943(Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Report and Accounts (2020-21) of KVIC, Mumbai and related papers

सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह वर्मा): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:

- (a) Annual Report of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Mumbai, for the year 2020-21.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Mumbai, for the year 2020-21, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6671/17/22]

Statements showing action taken by Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings during various Sessions

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements showing action taken by Government on the various assurances, promises and undertakings given during the Session shown against each:-

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | Statement No. XXXI | Two Hundred and Fourteenth, 2008 |
| 2. | Statement No. XXXIV | Two Hundred and Seventeenth, 2009 |
| 3. | Statement No. XXXI | Two Hundred and Twenty Third, 2011 |
| 4. | Statement No. XXXII | Two Hundred and Twenty Fifth, 2012 |
| 5. | Statement No. XXIV | Two Hundred and Thirty Fifth, 2015 |
| 6. | Statement No. XVII | Two Hundred and Forty First, 2016 |
| 7. | Statement No. XVII | Two Hundred and Forty Second, 2017 |

8.	Statement No. XV	Two Hundred and Forty Third, 2017
9.	Statement No. XIII	Two Hundred and Forty Fifth, 2018
10.	Statement No. XIII	Two Hundred and Forty Sixth, 2018
11.	Statement No. XI	Two Hundred and Forty Seventh, 2018
12.	Statement No. VIII	Two Hundred and Forty Eighth, 2019
13.	Statement No. IX	Two Hundred and Forty Ninth, 2019
14.	Statement No. IX	Two Hundred and Fiftieth, 2019
15.	Statement No. VIII	Two Hundred and Fifty First, 2020
16.	Statement No. VI	Two Hundred and Fifty Second, 2020
17.	Statement No. VII	Two Hundred and Fifty Third, 2021
18.	Statement No. V	Two Hundred and Fifty Fourth, 2021
19.	Statement No. I	Two Hundred and Fifty Fifth, 2021
20.	Statement No. I	Two Hundred and Fifty Sixth, 2022

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (20) See No. L.T. 7028/17/22]

MoUs between the Government of India and BPCL, IOCL and M/s Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd.

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Rameswar Teli, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), for the year 2021-22.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6675/17/22]

- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and the Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), for the year 2021-22.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6676/17/22]

- (iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas) and M/s Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., for the year 2021-22.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6677/17/22]

- I. Reports and Accounts (2020-21) of DUAC, New Delhi; NCRTC, New Delhi; CMRL, Tamil Nadu; and RSC, New Delhi and related papers
- II. MoU between the Government of India and HUDCO

आवासन और शहरी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कौशल किशोर): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

I. (A) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 19 and sub-section (4) of Section 20 of the Delhi Urban Art Commission Act, 1973:-

- (a) Annual Report of the Delhi Urban Art Commission (DUAC), New Delhi, for the year 2020-21.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Delhi Urban Art Commission (DUAC), New Delhi, for the year 2020-21, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Commission.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6686/17/22]

(B) (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) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Capital Region Transport Corporation Limited, (NCRTC), New Delhi, for the year 2020-21, 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. 6682/17/22]

- (ii) (a) Fourteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL), Tamil Nadu, for the year 2020-21, 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) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) (i) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6683/17/22]

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

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajghat Samadhi Committee (RSC), New Delhi, for the year 2020-21, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Committee.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6684/17/22]

II. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs) and the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO), for the year 2021-22.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6678/17/22]

MoU between the Government of India and BDL

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजय भट्ट): महोदय, मैं 2021-22 के वर्ष के लिए भारत सरकार (रक्षा उत्पादन विभाग, रक्षा मंत्रालय) और भारत डायनामिक्स लिमिटेड (बी.डी.एल.) के बीच संपन्न सहमति ज्ञापन की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6704/17/22]

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

SHRI SANJAY SETH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I present the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry:-

- (i) 315th Report on Demands for Grants (2022-23) pertaining to the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; and
- (ii) 316th Report on Demands for Grants (2022-23) pertaining to the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS**

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers:-

- (i) Thirty-first Report on 'Availability of Medicines and Medical Devices for COVID Management' of the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers;
- (ii) Thirty-second Report on Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers;
- (iii) Thirty-third Report on Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers; and
- (iv) Thirty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

SHRI SURESH GOPI (Nominated): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology (2021-22):-

- (i) Thirty-second Report on Demands for Grants (2022-23) relating to the Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications;
- (ii) Thirty-third Report on Demands for Grants (2022-23) relating to the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications;
- (iii) Thirty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2022-23) relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; and
- (iv) Thirty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2022-23) relating to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that a letter has been received from Sardar Balwinder Singh Bhunder, Member, stating that due to marriage of his granddaughter, he is unable to attend the sittings of the current 256th Session. He has, therefore, requested for grant of leave of absence from 15th March to 8th April during the current 256th Session of Rajya Sabha.

Does he have the permission of the House to remain absent from all meetings of the House during the current Session?

(No hon. Member dissented.)

Permission to remain absent is granted.

I have to inform Members that a letter has been received from Shri N.R. Elango, Member, stating that due to ill-health, he is unable to attend the sittings of the current 256th Session. He has, therefore, requested for grant of leave of absence from 14th March to 8th April during the current 256th Session of Rajya Sabha.

Does he have the permission of the House to remain absent from all meetings of the House during the current Session?

(No hon. Member dissented.)

Permission to remain absent is granted.

I have received notice from Dr. Santanu Sen regarding giving support to the Indian students. The matter was taken up, and it is under the consideration of the Government.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): That was taken up by the Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I understand.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, this is for the Health Minister. The Minister of External Affairs gave a statement. Fine. This is the notice...

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): This is notice to be given to the Health Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I understood. I have sent it to the Health Minister. Let us hear from him.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Need to re-start the operations of Scooter India Limited at Lucknow

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं एक बड़े ज्वलंत विषय की ओर सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश की राजधानी, लखनऊ में स्कूटर इंडिया लिमिटेड के नाम से एक बड़ा कारखाना था, जहाँ पर विजय सुपर स्कूटर और विक्रम श्री-व्हीलर बनाए जाते थे और सारे देश में इनकी आपूर्ति की जाती थी। प्रतिष्ठा की दृष्टि से, गुणवत्ता की दृष्टि से विजय सुपर स्कूटर सारी दुनिया में ख्याति अर्जित कर चुका था। इतना ही नहीं, इसको समय-समय पर विदेशों से भी आर्थिक सहायता मिलती रही। इसकी उत्कृष्टता के कारण इसकी लोकप्रियता पूरे देश में थी, लेकिन धीरे-धीरे चरणबद्ध तरीके से स्कूटर इंडिया लिमिटेड को बंद करने का काम किया गया। इसमें लगभग 3.5 हजार कर्मचारी काम करते थे। लखनऊ की 150 एकड़ से ज्यादा prime land स्कूटर इंडिया लिमिटेड के पास है। आज जब पेट्रोल और डीजल गाड़ी के बजाय electric vehicle बनाने की तरफ सरकार का ध्यान है, तो मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि स्कूटर इंडिया लिमिटेड के लिए कोई electric vehicle बनाने के लिए public-private partnership के आधार पर वहाँ पर एक कारखाना लगाया जाए, जिसकी आज आवश्यकता है। वहाँ पर electric scooter, three-wheeler और दूसरे उपयोगी vehicles बनाए जा सकते हैं।

मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहूँगा कि वह लखनऊ की जो स्कूटर इंडिया लिमिटेड है, जिसके पास पर्याप्त land है, machinery है, सारे संसाधन हैं, वहाँ electric गाड़ी बनाने का निर्देश देने की कृपा करे।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री महेश पोद्दार (झारखंड) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI SURESH GOPI (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री बृजलाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**Non-filling up of backlog vacancies belonging to SC/ST and OBC categories in
Madhya Pradesh**

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति जी, मेरा विषय backlog पद के भरे जाने के बारे में है। मध्य प्रदेश में अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति एवं पिछड़े वर्ग के लाखों backlog पद वर्षों से खाली पड़े हैं और उन्हें भरा नहीं जा रहा है, जिससे उक्त वर्गों के बेरोजगार नौजवानों की उम्र रोजगार मापदंडों की सीमाओं को पार करती जा रही है, जिससे उनका भविष्य बरबाद होने के कगार पर है। विभिन्न संगठनों के माध्यम से बार-बार बात किए जाने के बाद भी पद का नहीं भरा जाना बेरोजगारों के साथ छलावा है। कई बार शासन द्वारा आश्वासन देने के बाद भी भर्ती की कार्यवाही नहीं होना दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है। माननीय सभापति महोदय, विज्ञापन जारी कर दिया जाता है, पैसा वसूल लिया जाता है और उसके बाद भर्ती नहीं होती है। अगर परीक्षा होती है, तो परीक्षा का रिजल्ट नहीं आता, अगर रिजल्ट आ जाता है, तो पोस्टिंग नहीं होती। माननीय सभापति महोदय, यह हालत है!

इसलिए मैं माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि वे इस गंभीर मामले में हस्तक्षेप कर रिक्त पद भरे जाने के निर्देश देने की कृपा करें।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Need to establish cold chain warehouses in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, there is a huge requirement of cold chain storages and warehouses across the country, especially in my home State A.P. and more specifically my home town, Guntur. We are aware that Guntur is world famous for its chillies, exporting around 1.8 lakh tonnes of chillies every month. This makes Guntur Chilly a major export item. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce had noted in 2021 that there should be adequate cold chain warehouses so that chilli exports are not hampered in any way. I would like to bring to the notice of the Government, through you, Sir, that under PMSKY scheme, eleven storages have been built in Andhra Pradesh, but none of these is in Guntur. In the last two years, one integrated cold chain unit has been sanctioned for Guntur district through private sector support under PMSKY, but as of now, it is still under implementation. The lack of cold chain warehouses hampers us from realising our full economic potential through chilly export. I request that the Ministry of Food Processing Industries coordinate with the Department of Commerce, develop a plan to increase cold chain warehouses in Guntur district with a dedicated timeline and provide necessary financial assistance, wherever required. Alternative means of infrastructural support, while these cold chain warehouses are being sanctioned and

built, should also be looked into by the Centre so that no losses are incurred in the meantime. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: To my knowledge, maximum number of cold chains are there in Guntur.

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA: Yes, Sir.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

Exploitation of Himalayan ecosystem due to various infrastructural projects

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मान्यवर, मैं आपका और सदन का ध्यान एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। हिमालय हमारा सिरमौर है और पूरे देश को उस पर गर्व

है। हिमालय हमारा प्रहरी भी है, जो हमारी रक्षा करता है और वह हमारी संस्कृति और सभ्यता से जुड़ा हुआ भी है। हिमालय भारत की आत्मा है और हमारी सनातन संस्कृति का उद्गम है। अधिकतर सभी तीर्थों का उद्गम हिमालय से ही होता है। गंगा और यमुना नदियां वहीं से प्रवाहित होती हैं, लेकिन मैं बहुत ही अफसोस के साथ कहना चाहूंगा कि हिमालय का बहुत निर्मम तरीके से दोहन हो रहा है। आज हिमालय का बाज़ारीकरण किया जा रहा है, जिसके कारण हिमालय और गंगा का पूरा स्वरूप ही बदल रहा है। इसका नतीजा यह हो रहा है, नीति आयोग ने अभी यह बताया है कि हिमालय के भूभाग का 60 प्रतिशत जल सूख गया है, वहां के ग्लेशियर बहुत तेज़ी से गल रहे हैं, आने वाले दिनों में गंगा विलुप्त हो जाएगी और हिमालय का सर्वनाश हो जाएगा।

मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि गंगा और उसकी धाराओं पर केन्द्र ने 7 बांध बनाने की संस्तुति की थी, लेकिन अभी वहां पर 24 बांध और बनाए जाने हैं। इसी से आप संकट की कल्पना कर सकते हैं। हिमालय पर केदारनाथ और ऋषि गंगा का प्रलय हम पहले ही देख चुके हैं।

मान्यवर, चार-धाम यात्रा के लिए सड़कों का जो चौड़ीकरण किया जा रहा है, उसमें लाखों देवदार, बांझ, बुरांश, चीड़, कैल, पदम इत्यादि के पेड़ काटे जा रहे हैं, जो पेड़ फिर दोबारा नहीं लगाए जा सकेंगे।

मान्यवर, मैं आपसे आग्रह करता हूं कि आप सरकार को निर्देश दें कि हिमालय का जो बाज़ारीकरण किया जा रहा है, उसको रोका जाए और तत्काल रूप में प्रभावी कार्यवाही की जाए, धन्यवाद।

डा. फौजिया खान (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती हूं।

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूं।

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती हूं।

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA (Tripura): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

Need to re-open the Samastipur Airport in light of the increasing volume of passengers

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से बहुत महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर भारत सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। भारत सरकार अनेक राज्यों में हवाई अड्डों का विस्तार कर रही है, जिससे लाभ भी हुआ है। उत्तर भारत में बिहार के दरभंगा में हवाई अड्डा चालू किया गया है। 1972 में बिहार का समस्तीपुर ज़िला बना। वहाँ state hanger हैं, जहाँ छोटे जहाज उतरते थे।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से भारत सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि समस्तीपुर ज़िले में बड़े हवाई जहाजों के उतरने और उड़ने का प्रबंधन किया जाए और इसके विस्तार का काम किया जाए, धन्यवाद।

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

श्री अहमद अशाफाक करीम (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

† **جناب احمد اشفاق كريم (بہار):** مہودے، میں بھی ماننیے سدسئیے کے ذریعے اٹھائے گئے موضوع سے خود کو سمبڈ کرتا ہوں۔

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (TAMIL NADU): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

DR. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

Need for a policy on 3rd dose of COVID vaccination

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI (Maharashtra): Thank you hon. Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to raise this issue during Zero Hour. The issue is absence of clear guidelines about third dose — booster shot — for Indians under sixty years of age.

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

Sir, as the world is returning to normalcy and flights resuming from 27th March, 2022 — I am assuming that they will resume from 27th March — several countries are imposing strict conditions that the second shot should have been taken within a certain timeframe, failing which Vaccination Certificate will not be considered as valid. As of now, the Government of India has not laid down any policy regarding booster shots for those under sixty years of age. In many European countries vaccines are considered valid only for 270 days. So, if travelers got last vaccine shot in April, 2021, they cannot enter many EU countries without a valid COVID test. Hence, Indians finally looking forward to travel abroad are left in lurch. In view of absence of clear guidelines regarding the third additional dose to travel abroad, the present situation regarding travel and vaccination poses a perplex situation for Indians.

Sir, today every newspaper, on front page, stating that — even NTAGI has now come to believe, with raising cases in Europe — it becomes important to have booster dose policy for India. It becomes important to have booster dose policy for India. We have seen a phase in India where there was a shortage of vaccines and the citizens could not get their vaccine dose in time. Now, we have surplus of vaccines, yet we are not able to come up with clear guidelines to be able to vaccinate people below 60 years of age, those who are seeking a booster dose for travel purposes or for safety purposes. So, I would request you, through the House, Sir, to urge the hon. Health Minister to come up with clear guidelines for vaccination or booster doses, for those below 60 years of age. Thank you.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI NEERAJ DANGI (Rajasthan): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**Need to take effective steps to deal with situation anticipated due to
heat wave in the country**

DR. VIKAS MAHATME (Maharashtra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, recently the Indian Meteorological Department has raised a yellow alert for the heatwave in March. The temperature, if we see, on March 19th, in Maharashtra, it was 44 degree centigrade; in Mumbai, it was 39 degree centigrade; in Gujarat, it was 45 degree centigrade; in Madhya Pradesh, it was 44 degree centigrade. This is not in May, this is in March. So, this yellow alert was raised. What are the challenges which we may face if the heatwave is there and which we are already having? यह दिल्ली में भी है और राजस्थान तथा गुजरात में भी हीट वेव चालू है। इस बदलते मौसम की वजह से सबसे ज्यादा गरीब लोग और किसान अफेक्ट होते हैं, इनके लिए गर्मी के कारण जो heat exhaustion होता है, heat cramps होते हैं और हीट स्ट्रोक्स होते हैं, इनकी रोकथाम के लिए क्या किया जाए, इसके ऊपर विचार होना चाहिए और सरकार की तरफ से दिशा-निर्देश दिये जाने चाहिए। गर्मी के कारण अनाज, फल आदि चीजों की उपज कम हो जाती है, दूध खराब होने लगता है तथा इस तरह की अनेक परेशानियां बढ़ने लगती हैं। उसी तरह से लाइटनिंग यानी बिजली गिरने की घटनाएं बहुत बढ़ जाती हैं, जिसके कारण काफी मौतें होती हैं। उसी प्रकार से जंगल में आग लगने की संभावनाएं भी बढ़ जाती हैं। कहने का मतलब यह है कि इस तरह की बहुत सी परेशानियां पैदा हो जाती हैं।

महोदय, वर्तमान में फॉरेस्ट कम हो रहे हैं, इनमें आग लगने से फॉरेस्ट और भी कम होते जाएंगे और जो elite class है, उनके द्वारा इलेक्ट्रिसिटी का कंजम्प्शन बहुत बढ़ जाता है, यह बात हम सबको पता है कि कूलर्स और एसी ज्यादा चलते हैं, जिससे carbon footprints भी बढ़ते हैं।

महोदय, पिछले साल यूएसए और कनाडा में भी हीट वेव के कारण 1,400 से भी ज्यादा मौतें हुई थीं। उसी प्रकार से हमारे देश में अभी येलो एलर्ट है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से विनती करता हूँ कि सभी राज्यों को इसके बारे में क्या करना चाहिए, इस बारे में दिशा-निर्देश जारी किये जाएं। आप येलो एलर्ट तो जारी कर रहे हैं, लेकिन येलो एलर्ट के साथ में क्या करना चाहिए, इसके बारे में भी कोई पॉलिसी हो, उसके भी कुछ स्टैण्डर्ड ऑपरेटिंग प्रोसिजर्स रहें, ऐसी मेरी विनती है, धन्यवाद।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री सभापति : महात्मे जी, यह बहुत गम्भीर मामला है, इसलिए स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय द्वारा इसे देखकर एडवाइज़री इश्यू करने का सुझाव है। अभी गर्मी बढ़ रही है, जबकि हम लोग अभी मार्च में हैं और मार्च में इतनी गर्मी है तो आगे क्या होगा? वंदना जी, क्या आपने कुछ ट्राई किया है?

Vandanaji, do you want to say something?

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, it is a very, very important point that our colleague has raised in the House and you have given the right directions, Sir.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SURESH GOPI (Nominated): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Special Mentions. ...(*Interruptions*).. I will allow you, Santanuji. You made a point. I realised it after it was clarified. I will allow you. If you are ready today, I will allow you.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But, you are not Santanu Sen.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: No, Sir, on the same point. I associate, Sir.

श्री सभापति : उनको बोलने दें, आप बाद में एसोसिएट करें।

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: He is going to his seat, Sir. Because the issue is so important, we request you to guide the Government for Calling Attention Motion, so that the Health Minister can come and assure the students in particular. That is all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, we will consider it. After consulting the Minister, I will examine it.

Need to declare 21st March as Democracy Re-establishment Day

श्री कैलाश सोनी (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मैं आपके माध्यम से लोकतंत्र के एक बुनियादी विषय पर सदन और भारत सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट कराना चाहता हूँ। आज का दिन स्वतंत्र भारत का सबसे बड़ा दिन है।

महोदय, जैसा कि आप सभी को ज्ञात है कि 25 और 26 जून, 1975 की मध्य रात्रि को सारी संवैधानिक व्यवस्थाएँ धूल-धूसरित करके इस देश में तानाशाही स्थापित की गयी थी। उसके विरुद्ध सारे सर्वोदयी नेताओं को, सभी दलों के नेताओं को, जिनमें कांग्रेस दल के लोग भी थे, इन सारे लोगों को जेलों में भेजा गया था। 1 लाख, 10 हजार से अधिक लोग जेलों में थे। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति : आपका विषय क्या है? ...(**व्यवधान**)... आप सुझाव दीजिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री कैलाश सोनी : महोदय, इसके विरुद्ध सारे दलों ने संघर्ष किया और आज के दिन, 21 मार्च, 1977 को माननीय प्रधान मंत्री मोरारजी भाई देसाई की सरकार ने आपातकाल समाप्त किया और देश में लोकतंत्र पुनर्स्थापित हुआ। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से भारत सरकार से यह विनती करना चाहता हूँ कि आज के दिन को 'लोकतंत्र विजय दिवस' और 'लोकतंत्र पुनर्स्थापना दिवस' घोषित किया जाए, जिससे आगामी दिनों में यदि कभी लोकतंत्र पर कोई भी आघात करे, तो इस सारी नयी पीढ़ी को लोकतंत्र के लिए लड़ने की प्रेरणा मिले। अतः मेरी आपके माध्यम से विनम्र प्रार्थना है कि 21 मार्च को 'लोकतंत्र विजय दिवस' के रूप में घोषित किया जाए।

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the submission made by the hon. Member.

श्री सकलदीप राजभर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sushil Modi. 'Special Mentions -- Permitted.' Shri Sushil Modi. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No comment. No comment. This is not the way. If you agree with that, it is okay. If you disagree, keep quiet; and if you get an opportunity, you can answer. Shri Sushil Modi.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Need for 'One Nation One Power Tariff' in the country

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI (Bihar): Sir, Bihar lacks both coal and other renewable energy resources, which are essential for producing energy. Hence Bihar has to rely on external sources to meet its energy demand.

Over three-fourths of the energy is bought from Central Power Generation companies whose prices are higher than independent power producers. Bihar is thus compelled to purchase power at higher rates which have risen 27 per cent between 2015 and 2020.

Bihar's average power purchase cost is Rs. 5.05 per unit whereas neighbouring Jharkhand is Rs. 4.19 and Odisha Rs. 3.01 per unit. It becomes more

pronounced when compared with power-producing States like Gujarat, Punjab and Maharashtra.

This higher purchase cost of power contributes 80-85 per cent of total costs of distribution companies and translates into higher retail tariffs. As a result, electricity tariffs faced by common people in Bihar are higher than neighbouring States. I, therefore, urge the Government of India to bring in 'One Nation One Tariff' policy to ensure uniform power costs and tariffs across States.

This mechanism can be executed feasibly similar to GST wherein, as a first step, a national fund, pooling the purchase of all generated power and then allocating to States, can be created. It shall normalize costs. This is critical to eliminate undue regional disadvantages and provide level-playing field for power companies.

India is already advancing along this direction through 'One Nation One Tax, One Grid, One Election.' I urge the Government of India to do the same for power tariffs. Thank you, Sir.

DR. VIKAS MAHATME (Maharashtra): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाये गये विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

Need to ban online games/gambling

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, my Special Mention is on 'Ban on Online Games with stakes which lead to addiction'.

Sir, several online games involving the use of real money as bets have come up in the last few years. And with this, there has also been a surge in addiction to these

games and a rise in suicide cases due to losing of money by individuals, reaching up to lakhs of rupees.

Sir, in the last five years, 7 suicide cases have been reported where the primary reason was losing money in an online game. There have also been reports of individuals addicted to the game, adopting extreme measures to procure money to use as wagers online.

Sir, there is an urgent need to address this issue and bring in a strong legislation for banning such games which involve betting real money. Even if games like rummy and poker are declared as games of skill, the element of placing a wager turns them into games which can be highly addictive and have been proved to be so. Sir, teenagers and adults are both equally affected by this and gambling being so readily available in the hands of teenagers is highly concerning.

Sir, the Tamil Nadu Government brought in an amending Act in 2021 to address the issue, which included a ban and also fine and imprisonment for both the users and gaming houses for such games. The State continues to take it forward, as such games cannot be left unregulated and free-to-use specially by teenagers, as addiction to them is not only resulting in heavy economic losses, but also loss of lives.

Sir, I urge the Government to take it seriously and ban online games throughout the country.

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI K.J. ALPHONS (Rajasthan): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH (Karnataka): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SONAL MANSINGH (Nominated): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV (Nominated): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नीरज डांगी (राजस्थान) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती रूपा गांगुली (नाम निर्देशित) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री विवेक ठाकुर (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. विकास महात्मे (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those who wish to associate may send in their names so that a list can be prepared. Now, Shri T.G. Venkatesh.

Need to release under trial senior-citizens on parole or bail

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the matter of prisoners/convicted persons/ under trial prisoners who are in prisons for many years. Due to the prevailing Covid-19 pandemic situation and considering their age, it is requested that persons aged above 65 years, except those involved in murder and other serious criminal cases, must be released on bail or

parole with the condition of reporting to the nearest police station every two days or once in a week.

Whenever such prisoners' wives or husbands die, their children become orphans and there is no one to look after them. In such situations, criminal tendencies grow in these children and they turn towards becoming criminals. These children should be taken care of so as to prevent such tendencies from growing within them.

Further, the average age of an Indian is 70 years, after which physical and mental agility gets reduced. Hence, they should be released on parole or bail. This would help the Government to reduce the burden on prisons.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. VIKAS MAHATME (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Exemption from educational qualifications for Professors

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Respected Chairman, Sir, recent reports regarding the appointment of Professors of Practice in Central Universities are a matter of serious concern. It is reported that neither NET nor Ph.D. and not even Post Graduation or other educational qualifications would be required for appointment to Central Universities. This move could prove to be harmful to the academic integrity of the universities. It would affect the future of young researchers who are pursuing higher education. Their opportunities would get reduced as people with no defined qualifications could occupy these positions. The Government should take suitable

measures to ensure that the academic integrity of our institutions of higher learning is preserved.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Members who wish to associate may send in their names. Now, Shri Elamaram Kareem.

Need for construction of Rail Coach Factory at Palakkad

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, there is an urgent need to augment the rail coach building capacity of the nation to produce 400 Vande Bharat train sets within three years, as announced in the Union Budget. At present, rail coaches are being built at three coach building facilities under the Indian Railways, viz., ICF, Chennai, Rail Coach Factory (RCF), Kapurthala and Modern Coach Factory (MCF), Rae

Bareilly. ICF has already rolled out two sets of Vande Bharat trains and the same are in service. Another two sets are nearing completion at ICF. Orders to the tune of 20 sets to ICF and another 20 to RCF/ MCF are pending. These facilities are doing the manufacturing of Vande Bharat train sets besides their usual production works. It is expected that it would take another two or three years to finish the ordered works. That means, the budget proposal of running 400 Vande Bharat express trains within three years would be a difficult task. Hence, the coach building capacity of Indian Railways needs to be augmented suitably by modernizing the existing facilities and building new coach factories. It may be noted that the land acquired for the proposed coach factory in Kerala is lying vacant at Kanjikkode, Palakkad. Though some of the previous budgets had made some nominal allocations for the project, the recent ones lacked even a passing mention about it. The factory was sanctioned following agitations.

Hence, it is requested that immediate steps may be initiated to start the construction of a Rail Coach Factory at Palakkad in Kerala.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): 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.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Decreasing female labour force participation in the country

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, the recent Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by the Ministry of Statistics shows a shocking absence of female workers from the labour force as the Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) has fallen to a record low of 20.1 per cent during the period April-June, 2021. This is the lowest among the major economies in the world. The percentage of women in the labour force is considerably lower compared to men, 73.1 per cent. As per PLFS data, women formed only 17.2 per cent of the Worker Population Ratio during April-June 2021, with a decline of 1.5 per cent from January-March, 2021. With a substantial representation of women in the unorganised sector, lack of employment opportunities, unequal and unsafe work conditions, lack of facilities, domestic responsibilities, etc., has contributed to this decrease in participation. The Government must take immediate steps to ensure that conditions of work improve for women in the labour force. Interventions must focus on structural reforms such as gender equal policies, affordable childcare and enhanced social security, including medical benefits, health insurance and benefits for women. I, therefore, urge the Government to take note of this decrease and take immediate steps to increase participation of women in the labour force.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIHAH (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): 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. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): 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.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री नीरज डांगी (राजस्थान) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION - Contd.

Need for improvement in the assessment mechanism for disasters

SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI (Andhra Pradesh): Respected, Chairman, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of this House how primitive our procedure for the assessment of a disaster in India is. Firstly, the time taken to constitute a disaster assessment team and deploy it to a site after a disaster has struck is lengthy, often taking several weeks after a disaster has struck. Additionally, it takes even more time for the team to be constituted, a plan to be developed and logistics arranged for these teams to assess the site of a disaster after it has struck. The methods of assessment are also primitive and done manually as opposed to being mechanised

and digitised. After a few weeks have passed from the commencement of a natural disaster, important information regarding the intensity of the disaster is lost and the severity is under-played due to ineffective assessment modules and, therefore, the requisite assistance is not provided. Particularly for coastal States like my own State of Andhra Pradesh, natural disasters such as floods and cyclones are a yearly occurrence due to our geography. Through you, Sir, I request the Ministry of Home Affairs to improve our disaster assessment mechanism so that States are supported in the correct manner during their time of need. Thank you.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Need to establish new Medical Colleges in the country

SHRI K.J. ALPHONS (Rajasthan): Thank you, respected Chairman, Sir, for giving me this opportunity even though my name was not listed. I would like to bring to the attention of the House an extremely critical issue. 15.4 lakh students wrote the NEET Examination for admission to the MBBS. Out of these, 8.7 lakh students qualified, out of which only 10 per cent students got admission in the MBBS. During the last seven years, the number of MBBS and post-graduate seats has gone up by 80 per cent to 1.48 lakhs. Still, 25,000 students from India are going abroad every year, especially to China, Ukraine and South-Asian countries to do MBBS. That means,

over a five-year period of MBBS course, one lakh children are doing MBBS course outside India. This is because of two reasons. One is shortage of MBBS seats, even though there has been an 80 per cent increase in seats over a period of past seven years. Some States have done commendable work, like Tamil Nadu inaugurated eleven medical colleges in January and Uttar Pradesh inaugurated nine medical colleges in December. I think, these are very commendable works. So, we need to increase dramatically the number of seats because first, the number of seats is still insufficient and second, the fee is too high.

I commend the Health Ministry for laying down the rule that in 50 per cent of the seats in private Medical Colleges, it would be a regulated fee which would be equivalent to what is charged in the Government medical colleges. I think it is a great step taken by the Government of India. Still, private medical colleges are charging extremely high fees for rest of the 50 per cent seats. This also must be regulated.

One solution which I can suggest to the House is that public sector undertakings have got a lot of land, especially the Railways. Many of the public sector undertakings also have a lot of unused land. They must be persuaded to set up, at least, hundred medical colleges every year for the next five years. In this way, there will be 500 medical colleges coming up in this country and our children will be able to study in our country itself. I request the Government to take immediate steps for this. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: For associations, the names have to be sent.

SHRIMATI RAMILABEN BECHARBHAI BARA (Gujarat): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH (Jharkhand): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): 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.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री जयप्रकाश निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती सीमा द्विवेदी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा (असम) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री हरद्वार दुबे (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती गीता उर्फ चंद्रप्रभा (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री बृजलाल (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. विकास महात्मे (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री सकलदीप राजभर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

**Need to increase the retirement age of Judges of the High Courts and
the Supreme Court**

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to raise this important aspect in Zero Hour. In the Andhra

Pradesh judiciary as well as in other parts of the country, that is, in various High Courts and the Supreme Court, there are a number of vacancies for the Judges. Though the recruitment is going on, there are more than 400 vacancies of Judges. In the Supreme Court also, some vacancies are there. As a result, lakhs of pending cases are there in the Supreme Court and various High Courts. There is no mechanism. Even though the Alternate Dispute Resolution mechanism has been established, the number of pending cases is quite high in the High Courts and also the Supreme Court.

In order to resolve this issue and to address the issue of pendency of cases, the retirement age of the Judges can be increased. At present, the retirement age of High Court Judges is 62 years and that of the Supreme Court Judges is 65 years. I request the Central Government particularly to enhance the retirement age of present High Court Judges from 62 to 65 years, and that of Supreme Court Judges from 65 to 68 years. In this way, the pendency of litigations can be reduced. Increasing the retirement age of Judges is one of the solutions to reduce the pendency of cases before the respective High Courts and the Supreme Court. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA (West Bengal): 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 ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

Need for reform in the early childhood education system

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I wish to accelerate the discussion around the status of early childhood education in the country. Based on the 'India Early Childhood Education Impact Study', children's participation in pre-school and early primary grades is unstable, which doesn't necessarily follow the linear age-based

trajectory under the Right to Education Act, 2009, and the National Early Childhood Care and Education Policy, 2013.

With the new Education Policy in place, which prescribes 5+3+3+4 model, the intent to maximize qualitative learning has been established. According to the new Policy, there will be 12 years of schooling and three years of Anganwadi or pre-schooling. But the policy makers need to realize that before prescribing increased responsibility to Anganwadi workers, we need to either equip them fairly or make new recruitment from properly-qualified teachers in early childhood education.

Sir, since eighty per cent of intellectual development takes place at this age, this phase of education needs specialized teachers having relevant teacher training. Sir, the latest Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET) result shows that only 33 per cent of the 1.27 million candidates, who appeared in the examination for primary education teaching, could qualify the test. It is only thirty-three per cent, Sir!

Sir, the Right to Education Act mandates minimum qualification for teaching children from six to fourteen years of age, while the qualification for teaching early childhood education needs to be mandated. Moreover, teacher training and adult education accounts only for 0.5 per cent of the total departmental allocation in the 2021-22 Budget. Therefore, let us start giving due diligence to early childhood education. Given the fact that a very large percentage of cognitive development takes place between 0 to 3 years of age, pre-primary education should be made an important part of the Right to Education Act. A special Board must be set up which sincerely monitors the quality standards and outcomes in the early childhood education system. Before normalizing the pandemic, let us normalize perseverance and patience to learn. Thank you.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): 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 BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): 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.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती फूलो देवी नेतम (छत्तीसगढ़) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य (त्रिपुरा) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री नीरज डांगी (राजस्थान) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्या द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Need to take urgent measures to fill the vacancies in the public sector

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, India is facing a grave unemployment crisis. The public sector companies are also not recruiting properly. In December, 2021, India had 53 million unemployment people. The depth of the crisis is revealed by the recently published data by the statistical office, NSO. The employment amongst the 15-year old and above category has jumped to double-digit level. It has reached

12.6 per cent in the April-June quarter of 2021. Earlier, in the January-March period, it was 9.3 per cent. Sir, the second wave of Covid-19 pandemic has severely hit the jobs and livelihood of the working class. During April-June, 2021, unemployment rate for all ages rose to 12.7 per cent -- the privatisation processes resulted into a huge crisis -- while in the January-March quarter, it was 9.4 per cent. The female unemployment rose to 14.3 per cent while in the previous quarter, it was 11.8 per cent. The joblessness amongst the men was 12.2 per cent while in the previous quarter, it was 8.6 per cent.

Sir, the Worker-Population Rate fell to 40.9 per cent while in the previous quarter, it was 43.1 per cent. The proportion of self-employment has reached 40.7 per cent while in the previous quarter, it was 39 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your demand or suggestion?

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Sir, my demand is that this issue should be addressed by the Government. Sir, privatisation of public-sector institutions will worsen the situation. I also demand that the Government should change the labour and industrial policies.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I also 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.

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार) : महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय के साथ स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. John Brittas, you have given notice. As this is related to the Appropriation Bill, which we are going to discuss today itself, please take it up during discussion on the Appropriation Bill.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, one sentence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would have allowed you but because the Appropriation Bill is going to be taken up today itself, it is in the List of Business; you can speak on this matter during the discussion.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Okay, Sir. Thank you

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next is Shri Elamaram Kareem; not present. Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas.

Alleged bank defraud by ABG Shipyard Limited

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, my Zero Hour mention is related to the ABG Shipyard Limited. Sir, recently, a company engaged in ship-building and

repairs in the State of Gujarat was embroiled in scandalous allegations of fraud. Between 2012 to 2017, ABG Shipyard Limited purportedly defrauded a consortium of 28 banks led by the ICICI Bank to the tune of Rs. 22,842 crores.

Sir, the loans were taken and then diverted to fake uses. Now, the important part comes. The SBI identified the fraud in January, 2019. It lodged a complaint in November, 2019. A more comprehensive complaint was again lodged in August, 2020. But, it took up till February, 2021 for the CBI to register a case finally. So, the CBI registered a case and booked ABGSL and ABG International Private Ltd.

Now, Sir, as of 2021, Indian public sector banks collectively owed approximately Rs. 6.17 trillion in non-performing assets. This includes all the money that has been defrauded by scamsters.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That was discussed separately. Yours is specific. You make your point.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Sir, let me please put things in the context.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In the same House, I have allowed it. So, please.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Sir, December, 2021 report by the RBI under the heading 'Trend and Progress of Banking in India' says that 4,071 fraud cases were reported by banks in the first half of the financial year 2022.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Abir, I have told you I have allowed it. It was discussed in the same House. Yours is specific. That is why I allowed. If you again talk about the same, ...

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: No, Sir. I want to speak on ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please remember one thing. बैठिए। You please remember one thing that I remember what is happening in the House and also what has happened in the House. So, there is no question of repetition.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Sir, can I put my conclusion, please?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. What is your suggestion?

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Sir, while the Government has a duty to protect bank customers' funds, there is also a need for stricter corporate governance and evaluation of large loan requests to prevent such shocks to the banking system in the future. Thank you, Sir.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. All Zero Hour submissions and Special Mentions have exhausted. The House is adjourned to meet at 12.00 noon.

The House then adjourned at forty-seven minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Q.No.181. Shri Muzibulla Khan *ji*; not present. Any supplementary?

*181. [*The questioner was absent.*]

Royalty on coal

*181. SHRI MUZIBULLA KHAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the rate of royalty on coal has not been revised even after lapse of more than nine years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether Government has constituted a Study Group to consider revision of rate of royalty on coal on 21 July 2014 and the State of Odisha has been demanding that the rate of royalty on coal should be enhanced from 14 per cent to 20 per cent of sale value; and

(d) Whether Government will consider enhancement of royalty on coal?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes. The rate of royalty on coal was last revised w.e.f 10.05.2012.

(b) The proviso of Section 9(3) of the Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, provides that the Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, amend the second schedule (which specifies rates of royalty) so as to enhance or reduce the rate at which royalty shall be payable in respect of any mineral with effect from such date as may be specified in the notification, provided that the Central Government shall not enhance the rate of royalty in respect of any mineral more than once during any period of three years. As such, there is no mandatory provision in the Act to revise the rates of royalty every three years.

A Study Group was constituted on 21.07.2014, for the purpose of examining the issue of revision of royalty rates on coal and lignite. The Study Group had examined the issue in depth and held consultation with stakeholders. The study group inferred from the comments of the stakeholders that the coal producing States had suggested to increase the rates of royalty from existing 14% to roughly 20%, whereas the coal consuming stakeholders suggested to reduce the rate of royalty from 14% to roughly 5 - 6%.

The Study Group has considered that there is gain in revenue to the coal producing States due to ad-valorem rates of royalty, coupled with DMF, after last revision in rates of Royalty in the year 2012, whereas implementation of GST has given some relief to the coal consuming States/Industries. In such a scenario, any increase in rate of royalty will make the power to consumer expensive, whereas decrease in rate will adversely impact the revenue of the Coal producing States. Accordingly, the study group had recommended the following:

- (i) No change is proposed in rates of royalty on coal from the rates notified vide notification no. G.S.R. 349 (E) dated 10.05.2012. The rate of royalty on coal produced in all states and Union Territories, except the state of West Bengal, may be kept unchanged i.e. @ 14% (Fourteen Percent) ad-valorem on price of coal, as reflected in the invoice, excluding taxes, levies and other charges.

- (ii) No change is proposed in rates of royalty on coal produced in the State of West Bengal and royalty thereon may be kept unchanged as rupee per tonne, as notified under G.S.R 349 (E) dated 10.05.2012.

The suggestion of Study Group was accepted by the Government.

(c) As mentioned above, a Study Group was constituted on 21.07.2014, for the purpose of examining the issue of revision of royalty rates on coal and lignite. The Study Group suggested no change in rates of royalty on coal from the rates notified on 10.05.2012. The suggestion of Study Group was accepted by the Government.

The issue raised by the State of Odisha for enhancing rate of royalty from 14% to 20% was discussed during the Eastern Zonal Council meeting held at Bhubneswar on 28.02.2020. However, after deliberations, the issue was decided to be dropped.

(d) No proposal for enhancement of royalty on coal is under consideration of the Government.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Sir, through you, I would like to ask this question. Odisha produces more than 60 per cent of the coal produced in the country and it is supplied to the rest of the country. But the coal cess, which is levied as clean energy cess, has now been appropriated towards the GST compensation. There is no incentive and no compensation for the State that produces the coal which is Odisha. Coal production results in environmental degradation. There is no care and concern or allocation of funds to take care of this which was initially to be made from the clean energy cess. Hon. Chief Minister of Odisha had written to the Government of India to consider allocating 60 per cent of this collection towards Odisha so that it could be used for environmental regeneration. I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. What is the Government of India's thinking on this?

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, basically the question is on increase of royalty. But the hon. Member has specifically questioned about the cess. Initially, the cess, as he rightly quoted it, was clean energy cess. Now it is being used for the GST compensation. As far as this issue is concerned, I am specifically telling you what the State Governments are getting. Over and above royalty, now we are doing auction also. And not only that, DMF is added to it. Also for exploration and other things,

States accept royalty and DMF. DMF is added to it and after that NMET is added. Now Odisha is doing extremely well. Odisha is doing so well that their revenue has gone up like anything.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Sir, still more is required.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, he says that still more is required. We have already given you a number of coal blocks and a number of mines.(Interruptions)... Let me complete. Whatever the Odisha Government has requested, we have honoured that. All put together, including 2.5 per cent GST which goes to the State, DMF and NMET and royalty, now the State is getting 21 per cent. And as of now, the suggestion is not under consideration.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Sir, with the recent approval of the e-auction of coal, which is going to open the window for many other sectors, will the Government revisit its intention to revise the rates of royalty now at least?

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: After 2014, royalty was hiked or increased rather revised. After that ENMET is added, DMF is added, and the GST of 2.5 per cent is also added and it is on *ad valorem* basis. Whenever price of coal or any mineral for that matter goes up, that much is added because it is on percentage basis or *ad valorem* basis. That is why as of now it is not under consideration. If we increase coal royalty by 100 rupees per tonne, there will be an increase of 6 paise per unit of electricity. Then a cascading effect will be there. It is not just the increase in royalty on coal price per tonne. Steel, cement, and so many other things are there. Even the consumer will be in loss or he has to face the consequence. That is why, it is not under consideration as of now.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, just now, the Minister replied that royalty on coal is not going to be increased. You know very well that Neyveli Lignite Corporation is situated in Tamil Nadu. It is producing a lot of coal, generating power and supplying throughout and to other States also like Kerala and Karnataka. It is sharing with them also. The State Government is demanding more benefits to Tamil Nadu to improve it further. At the same time, now, Tamil Nadu is facing shortage of coal. Many times, Ministers or representatives of the Ministers have been requesting for supply of coal. Therefore, let the Minister come forward to increase the fund

available from Neyveli Lignite Corporation to develop Tamil Nadu and, at the same time, give more coal to Tamil Nadu to deal with shortage of coal.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, the question is related to royalty and I have replied to that. As far as Neyveli is concerned, we are ready to supply electricity and we also have PPP and many things with the State Government. Many a time, the State itself is surrendering the power which is supposed to be supplied to the State Government by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. Neyveli is doing things like jobs for Tamilians and many other such things. We are also doing CSR activities. As far as supply of coal is concerned, normally, TANGEDCO used to import it but now the import price has highly increased. Now, they are demanding more coal and we are trying to meet out their demand.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question No.182; Shri K.R. Suresh Reddy. Hon. Member is absent. Any supplementaries!

*182. [*The questioner was absent.*]

Identifying key issues and risks to river basins

*182. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to identify the key issues and risks to river basins and the strategies needed to address them in both short and long term;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to appoint a neutral party who would consider the long-term goals of the basin; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI PRAHALAD SINGH PATEL): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Constitution lays down the legislative and functional jurisdiction of the Union, State and Local Governments in respect of water. States have a pre-

eminent position in matters related to water. Article 246 of the Constitution deals with the subject matter of laws to be made by Parliament and by the Legislatures of the States. The allocation of responsibilities between the Centre and the States in respects of laws to be made fall into three categories namely (i) the Union List (List-I), (ii) the State List (List-II) and the Concurrent List (List-III). Subject of 'water' is a matter of Entry 17 of List-II. This Entry is subject to the provisions of Entry 56 of List-I.

Further, under National Perspective Plan (NPP) prepared in year 1980 for inter-basin water transfer, National Water Development Agency (NWDA) has identified 30 links (16 under Peninsular Component and 14 under Himalayan Component). This programme envisages transfer of water from water surplus river basins to water deficit basins. Government has accorded priority to inter-linking of rivers (ILR) projects and they are being pursued based on the principle of consensus and agreement among the concerned States.

Ken- Betwa link is the first link under NPP that is under implementation after a tripartite agreement was signed between the States of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and the Central Government on 22nd March, 2021. Subsequently, Government of India approved the implementation of Ken-Betwa Link Project with an estimated cost of Rs. 44,605 crore (at year 2020-21 price levels), including central support of Rs. 39,317 crore [90 (Centre): 10 (State)].

Further, under Namami Gange Programme, a comprehensive set of interventions, such as wastewater treatment, solid waste management, river front management (ghats and crematoria development), maintaining e-flow in the river, afforestation, biodiversity conservation and public participation etc. have been taken up for a holistic rejuvenation of river Ganga and its tributaries. So far, 363 projects have been taken up at an estimated cost of Rs. 30,841.53 crore, out of which 177 projects have been completed and made operational. On the main stem of river Ganga, installed capacity of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) has increased from 1,305 million litres per day (MLD) in 2014 to 2,407 MLD till February, 2022.

Also, "Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain" campaign with the theme "Catch the Rain — Where it Falls When it Falls" has also been taken up by the Government to cover all the blocks of all districts (rural as well as urban areas) across the country during 22.03.2021 to 30.11.2021 — the pre-monsoon and monsoon period. The campaign was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 22.03.2021.

Apart from the above, studies on Brahmani - Baitarani have been conducted by Central Water Commission (CWC) in collaboration with Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO), Australia during 2013-2016. Average

water availability for various scenarios was estimated for each sub-basin of Brahmani –Baitarani in order to assess the deficit sub-basin and one sub-basin, viz; Champua was found to be deficit and appropriate measures were recommended to the concerned State Governments. A study on Tapi river basin has also been conducted for developing river basin management plan under India– European Union (EU) Water Partnership during 2017-2020 involving basin States and key stakeholders. The aforesaid river basin management plan included identification of vulnerable stretches along Tapi network and various measures were recommended to the concerned State Governments.

Further, River Boards Act, 1956 and Inter State River Water Disputes Act, 1956 have also been promulgated by Government for management of the water resources and resolution of river water disputes. Government has also issued various guidelines, viz; National Water Policy, 2012 and also the guidelines on Integrated Water Resources Development and Management, 2016.

Besides the above, various Boards/ Authorities have been constituted, either under an Act or based upon some agreement reached among the concerned basin States for water resources management in various river basins, viz; Brahmaputra Board, Betwa River Board, Tungabhadra Board, Narmada Control Authority, Cauvery Water Management Authority, Godavari River Management Board, Krishna River Management Board, Polavaram Project Authority, Bansagar Control Board, Upper Yamuna River Board, etc. These Boards/ Authorities, inter alia, assist the basin States in mutual resolution of issues pertaining to water sharing, etc, as and when required.

Government has also taken up studies on Extended Hydrological Prediction (multi week forecast) for Yamuna, Narmada and Cauvery basins under National Hydrology Project through Research Triangle Institute (RTI) International, USA.

Further, National Commission for Integrated Water Resources Development was constituted under Chairmanship of Dr. S.R. Hasim in 1997 to look at water in respect of its diverse sources and uses and suggest measures for its integrated development and management. The report of the Commission was published in September, 1999 for guidance of all stakeholders.

As intimated by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government has, on 14.03.2022, released Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) on forestry interventions for rejuvenation of 13 major Indian rivers, viz; Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, Beas, Sutlej, Yamuna, Brahmaputra, Luni, Narmada, Godavari, Mahanadi, Krishna, and Cauvery. The DPRs, inter alia, included key steps, viz; Riverscape – delineation, situation and problem analysis, and appreciation of the river basin/

riverscape environment; development of plantation and treatment models, etc. The DPRs describe the existing situation of the riverscape along with the proposed plan for forestry interventions. Timely and effective implementation thereof is expected to significantly contribute towards improvement of terrestrial and aquatic biota, and livelihoods besides rejuvenation of the rivers in terms of *Aviral Dhara, Nirmal Dhara and Swachhh Kinara*.

SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, with regard to management of river basins, the hon. Minister has replied that one of the ways or steps the water resources management is done is by establishment of boards or authorities for water resources management in various river basins. But with regard to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, in respect of water resource management in Krishna and Godavari, a gazette notification was issued by the Central Government on 15th July, 2021, to regulate supply of water between the two States. But both the States, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, have not yet handed over the projects as per the gazette notification. The projects have not yet been handed over. The Andhra Pradesh Government has, at least, issued an order but not handed over operational control. The Telangana Government has not even taken note of this gazette notification and has not issued any order. So, because of this, I think a lot of projects are in the limbo. I would request the hon. Minister to tell us: How can the implementation of this gazette notification be made effective? If the States are not cooperating, what kind of action can the Central Government contemplate?

श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, प्रश्न मूलतः यह था कि हमारे अंतरराज्यीय जल विवादों के लिए किसी तटस्थ पक्ष की नियुक्ति की व्यवस्था है या नहीं है। मैंने अपने जवाब में बड़े विस्तार से कहा भी था कि देश के भीतर हमेशा से यह व्यवस्था है, जिसमें सुप्रीम कोर्ट के एक न्यायाधीश की या पूर्व न्यायाधीश की अध्यक्षता में अंतरराज्यीय विवादों को निपटाने के लिए नियुक्ति होती है। यदि उन्हें जरूरत लगती है तो वे अपने समकक्ष दो सहयोगियों को उसमें शामिल करके सलाहकार के रूप में रख सकते हैं। माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, उस पर मुझे लगता है कि वे यह प्रश्न पहले भी पूछ चुके हैं, इसलिए मेरा आपके माध्यम से उनसे यह निवेदन होगा कि जब कभी भी कोई अंतरराज्यीय जल विवाद होता है, तो उसकी लगातार प्रक्रिया होती है और उस पर वह काम चल रहा है। मूलतः जल का जो विषय है, वह राज्यों का विषय है। इसमें दोनों राज्यों की सहमति होनी चाहिए। इसके लिए प्रशासनिक स्तर पर भी बातचीत होती है और मंत्री स्तर पर भी बातचीत होती है। मुझे आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताते हुए गर्व हो रहा है कि हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस बीच लगातार दो बार बातचीत की है और जो authority है, वह इसके लिए लगातार बैठ रही है। मैं मानता हूँ कि जल्दी से जल्दी यह काम

हो जाना चाहिए। यह सच है कि Tribunals में काम करते समय दोनों राज्यों की सहमति आवश्यक होती है। सरकार उस पर पूरी तरह से सजग है और लगातार उस प्रयास को कर भी रही है।

DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister a very pertinent question. The answer is given in detail but very surprisingly, the 2019 Report of the Central Water Commission is not mentioned, wherein it has mentioned very categorically that almost twelve river basins, which are huge, are not having that much water storage capacity. Three rivers of Gujarat, Tapi, Sabarmati and another river, all of them have 20 per cent below storage capacity. Now, if that Water Commission Report is not taken view of by the Government, what steps is the Government taking to see that this water storage is going to be there as per the requirement? That would affect the climate change also. So, I would like a reply from the hon. Minister on this point.

श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल: उपसभापति जी, मैं माननीय सदस्यों को धन्यवाद दूंगा और उनकी जानकारी के लिए कहूंगा कि उत्तर में तो हमने कहा भी है, लेकिन बजट के भीतर जो सबसे बड़ी सफलता मिली है, जिस बात के लिए माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को और मोदी सरकार को बधाई देनी होगी कि जो 'नदी जोड़ो' अभियान है, मैंने पहले ही आपसे कहा है कि यह दोनों राज्यों की सहमति से होता है। मैं उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्रियों का भी इस सदन के माध्यम से अभिनंदन करता हूँ कि उन्होंने इस गतिरोध को तोड़ा। जो नदी जोड़ने का अभियान है, उस आन्दोलन की शुरुआत हुई है और भारत सरकार ने इसके लिए बजट में 44,000 करोड़ रुपये रखे हैं।

जो बात आप पूछ रही हैं, उसमें मैं आपसे कहूंगा कि हमारे देश में दो प्रकार के बेसिन हैं, एक तो हिमालयन बेसिन है और दूसरा प्रायद्वीपीय बेसिन है। जिसकी आप बात कर रही हैं, वह प्रायद्वीपीय बेसिन में आता है। उनमें से 13 की DPR बनकर तैयार है। बजट में जब हमने पांच 'नदी जोड़ो परियोजनाओं' की बात कही है तो उसमें हमेशा से भारत सरकार का सिद्धान्त यह है कि deficit basin से surplus basin को जोड़ना है, जो माननीय सदस्या स्वयं कह रही हैं। मुझे लगता है कि इसमें अन्तरराज्यीय परिस्थितियां होती हैं, जैसे ही उनकी सहमति बनती जाती है, हमारी DPR उसके आधार पर बनती जाती है। अभी तक हमने 13 basins के लिए DPR तैयार की है।

SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Sir, globally, India is ranked 120th among 122 countries in WaterAid's water quality index. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change's expenditure for the National River Conservation Programme for the last two financial years was zero. Now, the Government has stated that timely and effective implementation would be done but I think the time is alarming. Especially, if you see the rivers in South, in Kerala, the riverbed has come up with one day of rain. There is flood.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question, please.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will you take immediate action? Also, a special package to repair the desiltation of the river, and the money may be provided to the State.

श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने अभी फिर से 'कैच द रेन' अभियान की शुरुआत की है। उसमें वर्षा जल संचयन, जल संरक्षण, जल निकायों की गणना, उनकी टैपिंग, सूची तैयार करना, गाद निकालना जैसे काम होने हैं, जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है। लेकिन अन्ततोगत्वा यही बात आती है कि जब कभी कोई बांध बनता है, उदाहरण के लिए मैं केरल का एक जवाब दूंगा कि बांध केरल में बना हुआ है और पानी का उपयोग तमिलनाडु करता है तो ऐसी स्थिति में अगर उसकी desilting की बात आती है तो मुझे लगता है कि दोनों राज्य सरकारों की सहमति के बगैर वह काम नहीं हो सकता, पर यह सच है कि भारत सरकार ने इसकी पूरी mapping की है, ताकि हम जल स्रोतों की गणना करें और उसमें अगर कहीं desilting की जरूरत पड़ती है तो राज्यों के सहयोग के साथ उस काम को गति के साथ आगे बढ़ायें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 183.

Permission for foreign cargo carriers

*183. SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) issued a notification on 17th September, 2020 revoking general permission to foreign non-scheduled cargo carriers from landing in airports except Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government will review this policy on account of various representations?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Government allows foreign ad-hoc and pure non-scheduled freighter charter service flights to 6 metro airports only viz. Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai,

Hyderabad, Bengaluru and Kolkata. Instructions have been issued in this regard by the DGCA in September 2020. This facilitates Indian airlines in the international air cargo trade.

There is no proposal at present to review the policy.

The Government, however, has ensured the following for international air cargo trade:

- (i) Indian carriers are allowed to operate non-scheduled and scheduled international all cargo services from any airport in India with customs and immigrations facility. There has thus been no change in the operations of Indian carriers. Further, Indian carriers are being actively encouraged to increase all cargo freighter operations from non-metro cities.
- (ii) Cargo carried in the belly of passenger aircraft operated by both Indian and foreign airlines is not impacted by the above decision.
- (iii) Bulk of the cargo carried on all-cargo freighter aircraft from India is being transported through scheduled services. Scheduled all-cargo services offered by the foreign airlines as per the provisions of the bilateral Air Services Agreement with the respective country, continue largely unaffected.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, it is a very important matter. I am completely shocked and aghast to see the reply of the hon. Minister. Thirty years back, his father, late Madhavrao Scindiaji, declared the Open Sky Policy and permitted even foreign freighters to go to the non-metro airports. That is why, airports like Cochin, Trivandrum, all survived. All of a sudden, after 30 years, his Department had the audacity to ban the non-scheduled foreign freighters to non-metro airports, thereby, crippling the life of the States. A State like Uttar Pradesh, 21 crores of people, do you want the products of Uttar Pradesh to be brought to Delhi? Except these metros, Sir, the cost has gone up for the exports. It has affected the exports, trade bodies, the farmers, the local population and therefore...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please ask your question.(Interruptions).. .Question. ... (Interruptions).. .

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, it is a very important point. It affects your State also.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ... (Interruptions).. .

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, even now, the Standing Committee on Commerce unanimously resolved and ordered them that they have to review the policy because they are going back. This is against the declared policy of the Government of India. I now...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief on question.(Interruptions).. .Please.(Interruptions).. .Please. ... (Interruptions).. .

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Yes, Sir. My question is: What was the rational, logic of this as he says that the Indian operators are sufficient enough? In the Airport of Cochin, after this new order, Indian operators flew only two freighters so far. How does....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, John Brittasji.(Interruptions)... Thank you.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, my point is very simple that what is the status....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. No. ... (Interruptions)... Thank you. ... (Interruptions)... Now, the hon. Minister. ... (Interruptions)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, what is the status?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please be brief on questions. मैं माननीय सदस्यों से और माननीय मंत्रियों से भी पुनः आग्रह करता हूँ कि, Chairman, Sir, has already given the direction. Please be brief on questions; otherwise, I will move to the next one. ... (Interruptions).. .

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, it is a very important question.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All questions are important, John Brittasji.(Interruptions).. .Please.(Interruptions).. .Please. ... (Interruptions).. .

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, your State is also affected.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All questions are important. Please.

श्री ज्योतिरादित्य एम. सिंधिया : उपसभापति महोदय, धन्यवाद। I would request your indulgence because, I think, it is important to give a very detailed response to the hon. Member. The hon. Member has raised a very pertinent issue. But, I would like to bring some facts before the House through the question that has been asked. Let us understand that the trade in cargo across the world is close to about 270 billion dollars, which is going to grow to about 375 billion dollars. Air Trade to GDP ratio in India today has grown from 4 to 8 per cent. Air cargo sector should double in the next couple of years. Having said that, it is also important to understand the composition of the air cargo business. Scheduled operators conduct 90 per cent of the business. Non-scheduled operators conduct only 10 per cent of the business and within that 10 per cent of the business also, उपसभापति महोदय, 98 per cent of that 10 per cent is conducted in the six metros and only two per cent is conducted in the other airports in the country. Of the air cargo operations, we are only talking about 0.2 per cent. Now, the question here is, why is this important? The reason this is important is, first of all, let us understand that the air cargo business, all scheduled operators can still fly from all destinations. There is no रोक on them and there is no ban on them. Only the NSOP segment, two per cent of that has been restricted for Indian carriers. The cargo that is carried in the belly of aircraft, whether scheduled or un-scheduled, does not come under this prohibitory order at all. Sir, 71 per cent of all cargo in India, today, is carried in the belly of passenger aircrafts. Thirdly, I would like to inform the hon. Member that if you look at the break-up today between the Indian carriers and the foreign carriers, look at how badly it is skewed. Indian carriers, through belly and dedicated freighters, carry only 19 per cent of cargo; 81 per cent is carried by foreign carriers. And if you look at dedicated freighters alone, only 1 per cent is carried by Indian carriers and 99 per cent is carried by foreign carriers. I am sure that the hon. Member, the State that he comes from and the party that he belongs to, will fight for the cause of *Atmanirbhar Bharat*, for the cause of our Indian carriers. And by taking this step, if he asks me a supplementary, I will tell him that in a short amount of time, the results, that our Indian carriers have been able to give to the nation, I should also place before the House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: John Brittasji, please be brief; otherwise, other hon. Members will not get the opportunity. Please put your second question.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, statistics, many a time, are obfuscating and confusing. He has tried to confuse. Take the State of Kerala, say the airport of Kochi. We don't have scheduled foreign freighters because most of the exports are seasonal, Vishu or

Onam. We rely on passenger foreign airlines and also non-scheduled freighters. What has he done? During this pandemic, none of the foreign passenger flights were there. So there was no belly of the passenger foreign airlines; at that time, he banned the non-scheduled freighters.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put the question.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: If at all this is not a substantive number, why did he ban it? If it is insignificant, what was the need for banning it? Then, the third thing. Sir, there is one more point. Has he got...*(Interruptions)*.. .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Put the question.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: What is the statistics? What is the number of Indian freighters operated in the absence of non-scheduled foreign freighters? Has he got the statistics? Let him submit that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Thank you Deputy Chairman, Sir and I would like to thank the hon. Member for asking that supplementary question. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir,..*(Interruptions)*.. .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .Have patience to listen. ..*(Interruptions)*.. .

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: I am responding to him in a very calm voice. I would request the hon. Member to please hear my answer. Thank you very much. So the question that has been asked is very pertinent as to what this policy has resulted in. Has it actually given advantage to our cargo business? Has it given advantage to our Indian freighters? And it is a very pertinent question. So I would like to put the points before the hon. Member. First, because of COVID, please understand that all of our carriers who were almost entering a period of insolvency, this has given a glimmer of hope for our carriers domestically within India. What has it resulted in? It has resulted in the following four points. First, the number of freighters in India that

were limited in 2018 only to 8, in a period of three years, that number has jumped to 28. So we have almost increased our domestic freighter capacity by almost three-and-a-half times. That is point number one. Therefore, by *Atmanirbhar Bharat*; Indian carriers are beginning to stand on their own feet, and I am sure that given the party he belongs to, this is an ideology that he would support. Otherwise, they should not take a different stand with regard to other issues, with regard to the economy and with regard to civil aviation. If you oppose the stand and you want foreign carriers to carry you there, then you must not take a different stand with regard to other issues on civil aviation or other economic issues from your State point of view. That is point number one. Point number two, Indian Airlines have modified 150 passenger aircraft to be able to carry cargo in belly as well as the seat areas. Therefore, our cargo capacity in addition to the freighters increasing from 8 to 28; even our passengers have gone up; if I may use the term 'P to C', that is, passenger to cargo, that is about 150 planes. Third point, from May, 2019 to May, 2021, what was our share of international cargo traffic movement? ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: A measly 1.8 per cent. Today, in a period of two years, that share of traffic has grown from 1.8 per cent to 19 per cent. That is what we have been able to achieve in the last two years as far as cargo traffic is concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

श्री उपसभापति : मैं सबसे रिक्वेस्ट कर रहा हूँ, to all the hon. Members, please....*(Interruptions)*.. .

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, you are asking us to be short and the hon. Minister...*(Interruptions)*.. .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please.*(Interruptions)*.. .देरेक जी, एक तो अभी आपके पास बोलने की परमिशन नहीं है। That is number one. And number two, I will clear it. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .शुरू में आपने शायद सुना नहीं, आप लोग प्रोसीडिंग्स को ध्यान से सुना कीजिए।...**(व्यवधान)**... मैंने स्पष्ट कहा था कि माननीय मंत्रीगण और माननीय सदस्यगण, दोनों से ही मेरा आग्रह है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...I repeated it. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .आप चेयर पर इस तरह के कमेंट्स मत कीजिए, प्लीज़।

श्री ज्योतिरादित्य एम. सिंधिया : सर, मेरा आखिरी निवेदन है - मैं ऐसा उत्तर नहीं दे सकता, जो इनको अच्छा लगे, वह मेरा काम नहीं है, मुझे वास्तविकता सदन के समक्ष रखनी होगी। मेरा आखिरी प्वाइंट है, the revenue has grown. In the last one year, revenue from cargo has grown from Rs.1,498 crores to Rs.2,300 crores. So, Indian air freighters and cargo airlines are beginning to stand on their own feet and that's what we want in Atmanirbhar Bharat.

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय सदस्यगण, प्लीज़, मैंने इस सत्र में क्वेश्चन ऑवर शुरू होने के बाद बार-बार सबसे आग्रह किया है, मैंने सदस्यों से आग्रह किया है, मंत्रियों से आग्रह किया है और मैं सारे माननीय वरिष्ठ सदस्यों से कहता हूँ कि आप रिकॉर्ड निकालकर देखें। अगर आप उन अनुदेशों का, जो माननीय चेयरमैन बार-बार दे रहे हैं, उनका पालन नहीं करते हैं, तो how should I proceed, आप तय करें। श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य, आप बोलिये।

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य : महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहती हूँ कि कुछ दिन पहले अगरतला एयरपोर्ट (महाराजा बीर बिक्रम एयरपोर्ट) चालू किया गया है, लेकिन वहां से अभी तक बंगलादेश की फ्लाइट्स भी चालू नहीं हुई हैं। अगरतला से दिल्ली, दिल्ली टू अगरतला, जो एयर इंडिया की एक ही फ्लाइट है, वह 27 मार्च से बंद हो रही है। यह क्यों बंद हो रही है, यह बात आज तक हम लोगों की समझ में नहीं आई। वहां पैसेंजर्स की भी कमी नहीं है, फिर यह फ्लाइट क्यों बंद हो रही है, यही मैं जानना चाहती हूँ।

श्री ज्योतिरादित्य एम. सिंधिया : महोदय, यह प्रश्न कार्गो पर है, परंतु जो प्रश्न माननीय सदस्या ने उठाया है, अगर वे आकर मुझसे मिलेंगी तो इस पर हम जरूर चर्चा करेंगे। सिविल एविएशन सेक्टर अब रेगुलेटेड सेक्टर नहीं है, हम लोग क्रियान्वयन और कंट्रोल नहीं कर सकते कि कौन सी एयरलाइन कहां फ्लाई करे, लेकिन यदि वे मुझसे आकर मिलेंगी, तो हम इस पर जरूर विचार करेंगे।

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, while I commend the Minister for following this policy of Atmanirbhar Bharat, the flip side is that, whether the Minister is aware that Indian carriers have been refusing to pick up cargo for the last ten days. Even in a place like Delhi, exporters are facing cancellations and the reality is that in the name of Atmanirbhar Bharat, India will suffer, Bharat will suffer because exporters will get cancellations. Will the Minister take immediate steps to redress this issue?

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is not a fact. I would like to refute that on the floor of this House. In fact, our cargo airlines' revenue numbers have gone up by almost 50 per cent. Our cargo airlines are also expanding

very, very rapidly, and I am sure that in the coming days, even if there is an issue, temporarily for a day or two, that would be resolved. There would be no issue with regard to export of cargo from Delhi or any other city in India.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, this is not an answer. ...(*Interruptions*).. .

श्री उपसभापति : सुश्री दोला सेन जी, आप बोलिये। ...(**व्यवधान**)..माननीय नरेश जी, आपने सवाल पूछ लिया।

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, this is a misleading answer. ...(*Interruptions*).. .

श्री उपसभापति : उसके लिए प्रक्रिया है ...(**व्यवधान**)..

MS. DOLA SEN: Whatever be the Central Government's policy of selling our national carrier, Air India, or notification of DGCA of restricting foreign cargo carriers to land all over, I want to ask the hon. Civil Aviation Minister, -- all these policies of Atmanirbhar Bharat of your Government are creating joblessness a lot -- how to justify this policy of increasing unemployment by Atmanirbhar Bharat policy?

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, as far as this question is concerned, let me say that the civil aviation sector is one of the sectors that has the greatest economic multipliers and employment multipliers across any country in the world. We have an economic multiplier of almost 3.1. The effects of one rupee of investment creates 3.1 rupees worth of output in civil aviation. Similarly, in the area of employment, every direct job that is created through civil aviation gives almost close to 6.1 indirect jobs created in civil aviation. Therefore, the growth of civil aviation is most important. In the last seven years, what has been made possible under this Government, we had 74 airports in the country prior to 2014. Today, we have added 66 more airports under the leadership of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, and we have reached up to 140 airports. By the year 2024-25, we will go to 220 airports and an increased civil aviation in the country.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 184.

Growth rate in aviation sector in the country

*184. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the growth registered in aviation sector in Karnataka especially in the last three years;
- (b) whether Airports Authority of India (AAI) had conducted any study to identify the expected growth in the last three years;
- (c) the number of Flight Training Centres in Karnataka and whether there is an attempt to increase the number of Flight Training Programme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the Rajya Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b) The details of the growth rate registered in the aviation sector in the country and in Karnataka during the last three years and the current year, as per Airports Authority of India (AAI), are given in the **Annexure**.

(c) As per Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), currently there are two Flying Training Organisations (FTO) in Karnataka namely:

- (i) Orient Flight Aviation, Mysuru
- (ii) Government Flying Training School, Jakkur

Six new FTOs are proposed to be established at Belagavi, Kalaburagi and Hubli Airports.

(d) The Government has taken several steps to increase the number of FTOs. These include the following:

- (i) AAI has brought out a liberalised FTO policy wherein the concept of airport royalty (revenue share payment by FTOs to AAI) has been abolished and land rentals have been significantly rationalised.

- (ii) AAI issued award letters on 31 May 2021 and 29 October 2021 for nine FTOs to be established at five airports i.e. two at Belagavi (Karnataka), two at Jalgaon (Maharashtra), two at Kalaburagi (Karnataka), two at Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh) and one at Lilabari (Assam).
- (iii) AAI has come up with a fresh RFP for 15 FTOs at 10 airports namely Cooch-Bihar, Tezu, Jharsuguda, Deoghar, Meerut, Kishangarh, Hubli, Kadapa, Bhavnagar and Salem Airports.

Annexure

Total passenger throughput and Year on Year Growth Rate for All Indian airports taken together and Karnataka (in million)

Fiscal Year	All India	% Change over previous year	Karnataka	% Change over previous year
2017-18	308.75	-	29.42	-
2018-19	344.70	11.6%	36.20	23.1%
2019-20	341.05	-1.1%	35.21	-2.7%
2020-21	115.38	-66.2%	12.09	-65.7%
Current Financial Year				
2020-21 (Apr-Jan)	81.56	-72.3%	8.71	-71.5%
2021-22 (Apr-Jan)	146.80	80.0%	14.04	61.2%

Source: Airports Authority of India (AAI)

SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Sir, I went through the answer; it just mentions about the passenger movement. But, I was actually asking about the overall growth of aviation sector, especially in Karnataka. I thought, hon. Minister would be giving us information about airport infrastructure, number of new destinations, number of flights, jobs and also the revenue earned. But, he has just given the information about the passenger movement. I want to ask a specific question. It is regarding Bellary, Karnataka from where I come. Sir, land for the airport in Bellary was given long back. The land was already acquired and the work was already started. But, I do not know due to what reason the work has stopped there. Sir, this is also the case with Raichur Airport and many other airports in Karnataka. I want to know from the hon. Minister when the work will start and when it will be completed.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Sir, as far as the question of hon. Member with regard to passenger movement and infrastructure in Karnataka is concerned; I want to tell that Karnataka has always been a bellwether State in terms of growth in civil aviation. It roughly composes of ten per cent of the civil aviation traffic of the country. Sir, prior to pandemic, total number of passengers in the country was close to about 3.5 crores, out of which, Karnataka had contributed close to about 35 lakhs and we are looking at a steady progression in the years to come. We are looking at about 404 million passengers in the year 2023-24, out of which, Karnataka again will contribute close to about ten per cent which is about 40 million. Sir, as far as Bellary Airport is concerned, this is a State Government airport. We have been in conversation with the State Government. The State Government had entered into an agreement with a private party to put in place this airport. Unfortunately, for multiple reasons, that has not been possible. The State Government has taken legal opinion. We have said very clearly that they should take whatever action it takes to make sure that this construction starts as soon as possible.

SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Sir, again, the Minister has missed mentioning about the jobs, flights, new destinations and the revenue earned in Karnataka. He is just mentioning about the passengers. Again, regarding Bellary, the work had been stopped, he has still not mentioned when the work will start and when it will be completed. My second question is, is the Government thinking of opening up defence airstrips to civilians in the places where there are no airports, especially in places like Karwar in Karnataka where a new naval airstrip is coming up? Will these kinds of defence airstrips be opened for civilians, especially where there are no airports?

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Sir, I have categorically answered the hon. Member with regard to Bellary Airport. I have mentioned very clearly that the State Government has to take a decision whether to terminate the agreement with the party or not, that is the State Government's decision. We have given them the advisory that they can go ahead with it.

As far as using defence airports; naval or air, for civil aviation purposes, we are in dialogue with Ministry of Defence on multiple airstrips. We are seeing wherever there is a demand for air connectivity; we are directly in dialogue with the Ministry of Defence to use those air strips developed under UDAN Scheme to provide connectivity to those areas.

श्री प्रफुल्ल पटेल : उपसभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने सिविल एविएशन की ग्रोथ के बारे में तो अच्छे आंकड़े बताये हैं। मेरा भी यह सौभाग्य रहा है कि इनके आज के जो प्रयास हैं, उनमें कुछ योगदान देने का मुझे भी पूर्व में मौका मिला। मैं उनको एक और बात के लिए भी धन्यवाद दे दूँ कि मेरे गृह नगर गोंदिया से उन्होंने 'उड़ान' के माध्यम से पहली नागरिक विमान सेवा की शुरुआत की, तो उसके लिए भी आपको धन्यवाद।

महोदय, मेरा एक ही सवाल है कि जितने भी छोटे शहरों को हम इससे जोड़ रहे हैं, इन सारे शहरों को, चाहे वह मुंबई हो, दिल्ली हो, कोलकाता हो, बंगलुरु हो या हैदराबाद हो, ऐसे शहरों के साथ यातायात के लिए इसकी आवश्यकता है। बाकी के अन्य शहरों के बीच आपस में जो यातायात है, उसकी आवश्यकता तो है, लेकिन कम है। हर आदमी इन बड़े शहरों के माध्यम से जुड़ना चाहता है। आज मैंने आपको गोंदिया का उदाहरण दिया। गोंदिया को आपने हैदराबाद और इंदौर के साथ जोड़ा है, यह खुशी की बात है लेकिन गोंदिया महाराष्ट्र में है, वहां के व्यक्ति को मुंबई आना होगा और मुंबई में वायुयान को उतरने के लिए हवाई स्लॉट नहीं मिलता है। वही हाल दिल्ली, चेन्नई और कोलकाता का भी है, यहां भी स्लॉट्स की कमी है। मेरा आपसे यही कहना है कि छोटे शहरों को जोड़ने की जो 'उड़ान योजना' है, वह सराहनीय है लेकिन जब तक इन छोटे शहरों को बड़े metros के साथ नहीं जोड़ा जाएगा, तब तक हम और आप जो उसकी उपयुक्तता या सफलता चाहते हैं, उसमें कहीं न कहीं रुकावट आएगी। इसके बारे में आपकी क्या टिप्पणी है, कृपया बताएं।

श्री ज्योतिरादित्य एम. सिंधिया : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सांसद महोदय जी ने बहुत उम्दा सवाल पूछा है। यह सत्य है कि हम लोगों की आशा और अभिलाषा है कि हम छोटे शहरों को बड़े शहरों के साथ जोड़ें और इसमें जरूर विसंगति है कि हमारे बड़े शहरों में जो एयरपोर्ट्स हैं, उनकी कैपैसिटी पूर्ण रूप से इस्तेमाल की जा रही है, इसलिए कई बड़े शहरों के एयरपोर्ट्स में विस्तारीकरण की योजना चल रही है। उदाहरण के तौर पर दिल्ली में यह चल रही है। आज करीब 7 करोड़ passengers दिल्ली के एयरपोर्ट से निकलते हैं। हमारी कोशिश है कि दिल्ली एयरपोर्ट को हम लोग 10 करोड़ की कैपैसिटी तक ले जाएं। आज उसके विस्तारीकरण की योजना चल रही है। जेवर में नये एयरपोर्ट की आधारशिला प्रधान मंत्री जी द्वारा रखी गई है। वहां 2024 तक करीब 1 करोड़, 20 लाख की कैपैसिटी का पहला फेज तैयार हो जाएगा, तो पूरे उत्तर भारत का ट्रैफिक जेवर भी पहुंचने की हमारी उम्मीद है। उसी प्रकार से हम लोग मुंबई के लिए भी नवी मुंबई के एयरपोर्ट की शुरुआत कर रहे हैं और वह भी अगले तीन साल में तैयार हो जाएगा। हमारी कोशिश है कि छोटे शहरों को हम बड़े शहरों के साथ जोड़ें और बड़े शहरों का capacity expansion भी करें। इस लक्ष्य की पूर्ति के लिए हम लोग पूरी तरह से संकल्पित हैं।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा : माननीय उपसभापति जी, मेरा प्रश्न छोटा है और उसमें मेरा आग्रह भी है - आग्रह महत्वपूर्ण है। मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से आग्रह है कि पूर्णिया एयरपोर्ट technically फोर्स से रिलेटेड है, लेकिन उससे न सिर्फ बिहार, बल्कि बंगाल के भी 16-17 जिले और वहां के इलाकों को मदद मिलेगी। मैं इस आग्रह को सवाल की चादर के रूप में आपके समक्ष रख रहा हूँ। मैं यह टिप्पणी यहीं खत्म कर रहा हूँ। महोदय, दरभंगा एयरपोर्ट एक चिंता का विषय है। वहां उड़ान हो

रही है, काफी पैसेजर्स का मूवमेंट है, लेकिन वहां बुनियादी सुविधाएं नहीं हैं। अगर इस दृष्टिकोण से बिहार पर आपकी नज़र-ए-इनायत हो और पूर्णिया एयरपोर्ट चालू हो जाए, तो हम लोग साथ उड़ेंगे।

श्री ज्योतिरादित्य एम. सिंधिया : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो विषय उठाया है, वह महत्वपूर्ण है। इस पर हम लोग कोशिश भी कर रहे हैं, प्रदेश सरकार से भी चर्चा हो रही है और रक्षा मंत्रालय के साथ भी चर्चा हो रही है। इस पर हम लोग जरूर प्रयासरत हैं। वर्तमान में रक्षा मंत्रालय के द्वारा पूर्णिया एयरपोर्ट के एयरस्ट्रिप्स के उन्नयन का कार्य चल रहा है। आप और हम दोनों यह चाहते हैं कि पूर्णिया एयरपोर्ट की शुरुआत हो। इसमें प्रदेश सरकार के द्वारा जब हमें जमीन मिलेगी, उस पर हम लोग कार्य करेंगे। हम लोग प्रदेश सरकार के साथ चर्चा कर रहे हैं कि वह हमें जल्द-से-जल्द ज़मीन दे, ताकि उस पर हम लोग बिल्डिंग और इमारत बना पाएं और वहां हवाई सेवा शुरू कर दें।

श्री राकेश सिन्हा : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं सबसे पहले तो भारत सरकार की Ministry of Civil Aviation को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने 'उड़ान योजना' के तहत सामान्य जनता को हवाई यातायात से जोड़ा। मैं मंत्री जी को बताना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार का एकमात्र औद्योगिक नगर बरौनी, बेगूसराय है। दशकों से उसे 'उड़ान योजना' से जोड़ने की मांग हो रही है। क्या भारत सरकार बरौनी, बेगूसराय को 'उड़ान योजना' से जोड़ने की पहल करेगी? औद्योगिक और सांस्कृतिक केन्द्र होने के कारण वहां का ट्रैफिक और earning potential बहुत अधिक है, इसलिए यह मेरा निवेदन भी है और प्रश्न भी।

श्री ज्योतिरादित्य एम. सिंधिया : उपसभापति महोदय, मूल प्रश्न कर्णाटक के साथ जुड़ा हुआ है। अगर माननीय सांसद महोदय आकर मुझसे बेगूसराय पर चर्चा करेंगे, तो हम लोग इस पर बात करके आगे का रास्ता तय करेंगे।

श्री उपसभापति : प्रश्न संख्या 185.

Recruitment in Armed Forces

*185. DR. V. SIVADASAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of recruitment done in the Armed Forces, service-wise and year-wise since 2018;
- (b) whether the number of recruitment happening each year is not sufficient to fill the existing vacancies; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI AJAY BHATT):

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The number of candidates enrolled for recruitment in Indian Armed Forces since 2018 is as follows:

	Indian Army	Indian Navy	Indian Air Force
2018-19	53,431	5,885	6,862
2019-20	80,572	6,068	7,222
2020-21	Recruitment process suspended due to		2,722
2021-22	COVID-19 pandemic		5,547
Total	1,34,003	20,272	27,116

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Sufficient recruitment is undertaken to meet manpower requirements of the Indian Armed Forces.

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Joblessness is the greatest crisis of our times. Here, we see a lot of examples. Crores of youngsters are waiting for a job irrespective of their educational qualifications. Millions of young men and women are preparing for a job in the Indian military. They are sons and daughters of workers and peasants of our nation. In this august House, the Minister had given an answer to my question on the vacancies of Armed Forces. That shows the vacancies in the Indian Army is about 1,25,000. Same kind of vacancies are there in the Navy and in the Air Force. Youngsters are knocking on the doors of authorities, but they are not responding properly. So, it should be corrected. That is why I am raising this question. I would like to know the number of recruitments done in the Armed Forces, service-wise and year-wise since 2018.

श्री अजय भट्ट : उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने 2018 से पूछा है, यह उत्तर में स्पष्ट है। हमने 2018-19 में भारतीय सेना में 53,431, भारतीय नौसेना में 5,885 और भारतीय वायु सेना में 6,862 भर्तियां की हैं। इसके बाद 2019-20 में भी हमने भारतीय सेना में 80,572, भारतीय नौसेना में 6,068 और भारतीय वायु सेना में 7,222 भर्तियां की हैं, लेकिन 2020-21 और 2021-22 में कोविड आने के कारण सारे प्रोसेस रुक गए हैं। केवल हमारे ही नहीं, बल्कि विश्व के सारे कार्यक्रम रुके हुए हैं। जैसे ही ये सब खुलेंगे और हमें जिस तरह से गाइडलाइन्स मिलेंगी, उनके अनुसार आगे

विचार किया जाएगा। चूँकि कोविड कम जरूर हुआ है, समाप्त नहीं हुआ है, इसलिए सब लोगों को चौकन्ना रहना है। जब भी ये सब खुलेंगे, उस पर आगे विचार किया जाएगा।

DR. V. SIVADASAN: The Minister has spoken about COVID and my second question is related to that. During the COVID period, the employees have received special arrangements like working arrangement or special leave from their employers. I would like to know whether the Government has taken any kind of steps for their presence in the Indian military.

श्री अजय भट्ट : उपसभापति महोदय, एयर फोर्स और नेवी में ऑनलाइन भर्ती होती है, लेकिन जब आर्मी की भर्ती होती है, तो उसमें बहुत सारे मेले लगते हैं। उनमें बड़ी भीड़ आती है। इसको देखते हुए, कोविड फैले नहीं, उसको हमने स्थगित किया हुआ है। वह रुका नहीं है। इस समय हम यही सुविधा दे सकते हैं।

SHRI K. R. N. RAJESHKUMAR: Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister to provide the details of the category-wise backlog vacancies of SCs, STs and OBCs in the Armed Forces, especially in NDA, NA, CDS examinations which are conducted by UPSC and Short Service Commission examination and other Recruitment wings.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Only one question is allowed.

श्री अजय भट्ट : उपसभापति महोदय, चूँकि यह प्रश्न मूल प्रश्न से संबंधित नहीं है, इसलिए मैं इसकी सूचना एकत्रित करके माननीय सदस्य को बता दूँगा।

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Sir, more than 16 countries in the world allow women in combat roles in Armed Forces. The Government of India has so far refused to allow women in these categories. With right to equality, changing notions of gender norms and pressing demands from several quarters, are there any plans to recruit women in combat roles in the Armed Forces?

श्री अजय भट्ट : उपसभापति महोदय, कहीं पर भी रोक नहीं है, यह चल रहा है। इस बात को आप सब जानते हैं।

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: I want to know specifically about combat roles. आपने उसको combat roles के लिए allow नहीं किया है।

श्री अजय भट्ट : उपसभापति महोदय, जो होना है, वह कर सकते हैं और जिस पर आगे विचार करना है, उस पर विचार चल रहा है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : सर, यह कोई जवाब नहीं हुआ।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय महेश पोद्दार जी। ...(व्यवधान)... मैडम, उसकी प्रक्रिया है।...(व्यवधान)... उसकी प्रक्रिया है।...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेश पोद्दार : महोदय, झारखंड के दक्षिणी आदिवासी बहुल क्षेत्र से फौज और बीआरओ वगैरह में काफी लोग जाते हैं। उनके लिए या तो फौज में जाना एक विकल्प है या उग्रवाद के चंगुल में फंसना एक विकल्प है। इस क्षेत्र के लोगों ने परमवीर चक्र प्राप्त Albert Ekka के द्वारा अपनी वीरता का प्रमाण भी दिया है। महोदय, दो साल से नियुक्तियाँ बंद हैं, लेकिन मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूँगा कि जब भी भर्तियाँ स्टार्ट होंगी, तब क्या उस क्षेत्र के लोगों को विशेष अभियान चलाकर मौका दिया जाएगा?

श्री अजय भट्ट : महोदय, वर्तमान में देश में 11 क्षेत्रीय भर्ती कार्यालय हैं और दो भर्ती डिपो हैं, जिनमें हम गोरखा रेजिमेंट इत्यादि नेपाल से भी लेते हैं। इसके साथ ही, एक स्वतंत्र भर्ती कार्यालय है, जिसमें एनसीआर के लोगों को लेते हैं। महोदय, हमारे 70 सेना भर्ती कार्यालय हैं, अतः कोई भी क्षेत्र अछूता नहीं है, हम हर क्षेत्र को समान अवसर देते हैं। अगर कहीं पर कोई छूट भी जाता है, तो हम वहाँ दोबारा भर्ती करवाते हैं। इस विषय पर मैं पहले ही कह चुका हूँ कि कोविड की वजह से थोड़ा सा विलम्ब हुआ है। भारत के सभी क्षेत्रों में सभी लोगों को जाति, धर्म, वर्ग, क्षेत्र से ऊपर उठकर बराबरी का अवसर मिलता है।

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय सदस्यगण, अगर आप किसी भी जवाब से असंतुष्ट हैं, तो उसके लिए rules and procedure के तहत प्रक्रिया है, कृपया उसका पालन करें।

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री राजनाथ सिंह) : उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने recruitment के बारे में जो जानना चाहा है, मैं जानकारी देना चाहता हूँ कि प्रति वर्ष देश भर में 90 से लेकर 100 रैलीज़ होती हैं। हमारी आर्मी का यह पूरा प्रयास रहता है कि रैलियों को प्रति वर्ष इस प्रकार से आयोजित किया जाए कि देश का कोई भी जिला शेष न बचे। किसी जिले के युवक रैली में participate करना चाहते हैं और उन्हें participate करने का अवसर न मिले, ऐसा एक भी जिला शेष नहीं बचना चाहिए। यह एक continuous process है, चलता रहता है। जब भी रैलियाँ होती हैं, तब लगभग 90 से लेकर 100 रैलियाँ होती हैं और एक रैली में सामान्यतः छः से लेकर आठ जिले कवर किये जाते हैं। उपसभापति महोदय, मैंने यह बात केवल सदन की जानकारी के लिए रखी है।

श्री उपसभापति : प्रश्न संख्या 186.

Impact of Ukraine-Russia conflict on import of natural gas and crude oil

*186. SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether new energy cooperation agreements, including a contract for Rosneft signed in December 2021 may be impacted by the ongoing Ukraine-Russia crisis;
- (b) the details of India's State-owned firms with oil and gas assets in Russia;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the import of natural gas and crude oil from Russia will be impacted due to the ongoing Ukraine-Russia conflict; and
- (d) the details of the import of natural gas and crude oil from Russia from 2019-2022?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) In Financial Year 2020-21, India imported 85% of its crude oil requirements and 54% of its natural gas requirement

As per Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC), India's major sources of crude oil imports are Iraq, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Nigeria and USA.

Indian Oil and Gas Public Sector Undertakings had imported approximately less than 1% of its total crude oil import from Russia in the year 2021-2022 (till January). India imported only 0.419 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) of crude oil from Russia, as compared to overall crude oil imports of 175.900 MMT.

In the current situation of high volatility in global energy markets, Government of India is closely monitoring the situation. No adverse impact on hydrocarbon energy agreements is currently foreseen.

Details of the assets of Indian Oil and Gas Public Sector Undertakings in Russia are at **Annexure I**.

Details of import of crude oil and LNG from Russia during the last three years and the current year are at **Annexure II**.

Annexure I

Indian Oil & Gas Public Sector Undertakings having assets in Russia :

Company Name	Project Name
ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL)	Sakhalin -1
	Imperial Energy
	Vankorneft
Bharat Petro Resources Ltd (BPRL)	Vankorneft
	TaasYuryakh
Indian Oil Ltd (IOCL)	Vankorneft
	TaasYuryakh
Oil India Ltd (OIL)	Taas Yuryakh
	License-61
	Vankorneft

Source: ONGC Videsh Ltd, Bharat Petro resources Ltd, Indian Oil Ltd., Oil India Ltd.

Annexure II

The details of import of crude oil and LNG from Russia during the last three years and the current year:

Crude Oil	2018 -19	2019 -20	2020 -21	2021-22 (April-January) (P)
Import of crude oil from Russia (Qty. In TMT)	1401	2937	633	419
Total crude oil import (Qty. In TMT)	226498	226955	196461	175900
% Import of crude oil from Russia out of total crude oil import	0.6	1.3	0.3	0.2

Source: Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC)

LNG	2018- 19	2019- 20	2020-21 (P)	2021-22 (April-January) (P)
Import of LNG from Russia (Qty. In TMT)	0	199	0	212
Total LNG import (Qty. In TMT)	21691	25574	24929	20215
% Import of LNG from Russia out of total LNG import	0.0	0.8	0.0	1.1

Source: Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC)

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Sir, the hon. Minister mentioned in his reply that Indian Oil and Gas Public Sector Undertakings had imported approximately less than 1 per cent of its total crude oil import from Russia in the year 2021-22. However, the Indian Oil Corporation is also a shareholder, invested in some companies in Russia and it happens to be Rosneft where the British Petroleum has just exited. It was its call. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this will impact Indian Oil Corporation's investment in that particular company.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I would like to stand by thanking the hon. Minister for raising a question which is very timely and pertinent.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, she is not Minister; she is an hon. Member.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Maybe, this reflects my expectation of her political rise. Sir, I am particularly grateful to the hon. Member for having raised this question, because, in the context of the on-going military action in that part of the world between Russia and Ukraine, several issues are being raised.

The first supplementary that the hon. Member has raised is relating to the quantum of imports and the second one, I think, relates to investment. In so far as quantum of imports is concerned, it gives me an opportunity to clarify that in the financial year 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and the first nine months of the current financial year, our total imports of crude from Russia have been 0.6 per cent, 1.3 per cent, 0.3 per cent and 0.2 per cent respectively. It means, even less than 1 per cent figure of imports from Russia will take a long-time to fill at the current rate, because eleven months in the current financial year are already over.

In so far as Indian investments in Russia are concerned, our oil companies have invested from the time — if I recall correctly — of Vajpayee's Government, something a total of US dollar 16 billion. Some of those investments are very profitable. As I have had the opportunity of informing this House on an earlier occasion, Sakhalin-I, for instance, where OVL has, I think, 20 per cent of the share, our investment of 337 million dollars has resulted in an overall revenue already above 3.7 billion dollars of revenue, and we have another 20 years of assets still left there. The discussion on whether Western oil entities are exiting from some of these facilities, like the hon. Member mentioned, I have also seen reports in the public domain press. When we look at some of these and we are in discussion -- we are, in fact, in discussion with some of these Western oil companies -- the facts on the

ground, I think, vary. There is a nuanced approach. Some have indicated an intent to exit. Others have said they will not make fresh investment. But, as I said, we are monitoring the situation. In so far as oil imports from Russia are concerned, contrary to what has been played up in the Press, these are miniscule. Even now, the total amount contracted will be less than three days' supply from Russia to India and that also spread over the next three to four months.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Sir, just to put this on record, as far as the British Petroleum is concerned, it has led the BP Board to conclude, after a thorough process, that our involvement with Rosneft, the State-owned enterprise, simply cannot continue. So, it has stopped. My second supplementary is, there have been news reports which suggest that India is going to increase its crude oil trade and economic engagements with Russia considering there is a deep discount going on. In the ongoing conflict, will that have any kind of diplomatic and economic ramifications as far as our future relations with other countries are concerned?

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, through you, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the exact words she has quoted 'cannot continue', the words 'cannot continue', again, I read as an intent that they would like to bring those arrangements. But we are in discussion with the highest levels of those companies and I have no doubt that if those companies were to exit finally -- some companies are saying they have no intention to invest further there-- and if there are economic opportunities, that become available, we will, certainly, look at all those possibilities. Let me mention that the one facility where one of the Western entities is the operator, one of our oil companies has a 20 per cent share. We got worried when we read those reports because if the operator is exiting, then the facilities' production will be undermined. But we were told that no production facilities will continue. So, we will discuss on a case-by-case basis with everyone. We have typically arrangements which are Government-to-Government and company-to-company. The kind of arrangements that the hon. Member is mentioning are company to company. One of them is an Indian public sector entity and on the other side is the Russian State company which she has mentioned. But in so far as increased oil imports are concerned, I would again like to reiterate that in the first nine months of the year, we have imported only 0.2 per cent of our requirement. Let me give you the exact figures. We require a total of five million barrels per day. That is our consumption. Sixty per cent of it comes from the Gulf. We have imported from Russia only 0.419 million metric tonnes out of the total of 17.5 million, which is very much less than one

per cent, rather 0.2 per cent. Even if we were to scale these up considerably, it would still be a drop, literally a drop, in a larger bucket.

SHRI NEERAJ DANGI: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister, with your permission, the view of the Government on the potential impact on the India-US relations in the light of the rupee-rouble trade oil deal with Russia.

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, let me start by saying that India and the United States have a robust bilateral energy relationship. Let me also point out to the hon. Member, through you, that in the financial year 2020-21, we imported 14 million metric tonnes of crude from the United States and this represented 7.3 per cent of our requirements as against the less than one per cent from the Russian Federation. In the current year, based on our imports from the United States and if I look at the projection, these are likely to go up from 14 million metric tonnes to 16.8 million metric tonnes or a value of about 10 billion US dollars of imports of crude oil from the US. If I add to that the amount of gas, which we are importing, and coal, I think the figure comes closer to 13.5 billion dollars of imports from the United States. So, it is a robust relationship on the energy front, and I see this continuing for some time.

श्री उपसभापति : माननीया जया बच्चन जी।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : सर, मैं नीरज जी के सवाल पर अपना प्रश्न पूछना चाहती हूँ।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय अबीर रंजन बिस्वास जी।

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Sir, as we know, up to now, the Russia-Ukraine crisis has not had a bearing on the diesel and petrol prices. But, Sir, we know that kerosene is a poor man's fuel, and, most deplorably, the price of kerosene has gone up by more than 200 per cent from Rs. 22 per litre to Rs. 45 per litre only in a matter of 10 days. I would like to know: Is this due to Russia-Ukraine crisis?

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, it is the well-stated policy of the Government to progressively discourage the use of kerosene. We are trying to encourage the State Governments which come to us for quotas to try not to encourage kerosene because we want to take our brothers and sisters, especially, our sisters and mothers, on to cleaner fuels. You know how kerosene prices react under particular situations, but I particularly doubt whether the increase in the last one week or so is a direct offshoot

of what is happening on the Russia-Ukraine front. It could. I don't have the precise information. I will be happy to look into it. In so far as gas and oil prices are concerned, as I said, even though the international price has shot up from something like 84-85 dollars a barrel, today, it was, I think, close to 111. The concerned oil companies have not passed this on to the consumer. When they will, etc., these are decisions which they will have to take.

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय वि. विजयसाई रेड्डी जी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नीरज शेखर : सर, तीन सप्लीमेंटरी प्रश्न हो गए हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, in a coordinated move, with other big global consumers such as the US and Japan, India released 5 million barrels of crude oil from its strategic petroleum reserves. So, I would like to know from the Minister : Has the Ministry studied the impact of such release from the strategic reserves on the international crude oil prices? If so, whether the prices have come down?

SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI: Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Member for this question on strategic petroleum reserves and the Government of India's decision, if I recall correctly, in November of last year when we had joined the other consuming countries, particularly if I recall correctly, the United States, Japan, Korea and one or two others, to permit a limited release, and I think, we had released about 5 million barrels on that occasion. At that point, the prices were not as volatile in international market because that was well before the military action between Russia and Ukraine which started on 24th February. On that occasion, yes, the release had some sobering impact but you will agree, Sir, and though you, I want to inform the hon. Member that for countries like India which have limited strategic reserves, it cannot be a solution, a panacea. So, on a second occasion, when the consuming countries through the IEA, that is, International Energy Agency, decided to do another release, I think, of a total of 60 million or so, at that stage, India had signaled an intent, a support, but we have not done the release. Sir, releases from strategic reserves can have a limited impact in given situation but when the international market is so roiled as it is today, high prices, I think, are of limited concern.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. The House stands adjourned to meet at 2.00 p.m.

[*Answers to Starred and Unstarred Questions (Both in English and Hindi) are available as Part-I to this Debate, published electronically on the Rajya Sabha website under the link <https://rajyasabha.nic.in/Debates/OfficialDebatesDateWise>]*

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at one minute past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*

OBSERVATIONS BY THE CHAIR

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, when the House met last on Wednesday, the 16th March, 2022, we took up 'Discussion on the working of the Ministry of Railways' initiated by Shri Prasanna Acharya, before it adjourned for the day. The discussion remained inconclusive. On 17th March, 2022, the Secretariat issued a List of Business wherein, as per the intimation given by the Government, the financial Business relating to Appropriation of the Union Budget and Appropriation relating to Jammu and Kashmir have been listed before the further discussion on the Working of the Ministry of Railways. As such it was made abundantly clear on Thursday, the 17th March, itself that the further discussion on the Ministry of Railways will be taken up in the House after the financial Business stated therein is over.

I would also draw your kind attention to Part-II Bulletin of 4th February, 2022, wherein the Government has provisionally indicated that the discussion on the workings of the Ministries will be taken up on 15th March, 16th March, 23rd March and 24th March. We had already discussed two Ministries on 15th March and 16th March. Moreover, it is always Government's prerogative to list Government Business as per its own priority. I request all hon. Members to kindly cooperate. We will first take up financial Business and thereafter resume the discussion on the working of the Ministry of Railways.

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे): सर, आपके कहने पर और बिजनेस एडवाइज़री कमेटी में जो डिस्कशन हुआ, उसके बाद आपने 17th को जो बुलेटिन इश्यू किया है, वह contradictory है। दूसरी चीज़ यह है कि अगर चार घंटे जो आपने एलॉट किए हैं, अगर इन दोनों को हम डिस्कशन में लेंगे, तो आठ घंटे लगेंगे। मेरा यह कहना है कि आपने रेलवे पर डिस्कशन शुरू किया था, दो मेम्बर्स ने इस पर अपनी बात भी रखी और डिबेट inconclusive थी, तो आप पहले रेलवे पर चर्चा खत्म कीजिए, फिर उसके बाद इसे लीजिए, हम cooperate करेंगे। डिमांड जो अधूरी है, अगर उस पर आप चर्चा नहीं करेंगे और बहस पूरी नहीं करेंगे, तो यह अच्छा नहीं होगा। यह आपकी announcement है, यहीं चेयर से announcement हुई थी। इसलिए मैं आपसे अपील करता हूँ कि पहले रेलवे पर डिस्कशन को लीजिए, उसको खत्म करने के बाद यह लीजिए।

श्री उपसभापति : धन्यवाद, माननीय एलओपी साहब, आप बड़े अनुभवी हैं और आप संसदीय कार्य को बहुत अच्छी तरह जानते भी हैं। मैंने दो चीज़ें स्पष्ट की हैं कि 16 मार्च को डिस्कशन inconclusive था, जैसा आपने कहा और 17 मार्च को ही सारे मेम्बर्स को इंटीमेट कर दिया गया था। उसके बाद बुलेटिन-2 में भी सूचना दे दी गई और सरकार ने पहले ही बिजनेस एडवाइज़री कमेटी में भी mention किया था कि सप्ताह में दो दिन - 15th, 16th और फिर 23rd, 24th - इन चार दिनों में मिनिस्ट्रीज़ पर डिस्कशन होगा। उसी के तहत यह प्रोविज़न है। I again request all the hon. Members to cooperate.

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे: उपसभापति जी, इससे क्या फर्क पड़ता है? अगर आप रूल्स के मुताबिक हैं ..(व्यवधान)..

श्री उपसभापति : यह रूल्स के मुताबिक ही है। मुझे पुनः कहना पड़ा कि यह रूल्स के मुताबिक है।

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : रूल्स के मुताबिक, यानी आपके पास discretion है कि आप सारे रूल्स को भी बंद करके कह सकते हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not discretion; I have already clarified.

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : मुझे कोई ऑब्जेक्शन नहीं है, आपको पूरा अधिकार है and you have got full powers. Even you can suspend the entire Rules Book and you can take decision. That is a different thing. But, now, I am requesting you that it is half-done work. You take up this discussion and then you go for the Supplementary Budget.

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय एलओपी साहब, मैंने आपको बहुत clearly define किया है कि हमने न तो Business suspend किया है और न ही इसको *suo motu* take up किया है। हम बाकायदा Rules of Procedure के तहत आज यह Business ले रहे हैं। Now, we will take up the Bills for consideration and return. The Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2022, and the Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2022, will be discussed together. Shrimati Nirmala

Sitharaman to move the motions for consideration of the following Bills: the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2022, and the Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2022.

श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे : सर, कम से कम हाउस तो आपकी मर्जी से चले। ..(व्यवधान)..

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय एलओपी जी, आप कृपया सीट पर बैठकर न बोलें। प्लीज़, मैंने क्लियर कर दिया है कि रूल्स के मुताबिक ही ये सब चीज़ें हो रही हैं।

GOVERNMENT BILLS

*** (i) The Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2022**

*** (ii) The Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2022**

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir, I rise to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2021-22, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Now, Sir, I also move:

"That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 2019, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The questions were proposed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Motions moved. Motions for consideration of the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2022, and the Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2022, are now open for discussion. Shri Shaktisinh Gohil.

* Discussed together.

श्री शक्तिसिंह गोहिल (गुजरात) : उपसभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे सदन में बोलने का अवसर दिया है।

मान्यवर, मैं यहाँ Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2022, and Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2022 पर अपने विचार रखने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मान्यवर, लोकतंत्र का मज़ा यही है कि सरकार चाहे किसी के भी बहुमत से बने, पर जब उनकी जवाबदेही की बात आती है, तो सरकार की जवाबदेही सदन के प्रति, हमारी पार्लियामेंट के प्रति रहती है। हमारे संविधान के Article 114 and Article 115 में बड़े अच्छे तरीके से यह बात रखी गई है कि अगर सरकार को एक पैनी भी खर्च करनी हो या आपने बजट के बाहर अगर कुछ खर्च कर लिया है और उसकी subsidiary demand भी लेकर आनी है, तो आपको हाउस के पास आना होगा और सरकार इसके बाद ही एक भी पैनी खर्च कर सकती है।

महोदय, यह लोकतंत्र का मज़ा है। हमारे सामने कुछ चीज़ें आई हैं कि आज एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल के अंदर वित्त मंत्री जी जो डिपार्टमेंट्स लेकर आई हैं, I know my scope when I speak on the Appropriation Bill, but within my scope Table 2 and 3 में डिपार्टमेंट्स की जो बात रखी है, मैं उन्हीं की बात करूंगा। मेरी कुछ बातें हैं - वैसे तो मंत्री जी का नाम ही निर्मला जी है, जो इस बिल की मूवर हैं, पर मैं कुछ कड़वी-कड़वी बात भी कहूंगा और वह बात मंत्री जी के लिए भी होगी, सरकार के लिए भी होगी, लेकिन अवाम के लिए वह फायदे की बात होगी। मैं वही बात एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल पर रखना चाहता हूँ। महोदय, वैसे मंत्री जी, mover of the bill बहुत पढ़ी-लिखी और जे.एन.यू. पासआउट हैं, मैं वहाँ से निकले हुए कुछ अधिकारियों को भी जानता हूँ और जे.एन.यू. के लिए मेरे मन में इतना सम्मान है कि उसमें इंसानियत, secularism और मानवता बिल्कुल बरकरार रहती है। मंत्री जी ने वहाँ से शिक्षा भी ली है और उन्हें एक संस्कारी, इंटेलिजेंट, जेंटलमैन व्यक्ति भी पति के रूप में जे.एन.यू. से मिले हैं। महोदय, मैं मंत्री जी को बिल्कुल टारगेट नहीं कर रहा हूँ। मैं कह रहा हूँ कि मैं उनकी कुछ मजबूरियाँ भी समझता हूँ * वह भी एक सोचने वाली बात है।...(व्यवधान)...इसलिए मैं तो ज्यादातर सरकार की ही बात करना चाहता हूँ, जिस सरकार में ये चीज़ें हैं।

मान्यवर, क्योंकि मैंने इस डिपार्टमेंट को एक स्टेट के अन्दर as a Finance Minister भी देखा है, इसलिए जब आप हाउस में जाते हैं और उस मेम्बर को भी अगर आप technicality में उलझा देंगे तो एक सदस्य के लिए उस बजट को समझना बड़ा मुश्किल होता है। मैं उस गुजरात से आ रहा हूँ, जिस गुजरात ने गांधी और सरदार का model दिया, जिस गुजरात के Shri G.V. Mavalankar हमारी लोक सभा के प्रथम स्पीकर रहे। The first Speaker of the Lok Sabha was from Gujarat और लेजिस्लेशन की बात करें या Parliamentary Procedure and Practice की बात करें तो गुजरात ने भी एक बढ़िया मावलंकर model दिया है। मैं आज के model की बात नहीं करता हूँ, वह तो लोकतंत्र के लिए थोड़ा घातक model भी दिया है...(व्यवधान)...मैं उसकी बात नहीं करता हूँ।...(व्यवधान)...हां, दिनेश भाई, आप गुजराती हैं, आप समझ भी सकते हैं, आप कह भी सकते हैं। वे जब कह रहे हैं और मेरे गुजराती भाई हैं, तो मैं भी समझ सकता हूँ कि वहां क्या हो रहा है। गुजरात में तो हालत यह है कि रोज़ मेरे वहां से लोगों को ले जाते हैं और उन्हें मंत्री बनाना

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

पड़ता है और cadre based लोग उसकी पालकी लेकर निकलते हैं, गुजरात में वह हालत है। गुजरात में मावलंकर जी ने एक Mavalankar Training Bureau भी रखा, जहां सिर्फ सदस्यों को ही नहीं, बिल को समझने के लिए, बजट को समझने के लिए या Question Hour को समझने के लिए सिर्फ Members की ही ट्रेनिंग नहीं, बल्कि वहां मंत्रियों को भी ट्रेनिंग लेने जाने का compulsion था, यह सरकार वहां पहले प्रावधान रखती थी, लेकिन आखिरी 15 सालों में वे परम्पराएं भी ध्वंस हो गई हैं, वे मिट चुकी हैं। मैं आपके ज़रिए मंत्री जी से विनती करना चाहूंगा, क्योंकि मुझे वित्त मंत्री जी से बड़ी उम्मीद है, इसलिए मैं उम्मीद करना चाहता हूँ कि जब आपका फाइनेंस का बिज़नेस, बजट का बिज़नेस आता है तो मेम्बर के लिए आप गुजरात के मावलंकर model को जरूर देखिये। वहां पर Major Head, Sub Head, Minor Head, Detailed Head करके सारी बातों का dissection करके जब मेम्बर को व्हाइट पेपर बुक दी जाती है, जब Supplementary Demands पर बोलने के लिए कोई मेम्बर खड़ा होता है, Appropriation Bill पर हो या हमारे यहां उसे पूरक मांग भी कहते हैं, जिसे आप Supplementary Demands कहते हैं, जब फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर उसे लेकर हाउस में जाते हैं तो एक मेम्बर जो फाइनेंस में एक्सपर्ट नहीं है, वह बहुत पढ़ा-लिखा नहीं है, पर जो गांव से आया हुआ representative है, जिसके अन्दर दिमाग तेज़ है, वह भी उसे खोलकर देखेगा। वहां पर यह भी प्रावधान है कि if there is a new item, जिसे आपने आज तक बजट में implement नहीं किया है then, you will have to explain in detail the new scheme. आपकी नई योजना क्या है, जिसके लिए आप सदन में आये हैं और आपको यहां से एपूवल मिल रहा है।

जब यह सदन हमारे आर्टिकल 114 या आर्टिकल 115 के तहत Appropriation Bill को भी मंजूरी देता है या जब यहां से बजट भी पास होता है तो हमारे संविधान में इसके लिए बहुत अच्छे प्रावधान किए गए हैं और इसमें से एक सबसे अच्छा प्रावधान यह भी है, क्योंकि खुद जाकर डिपार्टमेंट का audit करना मेम्बर के लिए संभव नहीं है। क्या lacunae है, क्या होना चाहिए और क्या नहीं हुआ है, वह audit कौन करेगा? तो Comptroller and Auditor General इसका audit करता है और यह जब audit होता है, उस audit के बाद यह पता चलता है कि जो खर्च हो रहा है, वह सही हो रहा है या नहीं। मैं आज उन्हीं डिपार्टमेंट्स की बात करूंगा, जिन्हें माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी यहां लेकर आई हैं, जो Appropriation Bill-3 है, इसमें Rs. 1,58,356.10 crore के लिए प्रावधान वे लेकर आई हैं। आपका जो Appropriation Bill No. 2 है, उसमें आप Rs. 5,204 crores and odd लेकर आई हैं। आपने इसके Table 2 & 3 में Department-wise details दी हैं, जिनमें से एक डिपार्टमेंट है - Ministry of Rural Development. Comptroller and Auditor General ने इस डिपार्टमेंट का audit किया। उसकी Report No. 2 of 2021 में Para 10.1 में साफ लिखा है कि आपने जो services लीं, Tax Deduction at Source आपका कानून है, आपको वहाँ से tax at source deduct करना था। हर डिपार्टमेंट में, जहाँ तक मेरी छोटी समझ है, उसके मुताबिक वहाँ पर Financial Adviser भी रहता है। F.A. की यह जिम्मेदारी होती है कि when the payment is made, whether TDS is deducted or not. मुझे कहते हुए बड़ा दुख होता है कि इस डिपार्टमेंट ने crores of rupees का tax deduction at source नहीं किया। इससे डिपार्टमेंट को करोड़ों रुपए का नुकसान हुआ, सरकार की treasury का नुकसान हुआ। अगर वे रुपए आते, तो शायद यहाँ revenue में आपका इतना फायदा हो सकता था। इसके लिए किसी की जिम्मेदारी

fix होनी चाहिए कि ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है। जब audit ने इसको point out किया, तब आपने कुछ लोगों से तो recovery कर भी ली, पर कुछ ऐसे भी निकले, जिनके पास से आप recovery नहीं कर पाई हैं और आपके वे पैसे डूब गए।

यहाँ पर इस Appropriation Bill में 'Transfer to States' की बात हुई है। माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने कुछ ही दिन पहले कहा कि सिर्फ non-BJP Government States नहीं, और स्टेट्स को भी हमने GST के वे पैसे नहीं दिए हैं। 2019 में वित्त मंत्री जी ने YouTube पर Appropriation Bill पर अपना यहाँ दिया हुआ भाषण लगाया है, मैं उसको सुन रहा था। वित्त मंत्री जी ने बार-बार 12 दिसंबर, 2019 को इसी हाउस में यह कहा था कि GST is a trust deed, it is a matter of trust, कोई चिंता न करे, पूरा पैसा हम देंगे। क्या हुआ? आपके खुद के आँकड़ों के अनुसार यह महाराष्ट्र में ज्यादा है। आप कहती हैं कि वहाँ दिए भी ज्यादा, तो ज्यादा बाकी है, ऐसा नहीं हो सकता है। It is a question of trust. आप दीजिए। अगर आपके पास स्टेट का वह share देने के लिए पैसा नहीं है, तो इस सदन में हम बैठ रहे हैं, हमें कोई दिक्कत नहीं है, हमें कोई अधिकार नहीं है कि हम नई पार्लियामेंट बनाएँ और स्टेट के अधिकार के पैसे न दें। अगर हमारे पास पैसे नहीं हैं और हम रेलवे में किसी बुजुर्ग या किसी पत्रकार या किसी handicapped के लिए जो special concession देते हैं, चूँकि कोरोना में financial तकलीफें हैं, हमारा अर्थतंत्र घबराया हुआ है, इसलिए हम यह बंद कर देंगे, तो क्या हम करोड़ों रुपए का Vista Project रोक नहीं सकते हैं? यह हुआ। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपने GST में खुद कानून बनाया। आपने GST के कानून में कहा कि 2014-15, अगर मैं नहीं भूलता हूँ, तो उसके comparison में आपको जो 14 per cent increase के साथ पैसा मिलना चाहिए, suppose वह आपको नहीं मिलेगा, then don't worry, आपको जो नुकसान होगा, वह हम दे देंगे। आपने यह trust दिया, आपने यह कानून बनाया, आपने काउंसिल में यह कहा और उसके साथ-साथ आपने कहा कि अगर इस पैसे के लिए हमारी जरूरत होगी, तो हम कहाँ से लाएँगे, you selected the sectors, कि इनके ऊपर हम cess लगाएँगे। अगर आप कोई टैक्स लगाते हैं, तो उसमें राज्यों का हिस्सा बनता है, लेकिन जब आप सैस लगा देते हैं, तो राज्यों को ठनठन गोपाल मिलता है, उनको कुछ नहीं मिलता है और वे सारे पैसे आपके पास आ जाते हैं। उसके लिए कानून में प्रावधान हुआ कि सैस से GST का जो भी पैसा आएगा, वह Consolidated Fund में नहीं पड़ा रहेगा, उसके लिए separate account होगा और उसी separate account में से वह states को जाएगा। अगर किसी स्टेट में कोई नुकसान नहीं हुआ और उसमें balance बचता है, तो उसका formula भी कानून के तहत ही बना दिया गया है कि उस पैसे का स्टेट्स में आप किस तरह से बंटवारा करेंगे। आप ट्रस्ट की बात करते हैं, अगर यह मेरी बात होती, तब तो आप कह देते कि अपोज़िशन वाले मनगढ़ंत कहानियां कहां से लेकर आ जाते हैं, लेकिन यह मेरी बात नहीं है। यह बात एक independent constitutional audit agency, the Comptroller and Auditor General ने कही है। आपका कानून कहता है कि GST नुकसान में जो शेष आएगा, वह separate account में रहना चाहिए, लेकिन आपने उसको separate account में नहीं रखा है, आपने उसको अपने account में डाला है, जो गलत है। Comptroller and Auditor General ने इन crores of rupees को point out किया कि ऐसा क्यों होता है। अगर आपकी सरकार की मंशा गलत नहीं है, किसी और ने गलती से ऐसा कर दिया है, तो उसको punish करके आप हाउस में जवाब दीजिए कि अमुक व्यक्ति से यह गलती हुई थी।

आपने उस audit para को deny नहीं किया है, यह बात मैं जानता हूँ। मैंने स्टेट में Public Accounts Committee के Chairman के तौर पर काम किया है। अगर कहीं कोई para बन जाता है, but thereafter the Department satisfies the Audit agency कि हां, हमने यह half-margin para बना दिया है, यह हमारा reply है, इससे Audit agency satisfied होती है और वह para निकल जाता है। जहां डिपार्टमेंट यह मानता है कि हां, हमसे गलती हुई है, वहां वह admit करता है कि this is an admitted para. आपने भी यह स्वीकार किया था कि crores of rupees separate account में नहीं रखे गए थे, वे आपने अपने account में डाल दिए थे, तो इसको कोई छोटी-मोटी गलती मान कर हम ऐसे ही नज़रअंदाज़ नहीं कर सकते।

माननीय उपसभापति जी, यहां डिफेंस की बात आई। Appropriation Bill में अगर आप डिफेंस के लिए कुछ और पैसों की बात करें, तो यह पूरा हाउस 'जय जवान-जय किसान' कहेगा। जहां उनके हित की बात होगी, वहां हम आपका समर्थन करेंगे, लेकिन आज का वक्त ऐसा है, आप चाहे मानें या न मानें, आप तो यह कह देंगे - 'यहां न कोई आया है, न कोई गया है।' लेकिन आपकी पार्टी के पार्लियामेंट के एक मेम्बर कहते हैं, 'यहां से हमारे लोगों को उठा कर ले जाते हैं, वहां रोड बना ली है, वहां ब्रिज बना लिया है।' यह कहने वाले रूलिंग पार्टी के ही एक नेता हैं, जो एक स्टेट के प्रेज़िडेंट हैं और लोक सभा के सीनियर मेम्बर भी हैं। वे जब इस बात को कहते हैं, तो हम सबको चिंता होती है।

आप चाइना के साथ लड़िए, हम कंधे से कंधा मिला कर आपके साथ खड़े रहेंगे। प्रधान मंत्री जी सरहद पर होंगे, तो हम भी सरहद पर होंगे, हम जुमले नहीं देंगे। मरना होगा तो साथ मरेंगे, राष्ट्र के लिए मरेंगे, लेकिन आप ऐसी बातें क्यों करते हैं, जिससे हमारी फौज के जो जवान वहां पर लड़ रहे हैं, उनके मनोबल में दिक्कत आती हो। आप उनके लिए काम कीजिए।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके ज़रिए माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से गुज़ारिश करना चाहूंगा कि आप 2019 की CAG की Report No.16 के Chapter-II को पढ़िए, जिसमें लिखा है, 'Provisioning, procurement and issue of high altitude clothing, equipment, ration and housing.' CAG Audit report के इस चैप्टर को आप ज़रूर पढ़िये कि उस जवान को कितनी ज्यादा दिक्कतें आती हैं। उसके sleeping bag की क्वालिटी ठीक नहीं है, जिसमें उस जवान को minus 20 degrees temperature में जाकर सोना है, उस जवान के जूतों की date expire हो गई है और ये सब बातें CAG की audit team वहां जाकर ढूंढ़ कर बताती है कि ये चीज़ें ठीक नहीं हैं। आपने उस जवान के लिए scientific way में राशन की quantity तय की है, लेकिन क्या हम उनको वह पूरा राशन भी नहीं पहुंचा सकते हैं? महोदय, आपके ज़रिए मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से गुज़ारिश करता हूँ कि इस बात को politically न लें, इसको humanitarian grounds पर लें, राष्ट्र के हित के नाते लें और हमारे उन जवानों के लिए आपको जो भी करना पड़े, आप करें। आपको जितना भी पैसा खर्च करना पड़े, कीजिए, लेकिन उसमें लीकेजेज़ न हों, उसमें एक्सपायरी डेट वाला मैटीरियल वहां न पहुंचे, यह आप सुनिश्चित करें, इसके लिए मैं आपसे गुज़ारिश करता हूँ।

उपसभापति महोदय, हमारे पार्लियामेंटरी प्रोसीजर्स एंड प्रेक्टिस की कुछ बहुत अच्छी चीज़ें हैं। हम कमिटीज़ में काम करते हैं, उन कमिटीज़ के अंदर पार्टी पोलिटिक्स नहीं होती है, we are above party politics. वहां इन-कैमरा हम काम करते हैं, वहां न मीडिया होता है, न लाइव

दिखाया जाता है, जिसमें कि हम कोई पार्टी की बात करें। We work as a team. मेम्बर चाहे बीजेपी से हो, चाहे यूपीए से हो, चाहे विरोधी दल से हो या सत्ताधारी दल से हो, कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ता, we work as a team. परंतु मुझे बड़े दुख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि आज जब आप एप्रोपिएशन बिल में हेल्थ डिपार्टमेन्ट, आयुष की बात लेकर आये हैं - मैं प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी का धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी अध्यक्षता में हमारी हेल्थ विभाग की स्टैंडिंग कमिटी है - जबकि उस डिपार्टमेन्ट ने आपके बजट से बाहर खर्चा किया है, उस एप्रोपिएशन बिल में उसकी सब्सिडियरी डिमांड हम मंजूर कर रहे हैं, तो हमारा भी अधिकार है और अपना अधिकार हम आपके जरिये वित्त मंत्री जी को पहुंचा कर कहना चाहते हैं कि कम से कम उस डिपार्टमेंट को कहें तो सही कि पार्लियामेंटरी कमिटी अपनी रिपोर्ट सिर्फ यहां टेबल करने के लिए नहीं बनाती है, it is the duty of the Department to go through that Committee Report and implement it. It is the duty of the Department. उस डिपार्टमेंट के मंत्री जी को मैं आज ऐसे ही नहीं कह रहा हूँ, बल्कि मैं खुद बहुत सारे डिपार्टमेंट्स का मंत्री रहा हूँ और उस दौरान विधान सभा के अंदर जब भी कोई रिपोर्ट सबमिट होती थी, तो मैं उसे देखकर उसका इम्प्लिमेंटेशन करता था। उससे बहुत ज्ञान मिलता है, क्योंकि मंत्री तो हममें से कोई बनता है, लेकिन वह महान आत्मा नहीं है, इन सभी आत्माओं के जैसी वह भी एक आत्मा है, लेकिन बहुत सारी आत्माएं इकट्ठी होकर जब ज्ञान देती हैं, तो उसे लेना चाहिए। हेल्थ कमिटी की वह रिपोर्ट, जिसे प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी ने तैयार किया है, मैं उस कमिटी के सभी सदस्यों को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि फर्स्ट वेव के बाद जो दिक्कतें आईं, that Committee called all the experts in the meeting. कमिटी ने सारे एक्सपर्ट्स को बुलाकर घंटों तक सुना और उसके बाद आठ महीने पहले अपनी रिपोर्ट में लिखा था कि सेकेंड वेव आएगी, आपके पास ऑक्सीजन की कमी नहीं है, परंतु वह ऑक्सीजन इंडस्ट्रियल ऑक्सीजन है - आप स्टोरज और ह्यूमेन हेल्थ के लिए दे सकें, ऐसी ऑक्सीजन की स्टोरेज और सिलेंडर्स पैदा करने हैं, जो कुछ हफ्तों में हो सकता है, लेकिन आप इसे आज से कीजिए। उस कमिटी ने कहा था - Don't export medicines; don't export ventilators; you may need them in our country. यदि जरूरत पड़े तो बाहर से Remdesivir जैसे इंजेक्शन मंगवाकर रखो, काफी महीने पहले उस कमिटी ने कहा था। उस कमिटी ने यह कहा था कि ICU beds की जरूरत पड़ेगी, आप ICU beds की बनाइये, उनकी व्यवस्था कीजिए, इनकी दिक्कत आएगी। वह कमिटी, जिसने 6 महीने पहले आपको रिपोर्ट दी थी, आपको उस पर अमल करना चाहिए था। मुझे दुख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि पं. राजन मिश्रा एक बहुत बड़ा नाम है, हम सबके लिए फख्र वाला नाम है। उन पं. मिश्रा जी को ऑक्सीजन की जरूरत पड़ी, ICU bed जरूरत पड़ी, वह पद्म अवार्डी दिल्ली में थे। मैंने प्रधान मंत्री जी तथा दिल्ली के मुख्य मंत्री को गुजारिश की, लेकिन हम उन्हें ICU bed नहीं दे पाये और वे चल बसे, यह हमारे लिए बड़े दर्द की बात है। उसके बाद वाराणसी में आप पंडित राजन मिश्रा के नाम पर सौ बेड्स का कोरोना हॉस्पिटल बनाते हैं। 'बूंद से बिगड़ी हौज से सुधर नहीं सकती है।' यह जो हालत हुई, अगर उस कमिटी की रिपोर्ट आपने पढ़ ली होती तो शायद पंडित राजन मिश्रा जी आज हमारे बीच होते। कई गरीब माताओं के बेटे बेड न मिलने पर, इंजेक्शन न मिलने पर और ऑक्सीजन न मिलने पर ऐसे नहीं जाते। उस कमिटी की रिपोर्ट को हम सही तरह से इम्प्लीमेंट करते। आज सुप्रीम कोर्ट के कहने के बाद, गुजरात में कोरोना से मरने वालों की figure डेढ़ लाख निकली, जबकि सरकार कह रही थी कि सिर्फ 10,000 मरे हैं। जब सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा, तब

सरकार ने स्वीकार किया कि हाँ, डेढ़ लाख लोग कोरोना से मरे। बाकायदा डॉक्यूमेंट्स दिये गये, फॉर्म दिया गया, तो सरकार को मानना पड़ा कि कोरोना की वजह से सिर्फ गुजरात में डेढ़ लाख लोगों की मृत्यु हुई है।

महोदय, मुझे कहना है कि आप हाईवेज की बात करते हैं, नेशनल हाईवेज की बात करते हैं। मैं कल ही भावनगर से आ रहा था। वह सीधा सा रास्ता है। गाँव के लोग कहते हैं कि साहब, यह रास्ता बना हुआ है, यहाँ नेशनल हाईवे बना रहे हैं, इसको चौड़ा कर दें, एक बार तो हमने अपनी जमीन दे दी है, हम कह रहे हैं कि इसमें हमारी जमीन दोबारा चली जायेगी, आप थोड़ी सी alignment change कर लीजिए। क्या हुआ? ऑफिसर्स में arrogance इतनी ज्यादा है कि उन्होंने उनकी बात ही नहीं सुनी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हाँ, कह रहे हैं कि जम्मू-कश्मीर में इसका स्कोप नहीं है। मैं उसके लिए यह बोलता हूँ कि तब आप सपोर्ट कर रहे थे। यह जो फिल्म बनी है, वह आपके काल में, जब आप सपोर्ट कर रहे थे, तब की घटना पर बनी है। उसकी बात करना चाहते हैं या क्या कहना चाहते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, वे मुझे स्कोप से बाहर ले जा रहे हैं। जब वे सपोर्ट कर रहे थे, उनका नेता गवर्नर था, तब सबसे ज्यादा पंडितों का पलायन हुआ। आप यह क्यों बोल रहे हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... बैठे-बैठे बोलना बहुत आसान है। इतिहास को तोड़ कर पेश कर लीजिए, मगर आप इतिहास बदल नहीं सकते हैं, जो इतिहास सच्चाई है, वह है।

महोदय, मैं यह कह रहा था कि हिममतनगर से गांधीनगर की ओर आते हुए गाँव के लोग ऐसे नेशनल हाईवे में फँसे हैं कि अपने हर व्यवहार में उनको इस ओर और उस ओर आना-जाना पड़ता है और टोल देना पड़ता है। रोड पूरी नहीं हुई, उनको सर्विस रोड देना आपकी जिम्मेवारी है, जो निभायी नहीं और टोल टैक्स लेना शुरू हो गया है। जब ऐसे डिपार्टमेंट्स subsidiary demands लेकर आते हैं, तब जरूर हमारी यह माँग रहती है। यह एक डिपार्टमेंट है, जो आज आपके Appropriation Bill के अन्दर है। मैं इस डिपार्टमेंट की एक ही बात करता हूँ। मैंने भी subsidy छोड़ दी। प्रधान मंत्री जी भाजपा के नहीं, पूरे देश के प्रधान मंत्री हैं। जब उन्होंने अपील की कि मित्रो, जिसके पास व्यवस्था है, वह subsidy छोड़े, क्योंकि गरीबों को gas connection देना है, तो मैंने छोड़ दी, देश के बहुत से लोगों ने, लाखों-करोड़ों लोगों ने छोड़ दी। जिस गरीब ने एक बार gas cylinder लिया, वह दूसरी बार उज्ज्वला का cylinder नहीं ले सकता है, क्योंकि उसके दाम इतने ज्यादा हैं कि यदि आप उसको free नहीं देंगे, तो उस उज्ज्वला स्कीम का क्या होगा? सिर्फ पेट्रोल पम्प के पास अपनी एक बहुत बड़ी hoarding लगायी कि 'उज्ज्वला' से धुआँ फूँकने वाली मेरी बहनों की आँखें अच्छी होंगी। क्या आपने इसका data देखा? मैंने देखा है और मैं challenge करता हूँ। जो आदमी एक बार उज्ज्वला का कनेक्शन लेता है, उसको cylinder refill करवाने के लिए जाने में दिक्कत है। अगर हमने subsidy छोड़ी, तो आप मदद कीजिए। हम कहते हैं कि जब आप वह demand लेकर आयेंगे, तो हम unanimous उसको support करेंगे। उस गरीब को, उस जरूरतमंद को free में gas का cylinder दीजिए, तभी आप उसको धुएँ से मुक्त कर सकते हैं, वरना तो यह सिर्फ publicity हो सकती है, जिसका कोई फायदा हम नहीं दे सकते हैं।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके जरिए माननीया वित्त मंत्री जी से यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि Budget, Appropriation Bill के जरिए आप जो subsidiary demands लेकर आयी हैं, उसमें मैंने आपके सारे खर्चों को देखा। पहले जिसको plan Budget and non-plan Budget

कहते थे, उसको हम capital expenditure और revenue expenditure क्यों कहते हैं? आप पैसा ऐसे खर्च कीजिए कि उससे sustainable development हो, जहाँ से रोजगार भी पैदा हो और आने वाली पीढ़ियों को भी फायदा हो। वहाँ तो नहीं होता है। हम publicity के लिए कितना भी खर्च कर लें, लेकिन हम treasurer हैं, हम जनता की treasury के treasurer हैं, हम जनता की treasury के मालिक नहीं हैं, यह हमारे पसीने की कमाई नहीं है। उस गरीब ने भी मेहनत की है, यह उससे आई हुई tax की कमाई है। हमें इसके ऊपर वैभव करने का अधिकार नहीं है, हमें इसके ऊपर मौज करने का अधिकार नहीं है।

गांधी जी गरीब के बेटे नहीं थे, वे बहुत बड़ी हवेली में पैदा हुए थे। गांधी जी की अफ्रीका में बहुत अच्छी वकालत चल रही थी। उनके पास पैसे थे, परन्तु दिल में गरीबों के लिए भाव था, तो वे सिर्फ धोती पहन कर third class के डिब्बे में जाते थे। लेकिन आज अगर कोई यह कहता है कि मैं गरीब का बेटा हूँ और अगर वह यह कहता है कि सामने जो हवाई जहाज खड़ा है, उसमें नहीं, स्पेशल हवाई जहाज से ही जाऊँगा, तो यह भावना गरीब की नहीं हो सकती है। गरीब की भावना तो वह होती है, जो गांधी जी में थी। गांधी जी एक हवेली में पैदा हुए थे, पर दिल में गरीब का भाव था, इसलिए वह धोती आ गई। यदि कोई झोंपड़ी में पैदा हुआ है और यदि उसके दिल का भाव बदल जाता है तथा वह लाखों के सूट के बिना रह नहीं सकता, तो उसे गरीब नहीं कहा जा सकता। उसमें वह भाव होना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री शक्ति सिंह गोहिल : मैंने कहां प्रधान मंत्री जी का नाम लिया? आप क्यों नाम ले रहे हैं? आप क्यों ऐसा कर रहे हैं? मैं parliamentary language में बोलता हूँ, मैं general बात कर रहा हूँ, आप उसमें प्रधान मंत्री जी को क्यों जोड़ रहे हैं? मैंने तो प्रधान मंत्री जी को कुछ नहीं कहा।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : गोहिल जी, आप चेयर को एड्रेस करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Please. ...**(Interruptions)**... कृपया, आपस में बात न करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Gohilji, please address the Chair. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please ... कृपया, आपस में बात न करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... माननीय गोहिल जी, आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड में जा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शक्ति सिंह गोहिल : आप ऐसी बात क्यों करते हैं, मुझे बड़ा दुख होता है, प्रधान मंत्री जी मेरे गुजरात के हैं। बिना वजह जोड़ देते हैं। मैं तो जनरल बात कर रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं रनिंग कमेन्ट्री का जवाब नहीं दे रहा हूँ, मैं तो अपनी लाइन पर था। मैं गांधी जी को प्यार करता हूँ, यदि इससे किसी को दिक्कत है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : गोहिल जी, आप दो मिनट में अपनी बात समाप्त कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शक्तिसिंह गोहिल : मुझे वित्त मंत्री जी से बहुत उम्मीद है, मैं उनको करीब से जानता हूँ। मैंने उनके साथ TV पर पहले बहुत डिबेट की है, इसलिए जिनसे उम्मीद है, उनसे कह रहा हूँ। उनकी limitations मैं समझ सकता हूँ, पर जहां जितना हो सकता है, वहां करने की आवश्यकता है। चाणक्य जी ने कहा था कि आपके रेवेन्यू का सोर्स कमेंडल की तरह होना चाहिए, ताकि जब डालो, तुरंत भर जाए और जब निकालने की बारी आए, तो उसे छोटी सी कटोरी में भी परोसा जा सके। आपको यदि टैक्स लेना है, तो उन बड़े मगरमच्छों से तुरंत ले लीजिए, पर गरीब को बर्खा दीजिए और जब देने की नौबत आए, तो बड़े मगरमच्छों को देने की जरूरत नहीं है। अंत में मैं फिर से कहता हूँ कि आपकी जहां शिक्षा हुई है, उसे लेकर भी मेरी बड़ी श्रद्धा है। मैंने बहुत से JNU passouts को देखा है कि they rise to the occasion, जब जरूरत पड़ती है, उनकी आत्मा आवाज़ उठाती है। मैंने गुजरात में ऐसे IAS, IPS officers देखे हैं, जो JNU passout हैं और बहुत अच्छा काम करते हैं। मनोज कुमार झा जी भी करते हैं, वे JNU passout हैं, जानकार हैं, इसीलिए तो इतना अच्छा बोलते हैं। बिहार से ज्ञान मिले तो मैं कैसे मुंह मोड़ सकता हूँ। मैं ज्यादा वक्त नहीं लूंगा, मैंने दोनों Appropriation Bills के ऊपर कुछ बातें रखी हैं। मेरा कोई निजी अटैक नहीं, पर वित्त मंत्री जी के ऊपर निजी विश्वास है। इसे positive लेकर, खासकर Comptroller and Auditor General की रिपोर्ट को हर डिपार्टमेंट देखे और उसके मंत्री देखें। इसी प्रकार से parliamentary committee की रिपोर्ट आती है, तो उसे भी हर मंत्री देखे, हर डिपार्टमेंट देखे और उसका implementation हो तथा जहां पर कोई चूक करता है, उसे punishment मिले। आप बड़े-बड़े मगरमच्छों को ज्यादा टैक्स के दायरे में लाइये और एक middle class, गरीब से, भारत सरकार की treasury मत भरिए। कोरोना ने हर बहन की रसोई के बजट को disturb किया है। मैं समझ सकता हूँ, आपको बजट बनाने में दिक्कत हुई होगी, पर आपके पास तो source था कि international market में कच्चा तेल सस्ता हो गया, आप अपना टैक्स बढ़ाकर वहां से पैसा ले सकते थे, पर गरीब के घर की रसोई बनाने वाली मेरी बहन का बजट बिगड़ा, उसे ठीक करने का वक्त नहीं था। उपसभापति महोदय, धन्यवाद।

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल (उत्तर प्रदेश): मान्यवर, मैं माननीया वित्त मंत्री जी के इस एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल के समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। अभी माननीय शक्तिसिंह गोहिल जी बोल रहे थे। उनको एक प्रदेश के अतिरिक्त और कुछ नजर ही नहीं आ रहा था। जब माननीया निर्मला सीतारमण जी ने बजट रखा, तो वह पूरे देश के लिए रखा, लेकिन उनको यह एहसास हो रहा था कि जब हम भावनगर से चलते हैं, तो भावनगर से चलने के उपरांत.... जब आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने फोर लेन्स, सिक्स लेन्स की कल्पना की, तो वह पूरे भारत के लिए की। एक बार सड़क बनने के बाद भी अगर और जमीन की आवश्यकता हुई, तो उसके बदले किसानों को जो मुआवजा दिया गया, वह चार गुना, छः गुना तक का दिया गया था। उनको इस पर ध्यान देना चाहिए था। मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह बताना चाहूँगा कि ऐसे-ऐसे स्थान, जहाँ ऊसर थे, ताल थे, जब वहाँ से भी फोर लेन्स, सिक्स लेन्स गुजरीं, तो माननीय प्रधान मंत्री, श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की नीतियों के कारण ऐसी जगहों पर, जहाँ पर लोग खेती भी करने नहीं जाते थे, वहाँ उनकी जमीन का उन्हें जो पैसा मिला, उससे वे करोड़पति तक बन गए। वास्तव में मुझे लगता है कि हमें इस बात पर जरूर विचार करना चाहिए कि हम जो सदन में बैठे हुए हैं, हमें सदन में बैठ करके पक्ष और

विपक्ष की न सोच करके देश के बारे में सोचें। माननीया निर्मला जी ने जो बजट रखा, वह पूरे देश के लिए रखा, विपक्ष के लिए केवल आलोचना करने के लिए नहीं रखा था।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : कृपया आप सीट पर बैठ कर न बोलें। सुष्मिता जी, कृपया आप बैठ कर न बोलें।

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : सर, यह उनकी आदत है, इसलिए हम सब लोग मानते हैं कि वे बोलेंगी ही।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : कृपया आप भी चेयर को address करें।

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : मान्यवर, मैं यह जरूर कहना चाहूंगा कि यही वह सदन है, जिस सदन में एक बार एक बिल आया था, जो जम्मू और कश्मीर के संदर्भ में था। भारत के यशस्वी गृह मंत्री, अमित शाह जी ने जम्मू और कश्मीर के संदर्भ में यह रखा था कि वहाँ पर Backward classes, Scheduled Castes और Scheduled Tribes को आरक्षण तक नहीं दिया जाता है। उधर के लोगों ने भी इसका मेज़ थपथपा कर स्वागत किया था, लेकिन माननीय अमित शाह जी द्वारा उस बिल को रखने के पहले कभी भी इस पर विचार नहीं किया गया था कि जम्मू और कश्मीर में Backwards, Scheduled Castes और Scheduled Tribes को आरक्षण दिया जाना चाहिए। पहले इस संबंध में कभी भी सोचा नहीं गया था। हाँ, यह जरूर हुआ कि जब वहीं 35A और 370 की बात आई, तो यही सदन गवाह है कि *...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will examine it. It will be examined. ...(*Interruptions*).. .

सुश्री दोला सेन (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सर, इसको expunge कीजिए।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It will be examined. I have already told. ...(*Interruptions*).. . Please. I have already told you. It will be examined. ...(*Interruptions*).. . Please. ...(*Interruptions*).. .

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : दोला जी, आपने देखा था, सुष्मिता जी ने शायद उस समय देखा नहीं था। आपने भी वह दृश्य देखा था, क्योंकि उस समय आप यहाँ पर थीं।

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय शिव प्रताप शुक्ल जी...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : मुझे लगता है कि आप उस दृश्य के संदर्भ में सोच सकती हैं कि नहीं - मैंने सही कहा है, गलत नहीं कहा है। मैं कोई गलत तथ्य प्रस्तुत नहीं कर रहा हूँ।

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : मैं कोई गलत तथ्य प्रस्तुत नहीं कर रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... श्रीमान, अब मैं data wise statistics में नहीं जाऊँगा। ...(व्यवधान)... इन्होंने भी स्वयं निर्मला जी के एक भी बजट को data wise नहीं किया है, सब vague किया है। मैं माननीय शक्तिसिंह जी की बाहर बहुत इज्जत तो करता ही हूँ, अंदर भी इज्जत करता हूँ और मैं यह मानकर चलता हूँ। जब ये खड़े हुए, तब मुझे लग रहा था कि आज कुछ अच्छे-अच्छे प्वाइंट्स मिल जाएंगे, मुझे भी बोलने को मिल जाएगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is he yielding? Under which rule?

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, under Rule 261.

श्री उपसभापति : डा. सांतनु सेन जी, आप बोलिए।

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, if the Chairman is of opinion that a word or words has or have been used in debate which is or are defamatory or indecent or unparliamentary or undignified, he may in his discretion, order that such word or words be expunged from the proceedings of the Council.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Sen, I have seen it. मेरी रिक्वेस्ट होगी कि जब भी चेयर से कोई बात कही जाती है, तो उसे ध्यान से सुनें। I have already told that it will be examined. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*.. . Mr. John Brittas, do not disturb the House. Please, let the discussion continue. सीट पर बैठकर बोलने से वैसे भी आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है। ...(व्यवधान)... Please, not allowed.

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : मान्यवर, इन लोगों के बोलने पर मुझे एक शेर याद आता है। ...(व्यवधान)... हमारी स्थिति वह है, जो मैं कहने जा रहा हूँ -

*"जो होता है वो होने दो, यह पौरुषहीन कथन है।
हम जो चाहेंगे वह होगा, इन शब्दों में ही जीवन है।"*

हम जो चाहेंगे, वह होगा का मतलब यह है कि हम देश का हित चाहते हैं। यह संघ-राज्य है, हम प्रदेश का हित भी चाहते हैं। प्रदेश और केन्द्र, दोनों मिलकर साथ-साथ काम करें, तो संघ बनता है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : मुझे मालूम है कि हम लोगों का कार्य, जो केन्द्र सरकार कर रही है, हम लोगों का बोलना, जो हम केन्द्र के प्रश्नों को रख रहे हैं, हम लोगों की आवाज, जो हम माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी और माननीया वित्त मंत्री जी की बात कह रहे हैं, यह कहीं न कहीं आप सभी लोगों को पीड़ित कर रहा है कि हमारी बात, जो जबर्दस्ती की है, वह क्यों नहीं होती है? ...(व्यवधान)... मैं शक्तिसिंह जी की बात का जवाब देता हूँ। शक्तिसिंह जी ने यहाँ इस बात को कहा था कि जीएसटी को डिस्ट्रीब्यूट क्यों नहीं किया जाता है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शक्तिसिंह गोहिल : क्या?

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : माननीय शक्तिसिंह जी जीएसटी के संदर्भ में आपने कहा था ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़ सीट पर बैठकर न बोलें। ...(व्यवधान)... आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : मैं आदरणीय तत्कालीन वित्त मंत्री स्वर्गीय अरुण जेटली जी के साथ उनका एमओएस था। मुझे वह समय भी याद है, जब उन्होंने यह proposal रखा था कि अगर सभी वित्त मंत्री, सभी प्रदेश इस बात से सहमत हैं, तो पेट्रोल और डीज़ल को भी जीएसटी के दायरे में लाया जाए। लेकिन मुझे इस बात को कहते हुए दुख हो रहा है कि उस समय भी कांग्रेस शासित प्रदेशों के लोगों और केरल के लोगों ने इसका घनघोर विरोध किया, जिसका परिणाम यह था कि उस समय श्री अरुण जेटली जी के द्वारा रखा गया वह प्रस्ताव इस नाते ही पारित नहीं हो पाया था और आज भी पेट्रोल और डीज़ल जीएसटी के दायरे में नहीं आ पाए हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : मैं जो बोल रहा हूँ, वह एकदम सत्य बोल रहा हूँ। आप जाकर जीएसटी काउंसिल की उस मीटिंग को देखिए। ऐसा नहीं है कि मैं असत्य बोल रहा हूँ। आपके वित्त मंत्री ने सबसे पहले इसका विरोध किया था। पश्चिमी बंगाल के वित्त मंत्री ने विरोध किया था। ...(व्यवधान)... उसी समय कांग्रेस की राजस्थान की सरकार बनी थी, छत्तीसगढ़ की सरकार बनी थी, उन्होंने भी इस बात का विरोध किया था। ...(व्यवधान)... मान्यवर, केवल उस मीटिंग में नहीं, बल्कि उस मीटिंग के पहले भी एक स्थान पर बैठकर इन लोगों ने यह निर्णय लिया था कि ये उसका विरोध करेंगे। ...(व्यवधान)...सदन केवल विरोध का विषय नहीं होता है। ...(व्यवधान)...सदन का विषय यह होता है कि अगर आदरणीया निर्मला जी ने कुछ अच्छी बात कही है, तो उस अच्छी बात का समर्थन किया जाए। अगर उन्होंने कोई ऐसी बात कही है, जिससे देश का अहित होता है, तो आपको छूट है कि आप पूरे तौर पर कहिए कि यह गलत है। लेकिन जब वे सब बातें सही ही कहेंगी, तो कम से कम आपको आदर के साथ उस भाव को लेना चाहिए

था, लेकिन आपने ऐसा नहीं किया। आपने कहा कि आप इन-इन विभागों के मंत्री थे, भगवान करे आप और कई विभागों के मंत्री रहें, अगर कभी मौका मिलेगा तो आप और भी विभागों के मंत्री बन जाइएगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह लोकतंत्र है, इस लोकतंत्र में किसी को भी कुछ भी बनने का अधिकार है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अच्छा, आप लोग ऐसी बात करते हैं, आप ज़रा यह सोचिए कि हमारे पास सभी लोग चले आ रहे हैं, अगर कल वे भी हमारे पास चले आएँ, तो फिर कौन सी बड़ी बात हो जाएगी? वे भी हमारे हो जाएँगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय शुक्ल जी, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**...आप सभी से आग्रह है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...माननीय शुक्ल जी, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**...माननीय जॉन ब्रिटास, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : मैं माननीय शक्तिसिंह जी के भाषण पर ही बोल रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप यह देखिए कि अभी बजट आएगा और आप यह देखिए कि ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. अमी याज़िक (गुजरात): आप तैयारी करके नहीं आए हैं क्या? ...**(व्यवधान)**..

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : नहीं-नहीं, तैयारी करके आने की कोई बात नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मान्यवर, यहाँ बजट भी आया और जम्मू-कश्मीर का भी बजट आया। अब आप देखिए कि लोग क्या सोचते हैं। जम्मू-कश्मीर का बजट आने से पहले समाचार-पत्रों ने बहुत ही मोटे हेडिंग में लिखा कि निर्मला सीतारमण जी 1 लाख, 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये तक का बजट पेश कर सकती हैं, इससे जम्मू-कश्मीर पूरा सुधर जाएगा। मुझे इस बात का गर्व है कि अन्य बजट तो छोड़ दीजिए, अकेले जम्मू-कश्मीर के बजट को जब आदरणीया निर्मला जी ने पेश किया था, तो जहाँ पहले 1 लाख, 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये की बात हो रही थी और यह कहा जा रहा था कि इससे जम्मू-कश्मीर सुधर जाएगा, वहाँ इन्होंने 1 लाख, 42 हजार करोड़ रुपये का बजट पेश किया। यह भारत सरकार है और यह भारत सरकार जब सबके हित के संदर्भ में बात करती है, तो स्वाभाविक रूप से यह बात सामने आती है कि किसी राज्य में कम न हो जाए, हर राज्य को उसका समान अधिकार मिले। संघ-राज्य की कल्पना के अनुसार ऐसा कोई भी राज्य न रहे, जिसको हम न दे सकें।

मान्यवर, अभी पेयजल की बात आई। 'हर घर नल' योजना के द्वारा हर घर में नल के द्वारा जल उपलब्ध कराने की बात की गई है। यह आपके बजट का ही परिणाम है कि आज की स्थिति में ...**(व्यवधान)**...अगर बजट न रहे, तो क्या आप नल ले लेंगी? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सैयद नासिर हुसैन (कर्नाटक): आप नल पर नहीं, बिल पर बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : मैं बिल पर ही बोल रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...बिल से ही नल उपजा है। वे गरीब, जिनको आपने कभी पीने का पानी नहीं दिया था -- जब यहाँ जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय पर चर्चा हो रही थी, तो आपके ही सदस्यों ने यह कहा कि हम जाकर तालाब से पानी पीते थे -- आज नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की सरकार ने उनके घरों में जाकर नल लगवा दिया और वे अब नल का पानी पी

रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)... आप अपनी बात को सोचें कि आप लोगों ने भारत को किस स्थिति में खड़ा कर दिया था। आज श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की सरकार भारत को जिस स्थिति में ले गई है, इसकी चर्चा देश में ही नहीं, बल्कि विदेश में भी होती है, तो भारत का प्रधान मंत्री पूरे विश्व में लोकप्रियता के शिखर पर पहले नम्बर पर आता है। आप नरेन्द्र मोदी जी से जलते हैं, लेकिन कम से कम भारत की इज्जत करना सीखिए। अगर नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की लोकप्रियता शिखर पर आती है, तो भारत की लोकप्रियता भी शिखर पर आती है, लेकिन आपको न नरेन्द्र मोदी जी समझ में आएंगे, न भारत समझ में आएगा और न कश्मीर समझ में आएगा। आपको सिर्फ यह समझ में आएगा कि कैसे हम विरोध करें!...(व्यवधान)... इस नाते निश्चित रूप से मुझे यह लगता है कि आप लोगों को इस पर विचार करना चाहिए कि आज जिस Appropriation Bill पर बात हो रही है, जो आदरणीया निर्मला जी ने प्रस्तुत किया है, आपको उसकी सराहना करनी चाहिए थी...(व्यवधान)... और सराहना करते हुए कहना चाहिए था कि आज उन्होंने जिस प्रकार से सड़कों को पुनर्जीवित किया, हर घर में नल पहुंचाया, शिक्षा पर बजट बढ़ाया, सांस्कृतिक विरासत को बढ़ाने का काम किया और जिस प्रकार से आदरणीया निर्मला सीतारमण जी ने पहले प्रदेश सरकारों से बातचीत करके, अन्य प्रतिनिधियों से बात करके इस बजट को रखा था, ...(व्यवधान)... यह बिल ही है। जब वे बोल रहे थे, तब किसी ने नहीं कहा कि बिल पर बोलिए, लेकिन जब हम बोल रहे हैं, तब आपको लग रहा है कि हम बिल पर नहीं बोल रहे हैं। अगर हम बिल पर नहीं बोल रहे हैं, तो किस पर बोल रहे हैं!...(व्यवधान)...

मान्यवर, हमने सांस्कृतिक विरासत को मज़बूत किया। हम पूरे तौर पर देश को आधुनिक भारत बनाने की तरफ अग्रसर हैं, इस नाते आज स्थिति यह है कि माननीया निर्मला सीतारमण जी ने एक ऐसा बजट पेश किया था, जिस बजट की पूरे उद्योग जगत ने सराहना की, न्यूजपेपर्स ने सराहना की और अर्थशास्त्रियों ने भी सराहना की। उन्होंने यह कहा कि इस बजट ने यह सिद्ध कर दिया है कि अब भारत की आर्थिक स्थिति और अधिक मज़बूत होगी। उन्होंने यह कहा कि इस बजट ने यह सिद्ध कर दिया कि भारत अब अपने संसाधनों के द्वारा पूरे विश्व में एक नई ऊर्जा के साथ खड़ा होगा। उसी का परिणाम था कि माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी - जो बात मैंने आपसे कही...(व्यवधान)... वही सुना है कि नम्बर एक पर आए हैं, जो आप लोगों को पच नहीं रहा है।

श्री उपसभापति : कृपया आपस में बात न करें।

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : जो आप लोगों को पच नहीं रहा है।...(व्यवधान)... आप पहले पचाना सीखिए। आप जनता के दिए गए mandate को सुनिए। उसने तो आपको ऐसी स्थिति में लाकर खड़ा कर दिया है कि आप बोलने लायक भी नहीं रह गए हैं, बात करने लायक भी नहीं रह गए हैं।...(व्यवधान)... हां, आज हमारा वक्त है तो वक्त चलने दीजिए। यह मेरा वक्त नहीं है, यह भारत का वक्त है। हमारा वक्त, भारत की जनता का वक्त है, हम भारत की जनता की तरफ से उसके प्रतिनिधि के रूप में बोल रहे हैं। उसने आज संसद में आपको विपक्ष में रखा है और हमें पक्ष में रखा है। हम पक्ष में रहते हुए निश्चित रूप से उसके हित की बात करेंगे, लेकिन आप अपना हित चाहते हैं।...(व्यवधान)... मैं उसी पर बोल रहा हूँ, अगर आपको समझ में नहीं आ रहा है तो जाइए और सीखकर आइए। जब आप सीखकर आएंगे, तब आपको भी यह बात पता चलेगी कि जो मैंने बोला

है, वह आदरणीया निर्मला सीतारमण जी द्वारा लाए गए बिल पर ही बोला है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, आपस में बात न करें। आप सबकी कोई बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो माननीय सदस्य बैठकर आपस में बात कर रहे हैं, वह बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है, आप बेकार में अपने गले को तकलीफ दे रहे हैं। शिव प्रताप शुक्ल जी को बोलने दीजिए।

3.00 P.M.

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : श्रीमन्, माननीय मंत्री जी ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो भी कहते हैं, सच कहते हैं, सच के सिवा कुछ नहीं कहते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: प्लीज़...प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल : श्रीमन्, मैं निश्चित रूप से इस बात को कह सकता हूँ कि शक्तिसिंह गोहिल जी ने इस एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल पर अपना विषय रखा था। माननीया निर्मला सीतारमण जी ने जो विषय रखा, आगे भी वे इस पर अपना पूरा विषय रखेंगी। मैं इस बात को कह सकता हूँ कि निश्चित रूप से यह बजट भारत के हित का बजट है, देश की जनता के हित का बजट है, देश को आगे ले जाने वाला बजट है, देश में एक नई ऊर्जा देने वाला बजट है और प्रधान मंत्री जी की नीतियों के अनुरूप यह बजट है। इस नाते मैं इस एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल पर माननीया निर्मला जी के द्वारा रखे गए प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति : डा. सांतनु सेन।

DR. SANTANU SEN : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, when in the last ten days, the price of kerosene has become sky high and the poor are crying, I do stand here on behalf of the third largest party of this House, the pro-people party, All India Trinamool Congress, led by Madam Mamata Banerjee, who has already done a historic hat-trick a few months back and became the third time Chief Minister in West Bengal. The Central Government is seeking approval for gross additional expenditure of more than Rs.1.58 lakh crore for 2021-22. As our party believes in real facts and figures, I would like to draw the kind attention of the learned Minister to specific points. Firstly, on infrastructure, the Central Government has sought nearly Rs.5,000 crore for capital injection in the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure, Development and Recapitalisation of public sector general insurance companies. We all know that this NBFID is a Government set up and it was set up as a corporate body with an authorised share capital of Rs. 1 lakh crore. There are huge resources that are going

to be mobilised and yet there is no external oversight, external surveillance or external monitoring. Moreover, it is still unclear as to why such an entity has been created when, in the past, similar such entities have miserably failed.

Sir, what has the Government learnt from its previous experiences or failures? Are these being considered before such a huge capital injection? I would say that India's biggest problem is the lack of a deep and liquid corporate bond market. So, unless the country develops a broad-based liquid bond market, it is difficult to be able to get to the pool of domestic savings into infrastructure.

Sir, so far as the insurance sector is concerned, New India Assurance Company, National Insurance Company Limited, United India Insurance Company Limited and Oriental Insurance Company Limited are the four PSUs in the general insurance sector. Out of these four PSUs, three of them have been suffering losses over the past few years. So far as the National Insurance Company Limited is concerned, the loss in the last year, 2020-21, is nearly Rs.2,500 crore. So far as the Oriental Insurance Company Limited is concerned, it is nearly Rs. 1,500 crore. In the Monsoon Session of Parliament in 2021, the Government introduced and passed a Bill, the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, which has allowed for the privatisation of the public sector insurance companies. There are reports that the Government will sell the United India Insurance Company Limited, which could be followed by the privatisation of one or more of the remaining three. This move will impact crores of retail customers and thousands of persons employed by these organisations.

Sir, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs had a meeting in July, 2021; there was a proposal which was passed to say that a portion of the Government's holding in LIC will also be sold out.

Sir, we all know that policyholder's money for policyholder's welfare was the basic ethics and basic policy of the LIC, which is going to be jeopardised miserably. Since 1956 when the LIC Act was enacted, we all know that because of certain reasons the assets of LIC were undervalued, but now when a portion is going to be opened in the market, there is a big chance of corruption as far as asset values are concerned. It will finally be the shareholders benefit and the policy holder's loss.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR) *in the Chair.*]

The actual fact is, selling family silver has become the Government's mainstay nowadays. They are selling out the profitable PSUs. They are shouting *Bharat Mata Ki Jai* and they are selling each and every ornament of *Bharat Mata*. That is the most

unfortunate part of this Government. As far as health is concerned, it is close to my heart because I am a health care personnel, I am a Covid warrior and fortunately I happen to be the past National President of the Indian Medical Association. Let me tell you a fact, the budgetary allocation for India is even much less if you compare the same with some small neighbouring countries. This is very unfortunate. Do you know the quantum of allocation increase for health for 2022-23? It is 0.008 per cent. Yes, it is. The budgetary allocation is so miserable. The health care sector has been at the cusp of recovery from the pandemic and the Government's apathy, then as well, when thousands died for lack of resources. We have seen how miserable the situation was during this Covid pandemic. We had seen the dead bodies which were floating in the river. We had seen the international journal, LANCET, many of the countries were criticising our Covid handling policy. Our vaccination policy was being miserably criticised. But unfortunately, we didn't take any lesson from this. Also, in the Supplementary Demands for Grants, the Ministry has asked for a mere Rs. 500 crores in addition to its initial demand. This shows the inadequacy of the funds being allocated during a pandemic that has caused lakhs of deaths in the country. Not only is there sub-par allocation, but also poor utilization. Let me cite some examples. Allocation in 2021-22 was seven per cent less than the Actual Expenditure for 2020-21. Importantly, the transfer to States for Covid-19 vaccination has fallen from Rs. 39,000 crores in 2021-22's Revised Estimates to Rs. 5000 crores in 2022-23 Budget Estimates. This is a huge decrease. This Government has never believed in cooperative federalism. That is the main problem. We have seen faulty vaccination policy. On International Yoga Day and, on our Prime Minister's birthday, there was a sharp rise in vaccination. On the next day, there was a sharp fall in the vaccination. It is absolutely shameful. The problem is, this Government is full of egos. My suggestion is, why don't you keep apart your ego and why don't you follow the golden health policy of Bengal, free health for all? *Swasthya Sathi Card* empowers women to get her parents treated by *Swasthya Sathi Card*. This is a unique policy in the universe. Why does our Government not follow the policy of Bengal? I don't know. It is because they are fully egoistic. As far as MGNREGA is concerned, the Government has run out of money to fund MGNREGA project. Actually, the allocation for this year saw a decrease of 25 per cent from the Revised Estimate of 2021-22 and a decrease of 34 per cent from the actual expenditure of 2020-21. In the Supplementary Demands for Grants, the Ministry has requested additional funds of Rs. 9,668 crores. Why this massive discrepancy? The reason is, a few years back, our learned Prime Minister said that in this project they do nothing but are digging ditches. He is possessing this idea about the MGNREGA policy and he ridiculed nearly 80 million people in his

speech in 2015. We all remember it. What are we doing in Bengal? Let me cite an example. In our party manifesto, during 2021 Assembly Elections, our Respected Chief Minister said that the wages have been doubled and 100 days guarantee has been made to 200 days guarantee. It is so much important a project in our State of West Bengal and is so much neglected a project in the rest of the country.

As far as food subsidy is concerned, the problem actually is that the Government wanted to dismantle everything. If you look at the Global Hunger Index, we are ranked at 101 out of 116 countries! Over 4 out of 5 households in the country saw a fall in income and 4.5 crore Indians fall into extreme poverty in 2020! And, as per Oxfam's 'Inequality Kills' Report, inequality and poverty lead to death of 21,000 per day! Moreover, in so far as the World Bank Report is concerned, malnutrition is a key issue and India is in the worst situation when compared to other BRICS Member countries. If you look at the Report of FAO of the UN, it says that India can never reach zero hunger by 2030 if one looks at the way the declining is going on. Despite this abysmal performance in ensuring provision of basic things, the food subsidy bill has fallen from Rs. 2,86,469 crores to 2,06,831 crores in 2022-23. So far as fertilizer subsidy is concerned, in the fiscal year 2020-21, the Government spent Rs. 1,28,000 crores. In the Union Budget of 2021-22, it was reduced to Rs. 79,000 crores. Due to agrarian crisis, this was revised to RS. 1,40,000 crores and, now, it has been reduced by 25 per cent, thereby it has come down to Rs. 1.05 lakh crores.

Sir, the BJP Government had promised to double the farmers' income. Our Government, in our State of West Bengal, led by our Madam promised in 2011 that we will double the income and, now, it has become triple. This puts the target income in 2022 at Rs. 21,146. But, unfortunately, it is just half now. Sir, India and the entire world has witnessed the largest farmers' agitation. We have seen farmers committing suicide. We have seen farmers getting run over by the Minister's car and that Minister's son was bailed out in the State during elections to win a State! The entire country is a witness to it.

Sir, so far as women and children are concerned, the Budget allocation for Mission Shakti was increased by just 2.3 per cent, at a time when crimes against women were as high as nearly 4 lakh in a single year! Sir, just come to the State of West Bengal, the entire budgetary allocation for Beti-Bachao-Beti-Padhao is less than a State project like Kanyashree which was awarded internationally at Hague City of Netherlands and our hon. Chief Minister took that award.

Sir, so far as education is concerned, as we have seen, there are a lot of controversies in the National Education Policy 2020, which are yet to be clarified. We

have seen the Budget allocation made last year for education saw a 6 per cent decrease when compared to allocation made in 2020-21. This is huge, considering the fact that education is the bedrock of development and future growth. The Ministry has also made an additional demand of Rs. 4 lakh crores. This is shocking considering the impact of COVID-induced lockdown had on education where millions of students suffered and many had to quit studies. But, look at Bengal, our UN Award for Kanyashree Scheme has brought 67 lakh girls to 18,000 schools and colleges. And, it is absolutely a laudable step taken by our Madam.

Sir, I conclude by saying that I had raised many major issues like health, education, food subsidy, agriculture, women and child, etc. But, at the same time, I also know this Government has no answers. I do believe that the people, at large, of this country are already making up their mind to give a befitting reply to this Government in the coming days. Thank you.

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am speaking on the Appropriation Bill, for the funds spent in the year 2019. There have been three Budgets in between and this is the third Budget presented recently. I do not know why this Government has delayed in getting the sanction of this House. For three years, they have waited. I have seen their Budgets since 2014. This is the ninth Budget presented by this Government. In every Budget, they say that, next year, India is going to grow like anything. Even the Finance Minister, had said two, three years back that there will be a five trillion dollar economy. But, recently, they have resorted to monetisation. When they are expecting five trillion economy, and when they resort to monetisation, I think we can understand the controversy. What they speak in the Budget is not what is happening in the country. It shows only that. Every year, if there is election close by, this Government promises many things. In 2019, in the same House, the Government had promised that M.S. Swaminathan Committee Report will be implemented in full, which means 150 per cent of the cost of production will be paid to the farmers. Then, what happened was, they brought in three Bills. When the agriculturists or the farmers started agitating against those Bills, they withdrew the Bill. But they still ask, "What about the Minimum Support Price"? This Government had promised in this House that they will give 150 per cent of the cost of production. But, even now, this Government is not willing to tell these farmers who have stopped their agitation, whether they will pay 150 per cent, as promised by them in this House. Then, they thought that since elections are coming in 2019, so, they will make some promise to seek votes. Likewise, everything is going on. There is no Government running in this country, Sir. I can say that there is Amazon which is

running the country. Amazon is running the country. They want to sell everything. They want to sell LIC which has given so much of money to the Government. I think LIC is the one organisation which has given several lakhs of crores of rupees for building of infrastructure in this country. With an investment of merely Rs.5 crores by the Government of India, it has given a dividend of more than Rs.17,000 crores, apart from spending money on the Five Year Plans every time. Now, there is no plan. So, the question of Plan Expenditure, Non-Plan Expenditure does not arise. There is no Planning Commission; then, what is the meaning of having a Plan Expenditure and Non-Plan Expenditure? Everything is an expenditure. Why should we spend this appropriation, nearly one lakh crores of Railways, and, particularly, Defence services. My question is this. Last year, this Government had chosen to corporatize defence production units which were run earlier by the Government itself. Now, they have allocated this much of amount. I do not know what is happening in this country. They had passed a Bill to corporatize defence production units which were run by the Government. Defence production units, I can compare it with cooking in a house. If we have four members in a house, we will cook for four members. If we have two guests, we will cook for six people. If we see two people going out, we will cook only for two. But, in a hotel, it is not possible. In a hotel, they have to cook for 100 people, whether they come or not. So, a Government Department will produce weapons or dress materials or tanks, whatever is required for the Defence purpose. Whereas if you corporatize it, the next stage is, privatisation. They want to sell the Defence units to somebody. So, now, what they are planning is to see that there is no liability on the Defence sector, so that the buyer will come and buy it. Who is going to buy, I do not know. *..(Interruptions)..* Amazon!

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Please, please.

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN: So, this is the 9th Budget by this Government since 2014. *...(Interruptions)...*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): No, Mr. John, please. *...(Interruptions)...* Go to your seat, please. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN: There is no growth as projected in any of these nine Budgets. No promises were kept up as promised in any of these nine Budgets. So, everything is on paper. We believe that something will happen. But nothing has happened. Every State is weeping for money. After the GST, for Tamil Nadu -- even

our Member has spoken earlier last week that so much of money is due for the State of Tamil Nadu -- no money is coming out. Money should be paid to the State before they present their Budget. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is okay. The Finance Minister ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... You address the Chair, please.

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN: Sir, a promise was made during GST itself that due share will be given to the States, and, for five years, there will be a compensation of any revenue loss. The 'five years' is reaching, and I think from next year, that also will go away. So, we have to rely on the Union Government for our Budget, and the Union Government is not giving money. They are presenting the Appropriation Bill, and in every Budget, they are making many promises, but nothing is happening. So, the entire exercise of Appropriation or the presentation of Budget and the promises made by the Government is a futile exercise to satisfy the people, to satisfy the media, to tell something to the media but which has not actually happened. The Ninth Budget is also going to be a failure. Our Finance Minister has already given a hint in a statement that she made that because of Ukrainian war, there is a going to be a fall in the economy of India. Of course, we can accept that if there is fall in the international economy. We are seeing gold prices going up and down. All these things are there. But still the promises made by the Finance Minister in this House are not kept. The States are suffering. All the States are suffering. They want to take away the powers of the States. If we say that the States are suffering, they will say, 'Then there need not be a State.' 'India is one country and everything is single. No, there need not be a State Government.' That will be the decision of this Government.

So, I have nothing to praise and I know that even the BJP Member who spoke earlier had nothing to praise except to attack the Congress Member, Shaktiji. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I want to thank you for providing me this opportunity to speak on the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2021-22 and excess Demands for Grants for the year 2018-19. The Government has presented the third Supplementary Grants for the Financial Year, 2021-22. The Supplementary Grants seek approval for gross additional expenditure of more than Rs. 1.58 lakh crore. Of this, the net cash outgo aggregates to more than Rs. 1.07 lakh crore. The additional spending makes important allocation towards

fertilizer subsidy, servicing loans taken from the National Small Savings Fund for *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*, amongst others.

Sir, we have a few suggestions. The Department of Fertilizers has been allocated more than Rs. 15,000 lakh crore to meet the demand and maintain proper supply of fertilizers. A total of Rs. 14,902 crore has been allocated for payment towards indigenous urea subsidy and import of urea. It has been noticed that the fertilizer subsidy has gone down this year as compared to 2021-22. Thus, there is need for increased fertilizer subsidy for the next year as well. The Government has taken much needed steps in the last few years to reduce expenditure incurred on import of fertilizers including revival of public sector enterprises for setting up gas-based ammonia-urea plants and facilitate investment in the urea sector. However, we still import fertilizers and raw material for domestic production.

Thus, the international market affects the price and supply of fertilizers in the country. The recent Russia-Ukraine war has disrupted the international supply market in many ways. Russia is a leading supplier of fertilizers and related raw materials. It is also the largest exporter of Urea, NPKs, Ammonia, UAN and Ammonium Nitrate and the third largest Potash exporter. Due to such disruptions, the fertilizer prices in the international market have skyrocketed. We are the world's largest Urea importer and we also import a significant amount of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers. Such disruptions have also affected the domestic availability of fertilizers. Black marketing of fertilizers like DAP and MAP has also increased, which are being sold at exorbitant prices. In such circumstances, I would request urgent intervention by the Central Government. In the short-term, Government must increase local production of Urea on a mission mode. We should make sure that alternative supply arrangements are made. The Government should also make allocation to provide additional subsidy if prices remain at the current levels. We should make arrangements to control black marketing of fertilizers and also ensure adequate availability of fertilizers for all farmers in the country. In the long term, I would suggest that the Government should look towards self-sufficiency in fertilizers and, at the same, explore ways to move away from chemical fertilizer-based farming.

Sir, my next point is about the GST Compensation Fund. The Government has allocated a sum of Rs. 8,141.76 crore for meeting expenditure on additional transfer to GST Compensation Fund. Under the GST Compensation Scheme, States were guaranteed compensation at the compounded rate of 14 per cent from the base year 2015-16 for losses arising due to the implementation of the taxation regime for the first five years, which would come to an end in June, 2022. However, the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns have severely affected the economic health of

all the States. The States' revenues have gone down drastically while there has been increased spending in the last two years to protect the lives and livelihoods of people through various welfare schemes. Further, it was initially thought that the tax regime would stabilize in the first five years. However, reforms in the GST regime are still in transition.

Sir, Andhra Pradesh has also been affected by the cyclical slowdown and Covid-19. The State was expected to receive Rs. 34,833 crore as its share in Central taxes in 2019-20. However, it received just Rs. 28,242 crore. Further, the State had a fall in its own revenue. The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic had a damaging impact on the State's finances as well. The State lost Rs. 7,780 crore on account of the State's share in Central taxes and Rs. 7,000 crore on account of depletion of the State's own resources. Additionally, Andhra Pradesh also had to incur Covid-related expenditure to the tune of Rs. 8,000 crore. If the losses on account of the total economic impact on the citizens of the States were to be taken into consideration, they would run into thousands of crores. Owing to such reasons and also to provide necessary financial comfort to the State, I would request the Finance Minister to extend the GST Compensation Scheme for a further period of five years for our State.

Sir, coming to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the Government had sought approval for an additional expenditure of Rs. 30,169 crore for meeting targeted Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme, houses for Economically Weaker Sections/ Lower Income Group category under the *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana* and settle the loan taken by Building Materials and Technology Promotion Council from the National Small Savings Fund. The allocation has been rightly made under both the schemes and we appreciate such allocations.

Coming to the issues of Andhra Pradesh, we certainly want the Government to focus on infrastructure projects. As you are aware, Sir, the Government has allocated Rs. 4,950 crore for capital infusion in the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development and recapitalization of public sector general insurance companies. I would take this opportunity to draw attention to the pending infrastructure projects in the State of Andhra Pradesh and would request the Central Government's indulgence in speedy execution of these projects. I would request the hon. Minister to help expedite work on the proposed highway from Visakapatnam Port to Bhogapuram, develop the Tirupati Airport and also set up the South Coastal Railway Zone in Waltair Division in Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, I would conclude by saying that in the first supplementary Budget, the Government has made important allocations towards various schemes of the Central Government. There has been an increase in fertilizer subsidy budget. The loan

guarantee scheme for Covid-affected sectors has also been extended by another three months. Allocation has also been made for the Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro Finance Institutions. Even though, they are trying to overcome Covid-19 pandemic, its effects are still being felt in the economy on both the job sector and overall development. The Central Government has the fiscal room to aid and provide support to the State Governments. I would request the Government to take into account the suggestions that are being put across and also expedite and resolve the issues related to the State of Andhra Pradesh. We, from YSR Congress Party, support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2021-22 and excess Demands for Grants for the year 2018-19.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, thank you for allowing me to speak. Shaktisinhji was referring to the hon. Finance Minister. He was saying, "I am glad that the Finance Ministry is so alert." He was saying that hon. Finance Minister is from JNU and she would uphold the ethos of the organisation. Madam, I am also from JNU and I think that all its values which we imbibed from JNU are intact in me; I am totally afraid *

Coming to the macro level of the topic, I expected the Finance Minister to come up with concrete and comprehensive strategy to deal with the post-covid scenario. What are the broad changes that are taking place globally and what should be the changes which we need to bring in to face the challenges? Shouldn't we bear the shift in the strategy to deal with the global challenges and also the challenges at the domestic front? If you read the speech of the Finance Minister, everything is absolutely okay. There is no crisis; no issue; no problem. She is mum on cardinal issues plaguing the country like growing unemployment, poverty or inequality. Shuklaji was speaking at length. He couldn't find a reason to speak in support of the measures of the Finance Minister and he was going around saying that as the Minister of State for Finance, he was also instrumental in bringing in GST. * I don't know what the reason was. ...*(Interruptions)*.. . He was the Minister of State for Finance. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : ठीक है, हम इसे एग्जामिन करा लेंगे।

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: My only request is that Suklaji should be brought back. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Please address the Chair.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, we rely on half-baked data to paint a rosy picture. The Budget Estimates presented in the Budget tell us nothing about the real growth rates in 2021-22. You know about the advance estimates which are largely based on data from the formal sector alone and there is a complete blackout of the informal sector. Can we think about the data without having real picture of the informal sector of this country? Most of the people are based on informal sector. There is another catch even with the formal sector. Data is used only from those firms that employ more than 20 workers under the Factories Act. It simply means that we cover up the humongous crisis that has gripped the economy. I will give some examples. Our corporate income was 3.3 per cent of the GDP in 2017-18 and it is now 2.5 per cent of the GDP in 2021-22. You are very benevolent to the corporate. Since 2017-18, you must have foregone, at least, Rs.1.6 lakh crore of tax each year. This is the benevolence you have shown to the corporate. This is called crony capitalism. Our GST income was 3.1 per cent of the GDP in 2018-19; it has come down to 2.8 per cent.

There is a reason why the common man becomes poorer and the corporate becomes richer. See the catch; see how you are so benevolent to the corporates and see how you are so hard to the poor. This is what is being reflected now. The rich is becoming richer and the poor is becoming poorer. That is the tagline of the performance of this Government. Even a peripheral perusal will show that our Government's initiative is merely aimed at making the rich richer. Our tax-to-GDP ratio is 12 per cent, but it is 25 per cent in a country like U.K., 24 per cent in France, 21 per cent in Finland and 14 per cent in Brazil. That is one country which we try to compare with. The stark reality staring at us cannot be covered with mere rhetoric. Our ruling party Members are actually concerned with raising certain mantras and 'Modiji' is the catchword; nothing else. Can the word 'Modiji' be a solution for all that you say? We need to address the issues. ...*(Interruptions)*.. . Look at other indices. Look at the Hunger Index or the Happiness Index. Three days back, the Happiness Index came. ...*(Interruptions)*.. . We are tenth from the back.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Please address the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: They are all happy with the Prime Minister, but the country is not happy. That is why, the Happiness Index has gone down. ...*(Time bell rings)*... Now, there is a big talk about what is called, the national monetization pipeline. Everything is connected with pipeline. Even my friend, Ashwiniji, talks about Railway pipeline. 'Pipeline' is one word. I will show you. One of your plans for pipeline. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is to drain out the resources of the country and nothing else. ...*(Time bell rings)*... Please, allow me for two more minutes. I am requesting you. I had requested the hon. Deputy Chairman also. Just give me five more minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): No, you can take one minute more.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, let me just conclude. Regarding the LIC, the contribution of the Government of India, 64 years back, was just Rs.5 crores. Now, what is the asset value of the LIC? It is like Rs.38 lakh crores. Now, this was built on the goodwill of the policy holders and you regularly got the income from that. Now, you want to sell it off. You want to discard the share of the policy holders.

Now, coming to the States, they all talk about federalism. Hon. Finance Minister also has been very kind enough. सर, केरल के लिए दो मिनट दीजिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): I have just given you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Yes, the Finance Minister has seen. My point is very simple. Shuklaji was talking about bringing petrol under GST. ...*(Time bell rings)*... यह क्या है? क्या बाकी कुछ है? क्या हमारे पास कुछ है? You are making the States to starve. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the revenue?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Please address the Chair.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: What is the revenue? She is looking at me, Sir. That is why, I addressed her.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): No, you please address the Chair.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: I will tell you one more thing. The State of Kerala is being perennially penalised for the performance. Just because we do wonderfully well in social sector, our share comes down. During the Tenth Finance Commission, Kerala received 3.9 per cent share from the Central taxes. Now, it has come down to 1.9 per cent. Can you penalise a State just because that State is performing?
(Time bell rings)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Thank you. Please conclude now.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: I will just submit one more point. The only point is that we need to be considerate to the demands and concerns of the State Governments. We all talk about the taxes that are collected from petroleum. Hardeep Puriji, you were kind enough to give the...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Please address the Chair.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Hardeep Puriji was kind enough to talk about the petroleum taxes, which amounts to Rs.3.7 lakh crore in 2021. Out of that, only Rs.18,000 crores was in the divisible pool, and the rest was taken by the Finance Minister.
...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Now, I will call the next speaker. Please conclude.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Why are States made to starve? I would urge the Government to consider this. Thank you, Sir.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I want to draw your attention to what hon. Member, Shri John Brittas said in his enthusiasm to constantly point out at the Government. There are times when one probably crosses the line of parliamentary language usage. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, I want to point out. You said that * should be brought back to the Ministry.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Yes.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: The word * is unparliamentary.
...(Interruptions)...

MS. SUSHMITA DEV(West Bengal): He said that but...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Sushmita ji, please don't interrupt.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: That is fine, Sushmita ji but the word * is unparliamentary.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : उसे examine करा लेंगे।

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण : नहीं, नहीं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर): Expunge कर दीजिए।

श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण: थैंक यू सर।

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, I humbly withdraw that word. Respected Shukla ji should be brought back to the Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Thank you. Next speaker, Dr. M. Thambidurai.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am very happy to support the Supplementary Bill which has been brought by the hon. Finance Minister.

Sir, a news item mentioned, 'In a bid to maintain the fiscal deficit within the targeted limit, the Finance Ministry asked the Ministries and Departments to restrict their expenses to the Revised Estimates". Based on that, now, the hon. Minister has brought the Supplementary Budget and in that she has sought Rs. 1.07 lakh crores.

I am very happy that she has taken every effort to see that the Supplementary Budget can be used for the agriculture sector also. She has specifically mentioned about giving subsidies and all that. We know that since the hon. Prime Minister has taken the reigns of the country, he has been concerned about the agriculture sector, especially, the farmers; and, to help them, he has brought many schemes and providing subsidy is one of them. I think, we have to appreciate that.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Sir, we know how our hon. Prime Minister handled the pandemic situation in the country. In the world, everybody appreciated it. Within the financial constraints, he took efforts to allocate more funds to see that the pandemic is controlled and vaccine could be provided to our country people. He also encouraged the individual laboratories in the country to produce Indian vaccine for our people. Sir, at the time when the first wave of Covid-19 pandemic came, the State of Tamil Nadu suffered a lot. At that time, AIADMK Government was there and Shri Palaniswami was the Chief Minister of the State. He made a lot of efforts to allocate more funds for giving financial assistance to the Tamil Nadu people and saved them. Sir, I want to tell you.. *...(Interruptions)...*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Mr. Siva, you are a senior Member. Please don't interrupt.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: I want to tell you what your Member, Mr. Elangovan just now said. What did he say? *...(Interruptions)...*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Mr. Siva, please.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: He said that he is depending on the Union Budget for the State subjects. When you are depending on that.. *...(Interruptions)...*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Mr. Siva, please. *...(Interruptions)...*

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: That is shown in your recent Budget which you presented in the State of Tamil Nadu. Regarding all the Central programmes, you have shown that. That is what is happening, whatever schemes are there. *...(Interruptions)...*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Mr. Siva, please.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Whatever schemes are there, the State of Tamil Nadu is having a lot of resources now, especially, the Excise department exceeded the revenue targets. *...(Interruptions)...* That way, the Budget is now presented in Tamil Nadu. Why I am saying so is because when I am appreciating our Government, he cannot criticise our Government. *...(Interruptions)...*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Mr. Siva, please sit down.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Please do not interfere. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Mr. Siva, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Sir, when we criticize the Central Government, we also have to appreciate the good work done by the Central Government. When you are fully dependent on the Union Government Budget provisions; you want to run the Government and you are not having resources, please do not blame the Central Government. Today also, I raised the issue that coal and everything should be given to the State Government. I requested the hon. Minister in this regard. I said, Tamil Nadu has shortage of coal and the Government must come forward to help Tamil Nadu. I am pleading for that. I am not against that. But what I am telling is that agriculture, education, health, defence and law and order are important subjects in the country. In that, we are proposing so many schemes. We have to appreciate the Modi Government. Shaktisinh ji said that Mr. Mavalankar was the first Speaker. He was from Gujarat. He praised him. We appreciate that. At the same time, we have to appreciate that our first Finance Minister, Shri R.K. Shanmukham Chetty, was from Tamil Nadu. We have seen that so many Finance Ministers have come from Tamil Nadu -- Shri T.T. Krishnamachari, Shri C. Subramanian, Shri R. Venkatraman, Shri Chidambaram, and now Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman. She is also from there. She knows what to do for country's welfare. That is why we are proud, Tamil Nadu people are proud, that a daughter of Tamil Nadu is handling the Finance portfolio and giving a lot of help to us.

Sir, I want to make one more point. The Railway Minister is also here. I will be speaking on the Railway Ministry when the discussion will be taken up. We have certain demands. But I have seen the Budget. There is not as much provision for Tamil Nadu -- I am now defending Tamil Nadu -- for roads and railways as we were expecting. Therefore, I am requesting the hon. Finance Minister to see that we get more funds for Tamil Nadu for these kinds of sectors and also the health sector. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is good that you are supporting.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Thambidurai ji, please address the Chair.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Therefore, I am saying that ...*(Interruptions)*... As Mr. Mavalankar is a noble man from Gujarat, Mr. Modi is also a noble man. He is running the Government very well, not only now but continuously for the last eight years. Even in the next elections also, he is going to win. Whatever your mindset is, nobody can stop him. Mr. Modi is once again coming as the Prime Minister of this country because we, the allies, are always supporting the Modi Government, our Finance Minister and all other Ministers. Our party is extending our support to them. Thank you, Sir.

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं समाजवादी पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष माननीय अखिलेश यादव जी और अपने सदन के नेता प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी को, मुझे इस विषय पर बोलने का अवसर देने के लिए धन्यवाद देता हूँ। बजट में शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, कृषि, मनरेगा आदि इन सब मदों में कटौती की गई है। सरकार ने दावा किया था कि हम अपने रुपए को मजबूत करेंगे, लेकिन जब से बीजेपी की सरकार आई है, तब से डॉलर के मुकाबले रुपए में गिरावट दर्ज की गई है। कृषि के संबंध में इन्होंने कहा था कि हम किसानों की आय दोगुनी करेंगे, लेकिन आज डीज़ल, खाद, बीज आदि के दाम बढ़े हैं। हमने यह देखा कि किसान 1,000 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल धान बेचने पर मजबूर हुआ और 1,400 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल गेहूँ बेचने पर मजबूर हुआ। जो इनके कृषि विश्वविद्यालय हैं, वहाँ गेहूँ का लागत मूल्य 25 रुपए प्रति किलोग्राम आता है और धान का लागत मूल्य 27 रुपए प्रति किलोग्राम आता है, लेकिन किसान को एमएसपी बहुत कम दिया जाता है। उसी को बीज के रूप में 7-8 हजार रुपए प्रति क्विंटल बेचा जाता है। मेरी यह माँग है कि एमएसपी को बढ़ाया जाना चाहिए। किसानों की आमदनी को दोगुना करने की आवश्यकता है।

मान्यवर, आज दोहरी शिक्षा नीति है। कोरोना काल में बच्चों की पढ़ाई ऐसे ही बरबाद हो गई। दोहरी शिक्षा नीति के कारण गाँव का बच्चा हिन्दी माध्यम से पढ़ता है और जो पैसे वाले हैं, अमीर के बच्चे हैं, वे अंग्रेजी माध्यम से पढ़ते हैं। कोई भी परीक्षा होती है, तो उसमें अंग्रेजी माध्यम से पढ़े बच्चे पास हो जाते हैं और गरीब के बच्चे, जो हिन्दी माध्यम से पढ़े होते हैं, वे पास नहीं हो पाते हैं। मेरी यह माँग है कि 'वन नेशन, वन एजुकेशन' हो। आज एक समान शिक्षा नीति लाने की आवश्यकता है।

आज डिजिटल इंडिया की बात हो रही है। बैंकों को खत्म किया जा रहा है। विजय माल्या, नीरव मोदी जैसे तमाम लोग तमाम घोटाले करके देश का खजाना लूट कर भाग गए। देश के नागरिकों पर देश का कर्जा न लदे, इसलिए बैंकों का निजीकरण किया गया है। आज 'डिजिटल इंडिया' की बात हो रही है, लेकिन इसके कारण बहुत धोखाधड़ी हो रही है। रोज इस तरह के फोन आते हैं कि आप इसमें इनाम जीत गए हैं, उसमें इनाम जीत गए हैं। आपको कार मिल गई है, आपको यह मिल गया है, अतः जो हमारा साइबर एक्ट है, वह इतना कमजोर है कि करोड़ों लोगों के साथ रोज धोखाधड़ी हो रही है, उनके बैंकों से पैसे की निकासी हो रही है, इसलिए साइबर एक्ट को मजबूत किया जाना चाहिए, कानून कड़ा किया जाना चाहिए और ऐसे लोग, जो धोखाधड़ी कर रहे हैं, उन्हें पकड़ा जाना चाहिए।

मान्यवर, मैं स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। देश में डॉक्टरों की कमी है, तो डॉक्टरों की कमी को पूरा किया जाना चाहिए। मान्यवर, जैसे कैंसर की बीमारी लाइलाज है, उसके लिए बजट में अलग से व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। हम आलोचना नहीं करेंगे। जब चुनाव होते हैं, उनमें कई हजार करोड़ के बजट की अलग से व्यवस्था की जाती है, बूथ मैनेजमेंट प्रति वोटर के हिसाब से किया जाता है, लेकिन जो कैंसर से पीड़ित मरीज हैं, उनके लिए बजट में कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है कि हम पूरे देश में कैंसर मरीजों के इलाज की निःशुल्क व्यवस्था करेंगे। इसलिए हम माँग करते हैं कि कैंसर मरीजों के लिए बजट में व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए, उनका निःशुल्क इलाज होना चाहिए।

मान्यवर, आज बेरोजगारी देखने को मिल रही है। 2014 में कहा गया था कि हर साल दो करोड़ लोगों को नौकरी देंगे। लॉकडाउन और नोटबंदी की वजह से लोगों की नौकरी चली गई। इस बजट में केवल 60 हजार नौकरियाँ देने की बात कही गई है। जो हमारे बेरोजगार बच्चे हैं, आज वे अपनी डिग्रियाँ जला रहे हैं, वे हताश हो रहे हैं, आत्महत्याएं कर रहे हैं। उन्हें रोके जाने की आवश्यकता है। जब तक हम unemployed लोगों को नौकरी नहीं देंगे, तब तक वे हताश-निराश ही रहेंगे।

मान्यवर, जितने भी रेलवे स्टेशंस हैं, हवाई अड्डे हैं, सबको बेचा जा रहा है। इन्होंने कहा था कि बुलेट ट्रेन चलाएंगे, उस बुलेट ट्रेन का क्या हुआ? स्मार्ट सिटी का क्या हुआ?

मान्यवर, इन्होंने पेयजल के संबंध में कहा था कि घर-घर जल की व्यवस्था होगी। मैं बुन्देलखंड से आता हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश में जल निगम, जल संस्थान हैं। यहां पेयजल योजना बनाई गई और टेंडर हुए। उत्तर प्रदेश में जो सरकारी विभाग हैं, जल निगम, जल संस्थान हैं, आज वे कगार पर खड़े हो गए हैं, वहाँ के कर्मचारी-अधिकारी भूखे मर रहे हैं, उन्हें दो-दो साल से तनख्वाहें नहीं मिल रही हैं, क्योंकि उन्हें पेयजल का टेंडर नहीं मिल रहा है। एक अमुक राज्य के बड़े-बड़े ठेकेदारों को ठेका मिल रहा है और वे petty contract में लोकल लोगों से काम करा रहे हैं।

मान्यवर, इन्होंने कहा था कि हम आवास योजना के अंतर्गत 2022 तक सभी को पक्का मकान दे देंगे। अभी एससी/एसटीज, आदिवासियों की चर्चा हुई थी। ऐसे तमाम गरीब-गुरबा लोग हैं, जिनके पास मकान नहीं हैं, आवास नहीं हैं, इसलिए सभी को पक्के मकान देने की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए। मान्यवर, एससी/एसटीज और ओबीसीज के तमाम लोग माँग कर रहे हैं। जब तक इनकी जातीय जनगणना नहीं होगी, तब तक इन्हें किसी योजना का कोई लाभ नहीं मिलेगा। ओबीसी के लोग चाहते हैं कि हमारी जातीय जनगणना हो और उन्हें संख्या के आधार पर सभी सेक्टर्स में भागीदारी मिले, जिससे वे लोग भी सुकून से ज़िंदगी जी सकें। **...(समय की घंटी)...**

मान्यवर, खास तौर पर हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में किसान घाटे की खेती कर रहा है, 'अन्ना प्रथा' है। उस 'अन्ना प्रथा' को खत्म किया जाना चाहिए और जो 'अन्ना प्रथा' और पशुओं से होने वाली हानि है, उसे 'प्रधान मंत्री फसल बीमा योजना' के अंतर्गत सूचित किया जाना चाहिए। मेरे यही कुछ प्वाइंट्स थे। इसके साथ ही, 13 प्वाइंट रोस्टर को भी खत्म किया जाना चाहिए।

मान्यवर, आज हम देख रहे हैं कि कश्मीरी पंडितों पर एक फिल्म बनी है। हम चाहते हैं कि Bandit Queen को भी टैक्स फ्री किया जाना चाहिए और लखीमपुर खीरी के किसानों पर भी फिल्म बननी चाहिए। **...(समय की घंटी)...** 14 महीने से जो किसान बैठे थे, उन पर भी फिल्म बननी

चाहिए। यह बोला जाता है कि बताइए, 75 साल में क्या किया, तो वहाँ एक व्यक्ति ने कहा कि वह नहीं बताएगा, नहीं तो आप उसे भी बेच देंगे।...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद जी, अब समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद : मान्यवर, इस देश में जो भी हुआ है, उसे आगे बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है, धन्यवाद।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार) : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैंने बीते कुछ दिनों से एक परंपरा शुरू की है कि अपनी भाषा के अतिरिक्त किसी एक और भाषा में भी शुरुआत करूँ, तो आज कन्नड़ है। यह कन्नड़ में था कि, * "आज मैं Appropriation Bill पर बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ।"

सर, इससे पहले मैं आगे बढूँ, मैंने वादे के मुताबिक फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर से कहा था कि मैं एक instance दूँगा। Disraeli ने Gladstone से कहा, आर्थिक संदर्भ में चर्चा हो रही थी, " Mr. Gladstone, I would like you to tax the rich people and leave the poor. Do not rely upon indirect taxes."

For that, the classic reply given by Gladstone was, "Look, both direct and indirect taxes are like two charming sisters. I love them both. Though in the family parlance, it may be called immoral and bigamous. Because they are both charming, I love them both. But in this I give a little more love to indirect taxes, the second sister, because she is more charming, she is more yielding and she is more welcome for exploitation. Therefore, I depend upon this source, though, I do not give up the other source." मैं समझता हूँ कि यह उद्धरण गुरुपदस्वामी ने इसी सदन में कहा था और तब वी.पी. सिंह साहब फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर थे। वी.पी. सिंह साहब क्या कहते हैं, सुनिए। "The other sister has been more yielding." I just wanted this reference to be put, without any comment or further observation, to the hon. Finance Minister and the Government.

सर, अभी जब बाकी सदस्य बोल रहे थे या जब ऑनरेबल फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर ने मोशन मूव किया, तो मैं सोच रहा था कि गाँव या छोटे शहरों में बैठा व्यक्ति अगर टेलीविजन पर यह देख रहा होगा कि एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल पर चर्चा हो रही है, तो उसके लिए एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल और इतने लाख-करोड़ मायने नहीं रखते हैं। वह अपना संदर्भ देखना चाहता है कि मेरी थाली में इसका क्या हिस्सा आ रहा है, मेरी थाली का वजन बढ़ रहा है या घट रहा है, मेरे पड़ोस में क्या हालात हैं, मेरा बच्चा, जो रोजगार की तलाश में प्रतिदिन घर से निकलता है और शाम को वापस घर आता है, उसके हाथ में सिफर, शून्य है, तो अगर हम अर्थव्यवस्था और अर्थतंत्र को आम इंसान के नजरिये से देखें, तो यह हाहाकार का विषय है।

अब मैं आँकड़ों की बात करता हूँ। मैं मानता हूँ, कुछ दिन पहले एक आँकड़ा आया कि प्रधान मंत्री जी बेहद लोकप्रिय हैं। इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं है, वे सचमुच बेहद लोकप्रिय हैं। लेकिन

* Hindi translation of the original speech delivered in Kannada.

अगर आप एक एजेंसी का आँकड़ा, एपूवल रेटिंग को accept करते हैं, तो फिर आप हैप्पीनेस इंडेक्स पर क्यों चुप हो जाते हैं, हंगर इंडेक्स पर क्यों चुप हो जाते हैं, प्रेस फ्रीडम इंडेक्स पर क्यों चुप हो जाते हैं, डेमोक्रेसी इंडेक्स पर क्यों चुप हो जाते हैं? सर, सांख्यिकी के साथ एक अद्भुत चीज़ है कि उसका इस्तेमाल लोग कई दफा लैम्पपोस्ट की तरह करते हैं। जब शराबी लड़खड़ाने लगता है, तो वह लैम्पपोस्ट पकड़ लेता है। सर, यह मैं नहीं कह रहा, यह क्वोट है कि लैम्पपोस्ट की तरह भी statistics का उपयोग होता है, ताकि आप लड़खड़ाकर नीचे न गिरें।

सर, मैं अभी एक चीज़ सोच रहा था। अभी कई सदस्यों ने इन्फ्लेशन को लेकर यह कहा कि फरवरी में यह 6.7 हो गया है, मैं यह नहीं कहूँगा। यह हम-आप भी महसूस कर रहे हैं और हम तथाकथित ऊपरी तबके के लोग हैं। सर, अगर महँगाई को देखना है, तो आँकड़ा, सीपीआई इंडेक्स से नहीं-- सीपीआई का मतलब Communist Party of India नहीं, यह वह वाला सीपीआई है। आप सीपीआई के उस आँकड़े को देखिए कि लोगों की जिन्दगी को यह कैसे प्रभावित कर रहा है। मैं उज्ज्वला, एलपीजी के बारे में नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ। अकसर हमारे पेट्रोलियम मंत्री और बाकी लोग कहते हैं कि सरकार कीमतों का नियंत्रण नहीं करती है, तो साहब, पाँच महीने चुनाव के दौरान कीमतें क्यों नहीं बढ़ीं? अगर पाँच महीने चुनाव के दौरान कीमतें नहीं बढ़ीं, तो इसका मतलब है कि कहीं न कहीं सरकार के सरोकार का ताल्लुक है, तो फिर आप लोगों को यह रिलीफ दीजिए न! सर, मध्यम वर्ग की कमर टूट रही है। आप उसकी सेविंग्स को देख लीजिए, कोविड ने सब कुछ destroy कर दिया। आप चुनाव जीतते हैं, आपको मुबारकबाद, लेकिन दिक्कत और परेशानी कल को आपको भी होगी क्योंकि अगर इंसान के बुनियादी मुद्दों से चुनाव के परिणाम का ताल्लुक नहीं रहा, तो फिर चुनाव का कोई मतलब नहीं रहा, डेमोक्रेसी का कोई मतलब नहीं रहा।

सर, 5 ट्रिलियन डॉलर की इकोनॉमी। अगर आप सच पूछें, तो यदि आप मुझे ज़ीरो बिठाने के लिए भी बोल दीजिएगा तो शायद मैं न बिठा पाऊँ, क्योंकि हजार, लाख, करोड़ से ऊपर जाते ही शून्य की संख्या समझ में नहीं आती है। लेकिन यह 5 ट्रिलियन डॉलर की इकोनॉमी में क्या बिहार है? माननीय फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर, अगर आप 5 ट्रिलियन डॉलर के शिखर पर जाएँगी तो हमारे बगैर तन्हा महसूस करेंगी, आपको अकेलेपन का एहसास होगा। हमारे बिहार के एक सदस्य महत्वपूर्ण मंत्री हैं, वे मुस्करा रहे हैं। सर, बिहार की स्थिति बहुत गम्भीर है। मैं यह सिर्फ बोलने के लिए नहीं कह रहा हूँ, यह कोई rhetorical point नहीं है। हर क्षेत्र में बिहार की हालत खराब है। रोज़गार को ले लूँ, सामाजिक सौहार्द को ले लूँ, गरीबी को ले लूँ, भुखमरी को ले लूँ, पलायन को ले लूँ, क्या छोड़ूँ क्या लूँ?

श्री सुशील कुमार मोदी (बिहार): सर, ये एप्रोप्रिएशन बिल ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा : सर, बड़ी माफी के साथ ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : प्रो. मनोज जी, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा : सर, मुझे 30 सेकंड दीजिए, क्योंकि वे बहुत सीनियर व्यक्ति हैं, जिन्होंने यह टिप्पणी की है।

4.00 P.M.

सर, आप मेरे आरम्भिक प्वाइंट को देखेंगे, तो पाएंगे कि मैं Appropriation और बजट के नज़रिये को आम इंसान के ज़ेहन से देखना चाहता हूँ। अगर इतनी साधारण सी बात आपको नहीं समझ आ रही है, तो ईश्वर ही भला करे।

सर, मैं 5 trillion dollars economy की बात कर रहा था। महोदय, मैं इसलिए भी ये बातें माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदया के समक्ष रख रहा हूँ कि उनके ज़ेहन में यह होगा। आप बिहार के बारे में नीति आयोग की टिप्पणी देखिए, आपको चिंता होगी। हम वैचारिक रूप से अलग हैं, politically अलग हैं, लेकिन क्या बिहार आपकी चिंता का विषय नहीं होगा? Multidimensional Poverty Index में बिहार कहां खड़ा हुआ है! ...**(समय की घंटी)**... महोदय, एक-दो मिनट का समय और दे दीजिए, मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लूंगा।

सर, मैं बेरोज़गारी को लेकर पिछली बार भी बोल चुका हूँ। अगर हमारी अर्थनीति रोज़गार सृजन नहीं कर पा रही है, तो यह अनर्थ नीति है, अर्थनीति नहीं है। अभी मुखर्जी नगर में बच्चे बैठे हुए हैं, उन्हें अलग-अलग exams के लिए extra attempt चाहिए। वे देश के अलग-अलग हिस्सों में प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं। वे किस चीज़ के लिए प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं! रोज़गार एक मौलिक चीज़ है, यह कोई खैरात नहीं है। आप संविधान के Directive Principles को देखिए, उसमें इसका ज़िक्र है।

सर, मैंने सोशल सेक्टर को लेकर स्वयं पिछली बार भी कहा था। सोशल सेक्टर में जो contribution है, जो budgetary allocation है, वह या तो negligible increase है या decrease है। सर, मुझे अंत में एक-दो प्वाइंट्स कहने दीजिए। सोशल सेक्टर आपका भविष्य shape करता है, आपके देश का भविष्य shape करता है। अगर मैं ग्रामीण उपभोग को देखूँ, तो वह भी एक चिंता का विषय है, जो आठ वर्ष में सबसे नीचे है।

40 per cent MSMEs have either closed down or are on the verge of it. Those of us, who believe that the Government is very transparent on corruption, zero tolerance, let me quote 2020 Transparency International Corruption Perception Index. We are occupying 80th position. मैं यह इसलिए कह रहा हूँ, क्योंकि इसी की रिपोर्ट लेकर आपने यू.पी.ए. की सरकार के खिलाफ मोर्चा खोला था। मैं पुनः एक बार कह रहा हूँ कि जब तक हम अपने Appropriation budgetary allocation को एक आम इंसान के नज़रिये से, मध्यम वर्ग, निम्न आय वर्ग के नज़रिये से नहीं देखेंगे, तब तक हमारे देश के सामने जो चुनौतियाँ हैं, वे कम नहीं होंगी, चुनाव के नतीजे जो भी हों। सर, जय हिन्द से पहले बोलना चाहूँगा। Madam Finance Minister, यह आपके लिए है:-

*'जो मैं सर-ब-सज्दा हुआ कभी, तो ज़मीं से आने लगी सदा।
तेरा दिल तो है सनम-आश्रा, तुझे क्या मिलेगा नमाज़ में।'*

जय-हिन्द!

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, the Finance Minister has to come with Appropriation Bill, it is known to everybody. That has been the practice, it would continue but when a Government, like the present Government, comes to the House with such a Bill, we are obliged to ask a question. How was this money spent? For what purpose was it spent? In what direction does the Government want to lead this country's economy? For all these questions, we do not have promising answers. I may say that this is not the fault of the Finance Minister but the fault of the Government led by a very disastrous policy on its economy.

Sir, everybody was talking about some other language. I want to speak one sentence in my mother tongue. *"I oppose this Bill." I oppose this Bill because this can only be opposed. Today, in the morning, I raised an issue here in the House regarding women participation in the employment. It fell down to 17.2 per cent in April-June, 2021.

Sir, labour force, it is the force that creates the wealth and that force is most significant for the country's future also. But, the Government forget them. In the labour force, women play a very important role. But, this country forgets it. The share of the women is not going up. It comes down. The Government always closes its eyes to this fact. That is why, we ask the questions as to where this money was spent and for what you spent the money. We all know very well about the term NPAs, that is, Non-Performing Assets. The Finance Minister who is very, very calm and cool on this issue, is a wonder for me, and you find a solution and that solution is haircuts. I am very sure that Madam Nirmala Sitharaman, is well aware of the haircut theory. Haircut theory is nothing but a gimmick, a gimmick of figures. In fact, Non-Performing Assets are performing as non-performed. Nothing is being getting back to the Government. But, a part of it is given to them, and the Government closes the eyes to the rest of it and says that that question is solved and resolved forever. So, this kind of haircut and head-cut issues, tactics and gimmicks will not help the economy. These Appropriation Bills are also going to make a very negative impact on our country and on its people. What will you give for the MSMEs? What will you give for the people working in the informal sector? They are the maximum in this country's workforce, and the Government forgets them. Even though the Budget was acclaimed by the people in the Treasury Benches as a Budget of growth scenario, the fact is telling us that that Budget is a Budget of decline and a Budget of disaster because that Budget was silent on very important issues. What about the subsidies,

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Malayalam.

about the food subsidy? What about the MGNREGA funds? What about the health sector and for education? On all these sectors, this Government's Budget has really disappointed the country. But, Madam Nirmala Sitharamanji, out of her skill on languages and her goodwill, is trying to tell the country that this Budget is going to help the country to reach that goal that they proclaimed. What was the goal? The goal was of 5 trillion dollar economy. How far are we now? When we heard that statement for the first time, we were at certain points but now when we hear it once again, twice again and many times again, we know that we are lagging behind but still the Government is making those words which are hollow words before the country. That Government is coming to the House with Bills for appropriating money. This Appropriation is for what? Is it for the people to be killed? Is it for the Army to be strengthened? Is it to buy the bullets and guns for the people to be destroyed? All these are my questions. That is why, I say that this cannot be supported, this can only be opposed. What about the crypto currency? She spoke in the Budget Speech also about the digital economy. That economy is coming to the scene in India. The country is worried about that. Crypto currency is, in fact, doing a harmful work on the economy. Nobody is sure as to how authenticate it can be. But, the Government very, very peacefully is saying that digital economy is coming to save us. What about the Paytm scam? Scams are coming up, popping up every day. Big people whom we thought that are the big saviors of the economy, the banking and institutions, they are all now facing the music. The Government knows it. The Government folds its hands in support of them.

And powers up with them and those powers are just doing their service and not the service of the nation or the poor people. Sir, the workers, peasants, they ask the Government, "Do you remember us only when elections come?" Yes, when polls come, you remember them. Once it is over, you forget them. The country cannot close its eyes to the fact that the LIC, GIC, public sector, everything is going to be finished up by this Government. I do not want to tell you the whole figures of that. LIC is a goose that laid golden eggs for this country and that goose is going to be killed by you. The GIC is also facing the trouble because of the Government's policies. The PSUs are also going to be hauled up by the Ministry. The Finance Minister, even though very, very vocal, when speaking about *Atmanirbhar Bharat*, in real terms is taking very, very dangerous steps about the *atmanirbhar* concept itself because the Government is now supporting the FDI. I wonder how a Government and their party talking so loud about the country's *atmanirbharta*, is now with begging bowls before the FDI. We know what FDI is. It is Foreign Direct Investment and that investment is from the corporates of the world. The whole economy is now being surrendered

before them and the Appropriation Bill is also trying to support that view. So let me finish with the words, we are not expected to be with that move. We oppose it and we continue to oppose it and we say that this kind of a policy is not for the benefit of India. India is a country where the maximum numbers of people who live are poor, the country of hunger, the country of hungry people, and the country where children die before the age of five years. It is a country where maximum numbers of women are facing difficulties due to anaemia. This is a country where the maximum numbers of people, crores of them, have no huts to live in, starving people, people who don't have proper clothing, who don't have place to live, no safe drinking water and no safe air. This country is a house of those kinds of crores of people, but you are thinking about the corporate friends of yours, the FDI friends of yours. For them you have come with the Budget and Appropriation Bills and I oppose this once again. I conclude here. Thank you.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Now, Dr. Fauzia Khan.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I am here to discuss on the Appropriation Bill. It has often been mentioned on the floor of this House that infrastructure in our nation is growing; road infrastructure, railway infrastructure, Government buildings, smart cities and also the Central Vista, which is growing as an urgent priority. But, Sir, while I appreciate the Government for all these efforts, my question is this, at the same time, that shouldn't our concern be on the rising economic disparity that is there in the nation? Isn't it a cause of great concern, particularly, post-pandemic when businesses are permanently shutting down, labourers are migrating with no intention to return, consumers are increasingly becoming reluctant and the RBI underlying the fact that some of the damage to India's GDP is permanent?

Sir, we talk about unemployment and it is said that more than 3 crore youths have lost their jobs during this pandemic period. So, our economy must truly carry the benefit to every section of society. Veins and arteries carry blood to every part of the human body. If one part of the body does not receive the blood, it dries up, it paralyses and the body dies. In the same way, there is an Urdu poet, who has spoken very well about this, मिर्ज़ा ग़ालिब. Everybody must have heard his name.

*'रगों में दौड़ते फिरने के हम नहीं काइल,
जब आँख से ही न टपका तो फिर लहू क्या है!'*

सर, अगर लहू सिर्फ रगों में दौड़ रहा है, तो उसका क्या फायदा है? जब वह दर्द बनकर आँख से टपकता है, तब सही में अपने देश के लिए फायदेमंद है। मैं आदरणीया वित्त मंत्री जी से यही कहूंगी कि आज हमें इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर की जरूरत तो है, लेकिन उस दर्द की भी जरूरत है, जो इस महंगाई के दौर में आज हर घर की महिला अपने घर में सह रही है। Sir, when we talk about publicity and broadcasting, I would like to say that we should increase the budget for publicity and broadcasting. You go on the road, everywhere, you turn your head, there is a poster which is showing you, 'the achievements of the Government', proclaiming these achievements - free ration, free vaccines, gas connections, toilets. While I have no objection to this proclamation, I wish to add that these digital banners at petrol pumps, these advertisements must mandatorily also carry schemes for the poor; how to apply for these schemes; how to take benefits of these schemes like PMAY, Ayushman Bharat. My own experience is that many people, they are hospitalised, they spend money and then they call up and ask us, 'मैडम, please give us some money; we have spent so much money on our medical bills'. And, we tell them, 'Oh, there is a Government scheme. Why don't you take advantage of it? They say, 'मैडम, अभी तो हो गया, अब आप हमारी मदद कीजिए, हमें पता नहीं था।' 'पता नहीं था', that is very important. So, wherever we are proclaiming our achievements, we should also proclaim our responsibility and we should also make sure that the people come to know about the schemes that are there for them. Years on years, these schemes sometimes are unutilized. Sometimes, people don't know and the poor people and the real beneficiaries don't take advantage of it. So, if we do this, it will be 'सच्चा साथ, सच्चा विकास' and, I think that is what we have to move to - 'सच्चा साथ, सच्चा विकास'.

सर, मैं डिफेंस के बारे में बात करना चाहती हूँ। Rs.5.2 lakh crores have been allocated for the Defence Budget which is 9.84 per cent increase over the last year. The Revenue Budget which is mostly based for establishment; Rs.2.33 lakh crores increased by Rs.16,000 crores. But, the major expense - Defence capital outlay; Rs.1.52 lakh crores has seen a 12.2 per cent decline from last year. The reason is that funds have not been utilized. For R&D, only Rs.11,981 crores has been allocated from which also 25 per cent is for Startups and private industry. Sir, today the Russian-Ukraine War has posed a big challenge before the world, although I really feel that the strategy that our nation has adopted is laudable, we have been trying to maintain a balance.

But, it also draws our attention to the fact that we need to become self-reliant in defence as soon as we can. We cannot be doing it in the way as we have been doing it all these years. Therefore, we have to have more spending on Research & Development. There are spy softwares also, as there is technological advance. This

technology is also posing security threats before us. Sir, when we import war equipment, we have to be cautious that there is spyware, there is cyber warfare. For instance, we have purchased fourth generation fighters from France recently. Now, we have to depend on France for maintenance, for technology and for training of those fighters. So, when we buy something from somewhere, we have to depend on that country. Also, we cannot go against that country even if strategically we feel that we should take a stand; that is a compulsion. The world has moved to fifth and sixth generation fighters especially for air force. Sir, my point is that our effort on R& D must be focused and it must be speeded up at a much higher pace than it has ever been. I would like to request our hon. Finance Minister that this should be our focus, if we really want to become *Atmanirbhar*.

Sir, Arun Prakash in his article in today's Indian Express has said, and I quote, "the de-Russification of the armed forces and the genuine indigenization of India's defence technological and industrial base is necessary". We need to de-Russify ourselves. We cannot depend on Russia all the time. Therefore, we have to become *Atmanirbhar*. सच्ची आत्मनिर्भरता इसी में होगी।

Sir, when the Government learns to listen, when the situation demands it and when the Opposition learns to appreciate, when the situation demands it, democracy can move forward more resolutely and more strongly. My colleague, Mr. Manoj Jha quoted something saying that 'I will not make any comment on it'. I would also like to quote a Turkish proverb, "the forest was shrinking, but, the trees kept voting for the axe. For the axe was clever and convinced the trees that because his handle was made of wood, he was one of them". So, Sir, I would not like to make any more comment on this.

At the end, I would only like to say that Elon Musk had dreamed a dream that he would like to make travel into space more affordable for people and that became his greatest selling point, to the extent, that he became the world's richest man at one point of time. Our greatest selling point ought to be our *Atmanirbharta*. But, sorry to say, we have still not been able to make that our selling point the way it should be. Sir, marketing Government's achievements is not our aim; our aim is to benefit the poor, the middle class and to remove the economic disparity that is there in our nation. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity of speaking on Appropriation Bills regarding Supplementary Demands for Grants 2021-22 and excess expenditure during 2018-19.

By taking up these two Bills for discussion and passing, this august House is meeting an important Constitutional provision. The provision stipulates that not even a single rupee can be spent by the Government of the day without the approval of the Parliament. These provisions and processes also ensure that there is no misappropriation of monies sanctioned by the Parliament for various items of specified expenditure. Funds sanctioned for ensuring the health of the people cannot be spent on building guest houses. If it is done, it amounts to misappropriation and serious misuse of sanctioned funds besides blatant violation of the Constitutional provisions and the sanctity of legislative approvals duly accorded. The Parliament and other Legislatures of the States are mandated with the responsibilities of preventing such misuse of monies collected from the people. But unfortunately, this kind of misuse of funds has become an order of the day and a routine in case of the present Andhra Pradesh Government. There is no sanctity for budgeting, expenditure norms and accounting of expenditure transparency in Andhra Pradesh. This is all because of serious financial indiscipline in the State. The finances of Andhra Pradesh have been converted into a 'big black hole' by the present Government in my State. Whatever the Central Government gives to the State further to the approval of the Parliament and whatever the people of the State are paying in the form of various taxes, is vanishing into this black hole. There is total lack of accountability and transparency in the spending by the State Government. All this is because of total collapse of financial discipline on the part of the Andhra Pradesh Government. ...*(Interruptions)*.. These are not my words. Two respectable, hon. Ministers of State for Finance of the Central Government have gone on record very recently pointing out lack of financial discipline and gross mismanagement of finances in Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*.. The Minister of State for Finance, Dr. Bhagwat Karad, during his recent visit to Vijayawada has stated in public that there is no financial discipline in Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*..

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Please sit down.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: This was further elaborated by another Minister of State for Finance, Shri Pankaj Chaudhary, in his recent letter dated 11th of this month to one of my colleagues in the Lok Sabha. In this letter, hon. Minister, Shri Chaudhary, pointed out some irregularities committed by the Andhra Pradesh Government with a few examples. He revealed that for the financial year 2019-20, the State Government has wrongly classified Rs.4,378 cores as capital expenditure. This in effect means, that expenditure on other items was shown as capital expenditure. I

raise this point because to encourage capital expenditure, the Central Government encourages States through borrowings and other means. By inflating capital expenditure through wrong classification deliberately, Andhra Pradesh Government is widening the window for borrowings. ...(*Interruptions*)..

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : आप बैठिए, प्लीज़। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: This is totally unjustified as it affects the future of the people of the State with the burden of mounting loans.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Please sit down.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: In fact, this has become the *modus operandi* of the Andhra Pradesh Government, borrowing everyday from every source by misleading the Central Government with wrong reporting of expenditure. The State Government is borrowing in a deceitful manner. ...(*Interruptions*).. It is cheating the people of the State and the Centre as well. ...(*Interruptions*).. There is yet another equally serious dimension to the financial mismanagement by the Andhra Pradesh Government. The Minister of State for Finance, Shri Pankaj Chaudhary, in his letter also revealed that the State Government has reported unspent funds as expenditure incurred on disaster relief and rehabilitation during 2019-20 and spent those funds the next year. Monies given by the Centre for disaster relief were transferred to personal account of project authorities and were spent on non-relief purposes by diverting disaster relief funds. This is a clear indication of financial disaster in Andhra Pradesh which needs to be checked forthwith. ...(*Interruptions*).. Concerned over such disastrous financial management in the State, the Minister of State for finance, Shri Pankaj Chaudhary in his letter has highlighted the need for the Government of Andhra Pradesh to take corrective measures. ...(*Interruptions*).. .

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : अगर कुछ गलत होगा, तो हम उसको examine कर लेंगे। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Please sit down.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: I would like to assure this august House that the State Government will certainly not take up any corrective measures required.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR): Please sit down. आप बैठिए, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप उनको बोलने दीजिए। प्लीज़, आप बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Please sit down.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: On the other hand, it will continue with its financial misdeed.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : प्लीज़, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप उनको बोलने दीजिए, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लोग बैठिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Please sit down.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: It is for the Central Government to ensure financial discipline on the part of the Andhra Pradesh Government, and I urge the Centre to do so forthwith. In the latest revelation, the Andhra Pradesh Government has also recently misused Rs.1,798 crores released by the Centre under the National Health Mission and COVID Package-2 contrary to the direction of the Centre to transfer these funds to a single nodal account, the State Government has used these funds for other items. As a result, the health of the people of the State has been put to a great risk through misuse of funds, sanctioned for their health! Is this not enough for the Centre to step in forthwith and safeguard interests of the people of Andhra Pradesh? The Centre should do this before it is beyond repair.

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: As per the CAG, revenue deficit for 2019-20 was a huge 1486 per cent of the estimate! For the current financial year, it was Rs.40,829 crore for the seven month period of April-October, 2021, as against the Budget provision of only Rs.5,000 crore planned for the full financial year. It reveals an excess expenditure of 816 per cent! The Principal Accountant General, in a letter dated 4.5.2021, to the State Government objected to withdrawal of Rs.41,043 crore, bypassing the Treasury Units violations. This highlights a huge unauthorized diversion of funds. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA: Sir, we are sorry; we object to the way the hon. Member is speaking against our Government. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Sir, the State Government has also withdrawn recently Rs.7,000 crore from Panchayati bodies for this purpose.

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA: Sir, it has nothing to do with us. ...*(Interruptions)*... . In protest, we walk out. ...*(Interruptions)*... .

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: In a letter dated 30th June, 2021, the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, stated: "The borrowing space of the State for any given year is calculated on the basis of information submitted by the State. Once the CAG audited State Finance Accounts are available, the adjustment on account of over-borrowing by the State, arising due to deviation in the information given by the State and information published in the State Finance Accounts is carried out. Accordingly, in the instant case, repayments and other borrowings was considered based on the information provided by the State of Andhra Pradesh vide its letter dated 22.04.2021. An amount of Rs.17,923 crore was adjusted with the available borrowing space of Andhra Pradesh on account of over-borrowing by the State during the earlier years."

Sir, the State Finance affairs in Andhra Pradesh is very serious. The State Government should be prevented from eroding the sanctity of the legislative authorization of expenditure and appropriation of the funds done by both Parliament and the State Legislature. A five trillion dollar economy of India can't be built on financial misappropriation and willful wrong reporting, as is being done by the Andhra Pradesh Government. This is the time for necessary intervention by the Centre before it goes beyond repair. Thank you, Sir.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI (Maharashtra): Thank you so much, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for this opportunity. Firstly, to get this out of the way, I stand to oppose the Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2022 and the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2022. Now that I have that out of the way, Sir, एक कवि धूमिल हुए हैं, मैं उनकी दो पंक्तियों से अपनी बात शुरू करना चाहूंगी।

"लोहे का स्वाद
लोहार से मत पूछो,
उस घोड़े से पूछो,
जिसके मुंह में लगाम है।।"

सर, जिस तरीके से ये बजट आ रहे हैं, इन्होंने विकास को लगाम लगा दी है। विकास के अलावा प्रजातंत्र पर भी यह सरकार लगाम लगा चुकी है। इसके अलावा, सरकार ने संविधान पर और रोजगार पर भी लगाम लगाई हुई है।

सर, मैं पिछले दो महीनों की कुछ हेडलाइंस पढ़ना चाहती हूँ, इसी से समझ में आ जाएगा कि लोहे का क्या स्वाद है-- EPF rate slashed to 8.1%, lowest in over 4 decades; MSME suffers most during COVID, lockdown; Public sector banks have MSME NPA of Rs. 1,37,087 crore; Rupee sinks 109 paise, worst in Asia; ये बातें मैं अपने मन से नहीं बोल रही हूँ, मैं तो बस हेडलाइंस पढ़ रही हूँ। Industrial growth fell to 10 month low at 0.4 per cent in December; Income of poorest plunge to 53 per cent in five years, those at the top surge by over 40 per cent; amidst bilateral trade, India-China trade marks record surge in 2021; 60 per cent saw income halved in two years of pandemic; Joblessness rate in double digits between April and June, 2021; Joblessness rate in youth jumped to 26 per cent in financial year 2022, Q1; Women, 31 per cent worse over the men at 24 per cent; States showing high unemployment rates; सर, जम्मू-कश्मीर की बहुत बात होती है, उनके साथ किस तरीके का दुर्व्यवहार हो रहा है, इसकी बात भी होती है। आपको नफ़रत पर लगाम लगानी चाहिए, लेकिन आपने तो रोजगार पर लगाम लगाई हुई है--Jammu and Kashmir at 43 per cent; Madhya Pradesh at 31.4 per cent; Uttarakhand at 36.6 per cent; Uttar Pradesh at 24.7 per cent.

ये पिछले दो महीने की हेडलाइंस हैं, उन्हीं से आपको समझ में आ जाएगा कि यह एप्रोप्रिएशन है या * है या क्या है, मैं इस पर ज्यादा नहीं जाना चाहूंगी...(व्यवधान).. मैं आपको सब दे दूंगी, सोर्स के साथ दे दूंगी, आप टेंशन मत लीजिएगा, शायद आजकल आप अखबार नहीं पढ़ रहे हैं।

SHRI G. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO(Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I would request...

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: I will give you all the sources. ...*(Interruptions)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : मैं इसे चैक करा लूंगा। ...*(Interruptions)*... Jayaji, please sit down. अगर ऐसा होगा, तो हम इसे चैक करा लेंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*..

श्रीमती प्रियंका चतुर्वेदी : सर, मैं सब ऑथेंटिकेट कर दूंगी, यह एनएसओ का सर्वे है, क्या आप एनएसओ के सर्वे को भी डिनाई कर देंगे?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : मैं इसे चैक करा लूंगा।

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI G. V. L. NARASHIMHA RAO: The latest... ...(*Interruptions*)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : अगर कुछ अनपार्लियामेंटरी होगा तो उसे चैक करा लेते हैं।

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: I will authenticate it. Why are you getting worked up? आधे से ज्यादा समय * बोलते रहते हैं और इसे ऑथेंटिकेट हम करें।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : प्लीज़, आप सब्जेक्ट पर बोलिये। ...(**व्यवधान**).. माननीय मंत्री जी, आप बोलिये।

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I just want to be sure, if I heard this right. It is the Appropriation Bill, which has come here, and in its reference, if I heard the hon. Member right, * is an inappropriate word to use, if it was used for this. I would like to draw the hon. Member's attention, if it was used in this context -- an Appropriation Bill comes for discussion and all of us do discuss it -- if that word * is used in the context of the Appropriation Bill, I am sorry it is not correct to use it here. Particularly in terms of the Appropriation Bill, it has come in terms of the excess Demand for Grants. It is based on the PAC's recommendation and we are taking the PAC's recommendation and therefore, coming up with the Appropriation Bill for the excess Demand for Grants.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : अगर कुछ अनपार्लियामेंटरी होगा तो उसे चैक करा लेते हैं।

श्रीमती प्रियंका चतुर्वेदी : सर, मुझे नहीं पता था कि * एक अनपार्लियामेंटरी वर्ड है, हो सकता है, अब हो गया हो। Now, did I say it in that context? I am sorry, Madam, I did not say it in that context. मैं अगली बार कहूंगी कि मिसकैलकुलेशन है तो वह भी अनपार्लियामेंटरी लेंग्वेज हो जाएगी, तो हम विपक्ष किस बात के लिए हैं? ...(**व्यवधान**)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : ठीक है, उसे एग्जामिन करा लेंगे, अगर वह गलत होगा, तो उसे कार्रवाई से निकाल दिया जाएगा।

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: You will say 'miscalculation' is wrong.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : अगर कुछ भी अनपार्लियामेंटरी होगा, तो उसे कार्रवाई से निकाल दिया जाएगा। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: I am sorry. We will be saying 'miscalculation' and you will say 'miscalculation' is wrong. अब आप हमारे मुंह पर ही लगाम लगा रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I asked a question about its context to the Appropriation Bill, which has come in response to the PAC. I asked a question. I will appreciate if the hon. Member can just explain if she has used it in the context of the Appropriation Bill which is in response to the PAC, and if it is not just in that context I have no answers to give, I have no questions to ask. It is well within the Opposition parties to criticise the Government, but to use the word * in the context of an Appropriation Bill, is it right or wrong? Was it used in that context or not, is what I had asked for.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: May I continue, Sir, without any further interruptions? I will answer. * of the way policies are handled in this country was right and pretty obvious by all the headlines I have shared and I don't think it is unparliamentary and I don't think it is so objectionable for anyone to take objection to the fact. Now, Sir, I don't want to waste my time nor do I want to waste the Minister's time. She has very important things to do.

SHRI G. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, I want to read Rule 235. It says, "Whilst the Council is sitting, a Member — (i) shall not read any book, newspaper or letter except in connection..." ...**(Interruptions)**... . Can I complete? ...**(Interruptions)**... .

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN(Uttar Pradesh): Sir, this is not right. ...**(Interruptions)**... .

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : जया जी, मैंने उन्हें अलाऊ किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... You can't interrupt.

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : क्या हम लोग रूल बुक नहीं पढ़ सकते हैं?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : क्यों नहीं पढ़ सकते हैं! ...**(व्यवधान)**...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI G. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, it says, "... (i) shall not read any book, newspaper or letter except in connection with the business of the Council;" and what is being mentioned here has nothing to do with the Bill that is being discussed. That is the Business of the House at this point of time.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर) : ठीक है, हम उसे एग्जामिन करा लेंगे, अगर कुछ भी गलत होगा, तो उसे कार्रवाई से निकाल दिया जाएगा। प्लीज़, आप कंटीन्यू कीजिए। You please continue.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, it is a point of disorder. ... (*Interruptions*)... .

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Sir, can I say something? This disorderly conduct only goes to prove my point and all the headlines that I have quoted. I rest my case with that, Sir.

Now, with regard to the GST compensation to States, there was a reply to a question that was discussed two days ago, where it was quite obvious the way GST refunds are delayed to the States. Nobody is questioning the formula that has been arrived at by the GST Council. What we are questioning is your authority to disburse GST refunds to the States. And, Sir, State of Maharashtra has been repeatedly asking for its rightful due in the GST. Even now, the GST dues, as per the Report that was presented to this House, is Rs. 11,563 crores which the Government of Maharashtra disagrees. The correct figure is above Rs. 22,000 crores due to the State of Maharashtra.

I do not want to go back to what other hon. Members have already spoken. But, it becomes important that I raise this issue and raise this issue with concern as a nationalist and as much a nationalist as the other side claims to be.

There has been a huge cut in the Defence Budget for 2022-23 at a time when we are seeing a rise in conflict all of a sudden between Russia and Ukraine disregarding the rule-based order. At this particular point in time, we are surrounded by a neighbour who does not believe in a rule-based order and our Defence Budget should be working to ensure that we provide our Army and Armed forces with all kinds of appropriate equipment needed for their safety in safeguarding our nation. It is unfortunate to see that there has been a cut. What really surprises me is that a party which continues to chant Atmanirbhar Bharat — we all support Atmanirbhar Bharat; we would want to become Atmanirbhar Bharat — has a Defence research spending of 0.88 per cent in 2016-17 and 0.83 per cent in 2020-21! It really calls for worry for all of us, Sir.

I now come to wholesale inflation. Sir, the Wholesale Price Index rose to 13.11 per cent, year-on-year, in February from 12.96 per cent in January! It was 4.83 per cent in February, 2021. The WPI continues to be in double digit for the 11th consecutive month! And, these double digit figures should be alarming for us, because it would lead to high prices that we are already burdened with.

Sir, I will, now, come to the Consumer Price Index. I would not call it 'CPI.' Sir, Consumer Price Index recorded an eight-month high of 6.07 per cent. Sir, Retail Inflation rose 6.38 per cent for rural consumers; whereas, food inflation climbed up to 5.85 per cent. I will continue stick to India, not what is happening in the rest of the world, because it is the Indians, at the end of the day, who are suffering the consequences. I tried to raise this during the Zero Hour, but it was not permitted. But, I must raise this now. It is depreciating value of the Indian Rupee which has slumped down by over 17 per cent in the last five years. It should be a cause for worry.

The most important part, which, I think, is a cause for concern — I read out as headline in the beginning — and I am sure he would not ask me for source now. Sir, the interest rate of EPFO was slashed to 8.1 per cent — lowest in the last 40 years! But, at the same time, senior citizens, who are non-Government employees, depend on these interest rate savings once they retire, are facing hard time with high inflation and low interest rates on their savings. Interest rates on Small Savings Schemes, such as PPF, SCSS, NSC, etc., have been fallen. Even interest rate on fixed deposits in banks has fallen.

Last but not the least, Sir, I would not want to touch the employment issue, because it is quite a touchy subject. They ask for sources. But, I must tell you that the source is NSSO Survey which was released just recently and, I hope, they don't disregard that.

Now, I come to women and children. The Budget, unfortunately, did not cater to women and children either. In fact, the proportion of allocation to children is the lowest in the last ten years! It is a cause of concern. In Financial Year 2019-20, even allocation for the ICDS has been reduced! Allocations of POSHAN Abhiyaan decreased by 82 per cent, from Rs.3,400 crores to Rs.600 crores during the same time period. Sir, I will take just one last minute, before I end this. I just want to remind my dear friends in the Treasury Benches (*Time-bell rings*) Sir, just one last minute because it is about women. मेरे बोलते समय कितना disruption हुआ! मैं 2019 का क्वोट कर रही हूँ। "Women's welfare development will be accorded a high priority at all levels within the Government and the BJP is committed to 33 per cent reservation in Parliament and State Assemblies through a Constitution Amendment." चलिए, आप

reservation नहीं दे रहे हैं, तो आप welfare schemes पर तो ध्यान दे दीजिए, लेकिन वह भी नहीं हो रहा है। In 2014, it promised the women voters that if the BJP forms the Government at the Centre, it will pass the Women's Reservation Bill. चलिए, वह भी फिर से same चीज़ है, जो Congress-led UPA नहीं कर पायी। Despite introduction of the legislation for representation of women in 1996, 1998, 1999 and 2006, it continues to languish and no further action has been taken. So, considering that we are 50 per cent of India's population, not just the reservation, even the welfare schemes should be adequately compensated to the women of this country. Thank you so much, Sir, and thank you for allowing me to speak.

श्री महेश पोद्दार (झारखंड) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं Appropriation Bill (Nos. 2 and 3), 2022 जो कि आज सदन के समक्ष उपलब्ध हैं, उनका समर्थन करता हूँ। बजट में पहले जो प्रावधान किए गए थे, उससे कुछ अधिक खर्च हुआ है, जो अब बढ़कर 1 लाख, 58 हजार, 356 करोड़ हो गया है, जो कि विनियोग बिल (संख्यांक 3) में है। विभिन्न मदों में मात्र 10 लाख के करीब खर्च हो गया है, उसकी अनुमति के लिए यह सदन के समक्ष उपस्थित है। विनियोग बिल (संख्यांक 2) में - 5,204 करोड़, 57 लाख, 35 हजार, 163 रुपए, जो कि वर्ष 2018-19 के बजट से संबंधित है, उसके लिए सदन के समक्ष उपस्थित है। महोदय, अभी हमारे साथी कॉमरेड श्री बिनोय विस्वम जी पूछ रहे थे कि यह अधिक धन किस चीज में खर्च हुआ। मुझे भी उत्सुकता हुई, उनकी बात सही है कि हम किन चीजों पर अतिरिक्त खर्च कर रहे हैं। शायद उन्होंने देखा नहीं होगा, उसमें यह लिखा है। जो हमारा Appropriation Bill (No. 2) है, उसमें जो खर्च किया गया है, वह Ministry of Railways के लिए किया गया है और एक छोटी सी रकम Ministry of 22 Housing and Urban Affairs के लिए खर्च की गई है, जिसमें 1 लाख, 58 हजार, 356 करोड़ रुपए की बात है। उसमें जो अधिक खर्च किया गया है, मुझे बताते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि उसमें से बहुत बड़ी मात्रा करीब 100 करोड़ राज्यों को देने के लिए, डिफेंस और रेलवे के लिए अधिक खर्च की गयी है। जो भावना यहां पर व्यक्त की गई कि लगता है कि कोई फिज़ूलखर्ची की जा रही है, तो ऐसी कोई बात नहीं है। माननीया मंत्री जी ने बताया भी कि पीएसी आदि की सारी scrutiny के बाद यह प्रस्ताव आपके समक्ष आया है, जो कि प्रायः होता आया है और यह एक सरकार के लिए संविधान की बाध्यता है, जिसके तहत हम यहां पर इसकी चर्चा कर रहे हैं।

(उपसभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए)

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, हम लोगों ने पिछले बजट में देखा कि जब यह सरकार बजट भाषण में 'आयुष्मान भारत योजना' का प्रस्ताव लेकर आई थी, यदि मैं सही बोल रहा हूँ तो शायद उस समय माननीय जेटली जी थे, उस समय विपक्ष ने बड़े जोर से यह प्रश्न उठाया था कि यह पैसा कहां से आएगा। उनकी चिंता वाजिब थी, लेकिन सरकार ने कहा था कि पैसे की चिंता छोड़ दीजिए, हम पैसे का भी प्रावधान कर रहे हैं और इस योजना को लागू करने के लिए उन्होंने सारे राज्यों से अपील की थी कि सारे राज्य इसमें सहयोग करें, क्योंकि यह गरीबों, पिछड़ों और

वंचितों के लिए है, जो कि गरीबी के कारण अपना इलाज नहीं करा सकते। उन्होंने कहा था कि हम बजट में इसके लिए कभी पैसे की कमी नहीं होने देंगे और ऐसा हुआ भी। इसी प्रकार से जब बजट में 'मनरेगा' के लिए बात हुई, तो आपने कहा कि जो पिछले वर्षों में खर्च हुआ है, आपने बजट में उससे भी कम प्रावधान किया है। हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी ने बहुत स्पष्ट रूप से कहा कि MNREGA is an ongoing project. इसके लिए जितने भी पैसे की जरूरत होगी, उसे यह सरकार देने के लिए कटिबद्ध है। मैं दावे के साथ कह सकता हूँ कि आज तक किसी भी राज्य ने यह शिकायत नहीं की है कि हमें 'मनरेगा' के लिए पैसा नहीं मिला।

हाँ, हम विश्व की दो घटनाओं को ध्यान में रखें - एक तो यूक्रेन और रूस का युद्ध, जो अभी चल रहा है, जिसके कारण चंद दिनों में ही पूरे विश्व की आर्थिक व्यवस्था गड़बड़ हुई है, बहुत सारी चीजों के दाम बढ़ गए हैं और दूसरा कोविड है। कोविड के कारण जो घटनाएँ हुईं, उनका असर हमारी आर्थिक व्यवस्था पर भी हुआ, सारे विश्व में हुआ, लेकिन मज़े की बात यह है कि हमने इन आर्थिक चैलेंजेज़ को किस तरह से फेस किया, हमने किस तरह से इनको संभाला, किस तरह से आगे बढ़े।

काँग्रेस के हमारे साथी ने कहा कि यह संविधान के प्रावधानों का मामला है और उन्होंने कुछ कड़वी-कड़वी बातें कहीं। महोदय, पक्ष और विपक्ष के बीच कड़वी बातों की तो कोई शिकायत नहीं है, ये होनी भी चाहिए, लेकिन तकलीफ तब होती है, जब वहाँ पर कोई कड़वाहट होती है। मेरा एक ही आग्रह है कि यदि इस सरकार ने कुछ भी अच्छे काम किए हैं, तो उनको स्वीकार कीजिए। आप भी मानते हैं कि हिम्मतनगर में नेशनल हाईवे बना हो सकता है कि वह आपके घर के बगल में नहीं बना हो, पुरानी सड़क पर नहीं बना हो, लेकिन नेशनल हाईवे बना। उन्होंने इस बात को स्वीकार किया। यदि आप सारी माँगों के साथ-साथ एक शब्द जोड़ देते, उसका स्वागत कर देते, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि पक्ष और विपक्ष के बीच में वह कड़वाहट की भावना खत्म हो जाती। मैं समझता हूँ कि आज यह समय की माँग है। हम पक्ष और विपक्ष के बारे में बात जरूर करें, सुझाव जरूर दें, योजनाओं की आलोचना अवश्य करें, लेकिन जो हो रहा है, उसे हम सकारात्मक रूप से स्वीकार करें, उसमें हम सुझाव देकर आगे बढ़ें।

महोदय, उन्होंने कहा कि एमपीज़, एमएलएज़ और मंत्रियों को प्रशिक्षण की आवश्यकता है। उन्होंने बिल्कुल सही कहा। मैं समझता हूँ कि राजनीतिक कार्यकर्ताओं का राजनीतिक प्रशिक्षण, चाहे वे काँग्रेस के हों, चाहे बीजेपी के हों, चाहे किसी भी दल के हों, उसका एक अभिन्न अंग है। यदि हम प्रजातंत्र को मजबूत करना चाहते हैं, तो वह राजनीतिक कार्यकर्ताओं को भी करना पड़ेगा। लेकिन मैं गर्व के साथ कह सकता हूँ कि भारतीय जनता पार्टी में बहुत चुस्ती, मुस्तैदी, लगन और commitment के साथ कार्यकर्ताओं के लिए सालों भर प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम चलाए जाते हैं, शायद काँग्रेस में भी कभी चलाए जाते होंगे - चूँकि यह इतनी पुरानी पार्टी है, इसलिए उनके यहाँ यह व्यवस्था अवश्य रही होगी। मेरा तो आग्रह यह होगा कि हमारी तरफ उंगली उठाने के साथ-साथ अपनी तरफ भी देखें और अपने यहाँ भी इसमें सुधार कराने की कोशिश करें।

महोदय, केरल के हमारे साथी जॉन ब्रिटास जी ने कहा कि उनको रियल ग्रोथ रेट समझ में नहीं आता है। यह स्वाभाविक है। हम वामपंथियों से तो ग्रोथ रेट नहीं सीखेंगे। जब से मुझे होश आया है, तब से मैंने वामपंथियों को देखा है। वे हमारे बिहार राज्य में बड़े सक्रिय थे और वहाँ पर

लोग उनको काफी मानते भी थे। उनकी एक-एक रैली में लाखों लोग जमा भी होते थे, यह भी हमने देखा है। उन्होंने नारे दिए, झंडे दिए, रैलियाँ कीं, धरने दिए, बंद कराए, सब कुछ किया, गौ हत्या का समर्थन तक किया, लेकिन गरीबों को न तो बैंक दिया, न बिजली दी, न पानी दिया, न घर दिया, न सड़क दी। जैसे मनोज जी बोल रहे थे कि एक गरीब की नज़र से बजट को देखिए और आर्थिक मामलों को देखिए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जॉन ब्रिट्टास : आप केरल में आकर देखिए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, प्लीज़।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेश पोद्दार : महोदय, मैं उनको आश्वासन देता हूँ कि मैंने केरल में देखा है और देखूँगा, लेकिन मैं उनसे एक आग्रह जरूर करूँगा कि वे कुछ दिन हमारे गुजरात में गुज़ारें।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, प्लीज़।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेश पोद्दार : महोदय, आपने किया, यह अच्छी बात है। चूँकि केरल आज का नहीं, बल्कि वह एक ज़माने से समृद्ध राज्य रहा है और जिन चीज़ों का आज के इन भाषणों में विरोध रहा है, उसी राज्य में उन्हीं नीतियों का उन्होंने समर्थन किया और उन्हीं नीतियों के साथ वे आगे बढ़े।

महोदय, यह इत्तेफाक नहीं है कि इस देश का पहला प्राइवेट एयरपोर्ट कोच्चि में बना। आज काँग्रेसी या वामपंथी, सारे लोग एयरपोर्ट्स के प्राइवेटाइज़ेशन के विरोध की बात कर रहे हैं। इस देश का पहला प्राइवेट एयरपोर्ट कोच्चि में बना, जिसकी चिंता आज सम्माननीय सदस्य कर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, Mr. John Brittas ... (Interruptions)... श्री जॉन ब्रिट्टास, जब आपका मौका था, आपने बोला।...(व्यवधान)... आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है।...(व्यवधान)... आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है।...(व्यवधान)... जब आपके पास मौका था, आपने बोला।...(व्यवधान)... अब दूसरों को सुनने का भी धैर्य रखिए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेश पोद्दार : महोदय, उन्हें मालूम है कि उनकी बात नहीं जा रही है, लेकिन उन्हें व्यवधान करने में, शायद मुझे ट्रैक से उतारने में ... (व्यवधान)...

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, are we discussing the Appropriation Bill? ... (Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप चेयर को एड्रेस करें।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेश पोद्दार : महोदय, मुझे ट्रैक से उतारने से पहले देश ने उन्हीं को ट्रैक से उतार दिया, इस बात को हम न भूलें।...(व्यवधान)... महोदय, हमारे मनोज जी अभी किसी Happiness Index के बारे में बात कर रहे थे। यदि पूरे कोरोना काल में एक गरीब की थाली में अनाज आ गया और यह Happiness Index का निर्धारण करने वाले को समझ में नहीं आया, अगर एक गरीब के घर में बिजली आ गई, उसे पक्का घर मिल गया, तब भी index का आकलन करने वाले को happiness समझ में नहीं आई, तो इसमें दोष उनका है। हमने तो आईआईटी दी है, आईआईएम दिया है और जब उनके पास मौका था, तब उन्होंने बिहार को क्या दिया - चरवाहा विद्यालय!...(व्यवधान)... महोदय, लोग इस बात को भूलेंगे नहीं कि उनकी प्राथमिकता क्या थी और हमारी प्राथमिकता क्या है।...(व्यवधान)... आज हम गर्व के साथ कह सकते हैं कि जब हमारे पास मौका आया, तब हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने...(व्यवधान)...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, point of order... ..(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : मनोज कुमार झा जी, आप रूल बताइए।...(व्यवधान)... कृपया सीट पर बैठकर न बोलें।...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा : आप एक मिनट चुप हो जाइए।...(व्यवधान)... सर, मैंने सदन में आने के बाद सबसे पहले रूल बुक चाट ली थी।...(व्यवधान)... Rules 238 and 240 combined together. मैं सीधी सी बात कहता हूँ कि अगर आप unsavoury and uncharacteristic remarks देंगे, तो कम से कम हमने अपनी तरफ से कभी कुछ ऐसा नहीं किया है कि आपको तंज भी ऐसी जुबान में किया जाए।(व्यवधान)... चरवाहा विद्यालय को समझने के लिए आपको...(व्यवधान)... आप सामंती लोग हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : धन्यवाद, मनोज कुमार झा जी।...(व्यवधान)... मेरा आग्रह यह है कि सभी माननीय सदस्य इसे फॉलो करें।...(व्यवधान)... प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा जी, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा जी, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... आप बोलिए।

श्री महेश पोद्दार : मैं यह बात कहना चाहूँगा कि मैंने जो भी बात कही है, अपने सीमित ज्ञान के आधार पर कही है। यदि वहाँ पर चरवाहा विद्यालय नहीं खुला हो या खोलने की योजना नहीं बनी हो, तो मैं क्षमाप्रार्थी हूँ, मैं अपने शब्द वापस लेता हूँ, लेकिन चरवाहा विद्यालय और आईआईएम की तुलना करें, तो यह सदन निर्णय कर ले कि दोनों में से देश को किसकी आवश्यकता है।...(व्यवधान)... महोदय, मुझे तो पता चल रहा है कि पहलवान विद्यालय भी खुला है।...(व्यवधान)... देखिए, "जाकी रही भावना जैसी", उन्हें जो priority समझ में आ रही थी कि देश का विकास इस तरीके से होगा, उन्होंने किया।...(व्यवधान)... अभी हमारे बहुत सारे साथियों ने कहा कि एलआईसी वगैरह का निजीकरण न करें।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... कृपया बैठकर आपस में बात न करें, यह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जा रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं सबसे आग्रह कर रहा हूँ। ...*(Interruptions)*... You may follow the rules, Mr. John Brittas, please.

श्री महेश पोद्दार : इस देश में उदारीकरण हुआ, इंश्योरेंस कंपनीज़ पहले किस सरकार में आई, उस समय भी उसके साथ कौन लोग थे, इसे भी ये न भूलें। हमने जीआईसी को liberalize किया, हम एलआईसी को अधिक efficient बनाने के लिए लोगों को भी कुछ हिस्सेदारी दे रहे हैं। अभी बहुत सारे लोगों ने ब्याज की गिरती दर की बात की कि सीनियर लोग क्या करेंगे, उनकी आमदनी कैसे होगी। महोदय, उन्हें निवेश का एक मौका दिया जा रहा है। अगर उनका पैसा सरकार की कंपनी में लगेगा, तो कुछ गलत नहीं है। देखिए, अभी शायद फौजिया जी ने कहा कि किसी ने सपना देखा है कि स्पेस की फ्लाइट सस्ती हो। महोदय, हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी ने सपना देखा और लोगों ने मज़ाक भी उड़ाया कि क्या प्रधान मंत्री को और कोई काम नहीं है, वे पाखाने बनवाएंगे, लेकिन जहाँ उन्होंने पाखाने बनवाए, वहीं उन्होंने बुलेट ट्रेन का सपना भी देखा। आज उस बुलेट ट्रेन पर टाइम बाउंड स्पीड से काम चल रहा है और वह समय से तेजी से बढ़ रहा है।

5.00 P.M.

महोदय, यह जो सोच है, इस सोच की कमी इस पार्टी या इस सरकार को नहीं है और यह बजट में भी परिलक्षित होता है।

महोदय, हेडलाइंस से ही सरकारें नहीं चलतीं और हेडलाइंस से ही गवर्नेंस नहीं होती। सर, आप भी एक बहुत वरिष्ठ पत्रकार रहे हैं, आपको मालूम है कि इस देश में या पूरे विश्व में जितने समाचार-पत्र हैं, उनमें views और news की बातें बराबर होती हैं। जब वहाँ पर छँटनी हो जाती है, उसके बाद हम पाठक के तौर पर कौन-कौन सी हेडलाइन पढ़ते हैं और कौन-कौन सी हेडलाइन पढ़ना भूल जाते हैं, यह हमारे ऊपर निर्भर करता है। महोदय, यदि हम कुछ हेडलाइंस को selectively ले लें, तो यह ठीक नहीं है। यह सही है कि हम criticise कर सकते हैं, लेकिन यह एक तथ्य है जिसको हम नकार नहीं सकते कि हम आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। इस देश में बहुत बड़े-बड़े बदलाव हो रहे हैं, चाहे वह आर्थिक क्षेत्र हो या इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर क्षेत्र हो।

महोदय, हमारे कई साथियों के मित्रों की सरकार चल रही है, सहयोगी सरकार चल रही है। हमारे राज्य झारखंड में राजद की पार्टनरशिप की भी सरकार चल रही है और कांग्रेस के सहयोग से भी सरकार चल रही है। महोदय, मैं यह बात कहना नहीं चाहता था, लेकिन जब सारे राज्यों की बात हो रही है और वे अपनी बातें कह रहे हैं, तो मैं भी थोड़ी अपनी बात कहना चाहूँगा। जब कोविड का समय था और अखबारों के पन्ने उसकी खबरों से भरे रहते थे, तब उनके पास सैनेटाइज़र एवं मास्क इत्यादि खरीदने के लिए पैसे नहीं थे। सरकार बार-बार यह बोलती थी कि हमारा खजाना खाली है, जबकि आज यह स्पष्ट हो रहा है कि उनके यहाँ डिपॉजिट में अरबों रुपये पड़े थे। महोदय, आज यहाँ कोई विमेन इंश्योरेंस की बात कर रहे थे। मैं उनको बता दूँ कि झारखंड में जब हमारी पिछली सरकार थी, तो उसमें हम एक रुपये में महिलाओं की जमीन की रजिस्ट्री करा रहे थे, लेकिन जब से कांग्रेस और जेएमएम की सरकार वहाँ आई है, जिसमें

आरजेडी भी पार्टनर है, उसने पहला निर्णय यह लिया कि औरतों के सशक्तिकरण का जो यह कार्यक्रम चल रहा था, उस व्यवस्था को उसने खत्म कर दिया। महोदय, अब आज हमें यह बताया जा रहा है कि औरतों का इंश्योरेंस कराइए।

महोदय, अब हम दूसरी बात बताते हैं कि हमारी सरकार ने किसानों के लिए भी प्रावधान किया था। कांग्रेस पार्टी बराबर यह कहती है कि किसानों को सीधा फायदा पहुँचाया जाए। यह अच्छी बात है, हमने भी यही किया। हमने प्रत्येक किसान को प्रति एकड़ 5,000 रुपये देने की व्यवस्था की थी और वह व्यवस्था चल रही थी, लेकिन इस झारखंड सरकार ने आते ही उस योजना को सीधे बन्द कर दिया, जिसके कारण जो हज़ारों-लाखों किसान उसका बेनिफिट पा रहे थे, वे उससे वंचित हो गए।

महोदय, ये loan waiver की एक स्कीम लाए, जिसमें सबको मालूम है कि लोन किस तरह दिए जाते हैं और किस तरह waive किए जाते हैं। ये देश में पॉलिसी स्टेटमेंट के रूप में direct benefit के लिए बोलते हैं, लेकिन जब यही बात झारखंड में आती है, तो वहाँ यह होता है कि loan दे दो और उसके बाद उसको waive कर दो। सर, जल विभाग के मंत्री हमारी बगल में बैठे हैं। ये कुछ दिन पहले झारखंड में दौरे पर गए थे। It has one of the poorest performance in 'Nal Se Jal' scheme; it is not even about 40 per cent. वहाँ ऐसी स्थिति है। यदि इस स्थिति में आप राज्य को केन्द्र की नीति के साथ नहीं चलाएँगे, तो जनता को जो अधिकार मिलने हैं, जनता का जो सशक्तिकरण होना है, उसको हम जल्दी से जल्दी कैसे पूरा करेंगे, इस बात की चिन्ता करने की आवश्यकता है।

महोदय, जब हम भविष्य की ओर देखें, तो हम सभी घरों में नल से जल देने वाले हैं। आज बिजली की क्वालिटी के बारे में कोई बात नहीं करता। हमारे बंगाल के साथी यहाँ बैठे हैं। मैं जब बड़ा हुआ, तब वहाँ वे दिन मैंने देखे हैं और इन लोगों ने भी देखे हैं। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि उस समय वहाँ इनकी सरकार थी, लेकिन बंगाल में हमने ऐसे दिन भी देखे हैं, जब 12-12 घंटे लगातार पावर कट होती थी। बिज़नेस सेक्टर में यह होता था कि इस हफ्ते 12 घंटे कभी दिन में बिजली आएगी, तो कभी रात में बिजली आएगी, ऐसे दिन भी हमने देखे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं मान रहा हूँ कि अब वहाँ यह स्थिति नहीं है, लेकिन हमने ऐसे दिन भी देखे हैं। वैसी परिस्थिति देश के बहुत सारे राज्यों में थी, लेकिन आज के दिन सारे राज्यों में और देश में बिजली सरप्लस में है, इस बात को भी हमें स्वीकार करना चाहिए। हर घर तक बिजली पहुँचने के बाद भी सबको हम बिजली दे पा रहे हैं, इस बात को हमें स्वीकार करना चाहिए। हमें इस बात को भी स्वीकार करना चाहिए कि पिछले सात साल में हमने 17 गुना अधिक सोलर पावर पैदा की है। महोदय, यह काम इतनी आसानी से नहीं हुआ। इसमें सरकार ने एक व्यवस्था की और निजी क्षेत्र ने अपनी बुद्धिमत्ता दिखाई। दोनों ने मिल-जुलकर यह काम किया है और मैं समझता हूँ कि सही तरीका यही है। जैसा कि मैंने पहले भी कहा था, जो काम पिछले 70 सालों में हुआ, उसकी किसी भी चीज़ के आँकड़े आप देख लें। आप किसी भी आँकड़े को देख लें, किसी भी विकास के आँकड़े को देख लें और पिछले 7 साल के आँकड़े देख लें तथा दोनों की रफ्तार को देख लें, तो आपको पता चल जाएगा कि यदि अगले 17 वर्ष तक हम इसी रफ्तार से चलते रहे, तो वह दिन दूर नहीं जब हम विश्व के सबसे समृद्ध देशों में से एक होंगे।

महोदय, इस वर्ष का बजट, न केवल इस वित्तीय वर्ष का, बल्कि आने वाले 25 वर्षों का, आने वाले दशकों का प्रतिबिम्ब है। चाहे गति शक्ति राष्ट्रीय मास्टर प्लान हो - महोदय, राज्यों के लिए एक लाख करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया गया है ताकि जो केंद्र की योजनाएं हैं, उनको सप्लीमेंट करने के लिए यदि आपको ज़रूरत हो, तो आप यह न बोलें कि हमारे पास धन की कमी है। महोदय, पिछले दिनों हमारे राज्य का बजट आया, उसमें एक भी योजना ऐसी नहीं है, जो केंद्रीय योजनाओं के साथ जोड़कर सप्लीमेंट करने के लिए बनायी गई हो। महोदय, यदि यह काम राज्य नहीं करेंगे, तो किसका दोष होगा! यदि वहां के लोग वंचित रह जाएंगे, तो किसका दोष होगा! अभी हम जो देख रहे हैं कि 13 देशों के वैश्विक सर्वेक्षण में, जिसमें सारे बड़े देशों के लोग थे, उसमें प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के लिए 77 परसेंट की रेटिंग हुई। मैं नहीं समझता हूं कि इस देश के बाहर कोई बहुत बड़े advertisement किए गए, जैसे यहां राजधानी की सरकार करती है या कोई प्रभाव डालने की कोशिश की गई है। मैं यह मानकर चलता हूं कि उन्होंने अपने सर्वे के मामले में कुछ independence रखी होगी। जो दूसरे indices थे, उनके साथ इनको हम न जोड़ें, क्योंकि इसका एक पोलिटिकल ओवरटोन भी होगा। इस देश में यह सरकार बार-बार जीत रही है, राज्यों में भी जीत रही है, सबसे बड़े राज्य में जीती, फिर दोबारा वहां जीती है। इन्होंने एक इतिहास रचा है, यह इस सरकार की विश्वसनीयता है। सरकार की विश्वसनीयता केवल नाम से नहीं होती, केवल नारे से नहीं होती, केवल गरीबी हटाओ के वायदे से नहीं होती - जैसे हम सब्जी बनाते हैं, तो उसमें झाग होता है, जिसमें केवल झाग होता है, content नहीं होता है, वह दिखता ज़रूर है - वे सब वायदे थे, नारे थे, ये वे नहीं हैं। अगर हम deliver नहीं करते तो हमें यह विश्वास दोबारा नहीं मिलता। मैं कह सकता हूं कि delivery mechanism को ...(व्यवधान)... यही सच्चा और अच्छा विकास है, इसे आप भी स्वीकार कर लें। आप इसमें सुझाव दें और साथ चलें, लोगों ने आप पर भी विश्वास जताया था, आपसे भी लोग अपेक्षा करते थे, आपको भी मौका दिया था, लेकिन आप नहीं कर पाए, अब हम कर रहे हैं तो हमें रोकिए मत, बल्कि हमें सहारा दीजिए, हमें प्रोत्साहन दीजिए।

महोदय, अनुच्छेद 370 हटाए जाने पर विपक्ष रो रहा था। उस समय पूरा देश अचम्बित था कि यह कैसे हो रहा है! लेकिन यह इसी सदन में हो गया। इसी सदन में जो एक charged atmosphere था, किसी को विश्वास नहीं हो रहा था कि यह हो गया, पूरा देश अचम्बित था। उस समय इसी सदन में बहुत सारी आशंकाएं व्यक्त की गई थीं। आज मैं अपने मित्रों से आग्रह करूंगा कि वे उन आशंकाओं को पढ़ लें और आज की वहां की जो स्थिति है, उसको पढ़ लें। ...(व्यवधान)... यदि आप ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : कृपया पीछे बैठकर टिप्पणी न करें।

श्री महेश पोद्दार : मैं आपको डेटा दे रहा हूं। महोदय, कश्मीर में एक रोशनी कानून था। CAG ने जम्मू-कश्मीर जैसे छोटे राज्य में, डेढ़ करोड़ की population वाले राज्य में करीब 25 हजार करोड़ रुपये का रोशनी घोटाला बताया है। वह घोटाला करने वाले कौन थे! वहां के अभिजात वर्ग के लोग, सत्ता में बैठे लोग थे। ...(व्यवधान)... अभी उसको हटाया गया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय सदस्य, केवल आपकी बात ही रिकॉर्ड पर जा रही है, आप बोलें।

श्री महेश पोद्दार : महोदय, जो लोग डेटा चाहते हैं, मैं उन्हीं से कहूंगा कि वे हमसे डेटा न मांगें। जो डेटा पब्लिक डोमेन में available है, उनसे मांगें। उससे ज्यादा उनसे मांगें, जो इनको वोट देते हैं। पब्लिक ने इनको यदि वोट नहीं दिया ...(व्यवधान)... मुझे याद है कि एक राज्य के मुख्य मंत्री ने कहा था कि ...(व्यवधान)... यदि हम दोबारा चुनाव जीतकर आ जाते हैं...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़...(व्यवधान)... मैडम प्लीज़, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेश पोद्दार : एक मुख्य मंत्री ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : अगर सदन चलाना चाहते हैं, तो आप सभी लोग धैर्य रखें।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री महेश पोद्दार : एक मुख्य मंत्री घोटाले में फंसे, फिर जनता ने उनको वोट दे दिया।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : मैं सभी से निवेदन कर रहा हूँ।...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठकर टिप्पणी न करें।...(व्यवधान)... मैं आपको वॉर्न कर रहा हूँ।...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़..., ...(व्यवधान)... You are not supposed to do it. मैं सबसे आग्रह कह रहा हूँ।...(व्यवधान)... मैं सारे सदस्यों से...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़, ...(व्यवधान)... मैं सारे माननीय सदस्यों से आग्रह कर रहा हूँ कि आप धैर्य रखें। अगर आप बैठकर ऐसे ही रनिंग कमेंट्री करेंगे, तो आप लोग ही हाउस चलाने का तरीका बताइए। मैं यह देख रहा हूँ कि कुछ लोग लगातार...(व्यवधान)... do not force me. अगर इस तरह से disturbance करेंगे, तो मैं सभी का नाम लूंगा। अगर आप मर्यादा से हाउस चलाना चाहते हैं, तो आप जो कुछ कहते हैं, उसका प्रत्युत्तर सुनने का धैर्य रखें। मेरा सभी माननीय सदस्यों से आग्रह है। मैं हर तरफ से यह देख रहा हूँ कि कुछ लोग बीच में शोर कर रहे हैं। आप यह अपेक्षा करते हैं कि सदन में आपकी बात गरिमा से सुनी जाए, शांति से सुनी जाए, लेकिन इतने शोर के अंदर यह चेयर के लिए संभव नहीं है।

श्री महेश पोद्दार : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं बेसिक्स पर आता हूँ। शौचालयों की बात हुई, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि देश में दस करोड़ शौचालय बन चुके हैं। मैं मुख्य मंत्री की बात पर बाद में आऊंगा। सर, अभी तक दस करोड़ शौचालय बन चुके हैं। कुछ लोगों ने यह कहा कि वहां पर पानी नहीं है। यह बात सही है कि हमारे गांवों में पानी की किल्लत थी। आप यह देखिए कि हमने आपकी आलोचना को स्वीकार किया और उसको एक रचनात्मक कार्यक्रम में बदला। हमने यह तय किया कि हर घर तक नल से पानी देंगे। आज छह करोड़ घरों तक पानी पहुंच गया है। मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा नहीं है कि हम आपकी आलोचना को एक कान से सुनते हैं, दूसरे से निकाल देते हैं। आपकी आलोचना को हम स्टोर करते हैं और यह सोचते हैं कि ऐसा क्यों बोला गया और इसमें हम क्या बेहतर कर सकते हैं। आपने कहा कि टॉयलेट में पानी नहीं है, तो हमने भी कहा कि

बिल्कुल नहीं है। शायद कहीं-कहीं ऐसी दिक्कतें थीं, जिनको हमने दूर कर दिया है। अब आपको पीने के लिए पानी मिलेगा, टॉयलेट के लिए भी पानी मिलेगा, लेकिन शायद इनको वोट नहीं मिलेगा, क्योंकि वोट हमें मिलेगा।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं एक आंकड़ा और देना चाहता हूँ कि वर्ष 2014 में कांग्रेस ने कहा था कि वर्ष 2013-14 में 'निर्मल भारत अभियान' के लिए 4,200 करोड़ रुपये का बजटीय प्रोविज़न था। मान लिया जाए कि 'निर्मल भारत अभियान' उनका ही है, लेकिन Revised Estimate was only Rs. 2,200 crore. सर, 4,200 करोड़ में से 2,200 करोड़ रुपये ही खर्च हो पाए। यह करीब-करीब आधा ही खर्च हो पाया। ये आंकड़े हैं। इन आंकड़ों के बारे में वे लोग पूछें, जो इन आंकड़ों से बेहतर कर सकें। उनके पास भी मौका है। अभी भी इस देश में हर पार्टी का कहीं न कहीं, किसी न किसी राज्य में प्रतिनिधित्व है। वहां पर वे केन्द्र से बेहतर करके दिखाएं। मैं इस बात की चुनौती देता हूँ कि आप अपने राज्य में अच्छा कीजिए, तब हमें भी अच्छा लगेगा और यह हमारे लिए भी एक चुनौती होगी, लेकिन हम यह देख रहे हैं कि हम जो काम कर रहे हैं, उसमें सिवाय झूठ-सच के, सिवाय criticism के कोई competition नहीं दिखता है। ऐसा नहीं चलने वाला है। एक समय था जब भारत नेता की जगह विश्व में देशों का follower हुआ करता था। हम पिछलग्गू माने जाते थे और 'हां' में 'हां' मिलाने वाले लोग मानते थे, लेकिन हमारी आर्थिक उद्यमिता से हमारा निर्यात कई गुना बढ़ गया और बढ़ता ही जा रहा है। सर, इस सदन में पुराने शिपिंग मंत्री जी बैठे हुए हैं। यह तथ्य है कि आज के दिन इस देश में इतना निर्यात हो रहा है कि यहां पर भेजने के लिए कंटेनर नहीं मिल रहे हैं। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि निर्यातक लोग बार-बार शिपिंग मंत्री जी के पास शिकायत लेकर आते हैं कि हमें कंटेनर दिलवाइए, हमें पोर्ट में जगह दिलवाइए। ऐसा अचानक नहीं हुआ है, लेकिन यह बात भी सही है कि सात साल में बदलाव आया है। इस बदलाव के लिए हम अपनी पीठ थपथपाकर सोए नहीं हैं, बल्कि हम यह देखते हैं कि हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी अपनी पार्टी के सदस्यों को रोज़ एक नया दायित्व देते हैं। मुझे यह मालूम नहीं है कि बड़े स्तर पर मंत्रियों को कितना दायित्व देते हैं, कितना चैलेंज देते हैं, लेकिन कार्यकर्ता होने के नाते I know that he gives one vision, one task every day. अभी हाल में हमारे उपराष्ट्रपति जी ने शिक्षा प्रणाली के बारे में एक बात कही कि भारतीयता के महत्व को हम क्यों नकार रहे हैं? क्या हम भारतीयता की पद्धति से शिक्षा नहीं दे सकते हैं? हम समझते हैं कि हम दे सकते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हमें शिक्षा नीति बनाने में 35 साल लग गए। मैं यही पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आपको भगवा में क्या दोष नज़र आता है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... यदि लाल में दोष नहीं है, यदि हरे में दोष नहीं है, तो भगवा में क्या दोष है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा : हर रंग में दोष है, रंग नहीं होना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री महेश पोद्दार : हरे में दोष नहीं है, लाल में दोष नहीं है, तो भगवे में क्या दोष है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... महोदय, माननीय अटल जी ने एक बार कहा था कि सरकारें आएंगी, जाएंगी, पार्टियां बनेंगी और बिगड़ेंगी, मगर यह देश रहना चाहिए। महोदय, इस देश में हम बड़ी तेजी से आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। एक साधारण सदस्य के नाते, एक साधारण कार्यकर्ता के नाते, एक साधारण नागरिक के नाते मैं इस सदन के सारे सदस्यों को, चाहे वे इधर बैठे हों या उधर बैठे हों, कहना

चाहता हूँ कि हमें हर वह कदम उठाना चाहिए, जिससे हम इस यात्रा को अधिक तेज गति और शक्ति दे सकें, धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. Minister to reply.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Thank you very much, Sir. I thank 16 hon. Members who participated in this debate, of course, talking on two Bills which were simultaneously brought up for discussion -- the Supplementary Demands for Grants, 2021-22 and also the excess Demands for Grants for 2018-19. I thank every one of the Members who have spoken.

Quite a few points which are heart of the Supplementary Demands have been raised with questions about why at all such Demands will have to be raised by the Government if only it looked into these matters in time. This was raised by a few Members, particularly on the excess Demand for 2018-19 which is being brought here now. I would like to take a minute to explain as to why the excess Demand for Grants pertaining to 2018-19 is coming in now in 2022. I quite appreciate the concern of the hon. Members, particularly when it comes to the question of utilizing public money, and if there is a delay in coming and seeking the approval of the House, it is only natural that Members will raise concern about it. I am here duty-bound surely to answer and remove any apprehension that may be in the minds of the hon. Members. I would, first of all, like to say although it is coming in for approval for the excess that has been used in 2018-19, there has not been any delay in coming here. It is, of course, related to 2018-19 but why has it come here now? It has come here for regularizing the excess spending of that year, and the need for regularizing arises because the Public Accounts Committee of the Lok Sabha has clearly looked into it and said that we will have to go back to the House for certain heads of expenditure that has been spent in 2018-19 in excess of what has been mentioned in the Budget and although it has been picked up, the PAC felt it has to go back to the House to get regularized in the sense it should be again looked into by the House and then given that regularization and approval. Therefore, we brought it. And when did that PAC Report come to us? The PAC Report suggesting that we regularize this looking at the excess expenditure of 2018-19 was submitted on 14th December, 2021. And on 14th December 2021, when it was submitted, the time given for us to get the 'regularization' meaning 'approval' again from the House was up to June 2022. We are in March 2022. They have given us time to get the regularization done by June 2022. And abiding by that suggestion given by the PAC, we have brought that as a Supplementary Demand for Grants to meet the expenditure which was already

incurred in 2018-19 as a regularization step, and that is why it has come. There has not been any delay. From December, we have immediately taken it up, and therefore come up with this Supplementary Demand for that excess expenditure which has been incurred for regularizing it. I just want to highlight the point.

And what were those excess expenditures at that time? If we can very quickly highlight the point, I strongly believe that the Members would appreciate as to why those expenditures were incurred and why after the PAC having had a look at it felt that it might be better for us to go back to the House to have it regularized. The amounts spent were clearly narrated in the papers which have been distributed. I just want to recall that for Defence Services, Rs.3,841 crores have been taken up for ration, fuel, oil, lubricants, medical and many other emergency requirement payments for the HAL. We are talking about 2018-19. I am sure the hon. Members will recall the circumstances in which these expenditures would have been incurred. For statutory and customs duties for critical ammunition which were being brought in, imported stores, replenishment of and procurement of airborne and ground weapon armaments and so on. These were not expenditures which were incurred otherwise but were very essential and therefore it has been brought in.

Again, capital outlay for Defence Services has taken Rs.1,257 crores. And where did they go? Allocation made at the B.E. stage was insufficient and therefore we had to spend more. Advanced Light Helicopter approvals were given by the CCS. Strike off of wastage happened at the component levels for repair of T-90 tanks which came from Russia and also progress of Rohtang Tunnel and CSG roads which were built at that time were critical for connectivity and some of the work progress which happened at that time happened faster than we thought such as vehicle procurement cases, National War Museum and Memorial, obligatory contractual payments for shipbuilding contracts and so on. None of these expenditures could have just been met with what amounts were given in the B.E. They had to be spent and later included. Therefore, when it came to the PAC, they wanted us to go back to the House and that is where this is it. The Supplementary Demand for Grants, except for the excess grant about which I have explained, is also an aspect which is very important for us to appreciate for a moment.

Several Members spoke and I distinctly recall hon. Member Fauzia Khan also saying we need to have a lot more human touch in it; infrastructure is important, so we need to spend there; and we also need to have greater inclusivity in the Budget and so on. Just look at the Supplementary Demand for Grants and see where this is going. I am sure hon. Member Fauzia Khan herself and several other Members, who

spoke on it, highlighted relatively the same kind of importance keeping the common man in mind.

Look at the fertilizer subsidy. It is Rs.14,902 crore which is coming through this Supplementary Demand. Indigenous urea subsidy is Rs.8,270 crore. You would realize that last year the price of import of urea spiked and we had to import it at that cost nevertheless. And after having imported it at that cost, the Government did not push the burden on to the farmers. The entire hike in the cost of imported fertilizers has been borne by the Government. The farmers have not been made to pay even one extra paisa for the fertilizers. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sorry, Madam. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am highlighting that we have done that. So, for import of urea, an amount of Rs.14,000 crore is included in this. It is for the hon. Member, Dr. Fauzia Khan, who felt strongly that we should have in mind the interest of the common man. This is that. Similarly, labour and employment is also a part of the Supplementary Demands for Grants. It is an amount of Rs.10,260 crore. Where is this going? It is for the contribution and general grants-in-aid under the Employees Pension Scheme, 1995. It goes for that. Then comes rural development with an amount of Rs.9,668 crore in the Supplementary Demands for Grants. It is fourth item in the list. Where does that go? It is for providing additional funds to NABARD for repayment of interest component under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. It goes for the houses of the poor people. It is for NABARD that we have given this money. So, the Supplementary Demands for Grants are not coming for anything else but to meet the pressing needs of Government schemes which are for the common people. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am coming to that one by one. I will, certainly, address EPF. Binoy Viswamji, I will, certainly, address that. So, there is a lot of concern, genuine and legitimate concern. I am with Members when they speak with concern, particularly on the GST Compensation Fund. Supplementary Demands for Grants, Item No.6, an amount of Rs.8,292.75 crore, is for meeting expenditure on additional transfer to GST Compensation Fund. It is moving swifter. We are not holding anybody's money back and we are going as per what was decided in the GST Council. Again, Item No.12 of the Supplementary Demands for Grants is for Defence pensions having an amount of Rs.1,028.50 crore. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let her speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: So, item by item, I can highlight it to say that the Supplementary Demands for Grants is just in time to meet those very important common man related schemes and it is for that, that this set of Demands has come.

Sir, probably, I just missed out naming the hon. Members but I will try to address the issues which they have raised. Devolution of funds to the States was a very important part of the speech of hon. Member, Shri Shaktisinh Gohil, when he spoke about various things. Although we were talking about the Supplementary Demands for Grants, the hon. Member has raised very many larger issues. I would like to respond to some of them. Point was about devolution of the States share in the Central taxes. Just to set the background, I want to lay this. In RE of 2021-22, an amount of Rs.7.45 lakh crore has been released. In BE of 2022-23, an amount of Rs.8.17 lakh crore has already been projected for 2022-23. The entire RE of 2021-22 has been released in February to enable States to spend in time. So, the entire release for this year, as projected in RE of 2021-22, has been released in February. It was some hon. Member who wanted to say that we should do it in time; otherwise, when States plan their Budgets, they are not in a position to understand how they are going to get it. I am not even indicating to them; I have released it to them totally. The Centre has no interest; in fact, on the contrary, the Centre has an interest in helping States to get it in time. I take it as my duty -- at least, in these times, when States are at a front-end getting the economy to revive and also to come out of the pandemic-related setbacks, they need the money -- and so I had personally supervised, once in November to release double the installments within one month, and again in February, to release double the installment within one month and in February itself, clear the entire year's dues to the States so that they can plan for their next year coming.

Another important such transfer, on the basis of what was agreed in the Council, is that we borrow the money for paying the compensation because we were not earning as much as we need to pay to the States on the compensation. Transfer to the States based on the back to back loan arrangement, which was agreed in the Council, was Rs.1.59 lakh crores. That is already transferred to the States in time every month. The Finance Commission Grants and, as against the actuals of Rs.1.84 lakh crores in 2020-21, the outlay provided in 2021-22 is Rs.2.11 lakh crores. Transfers to States under Centrally-sponsored scheme for 2020-21 is Rs.3.08 lakh crores; for 2021-22, Rs.3.26 lakh crores and for 2022-23, Rs.3.33 lakh crores. It is not decreasing. On the contrary, it is increasing and it should increase but I want to draw the attention of hon. Members that nowhere is the devolution to the States being held back by the Centre. Regarding Central Sector scheme, the actuals of

2020-21 are Rs.16,143 crores; 2021-22 R.E. is Rs.45,123 crores and B.E. of 2022-23 is Rs.49,026 crores. So, there is no reduction; in fact, timely disbursement.

Sir, this one point, which I want to seek your permission to say, is not at all a part of this Supplementary Demands for Grants. But it is in the context of GST payments and also this suggestion that 'No, the Centre has not been fair about distributing GST compensation' and also raising a matter which has been long settled and solved. It is about an IGST payment on which questions were raised by an hon. Member. I would like to highlight that. I would like to say this point by point. Till 2018-19, when a formal system of disbursing, dividing, sharing IGST came into play, that system came into play only in 2018-19; before that, the IGST, kept accumulating -- much before the system of formula of distribution of IGST came into play, in 2017-18, by the end of that year itself, Rs.1.76 lakh crores had accumulated under the IGST. This is not a matter which is pending now, I would like to make it clear. But that time, when there was no formulation, the GST Council decided that we need to quickly disburse this accumulated amount. "Why is it sitting there and can it be divided?" So, an *ad hoc* appointment was taken by the then Council to split the amount 50 per cent to the States and whatever 50:50 arrangement was done. So, the amount should be distributed and apportioned among States and Centre. That had happened well before May of 2018, if I remember correctly. Then, the GST Council, 37th Council, which met in September, 2019, spoke about this particular division of IGST and said, 'It has been, you know, *ad hoc* divided between the States. Can we have some kind of a formulation for that so that any leftover amount can also go back rightly to the States?'

So, in September, 2019, a Group of Ministers was formed, and that Group of Ministers went into the detail of how this division had been formulated, before the formulation came to place, how it was divided, what is the amount left behind and how is that going to be shared? Now, this Group of Ministers, I am not sure if the hon. Member, Shri Sushil Modi is here, under his Chairmanship, when he was the Deputy Chief Minister and the Finance Minister of Bihar, he had gone through this whole thing along with the other Ministers, and on 4th December, 2019, this Group was constituted, and a report came in to see how it has to be divided and if any excess that was paid to any one State, how is that to be retrieved, should it be retrieved then or should it be retrieved later, all these had been gone through in greater depth. On 16th May, 2020, I had taken a decision after looking into all the recommendations which have come that this amount should be apportioned and consequential transactions should also be all carried out so that the entire issue of IGST and the pending payments, excess payments, reversal of excess payments, all

that had been threadbare put in file and reversal of transaction was split in two different stages, even that had been accomplished where, in the first step, Rs. 33,412 crore was transferred into the Compensation Fund because from the Consolidated Fund, you don't deal with GST. Compensation Fund is the one which receives it. The result of recovery of compensation given to States, as a result of release of IGST, which has to be sent to them. In November, 2020, another Rs. 25,058 crore was released to States as the remaining share of that IGST issue which was pending for the States. In all, through these two releases, the Central Government released Rs. 58,470 crores from the Consolidated Fund of India for that transaction of the IGST which still before 2017 and 2018 did not have a formulation and the GST Council had only, *ad hoc*, decided please split it between the States and the Centre. That entire episode had been gone through through a GoM which had all Ministers in it, from the GST Council, a lot of Ministers headed by Shri Sushil Modi, and after which, based on the recommendations, that entire episode of IGST, pending payments had been cleared well before December of 2020. Sir, I want that to be clearly put on the Table so that Members who would want to see it and get more details, can get it. So, IGST, no more pending amounts. Now, everything goes per formula per month as it is collected and there is nothing kept back. There was a small confusion, I think, or, if I have not understood correct, I would like to stand corrected. Talking about the GST cess collections, based on which compensation is paid, and that cess in the GST dispensation, is levied only on sin goods and those sin goods are already specified, notified and mentioned. That is one thing on which the Centre doesn't do anything. It is as per the GST formulation that money keeps going to the States as and when that collection comes into the Compensation Cess Fund. That is the compensation cess which is under the GST regime. That cess is not to be mixed up with, say, the education and health cess, or, the road cess, or, any such cess which the Central Government collects over which the usual observation would be, 'Oh well, that doesn't come under the part of the Finance Commission's devolution formula, it is something which the Centre takes away, it doesn't come to the States.'

Of course, it goes to the States, but never mind, that is a different debate. But the GST Compensation Cess need not be confused with the cess that the Central Government collects, and that GST Compensation Cess, the Central Government has nothing to do with it. It is done and disposed of as per the formulation which is in the GST Council. So if there is any confusion about "Oh, cesses are all with the Government!", then, sorry, the GST Compensation Cess is under the control of the GST Council.

Sir, there were one or two questions on insurance companies and their increasing losses. I would like to respond by saying, Rs.5,000 crores have been proposed for recapitalization of public sector insurance companies in this third batch of Supplementary Demand for Grants. This recapitalization is linked with improvement in certain performance indicators of these companies. This will help them to reduce their losses and to improve their overall financial condition. Because we are talking of insurance companies also and because many hon. Members raised this issue, eligible policy holders of LIC will also be entitled to get the IPO issue because there is a reservation of up to 10 per cent of the issue size for policy holders and they may also get a discount on the offer price. As regards the LIC issue, the policy holders' concerns were raised and also on the Embedded Value itself, hon. Member, Dr. Santanu Sen had raised the issue. The Indian Embedded Value of LIC has been calculated in an extremely scientific way and disclosed in the draft red herring proposal which was filed with the regulator and which has now been put in the public domain. The IEV of LIC is actually an actuarial metric and it is based on the value of in-force business and has been reported by globally renowned actuarial firms. Investors and experts, particularly, belonging to the actuarial field have assessed the overall valuation of the Life Insurance Company based on the IEV and the financial statements are also available for people to have a look at. With regard to EPFO, I cannot see Shri Binoy Viswam here, and I think Priyanka Chaturvedi had also raised the EPFO issue. EPFO has a Central Board which is the one which takes the call on as to what rate given for them has to be, and they had not changed it, I do not know, for quite some time. They have changed it now. From 8.4 per cent, it has come down to 8.1 per cent and on that, a lot of questions were raised. I appreciate and quite recognise the concern of the hon. Members. It is a decision taken by the Central Board in which the representatives of the various segments which are the part of the EPFO are all seated in the Board inclusive of workers' representatives, management representatives, Government representatives; all of them are seated in the Board and they have taken this call to bring it down to 8.1 per cent. I think the hon. Minister, Shri Bhupender Yadav, had explained as to why he had to take this call. Sir, I just want to place before you and also to have it put on the record of the Rajya Sabha, Sukanya Samridhi Yojana is at 7.6 per cent; Senior Citizen Savings Scheme is at 7.4 per cent; PPF is at 7.1 per cent; State Bank of India's highest rate given for some portfolio which is like five to ten-year fixed deposits is at 5.50 per cent and it has a mark up for senior citizens which takes it to 6.3 per cent.

The Government's own borrowings, the G-Secs on an average across various tenors, is at 6.28 per cent. That is if the Government goes to borrow from certain

funds, it has to pay that kind of a return. With all these, the EPFO has taken a call to give it at 8.1 per cent. I just want to lay these facts before the House that the EPFO Central Board, which has representatives from various stakeholders for the Pension Fund, the Employees Pension Fund, has taken a call. Forty years, it has not been brought down. Yes, forty years! There are today's realities which do keep us in the context of decisions which are being taken by the Central Board of the EPFO. It has yet to come to the Finance Ministry for approval. But the fact remains, these are the rates which are prevailing today and it is still higher than the rest of them. So, quite a few Members have concern about Defence, "basic equipments are not available; you are not taking care of purchases in Defence". And, with due respect, I think, hon. Shaktisinh Gohil also spoke about it, "Shoes, suits are not even available, bullets are not available". Pardon me, Sir, if I sound a bit cynical; hearing it from hon. Shaktisinh Gohil worries me a bit. If that kind of concern could have been voiced during the Congress's tenures and rule, Indian Defence forces would have been much better in their position and I will tell you some of the situations which arose. Hon. Jaitleyji's quotations which were made in 2000 are available which I want to read. Even the CAG's report said, "No significant improvement in the availability of ammunition". It was of September, 2016, talking about an earlier term. The situation for our Defence Forces was so helpless at that time. And, I remember, myself sitting and looking into the Defence procurement in my capacity at that time in Defence Ministry. I distinctly remember in February, 2018, the DAC at that time, accorded the approval for 41,000 light machine guns of over Rs.3.5 lakh crores urgently to be bought. More importantly, I will quote Shri Raj Nath Singh who had some time later made this observation but it captures the picture. I am quoting Shri Raj Nath Singh. "In 2009, there was a shortage of 3,53,755 bullet proof jackets in the country. But, procurement was not done for a long time. A request for proposal for procurement of 1,86,138 bulletproof jackets has been issued in April, 2016 and the tender in this regard was allotted in April 9, 2018 to an Indian supplier". It addresses two things that we had very quickly ramped up purchases of essentials inclusive of bulletproof jackets. I will give you other examples of what other things were bought also. And, also making sure that such essentials for our soldiers are bought from Indian suppliers, 'Atmanirbhar Defence'. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sorry, you want the name of the supplier so that you can accuse me of doing some crony business? Not at all. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Binoy Viswamji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: No, Madam...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Binoy Viswamji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Binoy Viswamji, please.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Kindly explain us what prompted you to close down the defence ordnance factories.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I am coming to that; do not keep asking me questions for which I have already said I will answer. I will answer that. Sir, for people, who are worried about basic essentials for defence, for soldiers; for their guns, for their bulletproof jackets, for the bullets, for the carbines and even for fighter aircrafts, I want to tell that ten years of Indian defence history has recorded nil purchases. Sir, ten years were lost. After 2014, rapidly, we had to buy from pin to aircraft, everything. I will go on repeating the list of things which made our defence completely disarmed. I will repeat this line that hon. Member Shaktisinh Gohil, with such intensity, when he questions me, I would say I wish he had said this during that set of ten years, when none of this was done, none of which was purchased.

SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL: Sir, she has taken my name, so, I should be given an opportunity. मैं सिर्फ यही request करना चाहता हूँ कि मैंने आपको CAG report का पैराग्राफ दिया, उसका chapter दिया, उसका साल दिया, मेरा उसमें कोई allegation नहीं था। This was the fact given by an independent constitutional audit agency. Rather than going here and there, and blaming the previous Government, kindly reply to this. I did not make any political observation. I raised the concern which was highlighted by an independent constitutional agency.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, the points are raised and when I address it, they say, 'no, you can talk about it some other time, I have asked you a specific point, and on that you please give me a reply'. Sir, I am giving specific points and replies for that. But, in defence, nothing arises overnight. The legacy problems are also festering us that we are trying to address that.

SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Madam, seven years is a long time.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Yes, ten years was even a longer time. Ten years was even a longer time when nothing was purchased. Let us concede that

point. Sir, ten years' procurement is being done in seven years will have to be appreciated.

Hon. Member, Priyanka Chaturvedi also felt that defence allocations have come down. I would like to just highlight that when we are talking of defence and defence-related allocations, there are four broad headings. They are not clubbed into one because the purposes are so drastically different from one another. They are civil expenditure for defence, revenue expenditure for defence, capital outlay for defence and defence pensions. Sir, I would like to just draw the attention of the hon. Member that not on any one of those heads, in the last four years, has there been a reduction in the outlays. Instead of reading each one of them, I will just read 2019-20 actuals then 2022-23 actuals, but, I will submit this paper so that the details can be seen by the Members. Sir, for civil expenditure; 2019-20 actuals was Rs. 16,522 crores and 2022-23 B.E. is Rs. 20,100 crores, and the trajectory is only upward going. For revenue expenditure, 2019-20 actuals was Rs. 2,07,572 crores, whereas 2022-23 B.E. is Rs. 2,33,000; for capital outlay on defence services, 2019-20 actuals was Rs. 1,11,000 crores and now, 2022-23 B.E. is Rs. 1,52,000 crores; for defence pensions, 2019-20 actuals was Rs. 1,17,000 and now, 2022-23 B.E. is Rs. 1,19,000 crores. I will certainly lay this paper on the Table so that the Members can see it. About corporatization, the hon. Member, T.K.S. Elangovanji, is not here, raised some points. I would like to say that corporatization is not necessarily privatization. Better performance, better functioning, better administration, bringing in greater efficiency are one of the things on which the corporatization has happened. ...*(Interruptions)*.. I have not yet even finished my answer. ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Binoy Viswamji, no. ...*(Interruptions)*.. . She is not yielding. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, because it was, Shri T.K.S. Elangovanji, coming from Chennai, as he does, he is not here now, but I take this opportunity to say there is Avadi Tank Factory, which is the unit, which is in Chennai, has been given a Rs.7,523 crores worth order for building 118 Arjun class tanks for the Indian Army only a few months ago. Sir, Rs.7,523 crores worth of orders for Chennai Avadi Tank Factory for building 118 Arjun Tanks, *atmanirbhar* Indian manufacturer, public sector manufacturer, money is already given for an order of 118 tanks. ...*(Interruptions)*..

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: We would like to thank the Finance Minister for giving so much amount for Avadi Tank Factory. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, questions were raised on food subsidy, fertilizer subsidy, allocation on MNREGA, reduction in the outlay for health and also negligible increase for social sector. Sir, I think this has been answered even during the Budget Speech. However, I would just like to draw the attention of the hon. Members that these apprehensions about adverse impact on changes in the outlay, are not well-founded. MNREGA particularly is a demand-driven programme. ...*(Interruptions)*.. As and when demand comes in, we do place it. The amount in 2021-22 BE is Rs.73,000 crores and the Revised Estimate for 2021-22 is Rs.98,000 crores, much higher than the BE. But the BE, this year, for 2022-23, for the year beginning April 1st, is Rs.73,000 crores again. So, we have not reduced from the BE of last year, meaning that the current running year's BE is exactly the BE we have given for the forthcoming year commencing 1st April. Let me remind you that the RE for this year is Rs.98,000 crores. ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please Binoy Biswamji. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Let her speak. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: It is not demand-driven. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: It is demand-driven, demand is there, demand is there and demand is there, provision is made, provision is made, provision is made whenever there is a demand. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Sir, about food subsidy...*(Interruptions)*.. कोई pending नहीं है। ...*(Interruptions)*.. I want to sum up. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Please don't keep giving running commentary, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*.. This is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*.. I am not given a chance to give reply to each one of the running commentary. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Let us be talking on facts. You call me on facts, I will give you the reply, and if I am wrong please hold me responsible, but no point if you keep shifting mile post. When I have answered one, already a running commentary and mile post is being changed. I will answer that also, Sir. Is this going to be running like this? I am sorry to have to seek your protection on this.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am requesting all the hon. Members, please.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I am honestly ready to answer every question, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, on the food subsidy again concern was raised that provision under food subsidy is coming down. The provision under the food subsidy again, Sir, covers the gap between the issue price of the foodgrains and their economic cost. When there is no change in the issue price of PDS foodgrains, the question of any adverse impact on beneficiaries does not even arise. Now, the food subsidy provision, for 2020-21, it was Rs.2.43 lakh crores; for 2021-22 again RE was Rs.2.87 lakh crores. So, when the food subsidy is required, more than what was mentioned in BE, we have readily provided without any hesitation. So, the additional expenditure of Rs.1 lakh crores has gone under the PM-Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana. So, Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana started with Rs.2.43 lakh crores...

6.00 P.M.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Madam Minister, please wait for a minute.

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, the Finance Minister is replying to the Appropriation Bills. I propose that we may extend the sitting of the House till her reply is over.

श्री उपसभापति : यह बीएसी का भी निर्णय था। सदन की सहमति है। हम माननीय मंत्री जी के रिप्लाई तक बैठेंगे।

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, thank you. So, the food subsidy provision of Rs. 1 lakh crore for the additional expenditure has gone for the Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana Scheme. Under the BE in 2021-22, in the beginning of this financial year, we gave Rs.2.43 lakh crore. In the RE itself, it has gone to Rs.2.87 lakh crore and for the coming year, we have given Rs.2.07 lakh crore and, therefore, there is no reduction, in the sense that what is required, we are continuously giving.

On the fertilizer subsidy, it is another very important concern which, I think, even at the beginning I have mentioned about it. Similar to the food subsidy, the outlay in the fertilizer subsidy covers the gap between the issue price and the economic cost. When the issue price to farmers of fertilizers has not been changed,

there can be no adverse impact on the farmers. In 2021-22, which is the current year running, the BE was Rs.79,530 crore. The RE, which is actually even now, has been raised to Rs.1.40 lakh crore due to rising global fertilizer prices, and the input prices are also going up. So, in the BE of 2022-23, which is the coming Budget, we have already given fertilizer subsidy of Rs.1.05 lakh crore, which is 31 per cent more than 2021-22 BE. Last time, when the import price went up, we bought it; we made sure that the burden is not shifted. This time too, the allocation is 31 per cent more than the last year's allocation.

I have already explained on MNREGA. Sir, largely, the issues raised by the hon. Members have already been addressed. The particular point about why we have to go through the infrastructure funding route has been severally explained, but the multiplier effect is what has made us go through that route than any other; the revenue expenditures' multiplier effect is not substantial. Therefore, we have chosen to go through that route.

Therefore, the supplementary Demands for Grants has come with only demands which have immediate impact on the common people, particularly through the Awas Yojana and the explanations that have been given for those emergency expenditures. I seek the cooperation of the entire House in supporting these Demands for Grants and also for the excess Demands for Grants which has been as a result of the PAC's recommendation. Thank you very much, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*.. .

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall first put the motion regarding consideration of the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2022 to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2021-22, 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, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, hon. 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.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the motion regarding consideration of the Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2022 to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 2019, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman 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.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 hours on Tuesday, the 22nd March, 2022.

The House then adjourned at six minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 22nd March, 2022.

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