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Thursday,
21st July, 2022
30 Ashadha, 1944 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT (FLOOR VERSION)

(PART-II)

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RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 21st July, 2022 / 30 Ashadha, 1944 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, आज विपक्ष के नेता श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे जी का 80वां जन्मदिन है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़ शांति बनाए रखें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शक्तिसिंह गोहिल (गुजरात) : आज उनको आधे घंटे तक बोलने दें, आज उनका जन्मदिन है।

श्री सभापति : पैदा होते-होते कोई डिस्टर्ब नहीं करेगा and on 80th birthday of Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, on behalf of the entire House, I greet him and convey best wishes. And, also, there is one more Member, Shri Joginipally Santosh Kumar. Is he there in the House? He is one of the youngest Members from Telangana and I convey best wishes to him also on behalf of the House. Now, Oath or affirmation. Please, please, Rameshji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Dr. Dharmasthala Veerendra Heggade (Nominated)

OBSERVATION BY THE CHAIR

श्री सभापति : आप वहां बैठ कर दस्तखत कर दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... अभी तो बिज़नेस है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... No placards, no articles. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have to name those people. ...*(Interruptions)*... जो लोग प्लैकार्ड्स लाए हैं, उनके बारे में बुलेटिन में ज़िक्र करना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह आपत्तिजनक है, ऐसा चेयरमैन ने कहा है, ऐसा उसमें लिख दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... The House is adjourned to meet at 12^{'o} clock.

The House then adjourned at three 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: Question No 46. Shri Neeraj Shekhar. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is Question Hour. Nothing else... ...*(Interruptions)*... सिर्फ क्वेश्चन आँवर पर ही बहस होगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Question Hour. माननीय नीरज शेखर जी।...**(व्यवधान)**... Nothing else will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... माननीय संजय सिंह जी, मैं आपसे रिक्वेस्ट कर रहा हूँ कि जो लोग वैल में हैं, कृपया वापस जाकर अपनी सीट पर बैठ जाएं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस तरह प्लैकार्ड्स लेकर वैल में आना संसदीय ढंग से सही नहीं है।...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़ अपनी सीट्स पर जाएं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... नीरज शेखर जी, आप बोलें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... First Supplementary.

Pending cases in High Courts

*46. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of number of cases filed and disposed off during the year 2021 and 2022 till 30th June, 2022 in various High Courts, High Court-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the details of pending cases in various High Courts, both civil and criminal, as on 30th June, 2022, High Court-wise; and
- (c) the details of efforts made/being made to bring down the pending cases in various High Courts to provide relief to poor litigants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (PROF. S. P. SINGH BAGHEL): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) A Statement showing the details of number of cases filed and disposed off during the year 2021 and 2022 till 30th June, 2022 in various High Courts, High Court-wise and year-wise is at **Annexure-I**.

(b) A Statement showing the details of pending cases in various High Courts, both civil and criminal, as on 30th June, 2022, High Court-wise is at **Annexure-II**.

(c) Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. No time frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts. Government has no direct role in disposal of cases in courts. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, inter-alia, include availability of adequate number of judges and judicial officers, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. There are several factors which may lead to delay in disposal of cases. These, inter-alia, include vacancies of judges, frequent adjournments and lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing. The Central Government is fully committed to speedy disposal of cases in accordance with Article 21 of the Constitution and reducing pendency. The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary.

National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms was set up in August, 2011 with the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission has been pursuing a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court procedure for quick disposal of cases and emphasis on human resource development.

The major steps taken during the last eight years under various initiatives are as follows:

- (i) **Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts:** As on date, Rs. 9013.21 crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in 1993-94. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 20,993 as on 30.06.2022 and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 18,502 as on 30.06.2022 under this scheme. In addition, 2,777 court halls and 1,659 residential units are under construction (as per MIS data). The Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities

for Judiciary has been extended till 2025-26 at a total cost of Rs. 9,000 crore, out of which central share will be Rs. 5,307 crore. Besides, construction of Court Halls and Residential Units, it would also cover construction of lawyer's halls, toilet complexes and digital computer rooms.

- (ii) **Leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved justice delivery:** Government has been implementing the e-Courts Mission Mode Project throughout the country for information and communication technology enablement of district and subordinate courts. Number of computerized District & Subordinate courts has increased to 18,735 so far. WAN connectivity has been provided to 99.3% of court complexes. New and user-friendly version of Case Information Software has been developed and deployed at all the computerized District and Subordinate Courts. All stakeholders including judicial officers can access information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of computerized District & Subordinate Courts and High Courts on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). As on 04.07.2022, litigants can access case status of over 20.86 crore cases and 18.02 crore order/judgments pertaining to these courts. eCourts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders & final judgments are available to litigants and advocates through eCourts web portal, Judicial Service Centres (JSC) in all computerized courts, eCourts Mobile App, email service, SMS push & pull services. Video Conferencing facility has been enabled between 3,240 court complexes and 1,272 corresponding jails. With a view to handle the COVID- 19 challenges better and to make the transition to virtual hearings smoother, 500 e-Sewa Kendras have been set up at court complexes to facilitate lawyers and litigants needing assistance ranging from case status, getting judgments/orders, court/case related information and e-filing facilities. Rs. 5.01 crore has been allocated for providing equipment in video conferencing cabins in various court complexes to facilitate virtual hearings. Rs. 12.12 crore has been allocated for 1,732 Help desk counters for e-filing in various court complexes.

Twenty virtual courts have been set up in 16 States/UTs viz. Delhi (2), Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala (2), Maharashtra (2), Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir (2), Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Meghalaya, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura and West Bengal to try traffic

offences. As on 03.03.2022, these courts have handled more than 1.69 crore cases and realized more than Rs. 271.48 crore in fines.

Video conferencing emerged as the mainstay of the courts during the Covid lockdown period as physical hearings and normal court proceedings in the congregational mode were not possible. Since Covid lockdown started, the District courts heard 1,28,76,549 cases while the High Court heard 63,76,561 cases (totalling 1.92 crore) till 30.04.2022 using video conferencing. The Supreme Court had 2,61,338 hearings since the lockdown period upto 13.06.2022.

- (iii) **Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts:** From 01.05.2014 to 15.07.2022, 46 judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 769 new judges were appointed and 619 additional judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1,108 currently. Sanctioned and working strength of judicial officers in District and Subordinate Courts has increased as follows:

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
15.07.2022	24,631	19,289

However, filling up of vacancies in Subordinate judiciary falls within the domain of the State Governments and High Courts concerned.

- (iv) **Reduction in Pendency through / follow up by Arrears Committees:** In pursuance of Resolution passed in Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, Arrears Committees have been set up in High Courts to clear cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up under District Judges too. Arrears Committee has been constituted in the Supreme Court to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts. In the past, Minister of Law & Justice has taken up the matter with Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers drawing

their attention to cases pending for more than five years and to take up pendency reduction campaign. The Department has developed an online portal for reporting by all High Courts on the compliance of Arrears Eradication Scheme guidelines of the Malimath Committee Report.

(v) **Emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR):** Commercial Courts Act, 2015 (as amended on 20th August, 2018) stipulates mandatory pre-institution mediation and settlement of commercial disputes. Amendment to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 has been made by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2015 for expediting the speedy resolution of disputes by prescribing timelines.

(vi) Lok Adalats are one of the Alternative Disputes Resolution mechanism u/s 89 of C.P.C. Lok Adalat has been given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 recognizing its efficacy as an expeditious, less costly and speedier system of administration of justice by which Justice Delivery System is strengthened in the country. As per section 19 of the said Act, the Lok Adalat has jurisdiction to take up any case which is pending before any court or any matter of dispute between the parties which has yet not been brought to the court. Lok Adalat take up civil matters and all criminal compoundable matters, whether pending in a court or at the pre-litigation stage.

Lok Adalats are held at National and State levels. National Lok Adalats are held on single day in all the Courts and Tribunals of the country on dates decided by NALSA in the beginning of each calendar year. State Legal Services Authorities also organize Lok Adalats from time to time as per the local circumstances and requirements.

In the period of turbulence caused by the Covid pandemic, Legal Services Authorities appropriately responded by creatively adapting to the new normal and moving Lok Adalat to the virtual platform. E- Lok Adalat is a process to settle disputes, combining technology and alternative dispute resolution (“ADR”) mechanisms which offers a faster, transparent and accessible option.

Although, these Lok Adalats take up both pending and pre-litigative matters, the focus is on reducing the pendency in the courts by taking up

more matters actually pending in the High courts and also lower courts. Lok Adalats are organised at District and Taluk levels, including Talukas of remote and far flung areas also. To promote Lok Adalat, a provision is made to refund/reimburse court fee paid by party (ies). Parties can appear and put up their case without any representative.

(vii) Initiatives to Fast Track Special Type of Cases: The Fourteenth Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, inter-alia, establishing Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc., and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements. As on 31.5.2022, 892 Fast Track Courts are functional for heinous crimes, crimes against women and children etc. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs / MLAs, ten (10) Special Courts are functional in nine (9) States/UTs (1 each in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and 2 in NCT of Delhi). Further, Government has approved a scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) across the country for expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape under IPC and crimes under POCSO Act. As on date, 28 States/UTs have joined the scheme for setting up of 842 FTSCs including 363 'exclusive POCSO Courts'. Rs.140 crore was released in the financial year 2019-20, Rs. 160 crore has been released during the financial year 2020-21 and Rs. 134.557 crore has been released during the financial year 2021-22 for the scheme. 728 FTSC are functional 408 exclusive POCSO Courts, which disposed 1,02,344 cases as on 30.6.2022.

(viii) In addition, to reduce pendency and unclogging of the courts, the Government has recently amended various laws like the Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Commercial Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Specific Relief (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019 and the Criminal Laws (Amendment) Act, 2018.

Annexure-I

Statement showing the details of number of cases filed and disposed off,
High Court-wise, during the year 2021 and 2022 till 30th June, 2022.

S.No.	Name of High Courts	2021		2022 (as on 30.06.2022)	
		Filed	Disposed	Filed	Disposed
1.	Allahabad	281948	243392	162461	151864
2.	Bombay	85646	57835	56447	41610
3.	Calcutta	50012	52466	34061	39267
4.	Gauhati	12717	9359	8389	6788
5.	Telangana	57295	40334	38567	37233
6.	Andhra Pradesh	50087	31860	29408	17099
7.	Chhattisgarh	35974	30809	21816	15699
8.	Delhi	37896	27490	24398	20231
9.	Gujarat	70251	58412	39244	34559
10.	Himachal Pradesh	38250	30054	20931	16176
11.	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	12773	23617	6759	7423
12.	Jharkhand	40566	40637	20972	22839
13.	Karnataka	86669	89989	50166	39673
14.	Kerala	70982	57003	35689*	25330*
15.	Madhya Pradesh	128158	103415	70525	62595
16.	Manipur	1520	1151	832	932
17.	Meghalaya	786	649	421	661
18.	Punjab and Haryana	119327	87310	63780	59575
19.	Rajasthan	166493	124930	94275	73758
20.	Sikkim	157	217	73	74
21.	Tripura	2193	2800	1168	1400
22.	Uttarakhand	17743	14703	9437	7965
23.	Madras	133766	146244	79319	88229
24.	Orissa	129061	105638	53212	60123
25.	Patna	107431	60822	49374	52816
Total		1737701	1441136	936035	858589

Source High Courts

*31.05.2022

Annexure-II

Statement showing the details of pending cases in various High Courts, both civil and criminal, as on 30th June, 2022.

S. No.	Name of High Court	Civil	Criminal	Total
1.	Allahabad	564504	464681	1029185
2.	Bombay	489593	100892	590485
3.	Calcutta	185958	30451	216409
4.	Gauhati	45991	10987	56978
5.	Telangana	223062	35922	258984
6.	Andhra Pradesh	200956	33838	234794
7.	Chhattisgarh	55686	31407	87093
8.	Delhi	76703	28653	105356
9.	Gujarat	103494	55018	158512
10.	Himachal Pradesh	75863	11187	87050
11.	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	38582	7333	45915
12.	Jharkhand	40609	46040	86649
13.	Karnataka	251951	44559	296510
14.	Kerala	167865	42368	210233
15.	Madhya Pradesh	262297	160497	422794
16.	Manipur	4261	464	4725
17.	Meghalaya	1138	131	1269
18.	Punjab and Haryana	285149	167632	452781
19.	Rajasthan	438202	159452	597654
20.	Sikkim	136	41	177
21.	Tripura	1391	128	1519
22.	Uttarakhand	24768	18052	42820
23.	Madras	511754	54445	566199
24.	Orissa	140499	49186	189685
25.	Patna	114451	108047	222498
	Total	4304863	1661411	5966274

Source: National Judicial Data Grid.

श्री नीरज शेखर : सर, पेन्डेंसी खत्म करने के लिए लॉ एंड जस्टिस डिपार्टमेंट ने एक प्रस्ताव रखा था।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, no placards, no banners. ...*(Interruptions)*... Go to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... Go to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नीरज शेखर : यह प्रस्ताव रखा था कि तीन एड्जर्नमेंट्स से ज्यादा नहीं होंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : यह सब राज्य सभा के नियमों के अनुकूल नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... प्लीज़...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नीरज शेखर : वह केस ज्यादा लंबा न चले!...*(व्यवधान)*... तीन एड्जर्नमेंट्स से ज्यादा नहीं होंगे!...*(व्यवधान)*... क्या उस प्रस्ताव को लागू किया जा रहा है और उससे क्या-क्या फायदे हुए हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल : उपसभापति महोदय, केन्द्र सरकार ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : नीरज जी, सेकेंड सप्लीमेंटरी पूछिए।

श्री नीरज शेखर : उपसभापति महोदय, मेरा दूसरा सप्लीमेंटरी क्वेश्चन यह है कि बहुत सारे केसेज़ हैं और पेन्डेन्सी बहुत ज्यादा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह बताया गया है कि 2047 तक सारी पेन्डेन्सी खत्म होगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सरकार इस पेन्डेन्सी को जल्दी खत्म करने के लिए क्या कर रही है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... यदि किसी गरीब आदमी का केस 30-35 साल चलेगा, तो बहुत खर्चा होगा।...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसका समय कम करने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

प्रो. एस. पी. सिंह बघेल : उपसभापति महोदय, पेन्डेन्सी के शीघ्र निपटान के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 2018 लाया गया है।...*(व्यवधान)*... उच्च न्यायालयों और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों के...*(व्यवधान)*... वाणिज्यिक न्यायालयों को खोलने का काम किया है।...*(व्यवधान)*... Specific Relief (Amendment) Act, 2018 को लाए हैं, Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019 को सरकार लाई है।...*(व्यवधान)*... इसके अलावा इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के लिए बहुत सारा केन्द्रीय अनुदान दिया गया है।...*(व्यवधान)*... ई-कोर्ट्स खोले जा रहे हैं...*(व्यवधान)*... वर्चुअल कोर्ट्स खोले जा रहे हैं...*(व्यवधान)*... वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के माध्यम से सुना जा रहा है।...*(व्यवधान)*... लोक अदालतों के माध्यम से बहुत से केसेज़ को निपटाया जा रहा है।...*(व्यवधान)*... Fast Track Special Courts और पॉक्सो कोर्ट्स के द्वारा मामलों को शीघ्र निपटाने की दिशा में सरकार प्रयासरत है।...*(व्यवधान)*... हालांकि सरकार ज्युडिशियरी को बाध्य नहीं कर सकती है, लेकिन वह केवल एडवाइज़री करती रहती है।...*(व्यवधान)*... इस मामले में बहुत सारे प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय सदस्यगण, क्वेश्चन ऑवर बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है।...(व्यवधान)... इसी हाउस ने पहले संकल्प लिया है कि क्वेश्चन ऑवर कभी डिस्टर्ब नहीं होगा।...(व्यवधान)... जो भी माननीय सदस्य वैल में हैं और प्लैकार्ड्स लेकर आए हैं, वह गलत है।...(व्यवधान)... कृपया वे अपनी सीट्स पर जाएं।...(व्यवधान)... यह संसदीय एटिकेट्स और जो संसदीय नियम और मर्यादाएं हैं, उन रूल्स ऑफ प्रोसीज़र के अगेंस्ट हैं।...(व्यवधान)... Please go back to your seats. Now Shri Ram Nath Thakur.

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो गरीब लोग जेलों में बंद हैं, जिनकी बेल हो चुकी है, लेकिन गरीबी के कारण ...(व्यवधान)... बेल बॉन्ड नहीं भर सकते हैं।...(व्यवधान)...उन कैदियों को सरकार रिहा करना चाहती है या नहीं करना चाहती है।...(व्यवधान)... मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से इस बारे में जानना चाहता हूँ।...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, गरीब लोगों को विधिक सहायता मिल सके ...(व्यवधान)... इस मामले में NALSA और SALSA के द्वारा, जो विधिक प्राधिकरण हैं तथा तालुका विधिक प्राधिकरण के द्वारा हम गरीब लोगों को विधिक सहायता देते हैं।...(व्यवधान)... 'प्रो बोनो' स्कीम्स के द्वारा भी सहायता दी जाती है। ...(व्यवधान)... 'न्याय बंधु' के द्वारा भी सहायता प्रदान की जाती है।

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Sir, with regard to improving the infrastructure of judicial officers in the district courts and subordinate courts, the hon. Chief Justice of India suggested that Judicial Infrastructure Corporation has to be established for the purpose of judicial infrastructure. What is the status of...
...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति : क्वेश्चन और आन्सर के अलावा कोई और बात रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जा रही है।

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: At what stage is the proposal made by the hon. Chief Justice of India with regard to the Judicial Infrastructure Corporation?
...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल : सर, मुझे क्वेश्चन सुनाई नहीं दिया।

श्री उपसभापति : कृपया क्वेश्चन रिपीट करें।

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Sir, I would like to know whether the proposal made by the hon. Chief Justice of India with regard to the Judicial

Infrastructure Corporation, is under the consideration of the Government to constitute the Judicial Infrastructure Corporation? ...(*Interruptions*)...

विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री किरेन रिजिजु): सर, माननीय सदस्य ने चीफ जस्टिस ऑफ इंडिया के ऑब्जर्वेशन के संबंध में जिक्र किया है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...ऑनरेबल चीफ जस्टिस ऑफ इंडिया ने इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर को लेकर एक पत्र भी लिखा। ...(**व्यवधान**)... चीफ जस्टिस और चीफ मिनिस्टर्स की जो कॉन्फ्रेंस हुई थी, उसमें भी इस चीज़ पर व्यापक रूप से हमने अध्ययन किया, चर्चा की और यह निर्णय किया कि ज्युडिशियरी में इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर को ठीक करने के लिए राज्य स्तर पर चीफ मिनिस्टर और चीफ जस्टिस की देख-रेख में एक समिति बनाई जाए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...हमने सहमति दी है कि स्टेट लेवल पर मुख्य मंत्री और चीफ जस्टिस ऑफ हाई कोर्ट्स के बीच ताल-मेल रहेगा, तो वह इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर को एक अच्छा रूप देने में काम आएगा। ...(**व्यवधान**)...यह ताल-मेल का विषय है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...स्टेट लेवल पर कमेटी बनाने में हमारी कोई आपत्ति नहीं है, बल्कि हम साथ दे रहे हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... इसके अलावा सेंद्रली-स्पॉन्सर्ड स्कीम्स के माध्यम से हमने कई स्टेप्स ...(**व्यवधान**)...उदाहरण के तौर पर मैं बताना चाहूंगा, यह जानकर आपको भी अच्छा लगेगा और सदन को भी अच्छा लगेगा कि 1993-94 से 2014 तक देश में टोटल 15,818 कोर्ट हॉल्स रहे हैं...(**व्यवधान**)... और हमने आठ साल के अंदर इनको इन्क्रीज़ करवाकर टोटल 20,993 किया है। 2014 तक टोटल 10,211 रेज़िडेंशियल यूनिट्स उपलब्ध थीं और हमने 2022 तक आठ साल के अंदर 18,502 यूनिट्स उपलब्ध कराई हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... यह हमारी सरकार का मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में ज्युडिशियरी के प्रति मजबूती लाने के लिए, सहूलियत देने के लिए, इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर खड़ा करने के लिए कमिटमेंट है।

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय सदस्यगण, यह क्वेश्चन ऑवर सदस्यों का है, आप सभी का है। इसकी तैयारी में कितना समय लगता है, यह आप जानते हैं। Please go back to your seats.

श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ...(**व्यवधान**)... उत्तर प्रदेश के इलाहाबाद हाई कोर्ट में, जो जवाब इन्होंने दिया है, सबसे अधिक वाद पेंडिंग हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... वार्दों का निपटारा जल्दी हो, इसके लिए आवश्यक है कि पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश में खंडपीठ स्थापित की जाए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बारे में वे क्या कार्यवाही करने जा रहे हैं?

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, जहां तक उच्च न्यायालय की खंडपीठ की स्थापना का विषय है...(**व्यवधान**)... उच्च न्यायालय की खंडपीठों की स्थापना के संबंध में की गई सिफारिशें और उच्चतम न्यायालय द्वारा 2000 के WP(C) संख्या 379 में सुनाए गए निर्णय के अनुसार और राज्य सरकार से ...(**व्यवधान**)... व्यय और ढांचागत सुविधाएं प्रदान करने हेतु हुई है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...कोई पूर्ण प्रस्ताव प्राप्त होने पर विचार करने के बाद की जाती है।

...(व्यवधान)... प्रस्ताव पर उच्च न्यायालय के मुख्य न्यायाधीश की सहमति ...(व्यवधान)... की आवश्यकता होती है और संबंधित राज्य के राज्यपाल की सहमति भी होनी चाहिए। उच्च न्यायालयों की प्रधान पीठ के अलावा अन्य स्थानों पर ... (व्यवधान) ... उच्च न्यायालय की न्याय पीठ की स्थापना के लिए समय-समय पर विभिन्न संगठनों से अनुरोध प्राप्त हुए हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... हालांकि वर्तमान सरकार के पास कोई पूरा प्रस्ताव ... (व्यवधान) ... उच्च न्यायालय से संबंधित न्याय पीठ के लिए ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति: प्रश्न संख्या 47.

Carbon emissions and net-zero transition

*47. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) plan of Government to hold large organizations in high carbon-emitting sectors accountable for not reducing their carbon emissions and net-zero transition ;
- (b) plan to hold Government departments and public sector units accountable for not reducing their carbon emissions and net-zero transition ;
- (c) details of due diligence mandated by Government for such organizations and whether these organizations have transition plans and science-based targets to ensure climateaction ; and
- (d) plan to ensure that carbon emission data disclosed by organizations both Private and Government is based on a rigorous methodology and whether there will be an externalaudit mandated by Government for each organization ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) India's target of net-zero is an economy wide target to be achieved by the year 2070. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Paris Agreement to which India is a Party, state clearly that the emissions of developing countries, India included, will rise to meet their social and

developmental needs. The Paris Agreement specifically notes that peaking will take longer for developing country Parties and will be on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.

India has always noted that while it is committed to being part of the solution for global collective action problem of climate change, the developed countries bear the main responsibility, both historical and current, and should also take the lead urgently for drastic emission reduction in their countries. India with more than 17% of the global population has contributed only about 4% of the global cumulative greenhouse gas emissions between 1850 and 2019. Reports from various sources, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, highlight the reality that the challenges faced due to global warming are mainly due to the cumulative historical and current greenhouse gas emissions of the developed countries. Accordingly, India's emissions will continue to rise and will peak after global peaking is achieved as the Paris Agreement clearly states. On the basis of equity and climate justice, keeping in view the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, India is entitled to a fair share of the global carbon budget. Fair and equitable access to the global carbon budget will determine in the future the period when India's emissions will peak and the rise and decline of emissions before and after such peaking.

In the light of these considerations, India's climate policy is directed towards sustainable development and poverty eradication, while striving continuously to decouple emissions from growth and the pursuit of energy efficiency across the economy. However, in keeping with the effort to progressively delink growth from emissions, the emission intensity of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has reduced by 24% between 2005 and 2016. In this light, organizations and companies in notified sectors have been brought under the ambit of Perform, Achieve and Trade Scheme which is directed to promote energy efficiency in key sectors. Alongside, Government is making every effort such as increasing renewable energy capacity and use, the use of Electric Vehicles and other such initiatives, schemes and programs covering several sectors of the economy.

Individual organisations, entities and start-ups are encouraged to pursue low carbon growth and pursue such emission reduction targets as they may find feasible and profitable. The Government holds in high regard the continuing enthusiasm and efforts of India's entrepreneurial and business leaders to pursue the goals of

sustainability including the setting of emissions reduction and even net-zero targets where feasible. However, it is recognised that Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and the informal sectors will require considerable financial support, technology transfer and capacity building support to achieve a just transition to low-carbon growth.

Taking all the relevant factors into consideration, it is the outcomes and benefits of development together with the availability of climate finance, technology transfer and support for capacity building as provided for in the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement that will determine the nature of India's transition to net zero.

At the economy wide level, the emissions of the industrial sector are aggregated and reported based on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidelines.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Sir, the National Action Plan on Climate Change, first established in the year 2008, encompasses eight missions in the areas of solar energy, energy efficiency and forestry sector which are linked to reduction in carbon emission. ...*(Interruptions)*.. What has been the headway under this Mission to regulate the increasing carbon emission by imposing specified penalties?

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, सरकार के द्वारा ग्लासगो में जो कॉप-26 हुआ था ... **(व्यवधान)** ... उसमें जो 'पंचामृत' की घोषणा की गई थी, वह वास्तव में भारत का ... **(व्यवधान)** ... कार्बन एमिशन को कम करने का जो संकल्प किया था, उसके आशय को दर्शाता है। ... **(व्यवधान)** ... मुझे सदन को बताते हुए खुशी है कि 2015 में पेरिस एग्रीमेंट ... **(व्यवधान)** ... भारत दुनिया के उन चुनिंदा देशों में है, ... **(व्यवधान)** ... हमने जब कार्बन एमिशन में रिन्यूएबल एनर्जी को बढ़ाने के लिए ... **(व्यवधान)** ... रिन्यूएबल एनर्जी के प्रोडक्शन के साथ ही साथ कार्बन एमिशन को कम करने के लिए जो संकल्प लिए हैं, उनको पूरा कर रहे हैं। ... **(व्यवधान)** ... अभी जो एनडीसीज़ भारत के द्वारा कॉप-26 में घोषित किए गए हैं, ... **(व्यवधान)** ... उनको लेकर सरकार गंभीर है। ... **(व्यवधान)** ... विशेष रूप से रिन्यूएबल एनर्जी के क्षेत्र में सरकार के द्वारा निवेश को बढ़ाने के लिए, इनोवेशन को बढ़ाने के लिए और उसके अंतर्गत ... **(व्यवधान)** ... निवेश के साथ ही साथ, इसमें जिस प्रकार का शोध चाहिए, उसके लिए भी सरकार के द्वारा विशेष नीतियां बनाई गई हैं, ... **(व्यवधान)** ... जिनको इम्प्लीमेंट किया जा रहा है। ... **(व्यवधान)** ...

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Thank you, hon. Minister for a detailed reply and information. My second supplementary is: Will the Government consider introducing carbon audit

or carbon emission audit in private sector companies or even in Government companies so that we can get a figure as to what is happening in the field? Thank you, Sir.

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : सर, जहां तक अर्बन फॉरेस्ट की बात है, हमारे वन मंत्रालय के द्वारा 'नगर वन योजना' को स्वीकृत किया गया है, ताकि शहरी क्षेत्रों में हम नगरीय वन का विस्तार कर सकें। ... (व्यवधान) ... मैं सदन को यह जानकारी देना चाहता हूँ कि भारत ने स्वीडन के साथ मिलकर इंटरनेशनल स्तर पर एक फोरम लीड आई.टी. का गठन किया है। ... (व्यवधान) ... विशेष रूप से वे क्षेत्र जो हार्ड टू अवेयर हैं, जैसे एल्युमिनियम का क्षेत्र है, सीमेंट का क्षेत्र है, स्टील का क्षेत्र है, जहां पर कार्बन एमिशन ज्यादा होता है। ... (व्यवधान) ... इस इनोवेशन के साथ भारत अपने देश में भी और दुनिया के देशों में भी कैसे कार्बन एमिशन कम हो, इसके लिए प्रयास कर रहा है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question No.48 and Question No.50, both are similar in nature, so, we will take these together. Question No.48, Dr. Ameer Yajnik, not present. Question No.50, Shri K.C. Venugopal, not present. Any supplementary? ... (Interruptions).. Shri G.V. L. Narasimha Rao.

*48. [The questioner was absent.]

Report of CMIE on right kind of jobs

*48. DR. AMEE YAJNIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the report of Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) which states that more than 45 crore Indians do not look for jobs due to lack of right kind of jobs;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to create the right kind of job as per the qualification and interest;
- (c) whether Government has any concrete plans to reduce the increase in India's unemployment rate; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

^e Question no. 48 and 50 were taken up together

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) is a private company. The official data source on Employment and Unemployment is Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which is conducted by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. The survey period of PLFS is July to June of next year. As per the available Annual PLFS Reports, the estimated Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above was 50.2%, 53.5% and 54.9% during 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, respectively. The LFPR is the percentage of population which is either working (employed) or seeking for work (unemployed). The complete working age population may not be in labour force since a substantial portion of working age population is either pursuing education or engaged in unpaid activities like unpaid domestic activities or caregiving services for household members, volunteering, training, etc. The available data shows that LFPR has an increasing trend which indicates that more and more people are joining the Labour Force.

As per the available Annual PLFS Reports, the estimated Unemployment Rate (UR) on usual status for persons of age 15 years and above was 5.8%, 4.8% and 4.2% during 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, respectively. It indicates that unemployment rate has continuously declined during this period.

Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. Accordingly, the Government of India has taken various steps for generating employment in the country. The Government of India has announced Aatmanirbhar Bharat package to provide stimulus to business and to mitigate the adverse impact of Covid 19. Under this package, the Government is providing fiscal stimulus of more than Rupees Twenty Seven lakh crore. This package comprises of various long term schemes/ programmes/ policies for making the country self-reliant and to create employment opportunities.

The Aatmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana (ABRY) was launched with effect from 1st October, 2020 to incentivize employers for creation of new employment and restoration of loss of employment during Covid-19 pandemic. The terminal date for

registration of beneficiaries was 31.03.2022. As on 13.07.2022 benefits have been provided to 59.54 lakh beneficiaries.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) is being implemented by the Government for facilitating self-employment. Under PMMY, collateral free loans upto Rs. 10 lakh, are extended to micro/small business enterprises and to individuals to enable them to setup or expand their business activities. Upto 08.07.2022, 35.94 crore loans were sanctioned under the scheme.

Budget 2021-22 launched Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes, with an outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakh crore, for a period of 5 years starting from 2021-22. The PLI Schemes being implemented by the Government have potential for creating 60 lakh new jobs. All these initiatives are expected to collectively generate employment in the medium to long term through multiplier-effects.

PM GatiShakti is a transformative approach for economic growth and sustainable development. The approach is driven by seven engines, namely, Roads, Railways, Airports, Ports, Mass Transport, Waterways and Logistics Infrastructure. This approach is powered by Clean Energy and Sabka Prayas leading to huge job and entrepreneurial opportunities for all.

Government is implementing Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi Scheme) since June 01, 2020 to facilitate collateral free working capital loan to street vendors to restart their businesses, which were adversely impacted during the Covid-19 pandemic. As on July 11, 2022, 33.34 lakh loans amounting to ₹3,615 Crore have been disbursed to 30.26 lakh beneficiaries under the scheme.

The Government of India is encouraging various projects involving substantial investment and public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deen Dayal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) etc. for employment generation.

Further, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) is implementing the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) to enhance the employability of youth.

Besides these initiatives, various flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Start-up India, Stand-up India, Digital India, Smart City Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Housing for All etc are also oriented towards generating employment opportunities.

*50. [The questioner was absent.]

Steps to create jobs in the country

*50. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that around 25 per cent of youth job-seekers could not find work in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that a large number of posts either vanished or removed from various sectors during the last three years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government to create jobs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The data on Employment and Unemployment is collected through Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) since 2017-18. The survey period is July to June of next year. As per the available Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Unemployment

^e Question no. 48 and 50 were taken up together

Rate (UR) on usual status for youth of age 15-29 years was 17.3%, 15.0% and 12.9% during 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, respectively, which shows that the unemployment rate among the youth has a declining trend.

(c) to (e) As per the available Annual PLFS reports, the estimated Worker Population Ratio (WPR) on usual status for age 15 years and above has increased from 47.3% in year 2018-19 to 50.9% in 2019-20 and 52.6% in 2020-21. This indicates that people getting employment has risen during the period.

Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority of the Government. Accordingly, the Government of India has taken various steps for generating employment in the country. The Government of India has announced Aatmanirbhar Bharat package to provide stimulus to business and to mitigate the adverse impact of Covid 19. Under this package, the Government is providing fiscal stimulus of more than Rupees Twenty Seven lakh crore. This package comprises of various long term schemes/ programmes/ policies for making the country self-reliant and to create employment opportunities.

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Further, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) is implementing the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) to enhance the employability of youth.

Besides these initiatives, various flagship programmes of the Government such as Make in India, Start-up India, Stand-up India, Digital India, Smart City Mission, Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation, Housing for All etc are also oriented towards generating employment opportunities.

श्री जी.वी.एल. नरसिंहा राव : सर, मैं केन्द्र सरकार को देश में रोजगार के नए अवसर पैदा करने के लिए बधाई देना चाहता हूँ। ... (व्यवधान) ... देश में रोजगार के नए अवसर पैदा करने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार ने पिछले तीन साल में कई कदम उठाये हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ... मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्र सरकार ने एम्प्लॉयमेंट के लिए जितने कदम उठाये हैं, उनके बारे में सदन को सूचित करें। ... (व्यवधान) ... धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय मंत्री जी, उत्तर दीजिए।

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : उपसभापति महोदय, भारत में रोजगार के आकलन की दृष्टि से नियमित रूप से पीएलएफएस किया जाता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...पीएलएफएस के माध्यम से यह देखा जाता है कि देश में उपलब्ध कार्यबल में से कितने कार्यबल को कार्य मिला है।...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं सदन के सामने पीएलएफएस के जून 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 और 2020-21 के आंकड़े रखना चाहता हूँ।...**(व्यवधान)**...ये आंकड़े यह बताते हैं कि भारत में कार्यबलों को रोजगार की उपलब्धता हुई है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...उसके साथ ही साथ भारत सरकार के लेबर ब्यूरो ...**(व्यवधान)**...के द्वारा एक्विस का सर्वे किया जाता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक्विस के सर्वे के अंतर्गत संस्थागत क्षेत्र में जो रोजगार है...**(व्यवधान)**... उस संस्थागत क्षेत्र के रोजगारों को किस प्रकार से बढ़ावा देना है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसका भी पूरा विषय रखा गया है और मैं उन आंकड़ों को भी सदन के समक्ष रखता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...भारत में पेट्रोल रिपोर्टिंग पर जो रोजगार परिदृश्य है, वह यह दिखाता है कि हमारे देश में जो पी.एफ. है, उसकी संख्या में लगातार वृद्धि हुई है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...अभी हाल ही में...**(व्यवधान)**...मई में...**(व्यवधान)**...जो पी.एफ. के आंकड़े आए हैं, वे भी इस बात को दर्शाते हैं कि सरकार के पेट्रोल में वृद्धि हुई है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...जहाँ तक रोजगार बढ़ाने के उपायों का विषय है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... भारत सरकार के द्वारा संस्थागत क्षेत्र में रोजगार बढ़ाने के साथ ही साथ 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत रोजगार योजना', 'प्रधान मंत्री रोजगार प्रोत्साहन योजना', 'राष्ट्रीय करियर सेवा परियोजना', 'महात्मा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण रोजगार गारंटी स्कीम', 'प्रधान मंत्री गरीब कल्याण अभियान', 'राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण आजीविका मिशन', 'पं. दीनदयाल उपाध्याय ग्रामीण कौशल योजना', 'ग्रामीण स्वरोजगार प्रशिक्षण संस्थान', 'पी.एम. स्वनिधि योजना', 'पं. दीनदयाल अंत्योदय योजना', 'प्रधान मंत्री रोजगार सृजन कार्यक्रम', 'प्रधान मंत्री मुद्रा योजना', 'प्रधान मंत्री कौशल विकास योजना', 'राष्ट्रीय शिक्षुता प्रोत्साहन योजना' आदि भी हैं। ..**(व्यवधान)**..

श्री उपसभापति : यह क्वेश्चन ऑवर है और क्वेश्चन ऑवर पर ही चर्चा होगी। ..**(व्यवधान)**..

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : उत्पादन से जुड़ी हुई परियोजना को विशेष रूप से..**(व्यवधान)**..भारत सरकार की जो स्कीम्स चल रही हैं, ..**(व्यवधान)**..उनमें भी रोजगार वृद्धि का कार्य हो रहा है। ..**(व्यवधान)**..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Thambidurai on Q.No. 48.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Sir, I am very happy to hear the Minister saying that the hon. Prime Minister has created employment opportunities. ...**(Interruptions)**... At the same time, I want to know from the hon. Minister about the MNREGA programme. In many places, the people are not able to get their wages at the proper time. ...**(Interruptions)**... Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government has come forward to see that the grievances in the rural areas are redressed and the employment opportunities are created where women are suffering. Would the Government come forward to find a solution to pay them in time? I would like to know on this. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, सरकार द्वारा 'मनरेगा' कार्यक्रम को सफलतापूर्वक किया जा रहा है।..(व्यवधान).. इसके साथ ही साथ सरकार द्वारा कोविड-19 के दौरान भी ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में अतिरिक्त रोजगार दिवसों के रोजगार सृजन का कार्य किया गया है। ..(व्यवधान)..अगर माननीय सदस्य की ऐसी कोई विशेष शिकायत है तो वे निश्चित रूप से इसे मेरे संज्ञान में लाएं। ..(व्यवधान)..संबंधित मंत्रालय को उसका संज्ञान दिलाया जाएगा।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: There are no supplementary questions on Q.No.50. Now, Q.No.49, Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar. The questioner is not present. Are there any supplementaries?

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

Fake agents sending Indians abroad

*49. SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to formulate any scheme to save the youth aspiring for a job abroad and falling prey to cheating or a conspiracy and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the States from where maximum number of youth travel abroad for jobs, country-wise and State-wise; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to enact any legislation against such fake agents/agencies working in the country who mislead youth and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. JAISHANKAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Ministry has been making constant efforts to educate migrant youths about the perils of illegal channels. Following the implementation of the e-Migrate system in 2015, and with the welfare of aspiring emigrant youths in mind, ECR emigrants are

recommended to seek overseas employment exclusively through legal channels, such as the e-Migrate portal.

Given that, this Ministry has also launched the '*Surakshit Jaaye Prasikshit Jaaye*' (*Go Safe, Go Trained*) campaign in 2018 to raise awareness and facilitate safe and legal migration. This motto has earlier been widely publicized through awareness generation workshops and Pre-Departure Orientation & Training (PDOT) imparted to the prospective migrants since its launch in March 2017. Due to COVID19 pandemic, online module of PDOT was launched in April 2021. The program is presently being popularized through 32 centers spread across the country. The goal is that well-informed migrant youths will be able to seamlessly integrate and have a safe and productive stay abroad.

MEA have an important role in the regulation of the Emigration process of Indian workers going abroad for employment, and ensuring their well-being and welfare. Many semi-skilled and less-skilled emigrant youths in the 'blue collar' category are required to get Emigration Clearance (EC) at 13 Protector of Emigrants offices across the country as a safety measure before proceeding for overseas employment. To expand the PoE office set up, Ministry approved establishment of PoE offices in Patna, Bengaluru and Guwahati in 2019 which are fully functional. Setting up new PoE offices in Ranchi, Tripura, Bhubaneswar and Ahmadabad are underway.

To promote legal migration, Ministry has taken several initiatives such as Pravasi Bhartiya Bima Yojna (PBBY), and revising the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) expenditure guidelines etc. for safety and welfare of migrant workers. PBBY was launched in 2017 to provide an insurance cover of Rs. 10 Lakhs in case of accidental death or permanent disability and other benefits at a nominal insurance premium of Rs 275 (for two years) and Rs 375 (for 3 years).

Ministry has also been working on various activities such as aligning e-Migrate portals with other Ministries in India as well as Governments of host countries for skilling and mapping overseas opportunities and promoting legal migration to boost the Indian workforce's sustainable employment ecosystem and entrepreneurship opportunities in order to maximize the benefits to the Indian emigrant youths.

Earlier, recruitment agents/agencies were mainly concentrated in large cities, which caused a significant issue with our youth falling prey to unlawful channels. In order to facilitate a large number of aspirant semi-literate youth living in rural India, a new scheme was launched in December 2017 to encourage registration of recruiting agents (RA) from small cities, towns, and distant villages. This scheme also aims to provide business opportunities in the field of overseas employment to new entrepreneurs as well as those small entities already engaged in related activities such as travel consultancy, travel, and tourism. Any person wishing to register as a RA had to deposit a Bank Guarantee of Rs. 50 lakh as security deposit, with no limit on number of emigrant workers to be sent abroad. Under the new scheme, the Ministry opened registration for small RAs for sending 100 emigrant workers abroad by depositing BG of only Rupee 8 lakh. The new scheme also had provision to enhance the number of original permissible recruitment limit in multiple of 100 workers on submission of additional BG of Rupee 8 lakh per 100 additional workers thereby giving suitable option for future growth of the new entrepreneurs. A total of 557 new RAs have registered and benefited under the new initiative since its launch in December 2017.

Separately, the Ministry has been working with several state governments and stakeholders to disseminate information on the Indian diaspora and foreign jobs and to spread awareness about safe and illegal migration through MEA's state outreach programmes from time to time. Such outreach programmes were organized in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Assam and West Bengal in 2021 and in Tamil Nadu and Kerala in 2022. The Ministry has also convened high-level conferences in January 2018 with all stakeholders including state government where all concerned authorities were sensitized on illegal recruitment being done by unscrupulous agents and duping our youth who aspire to go abroad for employment. They were also requested to pro-actively check the growth of illegal agents and to take strict actions against them including to launch awareness campaigns in vernacular medium for wider coverage and adaptation.

The Labour and Manpower Cooperation MOUs/Agreements are in place with the Gulf Cooperation Council countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and United Arab Emirates) and Jordan that provide the overarching framework for cooperation on labour and manpower related issues. Further, to safeguard the specific interest of domestic workers in GCC Countries, who are often

the most vulnerable category; Ministry has signed separate MOUs/Agreements on domestic workers with Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

A Labour Mobility Partnership Agreement for cooperation in manpower was signed with Denmark in September 2009. India and Japan signed in January 2021 a Memorandum of Cooperation on a basic framework for partnership for Proper Operation of the system pertaining to “Specified Skilled Workers (SSW)” which would provide skilled workers from India an opportunity to work in the Japanese industrial and service sector in 14 select sectors. The Migration and Mobility MOUs/Agreements are also in place with France and the UK signed in March 2018 and May 2021 respectively. They provide the overarching framework for cooperation on migration and mobility related issues. A Labour and Mobility Agreement was also signed in September 2021 with Portugal for recruitment of Indian workers. Letters of Intent (LOIs) for further discussion on signing migration and mobility agreements with Germany (2018), Greece (2022), Denmark (2022) and Australia (2022) are already in place, while Ministry is engaged with negotiations with other identified countries (Mauritius and Malaysia). A list of MoUs/Agreements signed is at **Annexure ‘1’**.

(b) As per available data in the e-Migrate portal in respect of Emigration Check Required (ECR) and Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR) countries, the State-wise Emigration Clearance data for the period January 2021 till June, 2022 are attached at **Annexure ‘2’ & ‘3’**. Country-wise data for Emigration Clearance issued for ECR countries is at **Annexure-4**.

The Country-wise figures provided by the Bureau of Immigration (BOI) of Indian nationals who went abroad on visit ‘Employment/Work’ from 1.1.2021 to 30.6.2022 is attached at **Annexure ‘5’**.

(c) The Ministry is in the process of bringing in a new legislation, "Emigration Bill 2022" to enhance the scope of existing Emigration Act 1983 which will further help in promotion of safe and legal migration to our aspiring youth and to save them from being duped by illegal recruitment agents. The process to draft a new emigration bill has been initiated by MEA and takes into account recommendation of the 23rd report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs (2018-2019) to provide for an overarching architecture for migration governance and institutional framework.

After inter-Ministerial consultations, the draft was placed for public comments during May-July 2021 in Ministry's website. The final draft after due diligence was shared with other relevant Ministries, seeking their views before submitting the Draft Emigration Bill for Cabinet's approval.

Further, illegal recruitments and trafficking cases are presently being governed by specific rules and regulations as at **Annexure '6'**. Ministry receives complaints against such illegal recruitment agents from time to time through established mechanism. Such complaints are forwarded to relevant law enforcement agencies of State Governments concerned to take necessary actions as per the provision of Emigration Act.

Annexure-1

List of MoUs / Agreements Signed

S. No.	Country/Title	Date of Signing/validity	Advantages
1	Qatar - Agreement on the Regulation of the Employment of Indian Manpower. (Labour and Manpower)	11 April 1985 20 November 2007 (Additional Protocol) 4 Years, Automatic Renewal	To facilitate safe and legal entry of Indian manpower into Qatar , safeguard the rights of the Indian workers there and to ensure sound and effective administration of the contract employment cycle.
2.	Kuwait - MoU on Labour, Employment and Manpower Development	10 April 2007 4 years, Automatic Renewal	To facilitate safe and legal entry of Indian manpower into Kuwait , safeguard the rights of the Indian workers there and to ensure sound and effective administration of the contract employment cycle.

3.	Kuwait - MoU for cooperation on the Recruitment of Domestic Workers	MoU signed on 10 June, 2021 5 Years, Automatic Renewal	To facilitate safe and legal entry of domestic Workers into Kuwait , safeguard the rights of the Indian workers there and to ensure sound and effective administration of the contract employment cycle.
4.	Bahrain - MoU on Labour and Manpower Development	17 June 2009 4 Years, Automatic Renewal	To facilitate safe and legal entry of Indian manpower into Bahrain , safeguard the rights of the Indian workers there and to ensure sound and effective administration of the contract employment cycle.
5.	Oman - MoU in the field of Manpower	08 November 2008 5 Years, Automatic Renewal	To facilitate safe and legal entry of Indian manpower into Oman , safeguard the rights of the Indian workers there and to ensure sound and effective administration of the contract employment cycle.
6.	UAE - MoU on Cooperation in the field of Manpower.	10 February 2018 4 Years, Automatic Renewal	To facilitate safe and legal entry of Indian manpower into UAE , safeguard the rights of the Indian workers there and to ensure sound and effective administration of the contract employment cycle.
7.	Saudi Arabia - Agreement on Labour Cooperation for Domestic Service Workers Recruitment.	02 January 2014 5 years, Automatic Renewal	To facilitate safe and legal entry of Indian manpower into Saudi Arabia , safeguard the rights of the Indian workers there and to

			ensure sound and effective administration of the contract employment cycle.
8.	Saudi Arabia - Agreement on Labour Co-operation for Recruitment of General Category Workers	03 April 2016 5 years, Automatic Renewal	To facilitate safe and legal entry of Indian manpower into Saudi Arabia , safeguard the rights of the Indian workers there and to ensure sound and effective administration of the contract employment cycle.
9.	Denmark - Labour Mobility Partnership Agreement	29 September 2009 5 years, Automatic Renewal	The MoU with Denmark provides mechanism for labour market expansion, employment facilitation, organized entry & orderly migration and exchange of information and cooperation in introducing best practices for mutual benefit.
10.	Jordan — MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Manpower	01 March 2018 5 years, Automatic Renewal	The MoU with Jordan facilitates collaboration in promoting best practices in the administration of contract employment for Indian workers.
11.	France - Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement.	10 March 2018 7 years, Automatic Renewal	The agreement facilitates mobility of students, business peoples, young professionals, academics etc. It also provides for a mechanism to facilitate return of Indians under irregular situation in France.

12.	Portugal - Agreement on Recruitment of Indian Workers	Signed on 13 September, 2021 5 years, subject to renewal for successive periods	The agreement provides a mechanism through which the Portuguese employers can circulate vacancies across various sectors through e-Migrate Portal of Ministry.
13.	UK - MoU on Migration and Mobility Partnership.	Signed on 04 May, 2021 7 years, Automatic Renewal	It will provide post-study visa to Indian students and 3000 slot for Indian nationals under Young Professional Scheme for Diploma/Degree holders. It also provides for a mechanism to facilitate return of Indians under irregular situation in the UK.
14.	Japan - MoU on a basic Framework for partnership for Proper Operation of the system pertaining to “Specified Skilled Worker (SSW)”	18 January 2021 10 years, Automatic Renewal	The agreement covers provision for access to Japanese job market across 14 identified sectors -health care, construction, agriculture etc.

Annexure-2

MST_STATE_VALUE	EC COUNT
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	5
ANDHRA PRADESH	14393
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	3
ASSAM	2281
BIHAR	55607
CHANDIGARH	242
CHHATTISGARH	86
DAMAN & DIU	15
DELHI	1296
GOA	583
GUJARAT	3298
HARYANA	1035
HIMACHAL PRADESH	359
JAMMU & KASHMIR	3709
JHARKHAND	3417
KARNATAKA	5009
KERALA	18815
LAKSHADWEEP	2
MADHYA PRADESH	836
MAHARASHTRA	6272
MANIPUR	13
MEGHALAYA	8
NAGALAND	5
ODISHA	7360
PUDUCHERRY	291
PUNJAB	10938
RAJASTHAN	25078
SIKKIM	2
TAMIL NADU	19539
TELANGANA	10417
TRIPURA	617
UTTAR PRADESH	102461
UTTARAKHAND	2682
WEST BENGAL	25205

Annexure-3

ECNR data Jan' 2021 to June' 2022

MST_STATE_VALUE	EC COUNT
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	21
ANDHRA PRADESH	1169
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	30
ASSAM	64
BIHAR	716
CHANDIGARH	95
CHHATTISGARH	17
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	12
DAMAN & DIU	9
DELHI	114
GOA	25
GUJARAT	349
HARYANA	94
HIMACHAL PRADESH	88
JAMMU & KASHMIR	32
JHARKHAND	123
KARNATAKA	200
KERALA	951
LAKSHADWEEP	3
MADHYA PRADESH	30
MAHARASHTRA	361
MANIPUR	3
MEGHALAYA	5
NAGALAND	1
ODISHA	170
PUDUCHERRY	21
PUNJAB	618
RAJASTHAN	267
TAMIL NADU	696
TELANGANA	642
TRIPURA	3
UTTAR PRADESH	767
UTTARAKHAND	100
WEST BENGAL	735

Annexure-4

Country-wise EC Data for the Period of 2021 to 30th June 2022

COUNTRY	COUNT (January-December 2021)	COUNT (from January-June 2022)
BAHRAIN	6382	5949
IRAQ	935	348
INDONESIA	0	1
JORDAN	2386	1783
KUWAIT	10158	33631
LEBANON	54	122
MALAYSIA	36	1089
OMAN	19452	17967
QATAR	49579	13628
SAUDI ARABIA	32845	99452
SOUTH SUDAN	1	1
THAILAND	1	0
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	10844	15235
TOTAL	132673	189206

Annexure-5

Country- wise and Year-wise figure of Indian Nationals who went abroad & verbally disclosed their purpose of visit “ EMPLOYMENT/work” from 01.01.2021 to 30.06.2022

DESTINATION COUNTRY	2021	2022	TOTAL
AFGHANISTAN	1325	86	1411
ALAND ISLANDS	4	4	8
ALBANIA	182	134	316
ALGERIA	1026	992	2018
AMERICAN SAMOA	0	1	1
ANDORRA	13	22	35
ANGOLA	1486	1077	2563
ANGUILLA	4	7	11

ANTARTICA	0	1	1
ANTIGUA AND BARABDOS	20	14	34
ARGENTINA	37	54	91
ARMENIA	121	36	157
ARUBA	25	11	36
AUSTRALIA	2382	19804	22186
AUSTRIA	314	367	681
AZERBAIJAN	163	153	316
BAHAMAS	242	310	552
BAHARIAN	38422	31190	69612
BANGLADESH	11349	8925	20274
BARBADOS	38	30	68
BELARUS	43	27	70
BELGIUM	1168	872	2040
BELIZE	9	31	40
BENIN	219	138	357
BERMUDA	94	92	186
BHUTAN	1369	194	1563
BOLIVIA	10	10	20
BOSNIA	6	4	10
BOTSWANA	397	380	777
BOUVET ISLAND	1	1	2
BRAZIL	233	196	429
BRUNEI	313	2104	2417
BULGARIA	39	41	80
BURKINA FASO	343	199	542
BURUNDI	227	98	325
CAMBODIA	108	378	486
CAMEROON	276	163	439
CANADA	24507	34976	59483
CAPE VERDE ISLANDS	3	7	10
CAYMAN ISLANDS	254	316	570
CENTRAL AFRICIAN REPUBLIC	95	46	141
CHAD	40	23	63
CHILE	50	31	81
CHINA	41	29	70

CHRISTMAS ISLANDS	0	2	2
COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS	1	1	2
COG (CONGO)	2008	1849	3857
COLOMBIA	144	94	238
COMOROS	20	9	29
CONGO (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF)	568	467	1035
COOK ISLANDS	1	1	2
COSTA RICA	25	30	55
CUBA	513	102	615
CYPRUS	1142	1237	2379
CZECH	599	513	1112
DENMARK	973	844	1817
DJIBOUTI	193	196	389
DOMINICA	21	10	31
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	13	11	24
EAST TIMOR (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF)	47	92	139
ECUADOR	46	25	71
EGYPT	845	342	1187
EL SALVADOR	2	5	7
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	107	65	172
ERITREA	61	42	103
ESTONIA	155	124	279
ETHIOPIA	1505	703	2208
FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINES)	4	15	19
FIJI	32	112	144
FINLAND	238	170	408
FRANCE	2096	1683	3779
FRANCE METROPOLITAN	2	0	2

FRENCH GUIANA	0	2	2
GABON	882	507	1389
GAMBIA	59	43	102
GEORGIA	45	61	106
GERMAY	12263	10583	22846
GHANA	1206	751	1957
GIBRALTAR	5	4	9
GREECE	286	376	662
GREENLAND	0	2	2
GRENADA	20	10	30
GUADELOUPE	0	1	1
GUAM	1	0	1
GUATEMALA	4	5	9
GUERNSEY	1	4	5
GUINEA	600	404	1004
GUINEA BISSAU	28	37	65
GUYANA	179	167	346
HAITI	25	55	80
HONDURAS	2	10	12
HONG KONG	1128	1171	2299
HUNGURY	711	792	1503
ICELAND	95	130	225
INDONESIA	1308	2040	3348
IRAN	526	329	855
IRAQ	4053	3020	7073
IRELAND	4204	3576	7780
ISLE OF MAN	5	13	18
ISRAEL	3046	3532	6578

ITALY	1936	3040	4976
IVORY COST	968	627	1595
JAMAICA	155	202	357
JAPAN	564	2812	3376
JERSEY	2	8	10
JORDAN	4113	3809	7922
KAZAKHASTAN	748	1111	1859
KENYA	1884	1277	3161
KIRIBATI	6	16	22
KOREA(DPR)	21	52	73
KOREA(REPUBLIC OF)	886	754	1640
KUWAIT	28448	105213	133661
KYRGHYZSTAN	158	93	251
LAOS	45	135	180
LATVIA	106	115	221
LEBANON	462	481	943
LESOTHO	41	31	72
LIBERIA	184	130	314
LIBYA	46	13	59
LIECHTENSTEIN	2	1	3
LITHUANIA	93	141	234
LUXEMBOURG	418	231	679
MACAU	29	38	67
MACEDONIA	2	1	3
MADAGASCAR	168	156	324
MALAWI	423	401	824
MALAYSIA	3386	11935	15321
MALDIVES	18282	19232	37514
MALI	557	365	922
MALTA	880	1832	2712
MARSHALL ISLANDS	4	1	5
MARTINIQUE	8	4	12
MAURITANIA	176	112	288
MAURITIUS	2615	3922	6537
MAYOTTE	1	2	3
MEXICO	899	428	1327

MICRONESIA (FEDERATED STATES OF)	2	2	4
MOLDOVA	9	9	18
MONACO	5	3	8
MONGOLIA	158	105	263
MONTENEGRO	6	9	15
MONTSERRAT	1	1	2
MOROCCO	156	119	275
MOZAMBIQUE	1401	1000	2401
MYANMAR	403	483	886
NAMIBIA	376	295	671
NAURU	1	7	8
NEPAL	723	572	1295
NETHERLANDS	3917	3577	7494
NETHERLANDS ANTILLES	26	19	45
NEW CALEDONIA	0	22	22
NEW ZEALAND	398	2234	2632
NICARAGUA	4	12	16
NIGER	209	131	340
NIGERIA	10180	4723	14903
NIUE ISLAND	2	0	2
NORFOLK ISLAND	4	12	16
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	1	2	3
NORWAY	477	591	1068
OMAN	80416	67002	147418
PAKISTAN	81	56	137
PALAU	1	1	2
PANAMA	17	32	49
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	181	277	458
PARAGUAY	8	7	15
PERU	8	12	20
PHILIPPINES	426	903	1329

POLAND	3354	3417	6771
PORTUGAL	462	373	835
PUERTO RICO	1	3	4
QATAR	191676	97644	289320
REPUBLIC OF CHINA TAIWAN	107	217	324
REPUBLIC OF CROATIA	582	1291	1873
REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA	25	20	45
RESIDENT OF KOSOVO (UNMIK)	9	1	10
REUNION ISLAND	1	6	7
ROMANIA	2154	1268	3422
RUSSIAN FEDERATION	3104	2266	5370
RWANDA	477	242	719
SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS	46	43	89
SAINT HELENA	8	6	14
SAINT LUCIA	36	33	69
SAINT PIERRE AND MIQUELON	1	4	5
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	1	5	6
SAMOA	1	0	1
SAN MARINO	5	3	8
SAO TOME AND PRINCIP	7	37	44
SAUDI ARABIA	45805	278058	323863
SENEGAL	408	302	710
SERBIA	901	1100	2001
SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO	4	2	6
SEYCHELLES	4438	3264	7702
SIERRA LEONE	424	275	699
SINGAPORE	39938	88767	128705
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	67	140	207

SOLOMON ISLANDS	12	14	26
SOMALIA	378	333	711
SOUTH AFRICA	2261	1491	3752
SOUTH GEORGIA AND SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS	2	1	3
SOUTH SUDAN	828	425	1253
SPAIN	744	726	1470
SRI LANKA	2896	2439	5335
SUDAN	1036	703	1739
SURINAME	18	17	35
SVALABARD AND JAN MAYEN ISLANDS	1	1	2
SWAZILAND	233	214	447
SWEDEN	1408	972	2380
SWITZERLAND	1147	882	2029
SYRIA	41	18	59
TANZANIA	1336	864	2200
TAZIKISTAN	129	108	237
THAILAND	1352	2646	3998
TOGO	148	149	297
TOKELAU	0	1	1
TONGA	0	2	2
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	93	85	178
TUNISIA	48	53	101
TURKEY	536	464	1000
TURKMENISTAN	4	2	6
TURKS AND CAICOS ISLAND	19	21	40
TUVALU	1	0	1
UGANDA	2618	2031	4649

UKRAINE	1192	289	1481
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	103597	103180	206777
UNITED KINGDOM	24075	22221	46296
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	92295	132657	224952
URAGUAY	244	232	476
UZBEKISTAN	1058	866	1924
VANUATU	11	26	37
VENEZUELA	9	5	14
VIETNAM	575	1054	1629
VIRGIN ISLANDS (BRITISH)	14	12	26
VIRGIN ISLANDS (US)	1	2	3
WALLIS AND FUTUNA ISLANDS	18	23	41
WESTERN SAHARA	0	1	1
YEMEN	18	142	160
YUGOSLAVIA	0	1	1
ZAMBIA	1778	1161	2939
ZIMBABWE	259	190	449
TOTAL	833829	1136423	1970252

Annexure- 6

- **The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITPA)**
- **Criminal Law (amendment) Act 2013** has come into force wherein Section 370 of the Indian Penal Code has been substituted with Section 370 and 370A IPC which provide for comprehensive measures to counter the menace of human trafficking.
- There are other specific legislations enacted relating to trafficking in women and children: Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006, Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986,

Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994, apart from specific Sections in the IPC, e.g. Sections 372 and 373 deal with selling and buying of girls for the purpose of prostitution.

- State Governments have also enacted specific legislations to deal with the issue. (e.g. The Punjab Prevention of Human Smuggling Act, 2012)
- Chapter VII article 24, 25, 26 27 and 28 of Emigration Act 1983 deals with punishment and offences for violation of this Act.
- **Advisories:** To improve the effectiveness in tackling the crime of human trafficking and to increase the responsiveness of the law enforcement machinery, MHA has issued following comprehensive advisories to all States/UTs:
 - Advisory for preventing crime of human trafficking, September 2009.
 - Advisory on crime against children, July 2010.
 - Advisory on missing children, January, 2012.
 - Advisory on Preventing and Combating cyber crime against children, 2012.
 - Advisory on Human Trafficking as Organized Crime, 2012.
 - Advisory on Preventing and combating human trafficking in India-dealing with foreign nationals May 2012.
 - SOP to handle trafficking of children for child labour, August 2013.
 - Advisory on MHA Web Portal on Anti Human Trafficking, May 2014.
 - Advisory for associating SSB and BSF in crime meetings, July 2015.
 - MHA Advisory on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking during time of COVID-19, July 2020.

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय राकेश सिन्हा जी, आप अपना सप्लीमेंटरी प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री राकेश सिन्हा : उपसभापति महोदय, जो ऐसे एजेंट और एजेंसियाँ काम कर रही हैं ..(व्यवधान).. क्या सरकार उनको ब्लैकलिस्ट करके अखबारों में इनका इशतहार देगी? ..(व्यवधान).. क्योंकि जिनको ब्लैकलिस्ट किया जाता है, ..(व्यवधान).. उनकी सूचना आम जनता तक नहीं पहुंच पाती है और दूसरे लोग फिर से उनके चंगुल में फंसते हैं।..(व्यवधान)..महोदय, इसी से जुड़ी हुई एक दूसरी बात भी है। ..(व्यवधान).. क्या सरकार राज्यों में अपनी एजेंसियों की शाखा या इकाई खोलेगी? जो विद्यार्थी, नौजवान और व्यक्ति बाहर जाने के इच्छुक हैं, उन्हें इन एजेंसियों के द्वारा बाहर भेजा जाए।..(व्यवधान)..यदि सरकार ऐसी व्यवस्था करती है,

..(व्यवधान)..तो शायद हम इन फेक एजेंटों और एजेंसियों से अपने नौजवानों को और विद्यार्थियों को बचा पाएंगे। ..(व्यवधान)..उपसभापति जी, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI S. JAISHANKAR: Sir, through you, I would like to inform the hon. Member that we are taking a number of steps to ensure that recruiting agents do not misuse their powers. We have instituted very strict measures where we discover it. We have also liberalised the entire RA scheme so that there are more locally-based recruiting agents which will lead to more responsible behaviour as well. Wherever we do find that there are recruiting scams or any illegal activities, we will crack down on them. But I would also like to assure the Member that we are planning to bring a new Emigration Bill which will take into account a lot of digital tracking that we have been able to do in the last few years. So, that will ensure that there is less breaching of the law in regard to emigration and recruitment. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी : माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या विदेशों में भारतीय युवाओं के लिए रोजगार के अवसरों में कमी आई है?...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर आई है तो उसका कारण क्या है? ...*(व्यवधान)*... क्या सरकार कोई ऐसा प्रयास करेगी कि भारतीय युवाओं को विदेशों में मिलने वाले अवसरों में आई कमी को दूर किया जा सके? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI S. JAISHANKAR: Through you, Sir, I would like assure the hon. Member that we are negotiating a number of agreements with foreign countries which will make it easier for our young people, especially our students to find more work opportunities. Particularly after our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has come to power, a number of migration and mobility agreements have been signed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Most recent one was a Letter of Intent that we have done with Germany. We have done with Australia. We have signed new agreements with Portugal, with the UK and France. We have an updated agreement with Denmark. So, in the developed world, there are many more opportunities for our young people. With regard to the countries of the Gulf, we have again strengthened our protection to workers for opportunities. Even during the COVID, through political contacts, we ensured that the layoffs have been minimized and the return to work has been possible. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 51. Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi.

Fake news through online media.

*51. SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has observed an increase in the number of fake news being propagated through online media;
- (b) whether Government has observed that a large number of extreme and often violent and misleading contents are being propagated through various media houses via networking platforms in India;
- (c) if so, the details regarding steps being taken to prevent the same;
- (d) whether Government plans to bring in regulations for media houses; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. L. MURUGAN): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e) The Government has an institutional mechanism to look into matters concerning fake news for various media platforms as under :

- (i) For news on digital media, the Government has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rule, 2021 under Information Technology Act which inter-alia provides for adherence of Code of Ethics by publishers of news on digital media and also three tier mechanism for redressal of grievance relating to Code of Ethics by them.
- (ii) For print media, Press Council of India (PCI), a statutory autonomous body set up under Press Council Act, 1978, has framed norms of journalistic conduct for adherence by print media which inter-alia includes specific norms to refrain from publication/dissemination of fake news.
- (iii) For electronic media, all television channels are required to adhere to the Programme Code under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 in

respect of all content broadcast by them. The Cable Television Networks (Amendment) Rules, 2021, has been notified on 17.6.2021 which provides for a three tier grievance redressal mechanism to look into the complaints relating to the violation of the Programme Code by the TV channels.

Appropriate action is taken where violations of the Norms, Codes, etc, are found.

A Fact Check Unit (FCU) has also been set up in Press Information Bureau under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in November, 2019 which addresses queries by citizens on its portal regarding authenticity of news in print, electronic and digital media and posts verified information on its social media platforms. In order to check the spread of COVID related fake news and to provide to the people an authentic source of all information relating to the pandemic, a COVID-dedicated Cell of FCU was also created on 31st March, 2020, to which people can refer information related to Covid-19 for verification. The Fact Check Unit has responded to 34,125 actionable queries (including queries related to COVID-19). The PIB has also busted fake news and 875 posts thereof have been taken down on its social media platforms.

Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has issued directions for blocking of 94 YouTube based news channels and 19 social media accounts/ websites/mobile applications for publishing content not found to be in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States etc., including fake news, in accordance with Section 69 A of Information Technology Act during the period 2021 to 22.

Similarly, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), has also issued directions for blocking of 747 URLs containing on social media intermediaries during 2021 to 2022 regarding content covered under section 69A of IT Act, 2000.

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय प्रियंका जी। आप सवाल पूछिये।...(व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Sir, you have to bring the House in order.

श्री उपसभापति : मैं रिक्वेस्ट कर रहा हूँ कि सब माननीय सदस्य अपनी सीट्स पर वापस जायें। माननीय प्रियंका जी को सवाल पूछने दीजिए।...(व्यवधान)... I can only request the Members. Priyankaji, you know my limitations.

SHRIMATI PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI: Sir, but it doesn't limit you from talking on the news reports on GST, price rise. The question is... ..(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You put your question. Please,... ..(Interruptions)... आप बोल रहे हैं, संजय सिंह जी, प्लीज़ आप वापस अपनी सीट पर जाइये। ...(व्यवधान)...नो, यह रूल नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... आप पूछिये। प्रियंका जी, सवाल पूछिये। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती प्रियंका चतुर्वेदी : सर, मैं भी संजय सिंह जी की बात से इत्तेफाक रखती हूँ कि महंगाई पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : आप सवाल पूछिये।...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती प्रियंका चतुर्वेदी : मेरा भी सवाल यह है कि जो बढ़ती हुए महंगाई है, उस पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : यह प्रश्न से सम्बन्धित नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... There are no supplementaries. I am moving to Q. No. 52. Shri Deepak Prakash.

Reduction in fare for religious tours

†*52. SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the expenditure incurred by Government on activities like pilgrimage and religious fairs in the financial year 2021-22; and
- (b) whether Ministry, in collaboration with Ministries of Civil Aviation and Railways, is formulating any plan to curtail airfare, to identify air routes and to use rail routes for religious tours?

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

(a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

(a) The Ministry of Tourism extends financial support to States and Union Territories for organising fairs/festivals/tourism related events. Under the guidelines, there are no separate allocation for religious fairs and pilgrimages and the Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance for promotion of tourism. The details of Central Financial Assistance to various States/UTs for organizing fairs/festivals and events in the year 2021-22 is at **Annexure**.

(b) As regards curtailing/capping of airfare, Ministry of Civil Aviation has informed that Air fares are not regulated by the Governments. Under the provision of Sub Rule (1) of Rule 135, aircraft Rules 1937, airlines are free to fix reasonable tariff having regard to all relevant factors, including the cost of operation, characteristics of service, reasonable profit and the generally prevailing tariff. Air fare so established by the airlines is published on their respective website under the provision of Sub Rule (2) of Rule 135, Aircraft Rules 1937.

However, Ministry of Civil Aviation launched Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS) - UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) on 21-10-2016 to stimulate regional air connectivity and making air travel affordable to the masses. While launching the UDAN Scheme in 2016, the Government had capped the Airfare at Rs.2500 for a distance of approximately 500 km (equivalent to one-hour flight) per seat under Regional Connectivity routes. The capping is subject to indexation as per the formula specified in the UDAN Scheme document.

Further, on the recommendation of Ministry of Tourism, 46 tourism routes have been taken by the bidding airlines in the RCS UDAN 3.0, launched by Ministry of Civil Aviation. Out of these, 31 tourism routes are operational till date, which also include connectivity to 5 prominent religious places viz. Varanasi, Bhubaneshwar, Khajuraho, Amritsar & Patna. A total of Rs.104.19 crore approx. has been reimbursed to the Airport Authority of India in the form of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) during Financial Year 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Further, Ministry of Tourism has given in-principle approval for 28 new routes to be included in the subsequent bidding process of RCS UDAN scheme, which includes religious places such as Prayagraj, Deoghar and Guwahati.

Ministry of Tourism has also taken up the matter with Ministry of Railways for better rail connectivity. Ministry of Railways has informed that ‘Bharat Darshan Trains’ run on theme based tourism circuits such as Ramayana Circuit, Jyotirlinga Circuit, Buddhist Circuits etc. Further, Railways have also informed that they have launched ‘Bharat Gaurav Trains’ (Theme based Tourist Circuit Trains) to showcase India’s rich cultural heritage and magnificent historical places. Apart from this, Ministry of Tourism under “Assistance to Central Agencies for Tourism Infrastructure Development” program, joined hands with Ministry of Railways for development of tourist infrastructure amenities at 22 identified railway stations at 50:50 cost sharing basis. Out of these 22 identified railway stations 09 are religious destinations viz. Amritsar, Rameshwaram, Madurai, Gaya, Ajmer, Puri, Tirupati, Kamakhya and Tarkeshwer. Out of Rs.108.54 Crore sanctioned for development of these 22 railway stations, Rs.78.35 crore stands released.

Annexure

Amount sanctioned to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for organizing fairs, festivals and events during the Financial Year – 2021-22.

(Rs. in lakh)			
S. No	States /UTs	Name of Fairs & Festival	Sanctioned Amount
1	Mizoram	(i) Anthurium Festival (ii) Winter Festival	50.00
2	Punjab	(i) Harivallabh Sangeet Sammelan- Jalandhar (ii) Holla-Mohala at Shri Anandpur Sahib	50.00
3	Telangana	(i) Bathukamma Festivals (ii) Medaram Jatara at Mulugu	50.00
4	Madhya Pradesh	(i) Jal Mahotsav (ii) Pachmarhi Utsav, Pachmarhi- (iii) Khajuraho Dance Festival,	50.00
5	Meghalaya	(i) Wangala Dance Festival (ii) Nongkrem Dance Festival	50.00
6	Chandigarh	(i) Chandigarh Carnival (ii) New Year Extravaganza (iii) 50 th Chandigarh Rose Festival	30.00

7	Nagaland	(i) Hornbill Festival (ii) Angami's Sekrenyi Festival	30.00
8	Sikkim	(i) Cherry Temi Tea & Tourism Festival Temi Tea Gardens South Sikkim (ii) Khangchendzonga Winter Carnival Festival (iii) Jorethang Maghey Mela	50.00
9	Uttarakhand	(i) Tehri Lake Festival (ii) International Yoga Festival	50.00
10	Arunachal Pradesh	(i) Easterly Essence Ledum Festival (ii) Orange Festival of Music and Adventure	50.00
11	Assam	(i) Bhogali Festival (ii) Rongali Bihu Festival	50.00
12.	Tamil Nadu	Indian Dance Festival	25.00
13	Puducherry	(i) 27 th Yoga Festival at Puducherry (ii) Yanam People's Festival (iii) Carnival Festival at Karaikal	30.00
14.	Himachal Pradesh	International Shivratri Fair	25.00
15.	Goa	(i) Carnival Festival (ii) Shigmo Festival	50.00
16.	Haryana	Suraj Kund Mela	30.00

श्री उपसभापति : मैं आग्रह करता हूँ, प्लीज़ वैल में खड़े होकर हाउस को डिस्टर्ब न करें। माननीय संजय सिंह जी, आप अपनी सीट पर वापस जायें।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned for ten minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The House then adjourned at twenty-five minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled at thirty-five minutes past twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

श्री उपसभापति : प्रश्न संख्या 52, माननीय दीपक प्रकाश जी।...(व्यवधान).... आप सवाल पूछें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री दीपक प्रकाश : उपसभापति महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं हमारे यशस्वी प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी को धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ, उनका अभिनन्दन करना चाहता हूँ।...(व्यवधान)... उन्होंने अपने आठ वर्ष के शासन काल में सांस्कृतिक धरोहरों को संरक्षित करने का, विकसित करने का काम किया है।...(व्यवधान)... मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार के द्वारा वित्तीय वर्ष 2021-22 के दौरान तीर्थयात्रा और धार्मिक मेलों जैसी गतिविधियों पर किए गए व्यय का ब्यौरा क्या है?...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अजय भट्ट : मान्यवर, माननीय मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में आज पर्यटन बहुत आगे बढ़ गया है।...(व्यवधान)... अगर कोरोना काल नहीं आया होता, तो आज हम और भी आगे बढ़ गए होते।...(व्यवधान)... माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, उसके बारे में मैं यहां पर आपको विवरण देना चाहता हूँ।...(व्यवधान)... हमने अभी तक मेलों और त्यौहारों के लिए 2021-22 में जो धनराशि प्रदान की है, उसमें...(व्यवधान)...

एक माननीय सदस्य : सर, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : हाउस अभी ऑर्डर में नहीं है, ऐसे में मैं प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर नहीं ले सकता।...(व्यवधान)... यदि सारे सदस्य अपनी सीट्स पर जाएं, तभी मैं प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर ले सकता हूँ।...(व्यवधान)... If all the Members go back to their seats, I will take the point of order; otherwise no point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अजय भट्ट : मिज़ोरम को 50 लाख रुपये, ...(व्यवधान)... तेलंगाना को 50 लाख रुपये, मध्य प्रदेश को 50 लाख रुपये, ...(व्यवधान)... मेघालय को 50 लाख रुपये, चंडीगढ़ को 30 लाख रुपये, नागालैंड को 30 लाख रुपये, ...(व्यवधान)... सिक्किम को 50 लाख रुपये, उत्तराखंड को 50 लाख रुपये, अरुणाचल प्रदेश को 50 लाख रुपये...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : सभी लोग अपनी सीट्स पर जाएं, तभी मैं आपका प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर सुनूंगा।...(व्यवधान)... प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर डिसऑर्डर में नहीं सुना जाता है।...(व्यवधान)... सभी माननीय सदस्य बड़े सीनियर हैं, यह बात जानते हैं।...(व्यवधान)... All of you should go back to your respective seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री अजय भट्ट : असम को 50 लाख रुपये, तमिलनाडु को 25 लाख रुपये, ...(व्यवधान)... पुडुचेरी को 30 लाख रुपये, हिमाचल प्रदेश को 25 लाख रुपये, ...(व्यवधान)... गोवा को 50 लाख रुपये और हरियाणा को सूरज कुंड मेले के लिए ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, आप लोग अपनी सीट्स पर जाइए, मैं आपका प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर सुनूंगा।...(व्यवधान)... जो माननीय सदस्य दूसरी सीट्स पर बैठे हैं, वे भी, ऐज़ पर रूल्स, अपनी-अपनी सीट्स पर जाएं।...(व्यवधान)... जो सदस्य दूसरी जगह बैठे हैं, वे अपनी सीट्स पर

जाएं, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं आपका प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर सुनूंगा।...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़, अपनी-अपनी सीट पर बैठें और आपस में बात न करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... श्री तिरुची शिवा जी ने प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर उठाया है, I am giving him an opportunity. But, first all of you please go back to your respective seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : सर, मेरा भी प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : मैं दूसरे नम्बर पर अभी आपके पास आता हूँ, प्लीज़। श्री तिरुची शिवा जी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, myself, Sanjayji, and many other hon. Members have given notices under Rule 267 to suspend the proceedings of the House and discuss the issue of price rise of petroleum products and other essential commodities. No ruling was given on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; no. Hon. Chairman has made it very clear that no point of order would be allowed for seeking information during Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... No; no, Sivaji. I will go as per rules. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no provision of point of order during Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय मंत्री जी, आप कुछ कहना चाहते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : जी हां, सर, श्री तिरुची शिवा जी चेयर पर बैठते हैं, सबसे सीनियर सांसद हैं, लेकिन मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि क्वेश्चन ऑवर में कभी प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर उठाया ही नहीं जाता है।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : दीपक जी, आप अगला सवाल पूछिए, सेकंड सप्लीमेंटरी पूछिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री दीपक प्रकाश : मैं पर्यटन मंत्रालय को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ, उन्होंने पूरे देश के लिए बहुत अच्छा और बेहतर काम किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... लेकिन सर, आपने जो 16 राज्य गिनाए गए हैं, उनमें झारखंड का कहीं भी उल्लेख नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं मंत्री जी से, उनके मंत्रालय से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि झारखंड राज्य के लिए भी एक समुचित राशि का आवंटन किया जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अजय भट्ट : पर्यटन विभाग के पास जब भी किसी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से कोई भी प्रपोजल आता है, तो उस पर विचार किया जाता है।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. John Brittas, you are a senior Member; please do not take pictures. ...(*Interruptions*)... हाउस के अंदर तसवीर लेना, वीडियो बनाना गलत है।...(व्यवधान)... Please do not do it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री अजय भट्ट : अभी बाबा बैजनाथ धाम में माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इतने बड़े एयरपोर्ट का शुभारम्भ किया है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्रियंका जी, आप अपनी सीट से हाउस की तस्वीरें ले रही हैं, Priyanka Chaturvedi, please do not take pictures. यह नियम में नहीं है, कृपया आप वापस अपनी सीट पर जाएं। ...(*व्यवधान*).. आप दूसरी सीट पर हैं। Go back to your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री अजय भट्ट : वहां दो बहुत बड़े हॉल बनने हैं और जलसा तालाब तथा श्री गंगा तालाब का विकास होना है। इस तरह से झारखंड के बारे में जब भी कोई प्रपोजल आता है या अन्य किसी भी प्रदेश के बारे में आता है, तो उस पर तुरंत विचार किया जाता है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : प्रियंका जी, आप अपनी सीट पर नहीं हैं और तस्वीरें ले रही हैं, यह गलत है। ...(*व्यवधान*).. प्रश्न संख्या 53.

Protection and Preservation of Wetlands

*53. SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any details on all the existing wetlands across the country, if so, the number of such wetlands that needs protection and preservation; and
- (b) whether any steps have been taken towards protection and preservation of such wetlands, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) As per the National Wetland Inventory & Assessment, 2011, Space Applications Centre- ISRO Ahmedabad identified approximately 2.0 lakhs waterbodies/wetlands (>2.25 hectares) across the country covering an area of approximately 10 million ha which includes lakes/ponds, ox-bow lakes, high altitude & riverine wetlands, waterlogged areas, tanks, reservoirs, lagoons, creeks, sand beaches, corals, mangroves, mud flats, salt pans, aquaculture ponds, etc. All the water bodies/wetlands across the country, are protected and preserved under various regulatory framework such as Forest (Conservation) Act 1981, Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972, Environment (Protection) Act 1986, Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 and other statutory provisions at State/UTs.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has notified Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as regulatory framework for conservation and management of wetlands across country to conserve, manage and maintain the ecological character of the wetlands without restricting itswise use.

Further, the Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is currently implementing a centrally sponsored scheme namely, National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-systems (NPCA) for conservation and management of identified wetlands (includes lakes) in the country on cost sharing basis between Central Government and respective State Governments. The scheme covers various activities such as interception, diversion and treatment of wastewater, shoreline protection, lake front development, in-situ cleaning i.e., desilting & de-weeding, storm water management, bioremediation, catchment area treatment, lake beautification, survey & demarcation, bio-fencing, fisheries development, weed control, biodiversity conservation, education and awareness creation, community participation, etc.

Four — pronged approach of preparing Brief Documents, filling Ecosystem Health Cards, instituting Wetland Mitras and formulating Integrated Management Plans

based on the health and specific threats facing the wetlands, is in place for conservation and management of wetlands. Under the NPCA scheme, the central assistance is based on the proposals received from the State Governments in the form of Integrated Management Plans including brief documents, in conformity with the guidelines and budget availability. So far, MoEF&CC has sanctioned proposals for conservation of 164 wetlands across the country and released an amount of about Rs. 1066.43 Crores as central share.

As a result of above said measures, 49 wetland/waterbodies have been designated as Wetland of International Importance, Ramsar sites, across the country under Ramsar Convention since 1981. Out of 49 Ramsar sites, 23 were designated in the last 7 years, i.e., from 2014 to till date.

A dedicated Web Portal ([https:// indianwetlands.in](https://indianwetlands.in)) for Wetlands has been developed, which is a publicly available information and knowledge platform in order to facilitate knowledge sharing, information dissemination, host capacity building material, and provide a single-point access data repository for processing information and making it available to the stakeholders in an efficient and accessible manner.

A Centre for Wetlands Conservation and Management (CWCM) under the Ministry's National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM) has been established to serve as a knowledge hub and to enable exchange of knowledge between wetland users, managers, researchers, policy-makers and practitioners and to assist the national and State/ UT Governments in the design and implementation of policy and regulatory frameworks, management planning, monitoring and targeted research specifically related to wetlands.

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA: Sir, according to the Global Wetland Outlook, wetlands are among the world's most economically valuable ecosystems and regulators of climate, but they are disappearing three times faster than forests. *...(Interruptions)..* Has any study been conducted by the Ministry on the declining wetland area? If so, what corrective steps have been taken in response to the findings of the study? *...(Interruptions)..*

Also, the Ministry has constituted the National Wetlands Conservation Programme (NWCP) for the conservation and management of identified wetlands in

the country. What are the achievements of the NWCP in the last three years? Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*..

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने बहुत ही अच्छा प्रश्न पूछा है। जो हमारा अहमदाबाद का इसरो का केन्द्र है, उसके माध्यम से देश में दो लाख से ज्यादा छोटी-बड़ी वाटरबॉडीज़, जिन्हें हम वेटलैंड कहते हैं, उन्हें आइडेंटिफाई किया गया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*.. माननीय सदस्य ने जो पूछा है कि जो National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Ecosystems, जो एनपीसीए प्लान है, उसके अंतर्गत क्या कार्रवाई की गई है? मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को बताना चाहूंगा कि फाइनेंशियल असिस्टेंस, जो 1066.18 करोड़ रुपये है, यह धनराशि 1064 वेटलैंड के लिए 1987 से दी गई है। मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस स्कीम का जो ऑब्जेक्टिव है, वह है developing policy guidelines for conservation and sustainable management of wetlands; supporting, promoting and strengthening conservation of prioritized wetlands through integrated management; facilitating the development of a national inventory, and setting up an information decision support system for the management of wetlands; strengthening the capacity of wetlands managers and stakeholders for effective management of wetlands; and strengthening the implementation of international commitments related to wetlands and the regulatory framework for protection of wetlands...*(Interruptions)*.. All these programmes have been taken up under the NPCA. ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA: Sir, I have already put the second supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*.. The second supplementary has also been answered. ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, we are moving to the next question. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Question No. 54. Shri P. Wilson. ...*(Interruptions)*..

Reservation under Article 16(4A) of the Constitution of India

*54. SHRI P. WILSON: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has fixed seniority and made promotions giving effect to reservation under Article 16(4A) of the Constitution of India;
- (b) whether the roster system or marks obtained in qualifying exam is the criteria for fixation of seniority in promotion;

- (c) the number of unfilled earmarked vacancies for SC/ST/OBCs that are there in each of the departments and whether steps have been taken to fill up these vacancies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. This Ministry being the Cadre Controlling Authority for the Central Secretariat Service (CSS), Central Secretariat Stenographers' Service (CSSS) and Central Secretariat Clerical Service (CSCS), carries out promotions in all grades of the three services. While carrying out promotions, guidelines on reservation in promotions are complied with, wherever reservation is applicable. In the year 2022 (till 30th June, 2022) 8089 promotions have been carried out in various grades of the aforesaid services, which also include promotions in respect of reserved categories.

(b) Seniority in promotion is fixed based on one or combination of factors, such as rank obtained in the initial appointment, relaxed standards available to special categories of candidates, reservation policy, grading in the Annual Performance Appraisal Report, etc.

(c) and (d) Filling up of vacancies, along with backlog reserved vacancies, is a continuous process. Instructions have been issued to all Ministries/Departments of the Central Government to constitute an in-house Committee for identification of backlog reserved vacancies, to study the root cause of such vacancies, to initiate measures to remove the factors causing such vacancies and to fill them up through Special Recruitment Drives. DoPT monitors the progress with regard to filling up of backlog reserved vacancies for SCs, STs and OBCs with 10 Ministries/Departments, having more than 90% of the employees in Central Government. Frequent interactions are held with these Ministries/Departments through meetings and communications are issued to them from time to time seeking action taken report regarding filling up of reserved backlog vacancies.

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, I am willing to...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please go to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Only his question will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI P. WILSON: I am here, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Sir, I am asking ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No supplementary on Question No. 54! ...*(Interruptions)*.. Now, Question No. 55, Shri S. Selvaganabathy.

Steps to reduce Deforestation

*55. SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the fact that India has lost millions of hectares of tree cover over the last two decades; and
- (b) if so, the preventive steps that have been taken/proposed to be taken by Government to reduce deforestation?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV): (a) and (b) The statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry carries out the assessment of forest cover of the country biennially since 1987 and the findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR). The forest cover assessment is a wall-to-wall mapping exercise based on remote sensing supported by intensive ground verification and field data from National Forest Inventory. ISFR 2021 is the latest report released by the Ministry on 13th January, 2022. As per ISFR 2021, the total forest cover of the country has increased by 38,251 square kilometre, tree cover has increased by 14,276 square kilometre and total forest and tree cover has increased by 52,527 square kilometre in the last two decades (ISFR 2001 to ISFR 2021). The details of forest and tree cover of the country in last two decades

(ISFR 2001 to ISFR 2021) and change in forest and tree cover are given in the table below:-

(Area in square kilometres)

Class	ISFR 2001 (a)	ISFR 2021 (b)	Change (b-a)
Forest Cover	6,75,538	7,13,789	38,251
Tree Cover	81,472	95,748	14,276
Forest and Tree Cover Combined	7,57,010	8,09,537	52,527

(b) To compensate the problem of deforestation and to improve and increase the forest and tree cover in the country, afforestation programmes are taken up under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the ministry such as National Afforestation Programme (NAP) and National Mission for a Green India (GIM). Now NAP scheme has been merged with Green India Mission. The Ministry also supports school nursery and urban forestry programmes through people's participation. Afforestation activities are also taken up under various programmes /funding sources such as Compensatory Afforestation Funds under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), afforestation activities under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA), National Agro-forestry Policy and Sub-mission on Agro-forestry (SMAF), National Bamboo Mission and National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture. In addition to above, State and UT Governments have their own afforestation and reforestation programmes. Almost every State has activities under social forestry, which largely focuses on tree planting in the areas outside forests. In addition, plantations are also done by various departments, Non-Government Organizations, Civil Society, Corporate bodies etc.

The multi departmental efforts have yielded good results in conserving environment by addressing the problem of deforestation, besides keeping the pace of development, which is evident from the fact that the forest cover has stabilized and has been constantly increasing over the years. As per the latest ISFR 2021, the total forest cover of the country has increased by 12,294 square kilometres in the last seven years (ISFR 2015 to ISFR 2021).

The details of forest cover of the country in the last seven years (ISFR 2015 to ISFR 2021) and change in forest cover with respect to previous assessments are given in the table below:-

(Area in square kilometres)

ISFR Years	Total Forest Cover	Changes in forest cover w.r.t. previous ISFR	Change in percentage
ISFR 2015	7,01,495	-	-
ISFR 2017	7,08,273	6,778	0.21
ISFR 2019	7,12,249	3,976	0.56
ISFR 2021	7,13,789	1,540	0.22

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri S. Selvaganabathy, put your first supplementary. क्वेश्चन्स-आंसर्स के अलावा किसी की बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**..

SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY: Sir, as part of the the National Forest Policy, 1988, India plans to bring 33 percentage under forest cover area. Under this, I would like to know what measures are being taken by the Ministry. ...**(Interruptions)**..

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : माननीय उपसभापति जी, भारत ने जो 33 परसेंट फॉरेस्ट एरिया को बढ़ाने की बात कही है, उसके लिए फॉरेस्ट सर्वे ऑफ इंडिया, देहरादून के द्वारा लगातार एक सर्वे का आयोजन किया जाता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि मिनिस्ट्री ने 13 जनवरी, 2022 को अपनी एक रिपोर्ट जारी की है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसने जो रिपोर्ट जारी की है, उसके हिसाब से देश में जो टोटल फॉरेस्ट कवर है, उसमें 38,251 स्क्वायर किलोमीटर की बढ़ोतरी हुई है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ट्री कवर भी जो इन्क्रीज़ हुआ है, वह 14,276 स्क्वायर किलोमीटर इन्क्रीज़ हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... टोटल फॉरेस्ट और ट्री कवर दोनों मिलाकर जो इन्क्रीज़ हुए हैं, उनमें लास्ट टू डिकेड्स में, 2001 से लेकर 2021 के बीच में, 52,527 स्क्वायर किलोमीटर की बढ़ोतरी हुई है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI S. SELVAGANABATHY: Sir, I would like to know whether there is any plan to involve the youth in the afforestation programme of India and make them innovative in this manner. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, अफॉरेस्टेशन एक ऐसी एक्टिविटी है, जिसमें युवाओं को भी इन्वॉल्व करने की आवश्यकता है और हम लोग कर भी रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

देश में नेशनल अफॉरेस्टेशन प्रोग्राम, नेशनल मिशन फॉर ग्रीन इंडिया प्रोग्राम चलता है और नेशनल अफॉरेस्टेशन प्रोग्राम की जो स्कीम है, उसको ग्रीन इंडिया मिशन के साथ जोड़ दिया गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इन सबमें कम्पनसेटरी अफॉरेस्टेशन से लेकर अफॉरेस्टेशन एक्टिविटी को मनरेगा के साथ जोड़ना, नेशनल एग्रो-फॉरेस्ट्री पॉलिसी को आगे बढ़ाना, नेशनल बम्बू मिशन को आगे बढ़ाना, नेशनल सस्टेनेबल एग्रीकल्चर को आगे बढ़ाना, इनमें न केवल युवा, बल्कि उसके साथ ही साथ हम बहुत सारे डिपार्टमेंट्स, नॉन-गवर्नमेंट ऑर्गेनाइज़ेशंस, सिविल सोसायटी और कॉरपोरेट बॉडीज़, सबको इन्वॉल्व करके चल रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय राधा मोहन दास अग्रवाल। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. राधा मोहन दास अग्रवाल : महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूँगा कि जितने भी वृक्षारोपण कार्यक्रम हैं, उनमें हम गैर-फलदार वृक्षों को लगाते हैं, क्या इसका कोई विशेष कारण है और यदि नहीं है, तो क्या सरकार इस बात पर विचार करेगी कि हम आगामी जितने भी वृक्षारोपण कार्यक्रम करें, उनमें फलदार वृक्षों को लगाने की योजना बनाएँ? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, हमारे द्वारा जो अफॉरेस्टेशन प्रोग्राम चलता है, हमारी प्राथमिकता इस बात पर रहती है कि जो हमारे नेटिव वृक्ष हैं, जो हमारी जलवायु के हिसाब से, हमारे वातावरण के हिसाब से हैं, वे ज्यादा से ज्यादा लगाये जायें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... माननीय सदस्य का जो सुझाव है, निश्चित रूप से फलदार वृक्ष भी लगाने चाहिए, लेकिन उसके साथ-साथ जो नेटिव जलवायु है, उसके हिसाब से वृक्ष लगाने चाहिए, जो हमारा डिपार्टमेंट प्राथमिकता के आधार पर कर रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : प्रश्न संख्या 56. ...**(व्यवधान)**...

*56. [The questioner was absent.]

Elimination of single-use plastic

*56. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has a compensation plan to save the livelihood of manufacturers of single-use plastic, which has been banned from 1st July 2022;

- (b) details on constituting a special task force for elimination of single-use plastic and effective implementation of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, along with their progress of implementation, State-wise;
- (c) whether steps have been taken by the National Green Tribunal to regulate the extensive usage of packaging in e-commerce giants;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the allocation of funds for implementation of Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0, State-wise including coastal States like Maharashtra?

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has schemes to provide support to MSME units, which includes support to such units earlier involved in manufacturing of banned single use plastic items for switching over to alternatives / other products. These schemes provide support in respect of technology upgradation, creating awareness, marketing support, infrastructural support, as per scheme guidelines.

(b) All thirty six States/UTs have constituted the Special Task Force under Chairpersonship of Chief Secretary/Administrator for elimination of single use plastics and effective implementation of Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016. Also, thirty four states/UTs have issued notifications/orders to introduce regulations pertaining to complete or partial ban on plastic carry bags and/or identified single-use plastic items over and above Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, as amended. The details are given at **Annexure-I**. A National Level Taskforce has also been constituted by the Ministry for elimination of single-use plastic and effective implementation of the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016.

Further, in order to spread awareness on banned single use plastic items amongst general public, Prakriti — Mascot was launched on 5th April 2022. Three videos of PRAKRITI on ban on single use plastics have been made and translated in

19 languages. These have been shared with states and UTs. A Dedicated webpage with all awareness material has been created for making available all information material and videos for wider dissemination and use by stakeholders. An E-Pledge on Swachh Bharat Harit Bharat Green Pledge has been launched on My Gov Platform for generating public movement amongst citizens on 5th April 2022.

The following online platforms were launched on 5th April 2022 for effective monitoring of ban on identified single use plastic items and plastic waste management in the country (i) National Dashboard on for monitoring of comprehensive action plan implementation, (ii) Centralized online Portal for Extended Producer Responsibility implementation, (iii) CPCB Monitoring Module for Compliance on Elimination of Single Use Plastic, and (iv) CPCB Grievance Redressal App.

Two Pan India campaigns on awareness generation and enforcement have been implemented from 1st July 2022 till 31st July 2022 for effective implementation of ban on identified single use plastic items with effect from 1st July 2022.

(c) and (d) The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on a petition seeking enforcement of the liability for using excessive packaging material without meeting statutory liability by e-commerce companies observed on invoking “Polluter Pays” principle for enforcing the statutory norms. Central Pollution Control Board issued directions under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to leading E-commerce companies to stop selling/usage of banned SUP items through online platform provided by their organization with effect from 01/07/2022.

(e) The allocation of funds for implementation of Urban Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0, being implemented by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, state-wise including coastal States like Maharashtra is given at **Annexure II**.

Annexure I

**Notification for banning manufacture, use, sale import and handling of
single use plastic products**

(Based on the data available in submitted Annual reports by SPCBs/PCCs)

S. No	Name of State/UT	Complete or Partial Ban	Date of Gazette or Executive Order	Remarks
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Complete ban	02.08.2010 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, store, import, distribution, transportation, recycle, sell & use of plastic carry bags.
2	Andhra Pradesh	Not Banned	Not Available	Not Banned
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Complete ban	03.07.2012 (Executive Order)	Complete ban on manufacture, store, import, transportation, sell& use of polythene/plastic carry bags
4	Assam	Complete Ban	30.04.2019 (Gazette)	Plastic carry bags, banners, buntings, cups, cling films, flex, flags, plates, sheets (used for spreading on dining tables irrespective of thickness) including the above items made of thermocol and plastic which use plastic micro beads.
5	Bihar	Complete ban	11.12.2018 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, store, import, transportation, sell& use of plastic carry bags
6	Chandigarh	Complete ban	30.07.2008 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, storage, import, sale, use transportation & disposal

				of plastic carry bags
7	Chhattisgarh	Complete ban	24.12.2014 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, store, import, transportation, recycle, sell & use of polythene/plastic carry bags.
8	Daman Diu & Dadra Nagar Haveli	Complete ban	24-01-2014 & 22.09.2017 (Gazette)	Forbidding the use, sale/storage of all kinds of plastic bags
9	Delhi	Complete ban	23.10.2012 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, import, store, sell & use of plastic products (poly Propylene, non-woven fabric type carry bags), plastic film or plastic tube to pack or cover any book including magazine & invitation/greeting cards.
10	Goa	Partial ban	16.03.2015	Government imposed ban on Manufacture, stock, import, transportation, recycle, sale & use of plastic (carry bags, cups, forks, paper plates, spoons) in ChorlaGhat area Mandi Wildlifesanctuaries .
11	Gujarat	Partial ban	28.06.2011 (Gazette)	Complete ban on plastic products in Gandhi Nagar
12	Haryana	Complete ban	20.08.2013 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, stock, import, transportation, recycle, sell & use of plastic (carry bags, cups, forks, paper plates, straws, spoons& containers for the usage of foodstuffs)

13	Himachal Pradesh	Complete Ban	07-07-2009 & 13-08-2009 (Gazette)	Complete ban on use of Carry bags (irrespective of size), polythene, non-biodegradable material, disposable plastic cups, plates, and glasses
14	Jammu & Kashmir	Complete Ban	03.01.2017 (SRO 45 order-Notification) Jammu District Magistrate has on 01.10.2020 ordered strict enforcement of SRO 45 notification.	Complete ban on manufacture, stocking, distribution, sale and use of polyethylene carry bags, plastic sheets or like, cover made of plastic sheet, plastic packaging and multilayered packaging less than fifty microns in thickness within territorial limits of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
15	Jharkhand	Complete Ban	17.10.2017 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, import, storage, transport, sell and usage of plastic carry bags in the whole State
16	Karnataka	Complete ban	11.03.2016 (Gazette)	State government banned the plastic banners, buntings, carry bags (plastic & compostable), cups, cling films, flex, flags, plates, spoons & sheets made of plastic or Thermocol and microbeadsusage in the entire state
17	Kerala	01.01.2020 (Executive Order)	22.11.2010 (Executive Order)	Complete ban on the manufacture, storage, transport and sale of plastic carry bags(irrespective of thickness); plastic sheets(used as

				table spread); plates, cups and decorative materials made of thermocol/stryrofoam; SUP items like cups, plates, dishes, spoons, forks, straw, stirrer; plastic coated paper cups, plastic coated paper plates, plastic coated paper bowls, plastic coated paper bags; Non woven bags, plastic flags, plastic bunting; plastic water pouches, non branded plastic juice packets ; plastic juice packets; PET/PETE bottles of drinking water of capacities less than 500 ml; garbage bags (plastic); PVC flex materials and plastic packets.
18	Ladakh	Partial Ban	(Order no-40-LA (GAD) of 2020 dated 23.06.2020)	Ban on the use of plastic water bottles and other plastic made objects in Government offices and other institutions
19	Lakshadweep	Complete ban	25.01.2019 (Gazette)	Complete ban on use, store & sale of plastic carry bags of all thickness, plastic coated carry bags, plastic flags, plastic sheets/films used for wrapping, plastic sheets used as dining table covers, thermocol cups and plates, plastic coated paper cups and plates,

				plastic teacups, plastic tumblers, plastic teacups, water pouches/packets/PET plastic water bottles, straws,
20	Madhya Pradesh	Complete ban	24-05-2017 (Gazette)	Production, Storage, Transportation, sale & use of plastic carrybags.
21	Maharashtra	Complete Ban	23-03-2018 (Gazette) Amendment 11th April, 2018	Complete ban in the whole State for manufacture, usage, sale storage, transport, and distribution, wholesale & retail, import of the plastic& compostable bags and the disposable products manufactured from plastic & thermocol (polystyrene) - disposable dish/spoon, cups, bowl, container, fork, plates, glasses, straw, non-woven polypropylene bags, cups/pouches.
22	Manipur	Complete Ban	12.9.2017 Notification no. 56/38/99 for&Envt	Complete ban on use, store & sale of plastic carry bags
23	Meghalaya	Partial Ban	16.2.2017 Notification No. MPCB/TB- 144B/2016-2017/79	Use and sale of plastic bags less than 50 microns has been prohibited and public notice has been issued
24	Mizoram	Partial Ban	With effect from 1.8.2019 By Aizwal Municipal Corporation	Complete ban on plastic carry bags below 50 microns
25	Nagaland	Complete ban	01.01.2004 (Gazette)	Complete ban on use, store & sale of plastic carry bags

26	Odisha	Partial ban	29.09.2018 (Executive Order)	Ban on use and sale of plastic carry bags, bottled drinking water Polyethylene Terephthalate bottles of less than 200 ml capacity; SUP disposable cutleries like thermocol (polystyrene), dish/spoon, cups, bowl, container, fork, glasses & plates in Bhubaneshwar, Berhampur, Cuttack, Puri, Rourkela & Sambalpur
27	Puducherry	Complete ban	30.07.2019	(i) Polythene/Plastic/Polypropylene carry bags; (ii) Polythene/Plastic/Styrofoam (Thermocol) cups; (iii) Polythene/Plastic/Styrofoam (Thermocol) plates; (iv) Plastic sheet pouches used for cooked food wrapping; (v) Plastic sheets used for spreading on dining table; (vi) Water pouches; (vii) Plastic straw; (viii) Plastic flag.
28	Punjab	Complete ban	18.02.2016 (Gazette)	Complete ban on Manufacture, stock, distribute, recycle, sale & use of plastic carry bags.
29	Rajasthan	Complete ban	01.08.2010 (Gazette)	Complete ban on use, store & sale of plastic carry bags
30	Sikkim	Complete ban	19.05.2016 (Gazette)	Complete ban on sale & use, storage of disposable items (cups, plates, spoons, containers, etc..) made from Styrofoam.

31	Tamil Nadu	Complete Ban	01.01.2019 (Gazette)	Complete ban on manufacture, sell, use, storage, Transportation and distribution of "Single-use plastics" i.e. plastic carrybags, flags, sheets using for food wrapping, straws, tea cups, tumblers, water packets & pouches
32	Telangana	Not Banned	Not Available	Not Banned
33	Tripura	Complete ban	10.03.2015 (Gazette)	Complete ban on Sell, use, storage, Transportation & import of plastic carrybags (including polypropylene, non-woven fabric type) plastic tube to pack or cover any book including magazine & invitation/greeting cards.
34	Uttar Pradesh	Complete ban	22.12.2015 (Gazette)	Sell, use, Storage, Transportation & import of plastic carrybags (including polypropylene, non-woven fabric type) plastic tube to pack or cover any book including magazine & invitation/greeting cards.
35	Uttarakhand	Complete Ban	01.01.2017 (Gazette)	Sell, use, storage & Transportation, of plastic carry bags.
36	West Bengal	Partial ban	11.01.2018 (Executive Order)	Completely banned in religious and historical places.

Annexure-II

Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) – 2.0 Total Fund Allocation (in Rupees Crores)

S. No.	State/UT	Toilet Construction		UWM	SWM	IEC	CB	Total
		FF	SA					
1	A&N Islands		0.5	0.00	5.50	1.70	0.90	8.60
2	Andhra Pradesh		47.10	694.10	458.10	142.40	71.60	1413.30
3	Arunachal Pradesh		1.00	79.30	33.20	10.30	5.20	129.00
4	Assam		14.20	315.70	118.30	36.80	18.50	503.50
5	Bihar		37.90	666.50	341.10	106.00	53.30	1204.80
6	Chandigarh		3.30	0.00	28.50	8.90	4.50	45.20
7	Chhattisgarh		19.10	414.60	200.10	62.20	31.30	727.30
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu		1.10	23.10	4.80	1.50	0.70	31.20
9	Delhi		52.80	0.00	436.10	135.60	68.10	692.60
10	Goa		2.90	56.90	12.30	3.80	1.90	77.80
11	Gujarat		83.00	806.90	701.40	218.00	109.60	1918.90
12	Haryana		28.50	284.40	226.90	70.50	35.40	645.70
13	Himachal Pradesh		2.20	101.00	36.50	11.30	5.70	156.70
14	Jammu & Kashmir		10.30	226.40	131.70	40.90	20.60	429.90
15	Jharkhand		25.60	236.80	174.90	54.40	27.30	519.00
16	Karnataka		76.10	1128.60	709.30	220.50	110.80	2245.30
17	Kerala		51.40	521.70	205.80	64.00	32.20	875.10

18	Ladakh		0.70	34.10	19.00	5.90	3.00	62.70
19	Madhya Pradesh		64.70	1229.50	617.50	192.00	96.50	2200.20
20	Maharashtra		163.80	1484.80	1438.10	447.10	224.70	3758.50
21	Manipur		2.50	58.70	23.90	7.40	3.70	96.20
22	Meghalaya		1.90	40.80	16.80	5.20	2.60	67.30
23	Mizoram		1.80	48.10	22.20	6.90	3.50	82.50
24	Nagaland		1.80	60.30	19.00	5.90	3.00	90.00
25	Odisha		22.60	491.00	209.80	65.20	32.80	821.40
26	Puducherry		2.70	25.50	20.40	6.30	3.20	58.10
27	Punjab		33.50	589.00	294.20	91.50	46.00	1054.20
28	Rajasthan		54.90	916.10	541.80	168.40	84.60	1765.80
29	Sikkim		0.50	9.80	6.20	1.90	1.00	19.40
30	Tamil Nadu		112.50	1999.70	807.40	251.00	126.10	3296.70
31	Telangana		43.90	463.10	381.90	118.70	59.70	1067.30
32	Tripura		3.10	48.40	23.00	7.20	3.60	85.30
33	Uttar Pradesh		143.40	2117.20	1235.90	384.20	193.10	4073.80
34	Uttarakhand		9.80	203.00	89.00	27.70	13.90	343.40
35	West Bengal		93.80	507.90	577.70	179.60	90.30	1449.30
	STATE/UT		1214.90	15883.00	10168.30	3160.90	1588.90	32421.00
	MOHUA		0	0	0	790.20	782.40	1572.60
	TOTAL		1214.90	15883.00	10168.30	3951.10	2371.30	33993.60

Floating Fund (FF), State Allocation (SA) Used Water Management (UWM), Solid Waste Management (SWM), Information Education and Communication (IEC), Capacity Building (CB)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question No. 56, Dr. Fauzia Khan, not present. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri G.K. Vasan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI G.K. VASAN: Sir, the MSMEs were helping the industries in regard to plastic, and now there is a ban on plastic. ...*(Interruptions)*... As an alternative, will the MSMEs help the other industries? Will the Ministry guide them? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : माननीय उपसभापति जी, जो प्लास्टिक बैन का विषय है, यह देश के पर्यावरण के साथ जुड़ा हुआ विषय है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... 2018 में माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने पूरी दुनिया से 'बीट द प्लास्टिक' का आह्वान किया था। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस बार भी जब दुनिया की असेम्बली नैरोबी में हुई थी, तो दुनिया के सभी देशों द्वारा कमिटमेंट किया गया था कि सभी देश अपनी-अपनी जगहों पर प्लास्टिक बैन करें। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमने जो सिंगल यूज प्लास्टिक बैन का नोटिफिकेशन निकाला था, वह अगस्त, 2021 में निकाला था और उसे निकालने के बाद हमने एमएसएमई के साथ ...*(व्यवधान)*... विचार-विमर्श करके इसके विकल्प भी दिये गये थे। ...*(व्यवधान)*... वे सारे विकल्प देने के साथ-साथ मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ एमएसएमई के द्वारा हमारी जो प्लास्टिक उत्पादन इकाइयाँ हैं, उनको विकल्प पर जाने के लिए अनेक तरह की योजनाएँ दी हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अभी भी मिनिस्ट्री इस बात पर पूरे तरीके से प्रतिबद्ध है कि एमएसएमई के साथ मिल कर जो बायोडिग्रेडेबल विकल्प हैं, उन विकल्पों की ओर जाया जाये। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मुझे यह बताते हुए खुशी है...कि बहुत सारी राज्य सरकारें, बहुत सारे एमएसएमई और औद्योगिक संगठन इसके लिए कार्य कर रहे हैं और यह एक ऐसा विषय है, जिसे सबको मिलकर करना पड़ेगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

डा. अनिल जैन : महोदय, मेरा माननीय मंत्री जी से स्पष्ट प्रश्न है कि एनवलप्स के लिए जो बाँयोडिग्रेडेबल विकल्प हैं, उस दिशा में कुछ कंपनियाँ काम कर रही हैं। क्या उनके लिए सब्सिडी या इंडस्ट्री लगाने के लिए किसी प्रोत्साहन की कोई व्यवस्था सरकार में है? उत्तर प्रदेश के आगरा और नोएडा में कई जगहों पर ऐसी एप्लीकेशनस आई हैं, लेकिन उन्हें इसकी कोई स्पष्ट जानकारी नहीं मिल पा रही है। कृपया इस संदर्भ में बताने की कृपा करें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो प्रश्न पूछा है, एमएसएमई के द्वारा कई योजनाएँ बनाई गई हैं, लेकिन वे योजनाएँ उद्योगों और एमएसएमई के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिए हैं। विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों के द्वारा भी इसकी योजनाएँ बनाई गई हैं। उन योजनाओं को, जो विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों और एमएसएमई मंत्रालय द्वारा की जा रही हैं, निश्चित रूप से मैं उन्हें माननीय सदस्य को भेज दूंगा।

श्री उपसभापति : श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम जी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से एक सवाल पूछना चाहती हूँ कि हमारे यहां पानी पीने की बोतलें, दूध की प्लास्टिक की थैली और प्लास्टिक के ग्लास इस्तेमाल किए जाते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... महोदय, ज्यादातर देखा गया है कि ...**(व्यवधान)**... जब भी कोई मेला होता है, तो वहां ऐसी तमाम तरह की बोतलें देखी जाती हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसके लिए भी मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहूंगी कि क्या इन्हें बंद करने का भी कुछ प्लान है कि जो प्लास्टिक की पानी की बोतलें बाजारों में बिकती हैं, उसके बदले भविष्य में कांच की बोतल में पानी मिले, ताकि पर्यावरण को भी इनसे मुक्ति मिले, धन्यवाद।

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं स्पष्ट करना चाहूंगा कि सिंगल यूज प्लास्टिक ऐसा प्लास्टिक है, जिसे वापस नहीं लिया जा सकता, कलेक्ट नहीं किया जा सकता ...**(व्यवधान)**... जिसकी मोटाई 75 एमएम से कम है, उसे अभी बैन किया गया है और जो 120 एमएम मोटाई का है, उसे 31 दिसंबर से बैन किया जाएगा। इसके साथ ही साथ जो पानी की प्लास्टिक की बोतलें हैं, जो ब्रांडेड बोतलें हैं, उनके लिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... ईपीआर पॉलिसी लाई गई है। यह Extended Producer Responsibility है, जिसके अंतर्गत जिनके द्वारा उन्हें निर्मित और उत्पादित किया जाएगा, उन्हें पुनः संग्रह करके देना होगा। ये गाइडलाइन्स और रूल्स भी लागू कर दिए गए हैं। मैं माननीय सदस्य को भी उन रूल्स की कॉपी उपलब्ध करा दूंगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Question No. 57; Shrimati Mausam Noor; not present.

...**(Interruptions)**...Any supplementary?

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

Review of content regulation process

*57. SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the detailed process that Government follows to regulate the content on print, electronic and online platforms including micro-blogging site like Twitter;
- (b) whether the three-tier grievance redressal structure is in place and operational, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the concerns raised by viewers and also by the Members of the inter-Ministerial Committee alongwith their observations;
- (d) the parameters of content that are sacrosanct for revocation of license, the emergency powers exercised to block certain YouTube or social media accounts; and

- (e) the Government's stance on 'content fabrication' and assessment process for the same?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The content in various media streams are regulated as per separate regulatory mechanisms viz. Press Council of India under the Press Council Act, 1978 for print media, Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules made thereunder for electronic media and the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rule, 2021 (IT Rule, 2021) under Information Technology Act, 2000 for digital media. The three tier grievance redressal mechanism for looking into complaints relating to violation of Code of Ethics, prescribed in IT Rules 2021, by digital news publishers and Over the Top (OTT) platforms and that relating to violation of the Programme Code and Advertising Code prescribed in Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994 is already in place. The respective Inter Departmental Committees (IDC) at Level-III of the grievance redressal mechanism have been constituted and meetings of the same have been convened.

(d) and (e) Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 (I T Act, 2000) empowers the Central Government to issue directions to any Government agency or an intermediary to block content in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to such matters. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting issues directions under IT Rules, 2021 for blocking for public access of content of digital news publishers for hosting content referred to in Section 69A of IT Act, 2000. MeitY is empowered to issue directions for blocking of such content referred to in Section 69A of IT Act, 2000 under the provisions of the Act and rules made thereunder.

श्री उपसभापति : प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा। ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह मोडस ऑपरेन्डी क्या है, जिसमें नफरत और घृणा के बयान देने वाले पर या तो कोई कार्रवाई नहीं होती या फिर सांकेतिक होती है, लेकिन जो फैक्ट चेकर्स हैं, उन पर

कार्रवाई होती है? यह हमने हाल के दिनों में देखा है। इस मोडस ऑपरेन्डी के बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी बताएं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, इसके पूरे कानून और नियम बने हुए हैं। जैसे अखबारों के ऊपर प्रेस कॉउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया है, तो वह एक ऑटोनमस बॉडी है और उसका एक स्टैचुटरी स्टेटस है। वह खुद सुओ मोटो भी उसके ऊपर कार्रवाई कर सकती है और यदि कोई शिकायत कर दे, तब भी कर सकती है। इसी तरह से जो इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया है, उसके केबल टीवी नेटवर्क हैं, उनके रूल्स के अनुसार प्रोग्राम कोड को लेकर करना होता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसी तरह मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स एंड इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी के कन्टेंट को लेकर जो रूल्स हैं, उनके ऊपर कार्रवाई करनी होती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, यह भी जानना जरूरी है कि कौन फैक्ट चेकर है और कौन दूसरी तरह से अपराध कर रहा है। फैक्ट चेकर के पीछे रहकर कोई समाज में तनाव खड़ा करने का काम न करे, यह भी करना बहुत आवश्यक है और उनके खिलाफ अगर कोई शिकायत करता है, तो कानून उसमें अपना काम करता है, जिसके ऊपर हमारा मंत्रालय सीधे कोई कार्रवाई नहीं करता। अलग-अलग राज्यों में कानून-व्यवस्था को देखने के लिए वहां कानून काम करता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री राकेश सिन्हा : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो लोग ट्विटर और फेसबुक पर फेक अकाउंट बना कर भारत विरोधी दुष्प्रचार कर रहे हैं, उनके खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई की जा रही है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... ऐसे कुछ निहित स्वार्थी तत्व हैं, जो भारत की छवि, भारत की स्थिरता को समाप्त करना चाहते हैं और पूरी दुनिया में भारत के खिलाफ ऐसा प्रचार तंत्र चलाते हैं। ऐसे लोगों पर क्या कार्रवाई करने की व्यवस्था की जा रही है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर : सर, माननीय सांसद जी ने बहुत महत्वपूर्ण सवाल पूछा है कि आखिरकार यह जो इंटरनेट पर फेक न्यूज़ चलाई जाती है, भारत के खिलाफ प्रोपेगेंडा चलाया जाता है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये MeitY के जो रूल्स हैं, जो इन्फॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी एक्ट, 2000 है, उसके सेक्शन 69(ए) के अनुसार भारत की अखंडता और प्रभुता को ध्यान में रखते हुए और हम जो भारत की रक्षा, सुरक्षा की बात करते हैं, उसको देखते हुए समय-समय पर निर्णय किए जाते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हाल ही में, 2021-22 में भी भारत सरकार के सूचना प्रसारण मंत्रालय ने ऐसे यूट्यूब चैनल्स के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने में कोई संकोच नहीं किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हमने ऐसे 94 यूट्यूब चैनल्स और 19 सोशल मीडिया अकाउंट्स को बंद करने का काम किया है और 747 यूआरएल्स, जो यूनिफॉर्म रिसोर्स लोकेटर हैं, इनको बंद करने का काम भी किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो देश के खिलाफ काम करते थे, उनके खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने का काम इस सरकार ने किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, हमने इसमें कोई संकोच नहीं किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो मित्र देशों के खिलाफ भी, भारत के खिलाफ प्रोपेगेंडा खड़ा करते हैं, उनके खिलाफ भी यदि कड़ी कार्रवाई की है, तो मोदी सरकार के सूचना प्रसारण मंत्रालय ने की है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, देश विरोधी ताकतों को, जो ऐसा एजेंडा चलाती हैं, ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये अब तो आवाज़ करते हैं,

लेकिन ये जो लोग यहाँ पर खड़े हैं, ये उनके खिलाफ आवाज़ नहीं उठाएँगे, जो देश के खिलाफ काम करते हैं, किन्तु हमने उनके खिलाफ कड़ी कार्रवाई करने का काम किया है।...**(व्यवधान)**... इनमें से कुछ लोग वे भी हैं, जो * का प्रोपेगेंडा करते हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, ये जीएसटी की मीटिंग में तो जाते हैं, वहाँ पर आवाज़ नहीं उठाते हैं, यहाँ पर तख्तियाँ लेकर खड़े होते हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**... इससे यह पता चलता है कि इसमें क्या है।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय नीरज शेखर जी।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नीरज शेखर : माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि ट्विटर और फेसबुक की बात कई बार होती है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... लेकिन कुछ ऐसे लोग जो सार्वजनिक जीवन में हैं, जिनके वक्तव्य से समाज पर असर पड़ता है, ...**(व्यवधान)**... जैसा कि आप जानते हैं कि कोविड काल में कई लोग भ्रमित चीज़ें फैला रहे थे, अग्निवीर के बारे में भ्रमित चीज़ें फैला रहे हैं, इनके बारे में सरकार क्या कर रही है, मंत्रालय क्या कर रहा है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... इनकी खबरें समाचार पत्रों में छप जाती हैं, उनके बारे में क्या हो रहा है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर : सर, माननीय नीरज शेखर जी बहुत वरिष्ठ सदस्य हैं और इन्होंने बहुत गंभीर सवाल भी उठाया है।...**(व्यवधान)**... कोई ऐसा व्यक्ति फेक न्यूज़ नहीं फैला रहा है, बल्कि ये उन लोगों की बात कर रहे हैं, जो कभी चुने हुए प्रतिनिधि थे या हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**... कुछ लोग आज भी तख्तियाँ लेकर खड़े होंगे।...**(व्यवधान)**... कुछ बाहर खड़े होंगे, कुछ अंदर खड़े होंगे।...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, सवाल यह खड़ा होता है कि आपदा के समय कुछ लोग वैक्सीन को लेकर दुष्प्रचार करते थे।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय मंत्री जी, कृपया ब्रीफली उत्तर दें।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, देश के लोगों ने 200 करोड़ वैक्सीन लगाने का काम किया।...**(व्यवधान)**... ऐसा करके लोगों ने उनको मुँहतोड़ जवाब दिया है, जो लोग वैक्सीन को लेकर भ्रम फैलाते थे।...**(व्यवधान)**... आज कुछ लोग जीएसटी को लेकर दुष्प्रचार करते हैं, लेकिन वहाँ पर मीटिंग में इनके लोग कुछ नहीं बोले।...**(व्यवधान)**... दूसरा, कुछ लोगों ने अग्निवीर को लेकर आंदोलन करवाने का काम करवाया, लेकिन सच्चाई यह है कि लाखों युवाओं ने इसके लिए आवेदन किया है।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय मंत्री जी, कृपया ब्रीफली उत्तर दें।...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर : सच्चाई देश के सामने आए।...**(व्यवधान)**... हम यह प्रयास करते हैं कि चाहे अखबार हों या टीवी चैनल्स हों या ऑनलाइन चैनल्स हों, वे देश के सामने सच

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

लाएँ।...(व्यवधान)... हमें कानून के अनुसार जो करना है, वह हम करने के लिए तैयार हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय मंत्री जी, प्लीज़, ब्रीफ में बोलें। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री अनुराग सिंह ठाकुर : सर, हम सबका प्रयास यह रहेगा कि जो चुने हुए प्रतिनिधि हैं, वे * का प्रोपेगेंडा न करें और अखबार तथा टीवी चैनल्स भी उनको उस तरह से प्राथमिकता न दें।...(व्यवधान)... सच देश के सामने आए - सदा हमारी ऐसी प्राथमिकता रहेगी।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question No.58.

Reservations expressed on Buffer Zone

*58. SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the State Government of Kerala has expressed reservations with regard to the Buffer Zone proposal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the stand of the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the procedure laid down for notification of ESZ, the draft proposals related to finalization of ESZ received from the State Governments are examined in the Ministry before publication. The final notification is published after examining the claims and objections received after the draft notification.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: First supplementary...(Interruptions)...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI JOHN BRITTAS: Sir ...(*Interruptions*)... We want a discussion ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. ...(*Interruptions*)...

1.00 P.M.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

- I. Report of the CVC, New Delhi
- II. Reports and Accounts (2020-21) of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar; Homi Bhabha National Institute, Mumbai and AEES, Mumbai and related papers.

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री; (डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Fifty-eighth Annual Report of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), New Delhi, for the year ending on 31st of December, 2021, under sub-section (3) of Section 14 of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7221/17/22]

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

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2020-21, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6386/17/22]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Homi Bhabha National Institute, Mumbai, for the year 2020-21, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6394/17/22]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Atomic Energy Education Society (AEES), Mumbai, for the year 2020-21, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6305/17/22]

...(Interruptions)...

Report and Accounts (2019-20) of IBC, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), New Delhi, for the year 2019-20, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Confederation.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7197/17/22]

...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Kaushal Kishore; absent. ...*(Interruptions)*...
Shri Nisith Pramanik.

Reports and Accounts (2020-21) of the LNIPE, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh and related papers

युवक कार्यक्रम और खेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री निसिथ प्रामाणिक) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Lakshmbai National Institute of Physical Education (LNIPE), Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, for the year 2020-21, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7210/17/22]

...*(Interruptions)*...

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I rise to present the Two Hundred and Forty Ninth Report of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation (in Hindi and English) on the Statutory Orders Laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha during its 255th Session.

...*(Interruptions)*...

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE**

श्री दीपक प्रकाश (झारखंड) : महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित वाणिज्य संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति

के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदन * (हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में) प्रस्तुत करता हूँ :-

- (i) 170th Report on 'Implementation of Districts as Export Hubs (DEHs) including One District One Product (ODOP) Initiatives';
- (ii) 171st Report on 'Issues affecting the Indian Tea Industry especially in Darjeeling region'; and
- (iii) 172nd Report on 'Promotion and Regulation of E-Commerce in India'.

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, LAW AND JUSTICE**

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI (Bihar): Sir, I rise to present Volume-I (in English and Hindi) of the 117th Report & on "The Mediation Bill, 2021" of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice.

2. I also present Volume-II (in the language received) of the 117th Report containing 'Memoranda submitted by individuals/experts/institutions'.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Report of the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change - Shrimati Vandana Chavan, Shrimati Rajani Ashokrao Patil. Not present.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have to inform Members that a letter has been received from Shri Randeep Singh Surjewala, Member, seeking grant of Leave of Absence on medical ground from sittings of the House from 22nd July, 2022 till the end of the current (257th) Session of Rajya Sabha.

* The Reports were presented to Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 15th June, 2022, when the House was not in session. A copy each of the Reports was also forwarded to Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha on the same day.

& The Report was presented to Hon. Chairman on 13th July, 2022 under Direction 30(i) of Directions by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha when the House was not in Session and Hon. Chairman was pleased to order for the publication and circulation of those Reports under Direction 30(ii) and forwarded to Hon. Speaker Lok Sabha on the same day.

Does he have the permission of the House for remaining absent from 22nd July to 12th August, 2022 of the current (257th) Session of the Rajya Sabha?

(No Hon. Member dissented.)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Permission to remain absent is granted. Now, statements by Ministers.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Fifty-seventh and Three Hundred and Fifty-ninth reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): Sir, I rise to lay the following statements regarding:—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Fifty-seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change on Demands for Grants (2021-22) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Fifty-ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change on Demands for Grants (2022-23) pertaining to the Department of Biotechnology.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Ninety-fifth, Three Hundred and Sixth and Three Hundred and Twentieth Reports of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा पर्यटन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजय भट्ट) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित के संबंध में वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Ninety-fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on "the Potential of Tourist Spots in the country - connectivity and outreach".
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Sixth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on the Action Taken by the Government on the observations/ recommendations contained in its Two Hundred and Ninety-fifth Report on "the Potential of Tourist Spots in the country - connectivity and outreach".
- (iii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Twentieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on "Development of Tourism Infrastructure in the country".

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, now, lunch hour. The House stands adjourned till 2.00 p.m.

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

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock,

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA) *in the Chair.*]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE - Contd.

DR K. KESHAVA RAO (Telangana): Sir, I want to make a submission.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Papers to be Laid on the Table. Shri Kaushal Kishore.

Reports and Accounts (2020-21) of the KMRL, Kochi, Kerala; UPMRC, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh and NMRC, Noida, Uttar Pradesh and related papers

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

I. 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 Kochi Metro Rail Limited (KMRL), Kochi, Kerala, 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.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 7159/17/22]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation (UPMRC), Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh 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.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6453/17/22]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Noida Metro Rail Corporation Limited (NMRC), Noida, Uttar Pradesh 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) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) (i)(a) to (iii)(a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 6452/17/22]

GOVERNMENT BILL

*The Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill, 2022

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): We will now take up the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill, 2022. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Telangana): Sir, one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Hon. Members, you all know that this is a very important Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*... It has got international commitment and implications. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is related to Defence. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, I want to make one submission. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I have a point of order, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): You have been given opportunity during the last three days to participate in this Bill. So, I request all of you to go to your seats and participate in the discussion on this Bill. Shri P. Wilson. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, please allow me to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, I want to make a submission. ...*(Interruptions)*... Under Rule 267, ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Let him speak. The hon. Member wants to speak. Please go to your seats. Let him speak. Yes, Mr. Wilson.

* Further consideration continued on a motion moved on the 19th July, 2022.

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, there is a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Under what rule?

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: This is under Rule 258.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Rule 258 is a general rule. So, you tell me the specific thing in the rule. Under what rule do you want to raise your point? Rule 258 is a general rule.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I can raise a point or order under Rule 258. You know that and I also know that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): But other Members will have to sit. ...*(Interruptions)*... Without your sitting, I cannot hear him. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I will make my submission... ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Go to your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Which is your seat? ...*(Interruptions)*... Is it your seat? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Seats are not allotted. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Seats are not allotted, but that doesn't mean... ...*(Interruptions)*... These seats are reserved for the senior Members. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, Mr. Siva.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, in the morning, when I raised the point of order, it was said that it was Question Hour. So, I agreed to that. But during Question Hour, instead of replying to the questions, the Ministers were accusing the Members. That was allowed. They made statements instead of replying to the questions. We have to make a submission that the Chair should have taken note of that. Anything said by the Minister other than the question has to be expunged. That is number one.

Number two, all of us, the Members from the DMK, Aam Aadmi Party, TRS, CPM, RJD, everyone of us has given notice under Rule 267.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): That has been decided by the Chairman.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Please, please.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): That was under the consideration of the Chairman and the Chairman has rejected it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Only one minute, Sir. The issue was that we wanted to discuss the issue of price rise on petroleum products, suspending the proceedings. ...*(Interruptions)*... No ruling was given on that, Sir. But the Business is being taken up. ...*(Interruptions)*... Without disposing of the ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): I think you are going out of the rule and out of the issue.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, one minute.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): During Question Hour, you cannot raise point of order. That is the rule. ...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot do that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Let me conclude, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Your one minute is over. And if there is any substance in your point of order, I will see. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Wilson. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: One minute, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): You asked for one minute. I have given you one minute. Now, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, Mr. Wilson. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, without disposing of what is under the rule, ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Please do not disturb the Member. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Wilson, you can carry on. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, the proceedings cannot go forward unless a ruling comes from the Chair. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): That has already been decided at the commencement of the House. So, that point remains decided. Now, Mr. Wilson. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. WILSON: Thank you, Sir. Today, what is the weapon of mass destruction in this country... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, only one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, under Rule 267, ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): It cannot go on for unlimited time. You participate in the discussion. If there is a relevant point, you can raise it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, in protest, we walk out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber.)

SHRI P. WILSON: Today, what is the weapon of mass destruction in this country? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Mr. Wilson, please carry on. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. WILSON: Hon. Minister, can you tell the people of this great nation ...(*Interruptions*)... There is price rise of essential commodities like gas, milk, pulses, sugar, edible oil, tea, foodgrains, petrol, diesel, etc. How is the Government going to control and handle it? Price rise affects the poor and the common man. The salaries and wages are the same but the prices are soaring. The prices of ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): That is not the subject of the Bill, Mr. Wilson. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please come to the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... Come straight to the Bill.

SHRI P. WILSON: I am coming to the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Please don't derail the discussion on the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is an important Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... It has international implications. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is an important matter for the defence of the country. You please speak on the subject. ...(*Interruptions*)... Don't go out of the subject. ...(*Interruptions*)... You are going out of the subject. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will not allow that.

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, I am not going out of the subject. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am only on the issue. ...(*Interruptions*)... Today, what is the weapon of mass destruction in this country? ...(*Interruptions*)... I am asking the hon. Minister to please tell the people what is the weapon of mass destruction. The weapon of mass destruction in this country is the price rise. It affects the common man. ...(*Interruptions*)... It affects even the middle class.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): I am so sorry. ...(*Interruptions*)... Your subject is different and the Bill is different. ...(*Interruptions*)... If you do not want to speak, you can conclude your speech.

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, that is why we have given the notice. Let us debate the issue first. We can discuss the Amendment Bill later. The issue of price rise is very important.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): No, this is not the subject. Nothing will go on record.(*Interruptions*)... Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)... If you speak on the Bill, that only will go on record.
...(Interruptions)... Nothing else will go on record. Thank you.

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, I am only speaking on the weapons of mass destruction.
...(Interruptions)... Sir, according to you, the weapons of mass destruction are some chemicals and other things. It is about the price rise.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): I think you are misguided.
...(Interruptions)... Please read the Bill. ...(Interruptions)... What is the weapon of mass destruction? ...(Interruptions)... If you want to speak on that, you can speak. Or you can conclude. Thank you.

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, I am speaking on it. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, we are only concentrating on what is the weapon of mass destruction in this country.
...(Interruptions)... The weapon of mass destruction in this country...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): I think you are not interested in this Bill, Mr. Wilson. ...(Interruptions)... You are speaking on something else. ...(Interruptions)... I am calling the next speaker.
...(Interruptions)... I am calling the next speaker. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, I am talking about the people of this country.
...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): The next speaker is, Dr. Prashanta Nanda. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. PRASHANTA NANDA (Odisha): Sir, this Bill concerns the security of this country. This Amendment Bill has been passed in the Lok Sabha in April. The Bill moved by the Minister of External Affairs, Shri S. Jaishankar, amends the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems Act 2005. The Act of 2005 prohibits unlawful activities such as manufacturing, transport or transfer related to weapons of mass destruction, and their means of delivery.

Weapons of mass destruction are biological weapons or chemical weapons or nuclear weapons. This amendment is to prevent persons from financing such

activities. The Central Government may freeze, seize or attach their funds, financial assets or economic resources whether owned, held or controlled directly or indirectly.

I would like to elaborate on the key features of the Amendment Bill. The Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill, 2022 seeks to ban funding of weapons of mass destruction and also empowers the Centre to freeze and seize or attach financial assets and economic resources of the people engaged in such activities. Then, the Bill inserts a new provision stating, "No person shall finance any activity which is prohibited under this Act, or under the United Nations (Security Council) Act, 1947 or any other relevant Act for the time being in force, or by an order issued under any such Act, in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems." The punitive measures which have been given in this aim to give the Government powers to freeze, seize or attach funds or other financial assets or economic resources owned or controlled, wholly or jointly, directly or indirectly, by such person; or held by or on behalf of, or at the direction of such person; or derived or generated from the funds or other assets owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by such person. The financial sanction which has been mentioned in this empowers the Government to prohibit making available funds, financial assets or economic resources for any prohibited activity in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems.

Sir, the passing of this Bill will strengthen the country's global position, and specific changes in the earlier law were necessary so that the security of the country can be ensured. Upgrading a law, which was 17 years old, was necessary and thus it has come to this House for consideration and passing. Many other countries in the world have such legislations; current requirement need specific law and legal statutory ways to deal with the issue of national security.

Therefore, Sir, I support this Bill and I think that this amendment is absolutely necessary. Thank you.

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to share a few of my thoughts on the proposed amendments to the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005. There have not been any

amendments to the Act in the last 16 years of its inception and I appreciate the introduction of such an important piece of legislation in the Parliament.

Sir, I would like to share a few of my observations regarding the measures taken by the Centre in this regard. The first point is that India has remained on the forefront in matters of disarmament and reiterated the belief that nuclear weapons should be abolished in a step-by-step non-discriminatory process, which is echoed in the Bill. Having committed to the policy of 'No First Use' since 2003, we have repeatedly stated that the usage of nuclear weapons would be of punitive retaliation, in case of an attack. This Bill also promotes our global efforts towards disarmament and strengthening the non-proliferation order like supporting the Conference of Disarmament, negotiations on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons and steps to reduce the risks associated.

Second point is that the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 prevents individuals and organisations, including terrorist groups from acquiring and spreading nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery, while imposing obligations on all States regardless of their participation in existing treaties. India has fought a battle against terrorism for many decades. Thus, I wish to again draw the attention to the dangers of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction as reiterated by our representatives at UNSC and request the international community to prevent possession and use of weapons of mass destruction by terrorist outfits as per the UNSC recommendations.

Next point is on biological weapons, the new threat. We have repeatedly emphasized on following the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and pitched for strict compliance on banning production of the entire range of biological weapons of mass destruction. In the recent past, we have seen the widespread effects of Covid-19 pandemic with reports indicating that Coronavirus was manufactured in Wuhan Institute of Virology as a bio-weapon to mobilize biological warfare, posing it to be dangerous as its nuclear and chemical counterparts. Such looming threats are a real threat, and though our Armed Forces are trained to prepare for chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear attacks, yet more efforts ought to be considered. An apex centre for Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) emergencies needs to be established on a priority basis and collaborative training exercises for our forces by institutions engaged in this field could be beneficial to make our 'first responders to crisis, truly first class'.

Our enhanced international cooperation in science and technology needs to be talked here. There is a need for international cooperation now more than ever to counter the matters relating to the Weapons of Mass Destruction, especially, in times of fast developing technology.

Efforts for promotion of peaceful uses of science and technology through technology transfer, sharing of information and exchange of equipment are being encouraged by India as indicated in the UNGA resolution on 'Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament'.

These efforts could be augmented by facilitation of multilateral dialogues, along with relevant stakeholders, on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts.

The next point is on increasing criminal liability. In the 2005 Act, for aiding non-state actors or terrorists and violation of other provisions of the Act, there is no mention of an amount which would be liable as a fine. Unauthorized exports of Weapons of Mass Destruction are punishable with fines ranging from Rs.3 lakh to Rs.20 lakh and only a repeat offence results in imprisonment for a six month period, extendable upto five years. Offenders convicted under the Act often have strong financial backing and such an amount is miniscule in comparison. Therefore, I urge the Centre to levy more severe fines and enforcement on the convicted offenders

I commend the efforts made by the Centre to contribute to elimination of Weapons of Mass Destruction and implementing crucial steps to ensure their effective control. This Bill is a step forward to counter the threat posed by these weapons and we, from Y.S.R. Congress Party, support this Bill. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Thank you. The next speaker is Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha. Mr. Jha, the floor is yours.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Thank you so very much, Sir. I am very pleased to see you there. We make a great combination as the history shows. I would speak on the Bill and I would speak through the Bill. Please protect me and allow me both.

Sir, before I speak on the Bill, I would draw your attention to the Hindi title of the Bill. I would urge the Minister, please make sure that the Hindi, which we do for the Bills, is actually understandable for the common people.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): The Secretary-General would take note of this.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: For instance, proliferation - परिदान। I think, it does not go down well.

Sir, I know this Bill is in accordance to international commitment. I fully agree with this but important is, we have international commitment in different other areas and realms. Indigenous population, labour, there we remain silent. I have no qualms, no disagreement, please go ahead with this Bill but please also look at the commitments we have pending. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर (उत्तर प्रदेश): आप हिन्दी में बोलिए।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा : मैं हिन्दी में भी आता हूँ। सर, साउथ के सदस्यों की बड़ी डिमांड रहती है, इसलिए मैं बैलेंस कर रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, इसको कहते हैं, weapon of distraction. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Please carry on.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Anyway, Sir, 'identification of proliferation activities', I think, this is one area where the Bill is quite positive. Comprehensive legal measures have been envisaged. That is understandable. We still remember when we talk about this Bill, Anthrax वाला पूरा जो मामला यू.एस. का था और इस तरह की पूरी संभावनाएं हैं, जहां पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट को लिफाफे में इस तरह की चीजें पहुंचाई जा रही थीं। माननीय मंत्री जी, मेरी चिंता एक विषय पर खास तौर से है, वह क्रिप्टो करेंसी को लेकर है, जिसके बारे में हमारी दुलमुल नीति है, हम क्रिप्टो को चाहते हैं या नहीं चाहते हैं, रिकोगनाइज नहीं करते हैं, लेकिन आमदनी पर टैक्स लगाते हैं। सर, आपने अभी से घड़ी को देखना शुरू कर दिया! सर, आप मुझे देखिए, घड़ी को मत देखिए। सर, वैसे भी विपक्ष के लिए अच्छी घड़ी नहीं है, इसलिए कम से कम आप घड़ी न देखें। सर, मैं यह कहना चाह रहा था, खास करके past centuries since the Second World War, यह हम लोगों के लिए दिक्कत है और जाहिर तौर पर हमारा मुल्क कई मामलों में बहुत वलनरेबल है। सर, मैंने खास कर जो क्रिप्टो वाली बात कही थी, उसके पीछे वजह यह थी कि एनॉनिमस ट्रांजेक्शन है, इसलिए कहीं इसका इस्तेमाल फाइनेंसिंग में तो

नहीं होगा? उसको फनल करने के लिए, चैनल करने के लिए, चोक करने के लिए मैं यह नहीं समझ पा रहा हूँ कि इसमें कोई पुख्ता व्यवस्था है। सर, मेरा मानना है कि जब Weapons of Mass Destruction पर बात करें, तो weapons of mass disruption पर भी बात हो। दुनिया हिल रही है, हमारा मुल्क भी हिल रहा है, लेकिन सिर्फ इस तरह के हथियार और आयुध से नहीं। दुनिया हिल रही है, दुनिया में भी और हमारे समाज में भी एक प्रकार का ज़हर घोला जा रहा है। सर, वह ज़हर वातावरण में है और उस ज़हर का असर यह हो रहा है कि हमारे आपसी रिश्ते शत्रुता में तब्दील हो गए हैं। सर, अब हम राजनीतिक प्रतिस्पर्धी नहीं हैं, बल्कि राजनीतिक दुश्मन बन चुके हैं। Sir, the fact of the matter is that we are in ideological competition and political competition to have a greater footprint. लेकिन अगर शत्रुता की जवान से बात होगी, तो सर, समाज क्षत-विक्षत हो रहा है, अतः इसकी भी चिंता होनी चाहिए। अगर चिंता नहीं होगी, तो यह जो Weapons of Mass Destruction का बिल है - सर, यह बिल पास होगा, लेकिन weapons of mass distraction and weapons of mass disruption, यह हम अपने पूरे समाज में देख रहे हैं, खास तौर पर आज़ादी के 75वें वर्ष में। सर, जहाँ आप बैठे हैं, आपके ठीक सामने सर्वपल्ली राधाकृष्णन जी हैं। यह गाँधी, नेहरू, बाबा साहेब, लोहिया का मुल्क है। सर, हमने इसे क्या बना दिया है? बौना समाज, बौना चिंतन! सर, हम इस बिल के पक्ष में हैं, लेकिन क्या इस तरह का भी एक बिल नहीं आना चाहिए कि weapons of mass disruption और weapons of mass distraction, जिसके माध्यम से हमारी प्राथमिकताएँ खत्म की जा रही हैं, उस पर एक चर्चा हो? सर, मैं इस बिल के पक्ष में हूँ, सिवाय इसके।

माननीय मंत्री महोदय, मैं आपसे एक आग्रह करूंगा कि जब इंटरनेशनल कमिटीमेंट की बात हो - आप रसूखदार मंत्री हैं, ब्यूरोक्रेसी से आए हैं, आप अपने रसूख का इस्तेमाल कीजिए और श्रम को लेकर, श्रम और पूंजी के बीच की जो अन-ईवन रिलेशनशिप है, उसमें भी इंटरवीन कीजिए। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जोर से जय हिंद, जिंदाबाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Now, the next speaker is Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharyya; not present. The next speaker is Shri Ram Nath Thakur.

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार) : श्रद्धेय पीठासीन उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बिल के पक्ष में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। इसको यूपीए की सरकार लाई थी और इसे संशोधित करते हुए वर्तमान सरकार द्वारा आम जनता के लिए यह संशोधन बिल पेश हुआ है। इस विधेयक की मूल भावना है - वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्। यह वाक्य संसद के प्रवेश कक्ष में अंकित है। इसका अर्थ है - धरती ही परिवार है। इस भावना से यह विधेयक उन सभी विनाशकारी हथियारों पर प्रतिबंध लगाने की बात करता है। महोदय, हम एवं यह सदन यह अपेक्षा करते हैं कि इस बिल के महत्व को देखते हुए आतंकवादियों द्वारा हथियारों की जो सप्लाई है, उस पर भारत सरकार निश्चित रूप से रोक लगाने का काम करेगी और धरती एवं समाज को बचाने का काम करेगी। अभी, इस समय जो लोगों के बीच में जा रहे हैं, आ रहे हैं और समाज डरा हुआ है, इस डर की भावना को भगाने के

लिए यह बिल बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है। मैं अपनी तरफ से, अपने दल की तरफ से इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): The next speaker is Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Hon. Vice-Chairman Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the consideration of and passing an important piece of legislation for the welfare of the human kind.

Sir, I am here to whole-heartedly support the Bill. The Bill is aimed to insert certain provisions to the principal Act to prohibit financing of any activity in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. The principal Act covers unlawful activities relating to biological, chemical and nuclear weapons and their delivery systems and provides for integrated legal measures to exercise controls over the export of materials, equipment and technologies in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems and for prevention of their transfers to non-State actors or terrorists. The biological, chemical and nuclear weapons are severe threat to the human kind. In this perspective, a question assumes significance: Are we prepared for a full-fledged biological, chemical and nuclear warfare? I wish to know from the hon. Minister as to what the mechanism that have been put in place to face such a warfare is. I also urge upon the Government to constitute a Group of Ministers comprising the Ministers of Health and Family Welfare, Defence, Chemicals and Fertilizers and External Affairs to draw and implement a national level plan to confront and counter any possible biological, chemical and nuclear warfare.

Sir, everybody is aware that when there was first phase of COVID-19 pandemic across the world, everybody felt and believed that it was a biological warfare and that the COVID-19 virus was released from a lab of a country. Though the possibilities of such things could not be avoided, we must be very careful and cautious in facing such things. Here I would like to know as to whether the provisions of the original Act were not sufficient to deal with this subject also. I would like to quote Sections 14, 15 of the original Act, and it says, "Punishment for aiding non-State sector or terrorist". Already the existing provision in the original Act itself is very clear, but I can understand that there is no provision to seize the property. But at the same time, the punishment and other measures are already taken care of. Finally, I am fully with the

hon. Minister and the Government in ruthlessly crushing the financing of any activity which, even with any remote possibility, is trying to help to prepare or produce or help making weapons of mass destruction. But I just wish to seek one clarification. In the pursuit of India's national interest and for more benevolent use of such technologies, scientific research must have been taking place on such technologies. So I request the hon. Minister to simply clarify that what the Government has done to ensure such critical research on such technologies is not impeded even unintentionally due to this legislation. Sir, finally, with these words of caution and also with certain request to the Government, I once again extend my support to this Bill on behalf of TDP. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): The next speaker is Shri Vaiko; not present. Dr. Fauzia Khan; not present. Shri Ramji, not present. Then Dr. M. Thambidurai.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, as our friend just now talked about universal brotherhood and one family, there is a verse in Tamil also, that is, *"All towns are one, all men our kin."*

That is the famous verse. About 2,000-3,000 years before, our Tamil people said that the whole world is ours, we are all brothers; we must not discriminate and take weapons to kill other people, and that, universally, friendship is more important. Humanity included, that also is very important. That is our slogan, that is our India.

India is a philosophical country which is always advocating the human tribes and human democratic system, and under these circumstances, the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery System (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Amendment Bill, 2022 was introduced in Lok Sabha and passed also. In the Lok Sabha, the hon. Minister replied. In his reply, the hon. External Affairs Minister said that a need was felt to bring the Bill as something was missing in the current law, that there was a need to have provision to ban financing for Weapons of Mass Destruction. That is what he said in his reply. That means they are already having the Bill. The Bill is called the Weapons of Mass Destruction and their Delivery Systems (Prohibition of Unlawful Activities) Act, 2005. We are having that kind of Bill. According to the hon. Minister's explanation in the other House, we need to change

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Tamil.

certain things in the Act. We have to include certain provisions. That is very necessary. That is why, he brought the Bill and now, we are discussing it. The proposed Bill focuses more on the financial bit of activities supporting weapons of mass destructions and fits the missing block in fulfilling India's international obligations by adhering to the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force and United Nations Security Council's targeted financial sanctions against financing weapons of mass destructions. Therefore, our Government, Modi's Government, has felt it necessary to include certain laws. Already there are so many clauses, which our hon. Minister has explained and given in this Bill. I need not go into details of all those things. The crux of the problem, and the objective of the Bill, is to prohibit financing of any activity in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. Also, empower the Central Government to— (i) freeze, seize or attach funds or other financial assets or economic resources for preventing such financing; (ii) prohibit making available funds, financial assets or economic resources for any prohibited activity in relation to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. This is the main thing what our Government feels. Our Party, the AIADMK, and we, the Members, are supporting whatever Amendments, the hon. Minister is bringing. We are wholeheartedly supporting the Modi's Government bringing this kind of Bill, for the House to pass it. Sir, I hope all will support this Bill. Thank you very much.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर (महाराष्ट्र) : माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मुझे बहुत आनन्द होता है कि सरकार यह महत्वपूर्ण बिल लाई है, जो दिखने में छोटा है, लेकिन इसके पीछे जो विचार है, वह विचार देश की और दुनिया की सिक्योरिटी स्ट्रेंथेन करने का है, क्योंकि दुनिया ने देखा है कि कितने प्रकार के हमले हुए हैं, कैसी नई-नई टेक्नोलॉजी आ रही है, जो कितना संकट पैदा करती है। अभी हमारे एक साथी ने कहा कि दुनिया में सैकड़ों लोगों को नहीं, बल्कि करोड़ों लोगों को यह आशंका है कि क्या कोविड एक बायोलॉजिकल वेपन था! यह एक आशंका है। मेरा विश्वास है कि सच्चाई आज नहीं, तो कल, कभी न कभी सामने आएगी, तब हम इसे देखेंगे और चर्चा करेंगे, लेकिन मुझे पहले ही यह बताना चाहिए कि हमारे एक मित्र, मनोज झा जी ने कहा कि 'वेपंस ऑफ मास डिस्ट्रक्शन' की जगह, यानी उसके लिए तो उन्होंने सपोर्ट किया, लेकिन 'वेपंस ऑफ मास डिस्ट्रक्शन' पर उन्होंने बोला। पिछले चार दिन से हम राज्य सभा और लोक सभा में जो देख रहे हैं, उसी को 'मास डिस्ट्रक्शन' कहते हैं, यह हमें समझना चाहिए। मास डिस्ट्रक्शन करके डिस्ट्रक्शन से भागना, इसको 'मास डिस्ट्रक्शन' कहते हैं। आज हम देख रहे हैं, बाहर जाकर ये कह रहे हैं कि चर्चा नहीं हो रही है। सदैव माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि हम किसी भी विषय पर चर्चा करने के लिए तैयार हैं, लेकिन ये लोग चर्चा करेंगे नहीं, चर्चा के समय भाग जाएंगे और बाकी समय में अंदर आ कर शोर-शराबा करेंगे। विपक्ष की यही नकारा राजनीति है, जिसका परिणाम आप देख रहे हैं कि एक के बाद एक इलेक्शन में लोग इनको इनकी जगह दिखा रहे हैं।

आज मुझे खुशी है, हमारे यहां जो मतगणना हो रही है, उसके बाद जब देश की पहली आदिवासी महिला राष्ट्रपति का नाम घोषित होगा, तो एक रिकॉर्ड मत से होगा। ऐसा क्यों है? ऐसा इसलिए है क्योंकि हमने देश के कल्याण का, दुनिया के कल्याण का एक माहौल तैयार किया है, जिसमें भारत का एक महत्वपूर्ण रोल है। इसमें यह बिल क्या कहता है? यह बिल कहता है कि केमिकल, बायोलॉजिकल और न्यूक्लियर... लोग कहेंगे, कहां केमिकल होगा, कहां बायोलॉजिकल होगा, कहां न्यूक्लियर होगा? लोगों को पता नहीं था कि कैसे-कैसे टेररिज्म होगा। अमरीका जैसे देश में कोई यह बात नहीं मान रहा था, क्योंकि वे समझते थे कि उनका देश इतनी दूर है, चारों ओर समुद्र है, तो हमारे ऊपर टेररिस्ट अटैक कैसे होगा? मुझे याद है, अटल जी जब प्रधान मंत्री थे, उस समय वे यूएन में गए थे। तब उन्होंने वहां यह कहा था कि किसी को यह नहीं समझना चाहिए कि टेररिज्म से हम फ्री रहेंगे या हम पर कोई हमला नहीं करेगा। उसके बाद सबने देखा कि ट्विन टॉवर्स पर हमला हुआ। आज हम पार्लियामेंट में बैठे हुए हैं, इस पार्लियामेंट पर हमला हुआ था, जिसके लिए किसी ने सोचा भी नहीं था। अगर हमारे 12 बहादुर जवानों ने अपने प्राणों की आहुति न दी होती, अगर उन्होंने बचाया नहीं होता तो क्या होता, इसकी कल्पना भी हम नहीं कर सकते। लोगों को लगता है कि टेररिज्म का संकट हमसे दूर है, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं है।

मैं एक बात और याद दिलाना चाहता हूं, 2004 से 2014 के बीच आए दिन हम लोग बम विस्फोटों का सिलसिला देखते थे। दिल्ली में तीन बार बम विस्फोट हुआ, पुणे में एक बार हुआ, मुंबई में दो बार हुआ, चंडीगढ़ में हुआ, वाराणसी में हुआ, अहमदाबाद में हुआ, इस तरह जगह-जगह टेररिस्ट्स के हमले हुए। आए दिन हम बम विस्फोटों का सामना करते थे और देखते थे कि लोग कितना सफर कर रहे हैं। मुझे खुशी है और लोगों को यह समझना चाहिए कि पिछले आठ सालों में पहले की तरह शहर-शहर में होने वाले बम विस्फोट खत्म हुए। मोदी सरकार ने जो नीति अपनाई, उसके कारण यह हुआ। क्या नीति अपनाई? मोदी सरकार ने वह नीति अपनाई, जो इस बिल में भी है, वह है फाइनेंस बंद करो, ताकि उन्हें वेपन्स न मिलें। उनका जो ओवरग्राउंड सपोर्ट है, उसको खत्म करो। हमने देखा है कि माओइस्ट वॉयलेंस में जितना विस्तार पहले था, जितनी मात्रा पहले थी, आज उसकी एक-चौथाई रह गई है। आने वाले समय में वह भी खत्म हो जाएगा। जब ऐसी सरकार होगी, जो पूरी तरह से आतंक के उन्मूलन के लिए काम करती है, तो इस देश से आतंक का नाम भी मिट जाएगा। सभी राज्यों के सहयोग से, इंटेलिजेंस की शेयरिंग करके, हम इस काम को कर रहे हैं।

महोदय, मैं मणिपुर में दो बार लम्बे समय के लिए इंचार्ज था, तब मैंने देखा था कि वहां कैसी इन्सर्जेंसी थी, कैसी मिलिटेंसी थी। आज वह लगभग खत्म हो चुकी है। कैसे खत्म हुई? वह इसलिए खत्म हुई क्योंकि यह सरकार ऐसी है, जो संवाद भी करती है, मुद्दों को सुलझाती भी है और जो कदम उठाने होते हैं, वह भी उठाती है। जब उनकी फाइनेंसिंग बंद होगी, ओवरग्राउंड सपोर्ट बंद होगा, तो उनको वेपन्स नहीं मिलेंगे। यही इसका रास्ता है। यह बिल इंटरनेशनल लेवल पर सभी देशों का एक कमिटमेंट है। कोई भी टेररिस्ट अटैक बिना फाइनेंस के हो ही नहीं सकता है।

पाकिस्तान से आए दिन यहां घुसपैठ होती रहती है, हम यह देखते हैं, पढ़ते हैं। किसी न किसी के द्वारा फाइनेंस किए बिना मुम्बई पर हमला थोड़े ही होता है, इसलिए टेररिज़्म में फाइनेंसिंग बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। केमिकल, बायोलॉजिकल और न्यूक्लियर केवल पॉसिबल थ्रेट्स हैं। हम प्रीएम्प्टिव स्टेप्स ले रहे हैं। आज मैंने यह अनुभव किया है, लेकिन ऐसा कल नहीं होगा, ऐसा हम नहीं कह सकते हैं। यह 2005 में सदन में सहमति से पास किया हुआ मोदी सरकार का बिल है, उसी में यह एनेबलिंग अमेंडमेंट कर रहे हैं कि यदि आतंकवाद को कोई भी मदद करेगा, तो उन सबकी सम्पत्ति जब्त होगी, कुर्की होगी, जो उन्हें फाइनेंस करते हैं, उन्हें सजा होगी और उनका अटैचमेंट भी होगा। यह यही कह रहे हैं कि बिल तो छोटा है, लेकिन मुद्दा बड़ा है। देश की सुरक्षा, दुनिया की सुरक्षा, भारत की प्रतिबद्धता और दुनिया की प्रतिबद्धता के साथ हम अपने देश में भी आतंकवाद का समापन करेंगे और दुनिया में एक अच्छी व्यवस्था कायम हो, इसके लिए प्रयास करेंगे, यही इस बिल का मूल उद्देश्य है।

महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ और मंत्री महोदय को इसके लिए विशेष धन्यवाद देता हूँ, जय हिन्द।

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, as Javadekarji just now mentioned, this is a very important Bill which concerns the aspects of internal security and global security. The Government would like to have this Bill passed with the participation of the Opposition also. But, unfortunately, the Opposition is absent today. So, I would suggest that we may wait for a day or two for the Opposition, if they are ready to come back and participate in the discussion. We may take up this Bill later. We may keep the passage in abeyance for a day and have it on Monday, when we meet again, and continue with the discussion and then pass it accordingly.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Thank you. It sounds better.

Now, Shrimati Vandana Chavan to lay the Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT,
FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I present Volume-I (in English and Hindi) of 365th Report & containing 'Recommendations of the Committee' on "The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2021" of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change.

2. Also, I present Volume-II (in the language received) of the 365th Report containing 'Memoranda submitted by individuals/experts/ institutions'.

...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Mr. Vasan, you will have your opportunity.

Now, the House stands adjourned to meet at 1100 hours on Friday, the 22nd July, 2022.

The House then adjourned at forty-three minutes past two of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 22nd July, 2022.

& The Report was presented to Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 21st April, 2022 under Direction 30 (i) of Directions by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha when the House was not in Session and Hon'ble Chairman was pleased to order for the publication and circulation of the Report under direction 30 (ii) and forwarded to Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha on the same day.

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