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No. 16



Monday,
8th August, 2022
17 Sravana, 1944 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

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(PART-II)

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RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 8th August, 2022 / 17 Sravana, 1944 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

श्री सभापति : मैं सोमनाथ मंदिर होकर आया हूँ, क्या आपको यह पता चल गया है? Papers to be laid on the Table.

I. Notification of the Ministry of Civil Aviation

II. Report and Accounts (2020-21) of the Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University, Amethi, Uttar Pradesh and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH): Sir, I lay on the Table —

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Notification No. G.S.R. 192 (E) dated 20th March, 2020, publishing the Aircraft (Third Amendment Rules), 2020, issued under Section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934, along with Explanatory Note and Delay Statement.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7151/17/22]

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

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University, Amethi, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2020-21 together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7432/17/22]

Notification of the Ministry of Mines

खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री दानवे रावसाहेब दादाराव) : महोदय, मैं खान और खनिज (विकास और विनियमन) अधिनियम, 1957 की धारा 10 ख की उपधारा (3) और (4) के परंतुकों तथा धारा 11 की उपधारा (4) और उपधारा (5) के परंतुकों और खनिज (नीलामी) नियम, 2005 के अधीन केन्द्रीय सरकार की शक्तियां खान मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार में संयुक्त सचिव डा. वीणा कुमारी डरमल द्वारा भी प्रयोग किए जाने का निदेश देने वाली उक्त अधिनियम की धारा 28 की उपधारा (1) के अधीन खान मंत्रालय की अधिसूचना सं. सं.का.नि. 860 (अ) दिनांक 16 दिसंबर, 2021 तथा विलंब संबंधी विवरण की एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7575/17/22]

Statement on Half Yearly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पंकज चौधरी): महोदय, मैं राजवित्तीय उत्तरदायित्व और बजट प्रबंधन अधिनियम, 2003 की धारा 7 की उपधारा (1) के अधीन, वित्तीय वर्ष 2021-22 के अंत में बजट के संबंध में प्राप्तियों और व्यय की प्रवृत्तियों के अर्ध वार्षिक समीक्षा संबंधी विवरण की एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7576/17/22]

Report and Accounts (2020-21) of ANIIDCO, Port Blair and related papers

सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह वर्मा) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

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

- (a) Thirty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Limited (ANIIDCO), Port Blair, 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) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7437/17/22]

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

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

- | | | |
|----|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Statement No. XX | Two Hundred and Fortieth, 2016 |
| 2. | Statement No. XV | Two Hundred and Forty Sixth, 2018 |
| 3. | Statement No. IV | Two Hundred and Fifty Fifth, 2021 |
| 4. | Statement No. IV | Two Hundred and Fifty Sixth, 2022 |

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7577/17/22]

Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and various oil companies

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर तेली) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ- :

- (i) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Joshi Technologies International, Inc. (JTI) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Dholka.
- (ii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Joshi Technologies International, Inc. (JTI) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Wavel.
- (iii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited (HOEC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field PY-1.
- (iv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited (HOEC), Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ON-7
- (v) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited (HOEC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block AAP-ON-94/ (Dirok).

- (vi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Selan Exploration Technology Limited (SELAN) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Lohar.
- (vii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Selan Exploration Technology Limited (SELAN) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Bakrol.
- (viii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Selan Exploration Technology Limited (SELAN) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Karjisan.
- (ix) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas) (Vedanta), Cairn Energy Hydrocarbon Limited (CEHL) and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block RJ-ON-90/1.
- (x) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas) (Vedanta), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Videocon Petroleum Limited (VPL) and Ravva Oil (Singapore) Pte Limited (ROS) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Ravva.
- (xi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas) (Vedanta), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), and Tata Petrodyne Private Limited (TPL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-OS-2.
- (xii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oilmax Energy Private Limited (OILMAX) and Assam Company (India) Limited (ACL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Amguri.
- (xiii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and OILEX Ltd. (Oilex) and OILEX-NL Holding Limited (Oilex-NL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Cambay.
- (xiv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Kiri Company Logistics Private Limited (Kiri Logistics) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Bhandut.
- (xv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Tata Petrodyne Private Limited (TPL), Hardy Exploration & Production India (HEPI) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CY-OS-90/1 (PY-3).

- (xvi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and GNRL Oil Gas Limited (GOGL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Unawa.
- (xvii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Essar Oil Gas Exploration Production Limited (EOGEPL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ON-3.
- (xviii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and GNRL Oil Gas Limited (GOGL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Allora.
- (xix) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and GNRL Oil Gas Limited (GOGL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field North Kathana.
- (xx) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and GNRL Oil Gas Limited (GOGL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Dholasan.
- (xxi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and GNRL Oil Gas Limited (GOGL) and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Kanwara.
- (xxii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Sun Petrochemicals Private Limited (SUNPETRO) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Baola.
- (xxiii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Sun Petrochemicals Private Limited (SUNPETRO) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Hazira.
- (xxiv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Sun Petrochemicals Private Limited (SUNPETRO) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Modhera.
- (xxv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Assam Company (India) Limited (ACL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block AA-ON/7.
- (xxvi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block AA-ONJ/2.
- (xxvii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Hardy Exploration & Production India(HEPI) and GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CY-OS/2.

- (xxviii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Adani Welspun Exploration Limited (AWEL) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block GK-OSN-2009/1.
- (xxix) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil & Gas) (Vedanta) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block KG-OSN-2009/3.
- (xxx) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block VN-ONN-2009/3.
- (xxxi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Geo Enpro Petroleum Limited (GeoEnpro), Oil India Limited (OIL), Jubilant Energy Kharsang Private Limited (JEKPL) and GeoPetro Resources Company (GeoPetro) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Kharsang.
- (xxxii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2001/1.
- (xxxiii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited (HOEC) and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field Asjol.
- (xxxiv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Limited (HOEC), Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) and GNRL Oil Gas Limited (GOGL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Field North Balol.
- (xxxv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Focus Energy Limited (FEL), Iservices Investment Limited (ISERVICES), Newbury Oil Company Limited (NEWBURY) and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block RJ-ON-6.
- (xxxvi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC), Geo Global Resources Inc. (GGR) and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ON-2.

- (xxxvii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) and GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2000/1.
- (xxxviii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block AA-ONN-2001/1.
- (xxxix) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block AA-ONN-2001/2.
- (xl) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Jubilant Oil Gas Private Limited (JOGPL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block KG-OSN-2001/3.
- (xli) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC), Geo Global Resources Inc. (GGR), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Jubilant Oil Gas Private Limited (JOGPL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2002/3.
- (xlii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Bharat Petro Resources Limited (BPRL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CY-ONN-2002/2
- (xliii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Sun Petrochemicals Private Limited (SUNPETRO) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2003/1.
- (xliv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Vedanta Limited (Cairn Oil Gas) (Vedanta) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block KG-ONN-2003/1
- (xlv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block KG-OSN-2004/1.

- (xlvi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block GS-OSN-2004/1.
- (xlvii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil India Limited (OIL) and Geo Global Resources Inc. (GGR) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block KG-ONN-2004/1.
- (xlviii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2004/1.
- (xlix) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2004/2.
- (l) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2004/3.
- (li) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil India Limited (OIL) and Shiv-Vani Oil and Gas Exploration Services Limited (SVOGL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block MZ-ONN-2004/1.
- (lii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Bharat Petroleum Resources Limited (BPRL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CY-ONN-2004/1.
- (liii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation Limited (GSPC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block MB-OSN-2005/1.
- (liv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Adani Welspun Exploration Limited (AWEL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block MB-OSN-2005/2.
- (lv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Essar Oil Gas Exploration Production Limited (EOGEPL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block MB-OSN-2005/3.

- (lvi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2005/10.
- (lvii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block WB-ONN-2005/4.
- (lviii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Deep Energy Limited (DEL), Deep Industries Limited (DIL), Kanvel Finance Limited (KFL) and Savla Enterprises Private Limited (SAVLA) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block SR-ONN-2005/1.
- (lix) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block GK-OSN-2010/1.
- (lx) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Bharat Petro Resources Limited (BPRL), Engineers India Limited (EIL), BF Infrastructure Limited (BFIL), Monnet Ispat Energy Limited (MIEL) and GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2010/8.
- (lxi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and BF Infrastructure Limited (BFIL), Bharat Petro Resources Limited (BPRL), Engineers India Limited (EIL), Monnet Ispat Energy Limited (MIEL) and GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2010/11.
- (lxii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block AA-ONN-2010/2.
- (lxiii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and Bharat Petro Resources Limited (BPRL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block AA-ONN-2010/3.
- (lxiv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Deep Energy Limited, LLC (DEL) and KGN Oil Gas Private Limited (KGN OGPL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN2010/3.

- (lxv) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Frost International Limited (FROST), PanIndia Consultants Private Limited (PANINDIA) and FTA HSRP Solutions Private Limited (FTA) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block CB-ONN-2010/5.
- (lxvi) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Focus Energy Limited (FEL) and BIRKBECK Investments Limited (BIRKBECK) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block RJ-ONN-2010/2.
- (lxvii) Production Sharing Contract between the Government of India and Deep Energy Limited, LLC (DEL), Deep Natural Resources Limited (DNRL) and SAFAL WSB Energy Private Limited (SAFAL) with respect to Contract Area Identified as Block VN-ONN-2010/2.

[Placed in Library. For (i) to (lxvii), see No. L.T.7438/17/22]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

II. Report and Accounts (2020-21) of DDA, New Delhi and related papers

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

I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Notification No. G.S.R. 385 (E), dated the 23rd May, 2022, notifying the predetermined rates of premium chargeable for different uses/locations for the years 2021-22 as mentioned therein, under Section 58 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7578/17/22]

(ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs Notification No. S.O. 3184 (E), dated the 14th July, 2022, amending the principal Notification No. S.O. 2666 dated the 20th November, 2017, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein, issued under sub-section (3) of Section 41 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7439/17/22]

II.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under Section 26 and sub-section (4) of Section 25 of the Delhi Development Act, 1957:-

- (a) Annual Report of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), New Delhi, for the year 2020-21.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), New Delhi, for the year 2020-21, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7440/17/22]

Report and Accounts (2020-21) of JIM&WS, Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir and related papers

पर्यटन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजय भट्ट) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports, (JIM&WS), Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, 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.7461/17/22]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

II. Reports and Accounts (2019-20 and 2020-21) of various Institute, Commission and Society and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR) : Sir, I lay on the Table—

I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Notification No. G.S.R. 419 (E), dated the 7th June, 2022, publishing the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Rules, 2022, under Section 44 of the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7452/17/22]

(ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Notification No. G.S.R. 460 (E), dated the 21st June, 2022, publishing the Surrogacy (Regulation) Rules, 2022, under Section 52 of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7579/17/22]

(iii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notification of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Health and Family Welfare), under Section 44 of the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Act, 2021 and Section 52 of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021:-

(1) G.S.R. 453 (E), dated the 16th June, 2022, publishing the National Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Board (Appointment of Expert Members by Nominating) Rules, 2022.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7451/17/22]

(2) G.S.R. 457 (E), dated the 17th June, 2022, publishing the State Assisted Reproductive Technology and Surrogacy Board (Appointment of Expert Members) Rules, 2022.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7453/17/22]

(iv) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, under Section 58 of the National Medical Commission Act, 2019:-

(1) G.S.R. 475 (E), dated the 24th June, 2022, publishing the National Medical Commission, Autonomous Boards (Manner of Appointment of Fourth Member and the Salary, Allowances and Terms and Conditions of Service, and Declaration of Assets, Professional and Commercial Engagements of President and Members) (Amendment) Rules, 2022.

(2) G.S.R. 476 (E), dated the 24th June, 2022, publishing the National Medical Commission (Manner of Appointment and Nomination of Members, their Salary, Allowances and Terms and Conditions of Service, and Declaration of Assets, Professional and Commercial Engagements) (Amendment) Rules, 2022.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7450/17/22]

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

(i) (a) Annual Report of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW), New Delhi, for the year 2020-21.

(b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Health and Family

Welfare (NIHFW), New Delhi, for the year 2020-21, and the Audit Report thereon.

- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7580/17/22]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Medical Commission, for the year 2020-21, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Commission.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7581/17/22]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2019-20.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Red Cross Society, New Delhi, for the year 2019-20, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7582/17/22]

Notifications of the Ministry of AYUSH

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH (DR. MUNJAPARA MAHENDRABHAI): Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 29 of the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Act, 2020, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of AYUSH, along with Delay Statements:-

- (1) G.S.R. 387 (E), dated the 3rd June, 2021, publishing the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Rules, 2021.

- (2) No. L-12015/18/2021-AS, dated the 12th January, 2022, publishing the Institute of Teaching and Research in Ayurveda Regulations, 2021.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7583/17/22]

Reports of CAG of India

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पंकज चौधरी) : महोदय, मैं संविधान के अनुच्छेद 151 के खंड (1) के अधीन निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Conservation of Coastal Ecosystems - Union Government - Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change - Report No. 4 of 2022 (Performance Audit);

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7584/17/22]

- (ii) Finance Accounts (Volume-I), Finance Accounts (Volume-II) and Appropriation Accounts for the year 2020-21 in respect of the Government of Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir;

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7585/17/22]

- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India - Follow-up on the Performance Audit of Preservation and Conservation of Monuments and Antiquities - Union Government (Civil) - Ministry of Culture - Report No. 10 of 2022 (Performance Audit);

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7586/17/22]

- (iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2021 - Union Government - Department of Revenue (Indirect Taxes- Goods and Services Tax) - Report No. 5 of 2022;

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7587/17/22]

- (v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2021 - Performance Audit on Assessment of Assesseees of Gems and Jewellery Sector - Union Government - Department of Revenue - Direct Taxes - Report No. 6 of 2022;

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7588/17/22]

- (vi) Audit Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the Union Territory Finances for the year ended 31 March, 2021 - Government of Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir - Report No. 2 of the year 2022;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7589/17/22]
- (vii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India - Performance Audit on Exemptions to Charitable Trusts and Institutions - Union Government - Department of Revenue - Direct Taxes - Report No. 12 of 2022;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7590/17/22]
- (viii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31 March, 2021 - Union Government - Finance and Communication - Report No. 15 of 2022 (Compliance Audit);
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7591/17/22]
- (ix) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2020 - Waste Management in Indian Railways - Union Government (Railways) - Performance Audit - Report No. 16 of 2022;
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7592/17/22]
- (x) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Performance Audit of Procurement and Supply of Drugs in CGHS - Union Government (Civil) - Ministry of Health and Family Welfare - Report No. 17 of 2022 (Performance Audit); and
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7593/17/22]
- (xi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Compliance of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003 for the year ended March 2020 - Union Government - Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance) - Report No. 18 of 2022.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.7594/17/22]

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

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI (Bihar): Sir, I present the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on

Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice:—

- (i) 118th Report on "Review of Guardianship and Adoption Laws"; and
- (ii) 119th Report of the "Action taken on One Hundred Eleventh Report of the Committee on "Strengthening of grievance redressal mechanism of Government of India".

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Eighth Report of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

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

डा. अनिल जैन (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित रसायन और उर्वरक संबंधी संसदीय समिति (2021-22) के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (i) Thirty-fifth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in its Thirty-first Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Availability of Medicines & Medical devices for COVID Management' of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Pharmaceuticals);
- (ii) Thirty-sixth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in its Thirty-second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants 2022-23' of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers);
- (iii) Thirty-seventh Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in its Thirty-third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants 2022-23' of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals); and

- (iv) Thirty-eighth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in its Thirty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants 2022-23' of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Pharmaceuticals).

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS**

श्री रामभाई हरजीभाई मोकरिया (गुजरात) : महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (i) Fourteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in its Tenth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2022-23)' of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas; and
- (ii) Fifteenth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in its Eleventh Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'National Gas Grid including PNG & CNG'.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Fifty-third Report on 'Excesses over Voted Grants and Charged Appropriations (2019-20)' of the Public Accounts Committee (2022-23).

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL; AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, I lay a Statement regarding Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel on "Coal Conservation and Development of Infrastructure for Transportation of Coal across the Country" pertaining to the Ministry of Coal.

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth, One Hundred Thirty-third, One Hundred and Twenty-seventh and One Hundred and Thirty-second Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; AND THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): Sir, I lay a Statement regarding Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Twenty-sixth and One Hundred Thirty-third Reports and One Hundred and Twenty-seventh and One Hundred and Thirty-second Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on Demands for Grants (2021-22) pertaining to the Departments of Health and Family Welfare and Health Research respectively of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Sixteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources

जलशक्ति मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री प्रहलाद सिंह पटेल) : महोदय, मैं पेयजल और स्वच्छता विभाग, जलशक्ति मंत्रालय की अनुदान मांगों (2022-23) के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित जल संसाधन संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी

समिति के सोलहवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Fortieth report of the Department-related Standing Committee on Finance

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पंकज चौधरी) : महोदय, मैं आर्थिक कार्य, व्यय, वित्तीय सेवाएं, लोक उद्यम और निवेश और लोक परिसंपत्ति प्रबंधन विभाग, वित्त मंत्रालय की अनुदान मांगों (2022-23) के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित वित्त संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के चालीसवें प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन की स्थिति के संबंध में एक वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Tenth & Three-Hundred and Fifteenth Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry

सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भानु प्रताप सिंह वर्मा) : महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित के संबंध में वक्तव्य सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry on Demands for Grants (2021-22) pertaining to the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Three Hundred and Fifteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry on Demands for Grants (2022-23) pertaining to the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Twenty eighth and One Hundred and Thirty first Reports of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH (DR. MUNJAPARA MAHENDRABHAI): Sir, I lay a Statement regarding

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Report and One Hundred and Thirty-first Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on Demands for Grants (2021-22) (Demand No. 4) pertaining to the Ministry of Ayush.

**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF NORTH-EASTERN
INDIRA GANDHI REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL
SCIENCES, SHILLONG**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; AND THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

"That in pursuance of clause (27) of sub-rule (b) of Rule 3, read with sub-rule (a) of Rule 4 of the Rules of the North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong, this House do proceed to elect, in the manner as directed by the Chairman, one Member from amongst the Members of the House, to be a member of the Governing Council of the North-Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, Shillong."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COUNCIL ESTABLISHED UNDER SECTION 30
A(1) OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION AND
RESEARCH (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2021**

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; AND THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

"That in pursuance of clause (j) of sub-section (2) of Section 30A read with sub-section (1) of Section 30B of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Act, 2021, this House do proceed to

elect, in the manner as directed by the Chairman, one Member from amongst the Members of the House to be a member of the Council of the Institutes."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

DISPENSING WITH ZERO HOUR AND QUESTION HOUR

MR. CHAIRMAN: As it was announced by the Deputy Chairman earlier, there will not be Question Hour or any other issues except the Special Mentions which will be taken up after the scheduled Business of the House is concluded.

Farewell to the Chairman, Rajya Sabha; hon. Prime Minister.

FAREWELL TO THE CHAIRMAN

प्रधान मंत्री (श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी) : आदरणीय सभापति जी, आज हम सब इस सदन के सभापति और देश के उपराष्ट्रपति, आदरणीय श्री एम. वेंकैया नायडु जी को उनके कार्यकाल की समाप्ति पर उन्हें धन्यवाद देने के लिए उपस्थित हुए हैं। यह इस सदन के लिए बहुत ही भावुक पल है। सदन के कितने ही ऐतिहासिक पल आपकी गरिमामयी उपस्थिति से जुड़े हुए हैं, फिर भी अनेक बार आप कहते रहे हैं, 'I have retired from politics, but not tired of public life.' इसीलिए इस सदन को नेतृत्व देने की आपकी जिम्मेदारी भले ही पूरी हो रही हो, लेकिन आपके अनुभवों का लाभ भविष्य में सुदीर्घ काल तक देश को मिलता रहेगा। हम जैसे अनेक सार्वजनिक जीवन के कार्यकर्ताओं को भी मिलता रहेगा।

आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव में आज जब देश अपने अगले 25 वर्षों की नई यात्रा शुरू कर रहा है, तब देश का नेतृत्व भी एक तरह से एक नए युग के हाथों में है। हम सब जानते हैं कि इस बार हम एक ऐसा 15 अगस्त मना रहे हैं, जब देश के राष्ट्रपति, उपराष्ट्रपति, स्पीकर, प्रधान मंत्री, सब के सब वे लोग हैं, जो आजाद भारत में पैदा हुए हैं और सब के सब बहुत ही साधारण पृष्ठभूमि से आते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ उसका अपना एक सांकेतिक महत्व है, साथ में देश के नए युग का एक प्रतीक भी है।

आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, आप तो देश के एक ऐसे उपराष्ट्रपति हैं, जिसने अपनी सभी भूमिकाओं में हमेशा युवाओं के लिए काम किया है। आपने सदन में भी हमेशा युवा सांसदों को आगे बढ़ाया और उन्हें प्रोत्साहन दिया। आप लगातार युवाओं के साथ संवाद के लिए यूनिवर्सिटीज़ और इंस्टीट्यूशन्स लगातार जाते रहे हैं। नई पीढ़ी के साथ आपका एक निरंतर कनेक्ट बना हुआ है, और युवाओं को आपका मार्गदर्शन भी मिला है और युवा भी आपसे मिलने के लिए हमेशा उत्सुक रहे हैं। इन सभी संस्थानों में आपकी लोकप्रियता भी बहुत रही है। मुझे बताया गया कि वाइस-

प्रेज़ीडेंट के रूप में आपने सदन के बाहर जो भाषण दिए, उनमें करीब-करीब 25 प्रतिशत युवाओं के बीच में रहे। यह भी अपने आप में एक बहुत बड़ी बात है।

आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, व्यक्तिगत रूप से मेरा यह सौभाग्य रहा है कि मैंने बड़े निकट से आपको अलग-अलग भूमिकाओं में देखा है। आपकी बहुत सारी भूमिकाएँ ऐसी भी रहीं, जिनमें मुझे आपके साथ कंधे से कंधा मिला कर कार्य करने का भी सौभाग्य मिला है। पार्टी कार्यकर्ता के रूप में आपकी वैचारिक प्रतिबद्धता हो, एक विधायक के रूप में आपका कामकाज हो, सांसद के रूप में सदन में आपकी सक्रियता हो, भारतीय जनता पार्टी के अध्यक्ष के रूप में आपका सांगठनिक कौशल्य और लीडरशिप की बात हो, कैबिनेट मंत्री के रूप में आपकी मेहनत, नवाचार का आपका प्रयास और उससे प्राप्त सफलताएँ हों, ये सब देश के लिए बहुत उपकारक रहे हैं। उपराष्ट्रपति और सदन के सभापति के रूप में आपकी गरिमा और आपकी निष्ठा, मैंने आपको अलग-अलग जिम्मेदारियों में बड़े लगन से काम करते हुए देखा है। आपने कभी भी किसी भी काम को बोझ नहीं माना, हर काम में आपने नये प्राण फूंकने का प्रयास किया है। आपका जज़्बा, आपकी लगन हम लोगों ने निरंतर देखी है। मैं इस सदन के ज़रिए प्रत्येक माननीय सांसद और देश के हर युवा से कहना चाहूंगा कि वो समाज, देश और लोकतंत्र के बारे में आपसे बहुत कुछ सीख सकते हैं। 'लिसनिंग, लर्निंग' लीडिंग', 'कनेक्टिंग, कम्युनिकेटिंग, चेंजिंग' और 'रिफ्लेक्टिंग, रीकनेक्टिंग', जैसी किताबें आपके बारे में बहुत कुछ बताती हैं। आपके ये अनुभव हमारे युवाओं को गाइड करेंगे और लोकतंत्र को मज़बूत करेंगे।

आदरणीय उपराष्ट्रपति महोदय, आपकी किताबों का जिक्र मैंने इसलिए किया, क्योंकि उनके टाइटल में आपकी वह शब्द प्रतिभा झलकती है, जिसके लिए आप जाने जाते हैं। आपके वन लाइनर्स - विट लाइनर्स होते हैं और विन लाइनर्स भी होते हैं, यानी उसके बाद कुछ और कहने की जरूरत ही नहीं रह जाती। Your each word is heard, preferred, revered and never countered. कैसे कोई अपनी भाषा की ताकत के रूप में और सहजता से इस सामर्थ्य के लिए जाना जाए, और उस कौशल से स्थितियों की दिशा को मोड़ने का सामर्थ्य रखे, सचमुच में आपकी इस सामर्थ्य को मैं बधाई देता हूँ।

साथियो, हम जो भी कहते हैं, वह महत्वपूर्ण तो होता ही है, लेकिन जिस तरीके से कहते हैं, उसकी अहमियत ज्यादा होती है। किसी भी संवाद की सफलता का पैमाना यही है कि उसका गहरा इम्पैक्ट हो, लोग उसे याद रखें और जो भी कहें, उसके बारे में लोग सोचने के लिए मजबूर हों। अभिव्यक्ति की इस कला में वेंकैया जी की दक्षता, इस बात से, सदन में भी और सदन के बाहर भी देश के सभी लोग भली-भांति परिचित हैं। आपकी अभिव्यक्ति का अंदाज़ जितना बेबाक है उतना ही बेजोड़ भी है। आपकी बातों में गहराई भी होती है और गंभीरता भी होती है। वाणी में विट भी होता और वेट भी होता है, warmth भी होती है और विज़डम भी होती है। आपका संवाद का तरीका ऐसे ही किसी बात के मर्म को छू जाता है और सुनने में मधुर भी लगता है।

आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, आपने दक्षिण में छात्र राजनीति करते हुए अपना राजनीतिक सफर शुरू किया था। तब लोग कहते थे कि जिस विचारधारा से आप जुड़े थे, उसका और उस पार्टी का निकट भविष्य में तो दक्षिण में कोई सामर्थ्य नजर नहीं आता है, लेकिन आप एक सामान्य विद्यार्थी कार्यकर्ता से यात्रा शुरू करके, और दक्षिण भारत से आते हुए उस पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष के शीर्ष पद पर पहुंचे, यह आपकी एक अविरक्त विचारनिष्ठा, कर्तव्यनिष्ठा और कर्म के

प्रति समर्पण भाव का प्रतीक है। अगर हमारे पास देश के लिए भावनाएं हों, बात कहने की कला हो, भाषाई विविधता में आस्था हो, तो भाषा और क्षेत्र हमारे लिए कभी भी दीवार नहीं बनते हैं, यह आपने सिद्ध किया है।

आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, आपकी कही एक बात बहुत लोगों को याद होगी और मुझे तो विशेष रूप से याद है। मैंने हमेशा सुना है कि आप मातृभाषा को लेकर बहुत ही टची रहे हैं, बड़े आग्रही रहे हैं, लेकिन बात को कहने का आपका अंदाज भी बड़ा खूबसूरत है, जब आप कहते हैं कि मातृभाषा आंखों की रोशनी की तरह होती है और आप आगे कहते हैं कि दूसरी भाषा चश्मे की तरह होती है। ऐसी भावना हृदय की गहराई से ही बाहर आती है। श्री वेंकैया जी की मौजूदगी में सदन की कार्यवाही के दौरान हर भारतीय भाषा को विशिष्ट अहमियत दी गई है। आपने सदन में सभी भारतीय भाषाओं को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए काम किया। सदन में हमारी सभी 22 शेड्यूल्ड लैंग्वेजेज में कोई भी माननीय सदस्य बोल सकता है, उसका इंतजाम आपने किया। आपकी प्रतिभा, आपकी निष्ठा आगे भी सदन के लिए एक गाइड के रूप में हमेशा-हमेशा काम करेगी। कैसे संसदीय और शिष्ट तरीके से भाषा की मर्यादा में कोई भी अपनी बात प्रभावी ढंग से कह सकता है, इसके लिए आप प्रेरणापुंज बने रहेंगे।

आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, आपकी नेतृत्व क्षमता, आपके अनुशासन ने इस सदन की प्रतिबद्धता और प्रोडक्टिविटी को नई ऊंचाई दी है। आपके कार्यकाल के वर्षों में राज्य सभा की प्रोडक्टिविटी 70 परसेंट बढ़ी है। सदन में सदस्यों की उपस्थिति बढ़ी है। इस दौरान करीब-करीब 177 बिल पास हुए या उन पर चर्चाएं हुईं, जो अपने आपमें एक कीर्तिमान है। आपके मार्गदर्शन में ऐसे कितने ही कानून बने हैं, जो आधुनिक भारत की संकल्पना को साकार कर रहे हैं। आपने कितने ही ऐसे निर्णय लिये हैं, जो अपर हाउस की अपवर्ड जर्नी के लिए याद किये जाएंगे। सचिवालय के काम में और अधिक एफिशिएंसी लाने के लिए भी आपने एक समिति का गठन किया। इसी तरह राज्य सभा सचिवालय को सुव्यवस्थित करना, इनफॉर्मेशन टेक्नोलॉजी को बढ़ावा देना, पेपरलेस काम के लिए ई-ऑफिस सिस्टम को लागू करना, आपके ऐसे कितने ही काम हैं, जिनके जरिए उच्च सदन को एक नयी ऊंचाई मिली है। आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, हमारे यहाँ शास्त्रों में कहा गया है:-

"न सा सभा यत्र न सन्ति वृद्धाः,
वृद्धा न ते ये न वदन्ति धर्मम्।"

अर्थात् जिस सभा में अनुभवी लोग होते हैं, वही सभा होती है और अनुभवी लोग वही हैं, जो धर्म, यानी कर्तव्य की सीख दें। आपके मार्गदर्शन में राज्य सभा ने इन मानकों को पूरी गुणवत्ता से पूरा किया है। आप माननीय सदस्यों को निर्देश भी देते थे और उन्हें अपने अनुभवों का लाभ भी देते थे और अनुशासन को ध्यान में रखते हुए प्यार से डाँटते भी थे। मुझे विश्वास है कि किसी भी सदस्य ने आपके किसी भी शब्द को कभी अन्यथा नहीं लिया। यह पूँजी तब पैदा होती है, जब व्यक्तिगत जीवन में आप उन आदर्शों और मानकों का पालन करते हैं।

आपने हमेशा इस बात पर बल दिया कि संसद में व्यवधान एक सीमा के बाद सदन की अवमानना के बराबर होता है। मैं आपके इन मानकों में लोकतंत्र की परिपक्वता को देखता हूँ।

पहले यह समझा जाता था कि अगर सदन में चर्चा के दौरान शोरगुल होने लगे तो कार्यवाही को स्थगित कर दिया जाता है, लेकिन आपने संवाद, सम्पर्क और समन्वय के जरिए न सिर्फ सदन को संचालित किया, बल्कि उसे प्रोडक्टिव भी बनाया। सदन की कार्यवाही के दौरान जब सदस्यों के बीच कभी टकराव की परिस्थिति पैदा होती थी, तब आपसे बार-बार सुनने को मिलता था- "Let the Government propose, let the Opposition oppose, let the House dispose." इस सदन को दूसरे सदन से आये विधेयकों पर निश्चित रूप से सहमति या असहमति का अधिकार है। यह सदन उन्हें पास कर सकता है, रिजेक्ट कर सकता है या अमेंड कर सकता है, परन्तु उन्हें रोकने की, बाधित करने की परिकल्पना हमारे लोकतंत्र में नहीं है।

आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, हमारी तमाम सहमतियों और असहमतियों के बावजूद आज आपको विदाई देने के लिए सदन के सभी सदस्य एक साथ उपस्थित हैं। यही हमारे लोकतंत्र की खूबसूरती है। यह आपके लिए इस सदन के सम्मान का उदाहरण है। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि आपके कार्य, आपके अनुभव आगे सभी सदस्यों को जरूर प्रेरणा देंगे। अपने विशिष्ट तरीके से आपने सदन चलाने के लिए ऐसे मानदंड स्थापित किये हैं, जो आगे इस पद पर आसीन होने वालों को प्रेरित करते रहेंगे। जो लीगेसी आपने स्थापित की है, राज्य सभा उसका अनुसरण करेगी, देश के प्रति अपनी जवाबदेही के अनुसार कार्य करेगी, इसी विश्वास के साथ आपको पूरे सदन की तरफ से, मेरी तरफ से अनेक-अनेक शुभकामनाएँ देता हूँ और आपने देश के लिए जो कुछ भी किया है, इस सदन के लिए जो कुछ भी किया है, इसके लिए सबकी तरफ से ऋण स्वीकार करते हुए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ। बहुत-बहुत शुभकामनाएँ।

श्री सभापति : धन्यवाद, प्रधान मंत्री जी। श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे जी, लीडर ऑफ दि अपोजिशन।

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे) : माननीय सभापति जी, मुझे थोड़ा-सा कोल्ड इफ़ेक्ट होने की वजह से मेरी आवाज़ उतनी बुलंद नहीं है, जितनी कि प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने अपनी सारी बातें आपके सामने रखीं। ऐसा भी होता है कि जो पहले वक्ता बात करते हैं, वे सारी बातें बोल देते हैं, बफे सिस्टम टाइप यानी पंक्ति में जो पहले जाता है, उसको ज्यादा खाना मिलता है, जो बाद में जाता है, उसको उतना नहीं मिलता है, उसी तरह से जो वक्ता बाद में बात करते हैं, वे थोड़ी इधर-उधर की बातें बोलते हैं। आपसे 30-40 साल से जो पहचान है, उसके आधार पर मैं आपके सामने चंद बातें रखना चाहता हूँ। आप जनरल सेक्रेट्री इंचार्ज, कर्नाटक थे, फिर बीजेपी के प्रेज़ीडेंट भी थे, फिर यह हमारा सौभाग्य है कि आप तीन बार कर्नाटक से राज्य सभा मेम्बर चुन कर आए।

सभापति जी, विचारों के इस सदन, राज्य सभा के चेयरमैन के रूप में आपकी विदाई के मौके पर मैं चंद बातें रखना चाहता हूँ। राज्य सभा, परमानेंट हाउस होने के कारण संसदीय लोकतंत्र में इसकी अलग हैसियत है। आज जब कि देश आजादी के 75वें साल का उत्सव मना रहा है, इस हाउस पर भी देश के लोगों की निगाहें पड़ रही हैं। आपके लिए न यह हाउस नया है, न हम लोग नए हैं। आप 19 सालों तक राज्य सभा में सांसद रहे, आपके साथ हमारे लगाव का एक दूसरा भी कारण है, जो मैंने पहले ही बताया कि आप तीन बार कर्नाटक से राज्य सभा के सदस्य चुन कर आए। आप छात्र जीवन से ही राजनीति में एक्टिव रहे हैं। 'जय आन्ध्र' आन्दोलन चलाने से लेकर

अब तक अपने लंबे राजनीतिक जीवन में आपने कई भूमिकाएँ निभाईं। आप 1978 से 1985 के बीच दो बार आन्ध्र प्रदेश विधान सभा के सदस्य भी रहे हैं।

यूपीए सरकार के दौरान 2008 से 2014 के बीच आप स्टैंडिंग कमेटी होम के चेयरमैन भी थे। मैं आपको विशेष रूप से यह याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ, आप भूलते तो नहीं हैं, क्योंकि आप बहुत से आर्टिकल्स लिखते ही रहते हैं और अपने पुराने विचारों को भी दोहराते हैं। हम पेपर में किसी न किसी दिन उन्हें पढ़ते ही रहते हैं। आर्टिकल 371 जे को लेकर हम कर्नाटक के लोगों ने जब आपसे अपील की कि यह बहुत दिन से पेंडिंग है और इसको एनडीए सरकार में नकारा गया है, तो किसी न किसी तरह से, हैदराबाद, कर्नाटक एरिया को पुष्टि देने के लिए, प्रगति करने के लिए हम उस आर्टिकल 371 जे में यहाँ अमेंडमेंट करना चाहते थे, तब आपने स्टैंडिंग कमेटी के चेयरमैन होने के नाते उसको फौरन स्वीकार किया। यहाँ तक कि जब यहाँ पर ऑफिस नहीं था, तो हम लोग कर्नाटक भवन में जाकर, जो चीफ मिनिस्टर थे, उनको भी बुला कर, सभी ने बैठ कर उस आर्टिकल 371 जे के संबंध में बात की। आपने उसको स्वीकार किया और वह अमेंडमेंट के रूप में इस सदन और उस सदन में आया। इस प्रकार से यूपीए सरकार ने इसके लिए जो वादा किया था, उसको उसने निभाया। इसके लिए मैं आपका भी धन्यवाद करता हूँ। जो लोग अच्छा काम करते हैं, अगर उन्हें याद नहीं करेंगे, तो अच्छा नहीं लगता है। आपने हमें यह बहुत बड़ा काम करने की हिम्मत दी और सपोर्ट किया। आपने राज्य सभा में 18 अगस्त, 2017 को सभापति के रूप में अपने प्रथम भाषण में कहा था कि मुझे सभा के दोनों पक्षों की संवेदनाओं, नियमों, मेम्बर्स के अधिकारों, विशेष अधिकारों, भावनाओं और कुछ अवसरों पर उनकी हताशा की जानकारी है। आपने अपने स्तर पर प्रयास किये। आप कई तरह के बदलावों की कोशिश के लिए सक्रिय रहे और आपने इस बात की पैरवी भी की कि सभी प्रमुख राज्यों में अपर हाउस बनाने के लिए एक राष्ट्रीय नीति बननी चाहिए। इसी तरह से, आपने महिला आरक्षण बिल पर सहमति बनाने के साथ-साथ कई दूसरी बातें भी खुलकर कहीं। मुझे भरोसा है कि सरकार यह काम, जिसे आप अधूरा छोड़कर जा रहे हैं, उसे पूरा करेगी। जब मैं लोक सभा में विपक्ष को रिप्रेजेंट कर रहा था, तब आप शहरी विकास, आवास तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्री थे। इसके बाद, जब आप 2017 में राज्य सभा के चेयरमैन बने, तो मैं भी 2022 में नेता विपक्ष के रूप में आज यहाँ खड़ा हुआ हूँ। बेशक, राज्य सभा में आने के बाद हम दो अलग-अलग विचारधारा के लोग थे। आपकी आइडियोलॉजी अलग हो सकती है, मेरी आइडियोलॉजी के बारे में आप सबको मालूम है, मैं उस पर चर्चा नहीं करना चाहता हूँ। यह स्वाभाविक है कि आपसे मेरी कुछ शिकायतें भी हो सकती हैं, लेकिन वे शिकायतें इस वक्त नहीं करनी हैं, क्योंकि आपने इतनी कठिनाइयों में भी अपना रोल निभाया है, इतने प्रेशर में रहते हुए भी अपना रोल निभाया है, जिसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। यहाँ मैं उन बातों को उठाना नहीं चाहता हूँ। मैं चंद लाइनों में अपनी बात रखना चाहता हूँ :-

*"अगर तलाश करूँ कोई मिल जाएगा,
मगर तुम्हारी तरह कौन मुझे चाहेगा,
तुम्हारे साथ यह मौसम फरिश्तों जैसा है,
तुम्हारे बाद यह मौसम बहुत सताएगा।"*

क्योंकि आपके बाद क्या मौसम होगा और वह कैसे सताएगा, यह मुझे नहीं मालूम है, लेकिन मैं यह बात इसलिए कह रहा हूँ कि आपने सब तरह के प्रेशर में काम करना सीखा और सब तरह के माहौल में काम किया। जैसा कि अभी यहाँ पर प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी कहा, आपके संरक्षण में राज्य सभा के अब तक 14 फुल सेशन हुए। आपने मानसून सेशन, 2018 से एमपीज के लिए ऑनलाइन नोटिस देने की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराई। आपने संविधान की आठवीं अनुसूची की सभी 22 भाषाओं में सदस्यों को बोलने का मौका दिया, जिससे कई सांसदों को अपनी मातृ भाषा में बोलने में सहूलियत होगी। आपने नॉन हिन्दी इलाके के सांसदों को हिन्दी में बोलने के लिए प्रेरित किया और उन्हें प्रोत्साहित भी किया। आप जिस भी रोल में रहे, गाँव-देहात के लोगों की बात उठाते रहे। आप अटल जी की सरकार में ग्रामीण विकास मंत्री थे, तो आपने 'प्रधान मंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना' शुरू की थी। हमारी यूपीए सरकार ने इसे आगे बढ़ाया, क्योंकि यह गाँव वालों के लिए बहुत फायदेमंद थी। सन् 1987 में अटल जी ने कहा था कि राज्य सभा में रहे बिना राजनीति की ट्रेनिंग पूरी नहीं होती। आप भाग्यशाली हैं, जो इसके सदस्य और संरक्षक, दोनों बने हुए हैं। आप इसके सदस्य भी बने और संरक्षक भी बने और अटल जी का जो कहना था, वह आपने पूरा कर दिया।

सभापति जी, आपने कई बार यह बात कही है कि पब्लिक लाइफ में राजनेता न कभी रिटायर होता है, न टायर्ड होता है, जो बात प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी अपने भाषण में कही है। मेरी आशा है कि आप पब्लिक लाइफ से रिटायर भी नहीं होंगे और टायर्ड भी नहीं होंगे, आप काम करते रहेंगे। आप देश की दूसरी सबसे बड़ी कांस्टिट्यूशनल पोस्ट से विदा होने के बाद भी नागरिकों के बीच और सक्रियता से काम करेंगे तथा इस देश के लोकतंत्र, समता, समानता एवं संविधान के मौलिक तत्वों पर युवा-पीढ़ी का मार्गदर्शन करते रहेंगे।

आपकी विदाई के मौके पर मेरे मन में कई विचार आते हैं। कोरोना संकट के दौरान भी आपने काफी प्रयास करके हाउस चलाने का प्रयास किया। सिटिंग अरेंजमेंट को बदला गया और सांसदों को कोविड प्रोटोकॉल के हिसाब से बिठाने का काम भी करना पड़ा। यहाँ पर एक बेंच पर एक या दो सदस्यों को बिठाया गया, बहुत से सदस्यों को ऊपर दीर्घा में बिठाया गया, चंद सदस्यों को लोक सभा में बिठाया गया, लेकिन आपने अपना काम नहीं छोड़ा और कोविड पीरियड में भी आप अपना काम करते रहे। आपने वर्ष 2018 में रूल्स की समीक्षा का जो काम आरंभ किया था, उस पर सभी दलों से विचार कर वह काम आगे बढ़ना चाहिए, क्योंकि कई नियमों को बदलने की जरूरत है।

आज हाउस में जो बातें होती हैं, उन्हें पूरा देश और दुनिया देखती है। राज्य सभा और लोक सभा, दोनों की विशिष्ट भूमिकाएँ हैं। मैं यहाँ एक बात यह रखना चाहता हूँ कि लोक सभा टीवी और राज्य सभा टीवी, इन दोनों का मर्जर नहीं होना चाहिए था। जनता से जुड़े सुख-दुःख के मामलों पर गंभीर चर्चा हो, सर्वोत्तम समाधान भी निकले, यह बात देश के सभी लोग चाहते हैं। राज्य सभा अलग-अलग विचारधाराओं की राजनीति का केन्द्र भले हो, नज़रिये में भले कुछ फर्क हो, लेकिन सबका लक्ष्य और सपना देश की इन्क्लूज़िव ग्रोथ, लोकतंत्र और संविधान की रक्षा तथा देश की एकता कायम रखने का होना चाहिए। हमें उम्मीद है कि इसके लिए आपका योगदान जारी रहेगा, क्योंकि आपने पहले ही बहुत बार कहा है कि मैं रिटायर नहीं होता और टायर्ड भी

नहीं होता। इस बात को ध्यान में रखकर इस इन्क्लूज़िव ग्रोथ, लोकतंत्र और संविधान की रक्षा एवं भारत की एकता के लिए आप हमेशा लड़ते रहेंगे।

मैं आपके स्वास्थ्य और सार्थक जीवन की कामना करते हुए इस पंक्ति के साथ आपको बहुत शुभकामनाएँ देता हूँ, क्योंकि यह बहुत ही अहम है:

*"कहाँ आँसुओं की ये सौगात होगी, नए लोग होंगे नई बात होगी,
चिरागों को आँखों में महफूज़ रखना, बड़ी दूर तक रात ही रात होगी,
मुसाफिर हैं हम भी, मुसाफिर हो तुम भी,
किसी न किसी मोड़ पर फिर मुलाकात होगी।"*

आप सभी का बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री सभापति : मैं व्यक्तिगत रूप से बफे को ज्यादा पसंद करता हूँ। मैं सहपंक्ति भोज के पक्ष में हूँ और इसमें विश्वास भी करता हूँ, इसलिए आप निश्चित रहिए। आप लाइन में कहीं भी बैठें, वहाँ तक आपको सब मिलेगा, लेकिन सब लोगों को अपने-अपने स्वास्थ्य के हिसाब से खाना है। श्री देरेक ओब्राइन, प्लीज़ आप बोलिए। Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, Shri Derek O'Brien.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, just after Independence, in undivided Andhra Pradesh, those who owned agricultural land, how did they show how well-off they are and how important they are in that area? They had a very interesting way of showing. They didn't show, it just that they had, the number of bullocks you owned, the number of pairs of bullocks you owned. If you owned, two pairs of bullocks, you were quite well off; if you owned four pairs of bullocks, you were even better off, and a few families owned six or eight pairs of bullocks. One such family owned eight pairs of bullocks, so good so far. But, one day, one of these animals, they went totally nutty and the bullock actually gorged a lady in the stomach. The lady was carrying a baby or a one year old boy, dropped the child, obviously. The lady was taken to the hospital and the lady passed away, and the child lost his mother at the age of one. This is your story, Sir, of an early loss, and from that early loss, whatever you have done which we can find, not only in Wikipedia entries but in a glorious career you have had. I don't want to go there today because, I think, we have lots of speakers, so, we will all talk about that. I am sure that will make a good story for your autobiography which you must write. I have had many experiences with you, but a few I am going to talk about today and I, certainly, don't expect answers for any of

those, but maybe one day you will write an autobiography! So, this child who lost his mother in these tragic circumstances, of this agricultural family, cut to September 20, 2020. To me, that was a very important day in my outlook about you and maybe, you will answer that question some day in your autobiography! On September, 20, 2020, the day this House passed the Farm Bills, you were not on the Chair. You were not. Sir, you are the only Vice-President who has served four terms as a Rajya Sabha M.P. You are the only Vice-President who has visited every Indian State, all 28 States, including the States in the North-East. Sir, these we know but some day you will give us the answers. When I first came here, you used to sit this side, and I remember, on the 2nd of September, 2013--I think, your seat was just here--you made a passionate speech on petrol and diesel. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, one day you will tell us in your autobiography; anyway, let us not go there. On the 1st of March, 2013--I remember one more speech of yours, you led the discussion--Mr. Jaitley was on that side and you made a intervention for about five to six minutes on phone tapping. * And you have really given one piece of advice to us, the Opposition and the Government; it is, "Talk to each other and solve." I think that is one take, the take-away; in the meetings, we know, sometimes, what happens in Chambers stays in Chambers. But you used to always say--you talk in the same tone when you talk to the Government, and when you talk to Opposition--"Talk and Solve." And nobody is perfect. *Earlier, today, some point was made about productivity in Rajya Sabha. Yes, Sir; you have been the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. We want to congratulate you. If you look at the productivity numbers and the number of Bills passed, you were there. But there is another side to this argument. And as you leave today, Sir, we would urge upon you because you have, at least, twenty more years to offer in public life and these are the thoughts we would urge on you. I say because there is another school of thought which thinks that * And you have often advised us to send Bills to Committees; like, why only six out of ten or why only one out of ten Bills are going! You would say, "Send Bills, scrutinize these Bills". So these are the issues, which I am sure, you will address because I know, autobiography or no autobiography, you will speak your mind and you will guide us.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

Sir, of all the happy things we remember is the great food you served us and the great host that you are. Not only you, but, I think, equal credit should go to Mrs. Naidu. Every time you hosted any MP, all of us, in the Vice-President's House, it was absolutely wonderful and since I eat mostly non-vegetarian food, that became even better. Sir, we wish you and Mrs. Naidu, on behalf of my party, the All India Trinamool Congress, and everybody, happy years ahead. And, I remember, as you once mentioned, "You are the 'Chief' outside; but you have a 'Home Minister' at home, who actually controls whatever is going on". Sir, the Prime Minister, very nicely put it in his speech where he said, "Every word you said is revered and it is preferred". Yes, Sir, we would like to add to that. We wanted you to stay here longer, the fact that you are going is, actually, deferred.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Derek. Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman Sir, there are some moments which are unavoidable, but, at the same time, unacceptable. This is also one such. Only in the agony of parting, do we look into the depths of love. Today, we are bidding you farewell only because it is customary one; that is all. But we can never do so.

Sir, on behalf of my Party, DMK, and my fellow colleagues here from my party, we have a special regard for you. I shower upon you profusely, our thanks, appreciations and congratulations for your tenure in this august House as Chairman. Sir, there are many things to recollect. We would have irked you sometimes seeking opportunities. Instead of doing anything which is very harsh, your just one word with affinity and command, 'Siva' has made me to sit down. Nothing else you resorted to. I have many times told you that also. Sir, in Tamil, there is a word (ARIMAA NOAKU) meaning, 'a look of a lion'. In the forests, not all animals stand and look back. Only the lion can do so. It only can look back the path it treaded. It alone can bring behind it all the animals in the forests in a disciplined manner. You are a lion, Sir; you can look back, for you have left behind very great track record.

Sir, you started your life as a very good student. As a student leader, wedded yourself to an ideology; you started climbing the ladder. You never came down. You were a Member of the Legislative Assembly; you became the leader of your party. You became a Member of this august House. You were in the Opposition Bench. You were a Minister. Now, you have decorated the second highest position in this country, the Vice-President; the second constitutional authority. Sir, we had great times with you as the Chairman of this House. One thing you will also appreciate.

We might have disturbed you. We might have shouted, of course, in the path of democracy, seeking opportunities, insisting for debates but, at the same time, during our discourse, never have we come down the decorum of this House. You have appreciated many times that the debates in this House by all the party Members are par excellence.

Sir, on this occasion, I think this is the right time and right place to put on record three things. The hon. Leader of the Opposition mentioned that only in Rajya Sabha, a Member can speak in any of the 22 languages in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution, and that you only brought that into action. Wherever you go, you have advocated for the regional languages to cherish. You advised everyone, 'please protect, enrich your mother tongue, at the same time, learn some other language also'. Nothing wrong with that! Based on that alone, you have done other two things which many of our colleagues themselves would not know but I would like to put on record today, not only to the Members in this House but also to the people outside in the world.

Sir, there has been a customary practice and convention in the Parliament. It is a British legacy. Whenever a Member or a Minister lay a paper on the Table of the House, the convention is to say, 'I beg to lay on the Table of the House'. I am a product of the self-respect movement, Sir. So, such words are indigestible. We were not able to digest. I had represented to your predecessors many a time, to the Government also, many a time. But nobody bothered. Sir, I must appreciate and thank you, you only removed that word. Why in a Democratic Republic, any one should beg to the other? You removed that word. And, now with heads held high, every Member and Minister are just tabling the papers, not beg. They rise to lay the paper on the Table of the House. And, second, Sir, all notices we send to the Secretariat are addressed to the Secretary-General, and many might not have noticed when we signed it saying 'Yours Faithfully'. It doesn't suit a Member of Parliament to write to an office, 'yours faithfully'; it is not a school. I represented it to you, Sir. You asked, 'what can be the substitute'? I said, 'Yours Sincerely'. And, now all our notices are having 'Yours Sincerely'. I don't know about the other House. I don't want to say that, even if it be so. Sir, you upheld the dignity of the Members and also you were always very much interested in upholding the decorum and dignity of this House. Sir, we cannot forget your face in this House as Chairman. There are many other things. And, personally, I cannot forget you. I can recollect you in many ways. Whenever I see S.V. Ranga Rao on the screen, I will be reminded of you only, that majestic look and walk only you resemble. You will be in Chennai, that also I know, you will be very close to us. I request you-- Sir, Derek told, you will write --

please write an autobiography, which will be your real contribution to the posterity of this country. Only one word, Sir, we will miss you. We will miss you, Sir, Thank you.

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली) : सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे आज इस भावुक अवसर पर अपनी बात कहने का मौका दिया है। सर, जब मैं इस सदन में आया, तो विपक्ष में होने के नाते कई बार अपने मुद्दों को लेकर मुझे आपके गुस्से और आपकी नाराजगी का सामना भी करना पड़ा, लेकिन मैं आज पूरे देश को इस सदन के माध्यम से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मैं एक ऐसा सौभाग्यशाली सांसद हूँ, जिसे आपका सबसे अधिक प्यार मिला है, आपकी सबसे अधिक गाइडेंस मिली है और इस चेयर से हटने के बाद आपने सबसे अधिक समझाने का काम किया है। मैं जब कभी भी चैम्बर में गया, तब आप एक अलग इंसान थे, घर पर गया, तब आप एक अलग इंसान थे। आपने चेयर से हमेशा यह समझाने का काम किया कि सदन की मर्यादा के हिसाब से चलो। सर, मुझसे इन साढ़े चार वर्षों में कभी भी कोई भूल, कोई गलती हुई है, तो मैं उसके लिए आपसे हाथ जोड़कर माफी चाहता हूँ। उसमें कुछ भी व्यक्तिगत नहीं था, उसमें जो कुछ भी था, वह कभी देश के किसी मुद्दे पर, कभी जनता के किसी मुद्दे पर था। उस वक्त मुझसे जो भी गलती हुई है, मैं उसके लिए आपसे क्षमाप्रार्थी हूँ।

सभापति महोदय, आपका एक वाक्य था, आपने इसी चेयर से बैठकर वह वाक्य कहा था और यह हाउस, यह राज्य सभा का सदन उसी का प्रतिनिधित्व करता है। आपने उस भावना को इस सदन में हमेशा जीवित रखा है। आपका वह वाक्य था - 'विविधता में एकता-भारत की विशेषता।' आपने सारी भाषाओं में, यहाँ तक कि जो हमारी स्थानीय भाषाएँ थीं, हमें उनमें भी सदन में बोलने की अनुमति दी। महोदय, यह आपकी एक वैचारिक सोच का प्रतीक है और हम सभी इसके लिए आपके बहुत-बहुत आभारी हैं।

सर, हो सकता है कि आप आगे हमें इस चेयर पर न दिखें, लेकिन मैं एक बात के लिए आपसे जरूर रिक्वेस्ट करूंगा कि आप जिस प्यार से हम लोगों को भोजन के लिए बुलाते थे, वह सिलसिला रुकना नहीं चाहिए। आप जब भी दिल्ली आएँ, तो दिल्ली का सांसद होने के नाते हम चाहेंगे कि हमें उसकी सूचना मिले और हम सभी लोग आपके साथ बैठें, आपसे हमेशा सीखते रहें। सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत आभार। महोदय, मैं आम आदमी पार्टी की ओर से, अरविंद केजरीवाल जी की ओर से और हमारे सदन के सभी सांसदों की ओर से आपके उज्ज्वल भविष्य की प्रभु से प्रार्थना करता हूँ और ढेर सारी शुभकामनाएँ देता हूँ। महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a very poignant day, it is a very heavy day. I do not want to bid you farewell, honestly; I don't want to bid you farewell. I just hope that you will stay on and on. But, then life has its own transitions. Sir, I want to first thank you on behalf of my party, Biju Janata Dal, on behalf of our leader, Shri Naveen Patnaikji, for your service to the nation, for your service to this country, for your service to this House and being the great man that you are, with your simplicity, with your charm, with your dedication, with your commitment having

so much for all of us. It has been only three years that I have come to know about you personally, but it seems like a lifetime! Time is short. Hon. Prime Minister was speaking about how you have always promoted the youth, how you have promoted the regional languages, which the hon. LOP and others also have been saying it. I will not elaborate on that. I have brought evidence to the House today. I am going to lay on the evidence for everyone to see. The day was February 7th, 2020. The day before, I had been to your Chamber and you had said, 'Sasmit, why don't you speak in Oriya? It is your mother tongue! Speak more!' The next day, I spoke in Oriya, which was my first Zero Hour mention on a specific topic. You were on the Chair, Sir. You said, 'उत्तम कहूँछन्ति', meaning you spoke well. After a few minutes, I get this brief note from you, Sir. What does it say? It is that evidence. 'उत्तम कहूँछन्ति', written by you, signed, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, to me, Sasmit Patra! Though there are many evidences, why have I brought this evidence? It is because this was a note from you to me and it is a memory of a lifetime. It will stay with me as long as I am there. That is what Shri Venkaiah Naiduji means to all of us.

Sir, on promotion of youth, there are many young Members who are very new to the House. I just wanted to take this opportunity as to how you promoted the young Members of Parliament. In August, 2020, suddenly I had a phone call in the evening saying that I have been appointed to the Panel of Vice-Chairmen of Rajya Sabha. I was surprised! I said, I am only thirteen months into Rajya Sabha. You were the person whom I called in the evening and asked, 'Do you think I am capable of presiding over this august House? Do you think I will be ever able to do justice?' You said, 'I believe in you; I stand by you; you do your work and keep working hard.' That was Shri Venkaiah Naiduji.

Sir, I will not take much time. You have always been a friend of Odisha. Whenever we have brought matters of Odisha before you, you have always given us a patient hearing. Whenever there had been matters of Odisha that had to be raised in the House, you were always open to the idea of how we can develop more and more. Whenever new Members of Parliament from across party-lines used to come up, you used to encourage them. One thing I must tell you, Sir, that your presence in the Chair is very reassuring. Your presence in the Chair gives us strength. Your presence in the Chair inspired and motivated not only the Members of Parliament of Rajya Sabha, you have also inspired and motivated every youth of the nation. I say that with a great measure of humility.

Sir, at the end, I just like to say that I am today reminded of the words of Robert Frost: "These woods are lovely, dark and deep, But I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep, And miles to go before I sleep." Today, you have

miles to go. As Derekji said, you have more than 20 years of public life left. You will continue to inspire us every day. We will continue to cherish your memories every day.

With these words, Sir, I thank you for your wisdom and your leadership. On behalf of Biju Janata Dal and our leader Shri Naveen Patnaikji, we thank you for your service to the nation. Thank you.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me. Needless to mention, every Telugu person today is proud that this august House is chaired by a Telugu man. On behalf of nine crore Telugu people, I say that you have made us really proud. I speak on behalf of nine crore Telugu people. We all feel proud of you. I hail from Nellore district and you also hail from Nellore district. I have attended so many of your public meetings as a student and we all were inspired. Your political rise is inspirational for all of us, not only for Nellores but also for the entire country. When you rise, we all feel as if we have risen. This is the inspiration what we have got from you. As the hon. Prime Minister said, I really appreciate your articulation and command over the languages, Telugu, Hindi and English -- I don't know about the other languages -- and Tamil also. The entire nation would recollect that on 5th August, 2019 when emotions ran high and this House was discussing the abrogation of Article 370, your presence on the Chair gave strength to the smaller, regional parties like us at that point of time to speak freely and help pass the Resolution. I take this opportunity to appreciate your support that you have extended to the Standing Committees and how, under you, the Parliamentary Standing Committees gained importance. You reviewed from time to time and gave inspiration to all of us, the Chairmen as well as the Members of the Standing Committee.

Sir, I would like to recollect, at this point of time, one incident. 6 साल पहले जब मैं इस सदन में आया था, almost six years back, तब मैं आखिरी कतार में बैठता था, in the last row. सर, मुझे लगता था कि मुझे शायद बोलने का मौका नहीं मिलेगा। I never thought that I would get a chance. लेकिन आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। मुझे ही नहीं, बल्कि सभी नए सदस्यों को बोलने का मौका दिया। सर, मैं सबकी तरफ से आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। सर, एक और कारण है, जिसकी वजह से मैं आपका आभारी रहूँगा। आपने मुझे चेयर पर बैठ कर सदन चलाने के योग्य समझा और मुझे मौका दिया। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

सर, आप हमेशा स्वस्थ रहें, प्रसन्न रहें, मैं यह कामना करता हूँ। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. K. Keshava Rao; not present. Shri Ahmad Ashfaque Karim.

श्री अहमद अशाफाक करीम (बिहार) : रेस्पेक्टेड चेयरमैन साहब, आपका बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया कि आपने मुझे यह मौका दिया। यह सुनहरा मौका मैं किसी तरह से खोना नहीं चाह रहा था। मैं अप्रैल, 2018 से इस सदन में हूँ। वाकई आज का जो माहौल है, ऐसा माहौल मैंने कभी नहीं देखा। यह सिर्फ आपकी मोहब्बतों और जम्हूरी निज़ाम के तेहन हाउस को चलाने की वजह आज कुछ मुखतलिफ़ सा माहौल है। आज इस तारीखी और यादगार अलविदाई प्रोग्राम के मौके पर मैं खुशी और ग़म के जज़्बात का मिला-जुला असर अपने वजूद समेत पूरे मजमे में देख रहा हूँ। आपने जो मोहब्बत दी है, यह उसके नतीजे में है। खुशी इस बात की है कि हमारा जम्हूरी निज़ाम इस कदर मजबूत और खूबसूरत है कि इसके पाबंद आप जैसे कद्दावर लीडर और तारीखसाज़ रहनुमा भी हैं। मुद्दते सदरत मुकम्मल हुआ और खुशदिली से न सिर्फ अलविदा कह गए, बल्कि अलविदाई तकरीब को आप जीनत भी बख़्श रहे हैं। आपसे पहले के हमारे बुज़ुर्गों ने भी यही किया और वह आइंदा भी यही रहेगा। हर कोई अपनी मुद्दत पूरी करने के बाद बावकार चेयर दूसरों को सुपुर्द कर देता है, दूसरों को हवाले कर देता है, यही सिलसिला चल रहा है। इससे हमें बहुत कुछ सीख मिलती है। खुशी इस बात की भी है कि आपने अपनी पूरी मुद्दत में तमाम अराकीन, यानी माननीय सदस्यों का न सिर्फ एहताराम किया, बल्कि उन्हें अच्छे माहौल में अपनी बातें सदन में रखने का मौका भी दिया और जम्हूरी रवायात व इक्रदार को क़ायम रखने की हत्तनईमकान कोशिश करते रहे। लेकिन ग़म के जजबात का भी दिमाग और दिलों पर गहरा असर है। आपकी यादें, आपकी बातें, मुद्दतों तक रहेंगी और इस मुल्क के सियासी और तारीखी पन्नों में आपका नाम अदब से लिया जाता रहेगा। हम सब दुआ करते हैं कि आपकी अगली ज़िन्दगी भी सेहत व आफ़ियत के साथ गुजरे और समाज व मुल्क को तरक्की की राह पर लाने की आपकी कोशिशें जारी रहें।

*"गूँजते रहेंगे तेरे अल्फ़ाज़ मेरे कानों में,
तूने तो आराम से कह दिया अलविदा दोस्तो!"*

† **جناب احمد اشفاق کریم (بہار):** قابل احترام چیئرمین صاحب، آپ کا بہت بہت شکریہ کہ آپ نے مجھے بولنے کا موقع دیا۔ یہ سنہرا موقع میں کسی طرح سے کھونا نہیں چاہ رہا تھا۔ میں اپریل، 2018 سے اس ایوان میں ہوں۔ واقعی آج کا جو ماحول ہے، ایسا ماحول میں نے کبھی نہیں دیکھا۔ یہ صرف آپ کی محبتوں اور جمہوری نظام کی طرح ہاؤس کو چلانے کے بدلے آج کچھ عجب سا ماحول ہے۔ آج اس تاریخی اور یادگار الوداعی پروگرام کے موقع پر میں خوشی اور غم کے جذبات کا ملا جلا اثر اپنے وجود سمیت پورے مجمع میں دیکھ رہا ہوں۔ آپ نے جو محبت دی ہے وہ اس کے نتیجے میں ہے۔ خوشی اس بات کی ہے کہ ہمارے جمہوری نظام اس قدر مضبوط اور خوبصورت ہیں کہ اس کے پابند آپ جیسے قد آور لیڈر اور تاریخ ساز رہنما بھی ہیں۔ مدت صدارت مکمل ہوا اور خوشدلی سے نہ صرف الوداع کہہ گئے، بلکہ الوداعی تقریب کو آپ زینت بھی بخش رہے ہیں۔ آپ سے پہلے کے ہمارے بزرگوں نے بھی یہی کیا اور وہ آئیندہ بھی یہی رہیگا۔

ہر کوئی اپنی مدت پوری کرنے کے بعد باوقار چیئر دوسروں کو سپرد کر دیتا ہے، دوسروں کے حوالے کر دیتا ہے، یہی سلسلہ چل رہا ہے۔ اس سے ہمیں بہت کچھ سیکھ ملتی ہے۔ خوشی اس بات کی بھی ہے کہ آپ نے اپنی پوری مدت میں تمام اراکین، یعنی معزز ممبران کا نہ صرف احترام کیا، بلکہ انہیں اچھے ماحول میں اپنی باتیں ایوان میں رکھنے کا موقع بھی دیا اور جمہوری روایات و اقدار کو قائم رکھنے کی حتی الامکان کوشش کرتے رہے۔ لیکن غم کے جذبات کا بھی دماغ اور دلوں پر گہرا اثر ہے۔ آپ کی یادیں، آپ کی باتیں، مدتوں تک رہیں گی اور اس ملک کے سیاسی اور تاریخی پتوں میں آپ کا نام ادب سے لیا جاتا رہے گا۔ ہم سب دعا کرتے ہیں کہ آپ کی

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

اگلی زندگی بھی صحت و عافیت کے ساتھ گزرے اور سماج و ملک کو ترقی کی راہ پر لانے کی آپ کی کوششیں جاری رہیں۔

گونجتے رہیں گے تیرے الفاظ میرے کانوں میں،
تو نے تو آرام سے کہہ دیا الوداع دوستوں!

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I endorse whatever has been spoken here by my esteemed and senior colleagues, including the hon. Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition. Nevertheless, I consider this as my bounden duty to place the appreciation, gratitude and best wishes to you from my Party, CPI (M), on record.

Sir, as you know, we are from the opposite sides of the ideological spectrum. But, Sir, I have no hesitation in lauding your clarity of conviction. Sir, you belong to the category of Statesmen with an organic thinking. What has impressed me the most — I would speak what I feel at heart; I would not speak a word which is not part of my thought process — is that you are a living example of the great diversity of this nation. That is the underlying thread of the unity of this country. I have a reason why I say so. When there is shrill chorus for uniformity of behaviour, culture, language and even food, Sir, you stand tall as a lamppost of rich diversity that the country has and should be. Can I submit one thing? Even the spotless Dravidian attire shows that. Many have spoken about hospitality. I have my own personal experience of almost three decades. Javadekarji, it is more than three decades; please note the point. As a journalist, I have observed you shifting your base from Andhra to the vortex of national politics. Sir, you are simply the king of hospitality. I don't think anybody else in this House can match with it. I would relish those days when we had scrumptious non-vegetarian meals; I stress on that — non-vegetarian meals. I am vegetarian too as much as I am non-vegetarian. At your house and also at the BJP Office — Naddaji, please note the point — many of my juniors in journalism have pleasantly surprised to think about the menu at that time. At that time, prawns and cooks used to fly from Vijayawada and Guntur to Delhi.

Sir, I think, I would be failing in my duty if I don't spell out this point. There is a feeling, amongst many, that you would go down in the history as the President the nation has missed. This is something which I thought that I should say.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): He will come once again.

DR. JOHN BRITTAS: Sir, I have been seeing the House from inside, outside and from above. I cannot think of a Chairman who got involved with the nitty-gritty of the House like you. I have not seen any Chairman. Many used to come here, sit for an

hour and leave. But, you used to get involved even in the minutest aspect of the House. You have a long grueling journey from a village in Andhra, becoming an MLA, MP, Minister and also helping the organizational structure of a political party. Sir, with this long experience, you could even read the minutest emotion in our minds. One important aspect in your approach was that you are cut for the parliamentary democracy; I should say that. And, you are leaving at a time the parliamentary democracy needs you more; I would say that. Shri Derek O'Brien was saying about * I don't know what he actually meant but I feel that you are leaving at a time when we require you more, Sir. Your habit of disagreeing but allowing us and respecting us the right to express our view was something which should be talked about. Sir, one more thing. Small political parties, that is something which I need to say about, because you believed and you had the conviction that though some of the parties may be insignificant in numbers, their voices are relevant and vital to the existence of this nation as a plural polity. Sir, I would be failing in my personal duty if I don't speak about my experience. Please give me one minute. After making my maiden speech, — Sir, you should allow me to say that because the hon. Prime Minister was saying that you have the penchant to promote young and new Members -- on the following day, I got a call from the Vice-President's house. I was pleasantly surprised and I was a little concerned or worried also; after a few seconds, you were on the line, Sir, and you told me that you may not agree with me fully, but my speech was wonderful and you appreciated the homework which I did. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I didn't even share this with my family because my family would think that my character has changed after becoming a Member of Parliament. But you followed it up and you also said something. You said that after reading all the newspapers, you were so sad that not even a single newspaper brought a single line about my speech, which had impressed you. You did not stop there. After two days, at a public function, you narrated this and you also said about the sad plight of journalism. It was a perfect indictment of the media which is indulging in trivial sensationalism and is frivolous. I was also partially responsible.

The other day when a few of us came to your Chamber with my Leader, Shri Elamaram Kareem, Mr. Binoy Viswam and Shri Tiruchi Siva — he is also a Leftist Leader -- you were pouring out your reminiscences about the legendary Communist leaders. You talked about Shri Bhupesh Gupta; you talked about Shri Indrajit Gupta, Shri A.K. Gopalan, you talked about Shri Somnath Chatterjee and you said, “though you differ in ideology, you would want the Leftist movement to survive and to be

* Expunged as ordered by the chair.

present in Parliament in full vitality and vigour.” One more minute, Sir. When you inaugurated a school in Chennai, -- since Sivaji did not say, I should say that -- you quoted a renowned Tamil poet, Bharathiyar, and you said, “it is more virtuous to educate a child than to build thousand temples.” That is very relevant. Sir, you have set a benchmark, and I would say it is not an obstacle for your success, but it is an inspiration. Like Mahatma Gandhi said, “ Many men have exalted in greatness when they relinquished the Chair.” As he said, power is of two kinds. One is obtained by the fear of punishment and other by acts of love. Power based on love, you said, is thousand times more effective and permanent than the one derived from fear of punishment. Wish you all the best for all your future endeavours. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Hon. Members, I have a list before me. We have 32 speakers. Keep the time in mind. I don't want to cut anybody in between, but, at the same time, the duty compels me that I should remind you about the time. There are many more, other than proposed by party, who also want to say something. We will be able to do justice to them provided we are able to complete it on time. Now, Shri Ram Nath Thakur.

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार) : श्रद्धेय सभापति महोदय, जिस तरह एक परिवार का मुखिया सारे सदस्यों की देखभाल करता है, उसी तरह राज्य सभा में आने के बाद सारे सदस्यों को आपने एक गार्जियन की हैसियत से देखा, समझा और उन्हें दिशा-निर्देश दिए।

संसदीय जीवन में आपने जो ज्ञान, अनुभव, बुद्धि का इस्तेमाल किया, मैं उससे बहुत प्रभावित हुआ हूँ। आपने 13 सत्रों की अध्यक्षता की। मैंने देखा कि कैसे आपने सदस्यों का गुस्सा झेला और कितने अच्छे ढंग से अनुभव के आधार पर उस गुस्से को शान्त किया। आपकी अध्यक्षता में 177 बिल्स पास हुए और समयबद्ध तरीके से आपने बिल्स का निष्पादन किया।

मैं अपनी तरफ से, अपने परिवार की तरफ से, अपने दल की तरफ से, बिहार के मुख्य मंत्री श्री नीतीश कुमार जी की तरफ से, बिहार की 13 करोड़ जनता की तरफ से, राज्य सभा में जितने मेम्बर्स हैं, उनकी तरफ से आपके अच्छे स्वास्थ्य की कामना करता हूँ और यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि किसी रचनाकार ने कहा है:-

*"नजरें बता रही हैं, तुम दूर जा रहे हो।
पर दिल यह कह रहा है, आप पास आ रहे हो।"*

इन्हीं चंद शब्दों के साथ, मैं आपके प्रति संवेदना व्यक्त करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

श्री सभापति : धन्यवाद, राम नाथ जी। डा. एम. थंबीदुरई।

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): * "Sir, I lovingly submit my gratitude and affection to you, at first."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to pay my gratitude to the hon. Vice-President and Chairman of this House who is demitting the Office today after a long and cherished career spanning over half-a-decade starting from your college days.

Sir, I recall and recollect the long friendship I have with you since the days you came to Parliament in 1998. I was the Minister for Law and Surface Transport under the able leadership of Shri Vajpayeeji. So, I had the opportunity of seeing you in Rajya Sabha participating in many of its activities. And also, Sir, when I became the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha with the support of our hon. Modiji and Amma, you were the Parliamentary Affairs Minister then. I have seen your hard work and pleasant manners in dealing with friends and fellow Members which have been the prime reasons of your steady growth.

Sir, I also want to mention the days you had spent in Apollo Hospital when Amma, our hon. Chief Minister, was there. You spent a lot of time there, helping us recover from her death. Unfortunately, she spent her last days in the hospital. You helped with arrangements for the funeral and other things. Our Party, AIADMK, and I cannot forget those days that you spent with us. We are very grateful to you. At the same time, as Minister for Rural Development, under the able leadership of Shri Modi, as Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Urban Development, Housing and Poverty Alleviation and others, you have given us impeccable administration. You have initiated several noteworthy reforms in the portfolios that you held. Your contribution to the success of the *Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana* is commendable. Also, Sir, as our friends said, you are a true leader who gives importance to all national languages. As you said, they are not regional languages but national languages. As the hon. Prime Minister mentioned, you gave opportunity to Members to speak in their mother tongue. That was one of your initiatives that we appreciate and won't forget. In the spirit of true federalism, you showed us how our Indian culture and diversity need to be preserved. As others have said, we would remember your speeches and choice of vocabulary. You are a very experienced person and your rich experience would guide us in the days to come. As everybody here has said, there is no retirement in your life. There is still a lot to do. Nowadays, I get this thought very often that you are the Vice-President of the country now, but that is not the end; there would be other opportunities also. Your demitting this Office is a temporary

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Tamil.

phenomenon in your public life, but there would be more opportunities. I am hoping that God willing, you would come to Parliament once again to guide us in some other capacity. I have served in the capacity of Presiding Officer for 15 years in the Lok Sabha.

Without taking more time, I end my speech here. You would have many more opportunities in the future to serve Mother India. May God bless you with good health, happiness and joy! All the best wishes! Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: *Nandri*, Shri Thambidurai! Now, Shri Praful Patel.

SHRI PRAFUL PATEL (Maharashtra): Respected Chairman, Sir, I consider it my honour to have known you since the days you came to Parliament. You came here as a Member of this House and I was probably a Member of the other House in those days. I also consider it my privilege to have served under you as the Chairman of this House. We have very many fond memories. Also, you and our Leader, Shri Sharad Pawar, enjoy a very special relationship, a very special bond, because of your deep love for rural India and the agricultural community. That is, I am sure, a big binding factor for the two of you.

Sir, you have always been very kind and very supportive. As I said, I have seen you in different roles. When you were a Minister in Shri Vajpayee's Government, as the Rural Development Minister, we would come to you many a time with work from our Constituencies and you would be more than willing and forthcoming to help and support any good work that any Member of Parliament, irrespective of Party affiliations, may come to you with. These are qualities which don't come to everybody naturally. I don't think these qualities have to be acquired. They come naturally to you and you have been very, very supportive of all Members of Parliament. Even here, we have seen, as the Chairman, you have encouraged many new Members. I acknowledge the fact how you have been giving them opportunities to speak about the areas of interests which Members of Parliament may have, and also the fact that you have been troubled a lot by us. In the House, I have seen many emotional moments which you have gone through. Actually, I tell you that I was pained whenever I saw a tear or two in your eyes. I know the anguish and the dilemma which you were going through. I am sure hon. Members also acknowledge it. Maybe, there were political compulsions, but as far as I am concerned or my Party or Shri Sharad Pawar is concerned, we know very well that you have drawn a *Laxman Rekha* for decorum in this House, which we always adhered to. I have never given you, or, our Party has never given you, any reason to feel agitated or feel angry about

our conduct. Nonetheless, many a thing one can speak and many have spoken. Sir, you have already mentioned about the paucity of time. So, all I can say is that we wish you all the very best. अभी आपको अपने जीवन में इस देश के लिए बहुत योगदान करना बाकी है। सर, आप यहाँ से जाएं, किसी और जगह पर अपने कार्य की शुरुआत करें। आपसे एक ही गुजारिश है कि आप जहाँ भी रहें, स्वस्थ रहें, लेकिन हम लोगों को कभी अलविदा न कहें।

श्री सभापति : शिवसेना से कोई है? नहीं है। प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमन्, मैं इस तरह के अवसरों पर अक्सर अपनी पूरी बात कभी कह नहीं पाता हूँ। मैंने इससे पहले डा. शंकर दयाल शर्मा जी से लेकर अब तक, सभी माननीय सभापतियों के इस विदाई फेयरवेल कार्यक्रम को देखा है, लेकिन मेरा आपसे व्यक्तिगत अटैचमेंट बहुत रहा। मुझे आपसे जैसा स्नेह मिला, वैसा पहले किसी से नहीं मिला था। हालांकि, माननीय भैरों सिंह जी से भी हमारे बहुत अच्छे रिश्ते रहे, लेकिन आज आपके विदाई समारोह में मुझे जो महसूस हो रहा है, ऐसी अंदर से परेशानी मुझे कभी नहीं हुई। मुझसे पहले जिन वक्तों ने जो कुछ कहा, मैं उनसे अपने आपको संबद्ध करते हुए यही कहना चाहूँगा कि आज आप सारे प्रोटोकॉल, सारे बंधनों से मुक्त हो रहे हैं, इसलिए आगे आने वाले समय में आप अपनी दृढ़ इच्छाशक्ति से, स्वतंत्रता पूर्वक लोगों को संदेश दे सकते हैं, चाहे जब भी आप यूनिवर्सिटीज़ में जाएं, क्योंकि आपको लोग बुलाएंगे ही और आप अपनी बात कहने में बहुत सिद्धहस्त हैं ही, तो इसमें कोई बंधन न हो। देश के हित में, संविधान के हित में जब भी कुछ कहना पड़े, मैं यह उम्मीद करूँगा कि आप उसी तरीके से कहेंगे। आप स्वस्थ रहें, आपका परिवार ठीक तरीके से रहे, यही मेरी कामना है।

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, these moments are really such moments where we feel that each word is so valuable. We find it difficult to find apt words to express our hearts. Sir, I remember the first day when I made a call to you. At that time, I was only designated to become a Member of Rajya Sabha. But, you were so kind to allow me to come to your house to meet you in person. When I went there, I thought that you would give me two or three minutes, as you do here, but on that day, you were so benevolent, you were so kind to give me 30-40 minutes to talk. You talked about your past, your RSS days, the days in which you walked barefooted through the villages of Southern India - Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra, of course. Then you told me that ideologies might differ, but the man, greatness of humankind should remain. On that day, you told the same thing as Dr. Brittas was mentioning here. You told me about the glorious past of the Communists in the Parliament of India. You mentioned the names of Shri Bhupesh Gupta, Shri Indrajit Gupta, Shri Jyoti Basu and Shri Hiren Mukherjee, of course. You mentioned those names and you told that the Opposition has a role to play in democracy. You told that the Communists may

be small in number today, but you mentioned one more thing as to why the Communists remain separated today. You demanded for the Communist unity, for which my Party stands. I remember, you very correctly told that the Communist parties, in that way, can play a better role for the Communists and for the democracy of this country. Similarly, so many such fond memories are there.

Sir, you have scolded us a lot in this House when we made some slogans here, or, when we made some ruckus, as you may call it. I remember it. It was not purposeful. When I used to see your face with sadness, I would like to tell you now that I felt so sad as if my uncle was feeling sad with me. You have inculcated that feeling in all of us. It is true that we differ on so many issues, but the man in you, I should tell, is a man, which should be mentioned always in capital letters. Once you made an open call to the public that the public should teach a lesson to all the Members who make ruckus in the House. It was covered by all the newspapers. I was forced to write an article because my mind told me that it should not go unnoticed. I was opposing your viewpoints. In that article, I wrote how you find us; how you treated this House. I wrote, "You might have scolded us; you might have differed with us. But you always felt that we are your people and you treat this House as your own house, and we feel that you are the guardian of this House." With that feeling, I differed with you, I strongly opposed you, and that opposition was ideological. But, our love for you, regard for you, respect for you is unchanged. Nobody can change it.

I can tell you one more thing. When I look at the Press Gallery, I think, why a democrat like you still keeps that Gallery, that lounge for the journalists, remain like this. During the Covid days, it was okay, but now, there is no Covid. So, please see that whatever you can do afterwards, the House should be opened for the media. Without the media, without the public debates, without taking the message to the public, there is no meaning for the Parliament. I know that you understand this. While concluding, I would like to read the following words that I have just written here. Sir, we thank you for upholding the greatness of this great country. We thank you for the commitment that you have cherished for the values of democracy. We thank you for the agonies that you might have experienced in your noble struggle to remain as a secular democrat in this difficult political landscape. We thank you for the tears that you have showed in your eyes. Those tears show who you are as a person. I bow my heart. I embrace you with all love, all respect, all affection, with the feeling that you are somebody so close to our hearts. I conclude, Sir. Thank you.

श्री रामजी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : धन्यवाद सर। महोदय, यह ज़ाहिर सी बात है कि विदाई एक भावुक पल होता है और इस भावुक पल में यह ज़रूर होता है कि हम जैसे युवा और तमाम लोग उस व्यक्ति से क्या सीखते हैं! महोदय, हम लोगों ने आपसे बहुत कुछ सीखा है। हमने आपके जीवन के संघर्ष को पढ़ा, चाहे आपका 'जय आंध्र मूवमेंट' रहा हो, चाहे वह जयप्रकाश नारायण जी की 'छात्र संघर्ष समिति' रही हो, इन सारे मूवमेंट्स में आपने बहुत संघर्ष किया। आंध्र प्रदेश के एक छोटे से गाँव 'नेल्लोर' में जन्म लेकर आपने इस देश के उपराष्ट्रपति तक का सफर तय किया, महोदय, यह हम सब के लिए प्रेरणा का एक स्रोत है। मेरे पास बहुत सारी बातें नहीं हैं, लेकिन यह ज़रूर है कि आपकी ऊर्जा, आपकी एनर्जी और आपका देश प्रेम हम सबके लिए प्रेरणास्रोत है, जो हम सबको हमेशा प्रेरणा देता रहेगा। हमें हमेशा आपकी याद आती रहेगी और हम सभी लोग आपके जीवन की शुभकामनाएं करते हैं कि भविष्य में आप स्वस्थ रहें और हम सबसे कनेक्टेड रहें, जय-हिन्द, धन्यवाद।

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): It is a great privilege to speak on this occasion today but I am speaking with a heavy heart.

Sir, your journey as Presiding Officer of this august House commenced on 11th August, 2017 and after completing your term, you will demit office on 10th August, 2022. Your entire tenure as Presiding Officer of this august House has been very eventful and remarkable with innovations.

Sir, under your leadership, I have learnt so many things like how to become a good Parliamentarian. You always remained as a guiding force to me and to all the Members of this august House, and, you always motivated the Members of this House to give their best in discussions during passing of Bills and any other Business that was transacted in the House.

Sir, I do not have any hesitation to say that you are pride of the country in general, and, of Telugu people, in particular. The way you promoted the usage of Indian languages in the House and encouraged more and more Members to speak in their mother tongue while raising issues in the House is appreciated by one and all. I can recollect that my bonding with you had its genesis during the days of student life as student leader and also as leader of Jai Andhra Movement starting in Nellore District, and, that bonding which started during the student life continued between us till now and it will continue forever.

Sir, the books written by you during your tenure as the Presiding Officer of this august House stand testimony to the scholarly aptitude you have within yourself. You never missed any forums to give speech on wide-ranging subjects, which shows the deep knowledge you have in each and every subject.

Under your auspicious leadership, we had the privilege of online submission of various notices through 'e-notices portal'. Many efforts were made to reduce the

usage of paper in the day-to-day functioning of the House. Sir, you have been rendering marvellous services particularly to Telugu people under Swarna Bharat Trust. Now, according to you also, though you are retiring from this office, you are not tired, and, I hope you will continue to render services to the public at large with the same energy.

I remember one recent occasion, when you got angry, which I never witnessed before. Recently, when the House was being frequently disrupted, you expressed your anguish by saying, "My 'operation' depends upon your 'cooperation'; otherwise, there will be 'separation'."

Finally, Sir, let me thank you for your encouraging words, both to the Treasury Benches and the Opposition. I also thank you for your guidance, which I hope will continue forever. Thank you very much.

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामदास अठावले) : सभापति महोदय:

*"आप हमें छोड़कर जा रहे हैं, फिर हम यहां क्या करेंगे।
आपने हमें इतना विश्वास दिया है कि हम किसी से नहीं डरेंगे,
और 2024 का चुनाव नरेन्द्र मोदी जी नहीं हारेंगे।
आपने मुझे मौका दिया हर बार, इसलिए मैं करता रहा *।"*

श्री सभापति : अठावले जी, आज मत कहिए।

श्री रामदास अठावले : महोदय:

*"आप कभी नहीं मानने वाले हैं हार,
इसलिए आप आइए फिर एक बार।
जो आते थे बार-बार वैल,
उनको सस्पेंड करके आपने उनका बंद कर दिया था खेला
*
इसलिए अभी वे नहीं आएंगे वैल।"*

...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : आज इन चीजों को छोड़ दीजिए।

श्री रामदास अठावले : मैं इतना ही बताना चाहता हूँ कि आपका अंदाज़ बहुत अच्छा था। आप सभी लोगों को साथ में लेकर चलते थे। आप गड़बड़ करने वालों की वजह से एक मिनट के अंदर

* Not recorded.

हाउस एडजर्न करते थे। उनको ज्यादा हंगामा करने का मौका नहीं मिलता था। यह बात ठीक है कि आप बहुत अनुभवी हैं, हाउस चलाने के बारे में आपका अनुभव बहुत अच्छा रहा। आप पांच सालों तक हमारे साथ रहे और सभी मेम्बर्स को आपने मौका देने का काम किया है।

जब मैं बोलता था, तब आप बैल बजाते थे। आप बैल बजाते थे, मैं बोलता रहता था, लेकिन आपने बहुत बार मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। मेरी रिपब्लिकन पार्टी है, वह बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर जी की पार्टी है, संविधान निर्माता की पार्टी है। इस पार्टी की तरफ से मैं आपको हार्दिक बधाई देता हूँ। हम आपको नहीं छोड़ेंगे, हम आपको हमेशा बुलाते रहेंगे। आपकी स्पीचेज़ सुनते रहेंगे। हमने इस हाउस में बहुत बार आपकी स्पीचेज़ सुनी हैं। हम बाहर भी आपको हमेशा बुलाएंगे और आपका मार्गदर्शन लेते रहेंगे। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं आपको हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं देता हूँ। आपने हाउस बहुत अच्छा चलाया, इसलिए आपको शुभकामनाएं देता हूँ। जय भीम, जय भारत!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya. You have only two minutes.

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Hon. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my Party, Asom Gana Parishad, today I am standing here not to say goodbye or farewell to you because, Sir, goodbye or farewell is not applicable to you. In my student life, when I used to take part in debates, once I got the topic, 'we cannot say goodbye to the *mahatama*'. Sir, we cannot say goodbye to you because your work, your advice, your guidance will always remind us of you. In my parliamentary life, I have seen you as a senior Minister, as a senior colleague of this House and as the hon. Chairman of this House. Sir, as the Minister of Rural Development, you were the most successful Minister. You are a very learned person. It reflects in your speeches in the Parliament from where we can learn many things in our life. I remember, in the year 2009, when I was a Member of this House, I spoke on many topics from that row, and you always encouraged me. You are a very strong supporter, strong motivator for mother tongue or mother language. Today, I remember when I spoke in the House on our learned singer, Dr. Bhupen Hazarika, you had given the reply in Assamese. This is the recognition of my language. This is the recognition of my mother tongue which is the language of three crore people of Assam. You have told me to speak for two minutes. Today, definitely, I will follow your direction. I, on behalf of the people of Assam and on behalf of the entire North-Eastern Region, pray to Maa Kamakhya to bless you good health, so that you continue to contribute to our society, to our democracy, to our educational system and to our parliamentary system. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The House is adjourned to meet at 2.05 p.m.

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

The House reassembled after lunch at five minutes past two of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Abdul Wahab.

SHRI ABDUL WAHAB (Kerala): Sir, normally, I talk very less. But, today, I am speechless. In your farewell, I do not know; I can go up to half-an-hour or one hour. Today, it is the first time that I am feeling so. You have already mentioned to many Members to keep it to two minutes. So, I am bound to finish it off. On the last day, I don't want to create any problem for you. My leader, Sayyid Sadiq Ali Shihab Thangal, today morning called me and told me about you and about the position of IUML. So, congratulations for not being in this position tomorrow. As Venkaiah Naiduji we know, we expect a lot from you. As you were earlier the BJP President, we all know your background. You told us and even to the BJP Members that after this assignment, you are not going to public politics. We expect more from you than only public politics. You have a lot of experience. I remember that on my invitation, you came to our college. It was a wonderful experience; you gave advice to youth. You can still do that. We will always call you. I don't know whether you will agree or not. But, please listen to our call whenever you are out of this office. The Prime Minister and Khargeji spoke a lot about you. So, I don't want to add more. Mr. Derek mentioned about a one-year old Venkaiahji. So, I have just one recommendation or pleading to you. You have got good connection with all BJP people. You used to be the BJP President. Ideology will not change. So, when you demit office, tell them that there should be democratic atmosphere in India, at least in Parliament. I expect all the cooperation from you. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I tell them all -- this side and that side -- to respect democracy. Now, Shri G.K. Vasan.

SHRI G.K. VASAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak. As you assumed the office of the Vice-President of the country and that of Chairman, Rajya Sabha, you brought with you rich parliamentary experience both from the Opposition side and from the Treasury Benches. This experience has definitely helped you in conducting the proceedings of this august House with wit and wisdom, and benefited each Member of the House to contribute to nation-building.

Sir, your rich administrative experience across Ministries has come in handy in maintaining the morale of officers of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. Sir, the Career Progression Scheme implemented by you has ensured that in Services like those of Reporters and Interpreters, where promotions are hard to come, we have a fully motivated workforce to support the Members of Parliament.

As Vice-President of the Republic, you have always carried the true spirit of Indianness in your heart and in your word. In your various engagements across the country and all over the world, you have showcased that India is one family. At various fora, you highlighted the importance of the language, especially the mother tongue, and protecting our constitutional values. Sir, we all know your hard work, dedication and concern for the nation. We all know that you are an inspiration for people from different walks of life. I am sure with your vast experience in public life, you will continue to guide the younger generations through your writings and public interactions. On behalf of Tamil Nadu, you have a special concern, I say, * "Go and come", that is always our culture.

MR. CHAIRMAN: * "Thank you". *Namaskar*. Now, Shri Jose K. Mani.

SHRI JOSE K. MANI (Kerala): Sir, today I stand in the House to express my immense gratitude towards you for the inclusive and inspiring leadership you have exhibited as the Chairman of Rajya Sabha. I consider it as my honour to have worked under your Chairmanship, witnessing your passionate efforts in strengthening the parliamentary democracy in our country. There are indeed various instances where this House experienced heated arguments and verbal quarrelling, exchange of words, which I must say, were masterfully diffused by your unbiased approach, light humour, simultaneously ensuring the gravity of the issue at hand was not compromised. As a Member hailing from the southernmost State of the country, Kerala, I would also like to thank you for acting as a strong bridge between the south and the national capital. Coming from a southern State yourself, you are very well aware of the diversity in culture and traditions and have worked towards ensuring these differences will not cause any strife. Your presence, in a way, has ensured that southern States will not be overlooked.

Sir, to conclude, your tenure and presence, as the Chairman, had made an impact in Rajya Sabha with your interventions, deliberations, words, actions and

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Tamil.

decisions. As days, weeks, months and years go by, always your name will be remembered in every nook and corner of this august House.

Sir, *adieu* and all the best to you from my party Kerala Congress (M) in your future endeavours. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR BHUYAN (Assam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I convey my best wishes to the next phase of your life. As a politician and a public figure, you have immensely contributed for the growth and development of my country in all spheres. Your role, as a Chairman of Rajya Sabha is highly laudable. You know India and its States by heart. I was pleased to read one of your articles on Kanaklata Barua, a brave heart and a martyr of Quit India Movement of 1942 from my State Assam. I humbly differ from you in political ideas and principles, but I am touched by your advocacy for mother tongue, for local languages. You feel the very essence of glory and the existence of India. Your advocacy for mother tongue inspired me to deliver a speech in Assamese in Rajya Sabha. I could not do it once in your tenure. Sir, I will always remember you as an advocate of mother tongue and as an advocate of multi-linguistic and multi-cultural diversity of India. Sir, you are an advocate of mother tongue, as I have already said and, for that, I will always remember you. With these words, on behalf of the people of Assam, I wish you good health and long life. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार) : शुक्रिया, सर। संभवतः आज मैं आखिरी बार आपके लिए इस संबोधन का इस्तेमाल कर रहा हूँ - 'माननीय सभापति महोदय'। अगर परसों हाउस चलेगा, तब भी मैं यहाँ नहीं होऊँगा, इसलिए मैं यह बात कह रहा हूँ। मुझसे पहले के वक्ताओं ने आपके जीवन संघर्ष और आपकी उपलब्धियों के बारे में बहुत चर्चा की है। मैं उनसे बेहतर नहीं कर सकता, अतः मैं उस पृष्ठभूमि को, उस पन्ने को किनारे रखता हूँ।

सर, मैंने आपके समक्ष पहले भी कहा है कि किसी के लिए अलविदा का क्षण, विदाई का क्षण, फेयरवेल का क्षण बहुत आसान नहीं होता है। कल कोई और वहाँ बैठेंगे, आई बॉल्स को भी एडजस्ट होने में वक्त लगता है, व्यक्ति को सामंजस्य बिठाने में वक्त लगता है। वह दिक्कत और परेशानियाँ होंगी, वह अपनी जगह है।

सर, मैं 3 अप्रैल, 2018 को इस सदन में आया था। आपने मुझे सबसे पहले वक्त की कीमत बताई। तीन मिनट का वक्त होता था, तब हम चार सदस्य थे। आप कहते थे, "Your time is up." सर, आपका मुझ पर यह प्रभाव पड़ गया है कि अब मैं यूनिवर्सिटी में 50 मिनट की क्लास के लिए जाता हूँ, तो तीन से पाँच मिनट के बाद देखता हूँ कि कहीं आप यह न कह बैठें, "Your time

is up." आपने मेरे साथ सचमुच यह कर दिया है। आपकी वजह से मेरे अंदर वह तीन मिनट, पाँच मिनट का टेम्पलेट सा बन गया है। सर, आप एक और चीज भी कहते थे कि इसके आगे कुछ रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रहा है। अब वह भी दिमाग में रहता है कि अब आगे रिकॉर्ड पर ही नहीं जा रहा है।

सर, मैं इस अवसर पर एक कविता, जो अशोक वाजपेयी ने 'विदा' नाम से लिखी थी, आपके समक्ष, आपके लिए पढ़ना चाहता हूँ:

"तुम चले जाओगे
पर थोड़ा-सा यहाँ भी रह जाओगे
जैसे रह जाती है
पहली बारिश के बाद
हवा में धरती की सोंधी-सी गंध
भोर के उजास में
थोड़ा-सा चंद्रमा
खंडहर हो रहे मंदिर में
अनसुनी प्राचीन नूपुरों की झंकार।
तुम चले जाओगे
पर थोड़ी-सी हँसी"

-- वह आपका ट्रेड मार्क है। --

"पर थोड़ी सी हँसी
आँखों की थोड़ी-सी चमक
हाथ की बनी थोड़ी-सी कॉफी"

-- जो अक्सर अंदर मिला करती थी। --

"यहीं रह जाएँगे
प्रेम के इस सुनसान में।
तुम चले जाओगे
पर मेरे पास
रह जाएगी
प्रार्थना की तरह पवित्र
और अदम्य
तुम्हारी उपस्थिति,
छंद की तरह गूँजता

*तुम्हारे पास होने का अहसास।
तुम चले जाओगे
और थोड़ा-सा यहीं रह जाओगे।"*

सर, यह समय की शिला पर मधुर लेख किसी ने बनाए, किसी ने मिटाए, यह रहेगा।

सर, एक चीज, जो मैंने आपसे सीखी, मैं वह कहना चाहता हूँ। हम सब अलग-अलग पृष्ठभूमि से आते हैं - वैचारिक, राजनीतिक पृष्ठभूमि। हम बहुत शिदत से एक-दूसरे के खिलाफ लड़ते हैं, लेकिन बीएसी की मीटिंग्स में आप अक्सर कहा करते थे - "Don't stop conversation." मुझे आज के इस ओकेजन पर अपील करनी है कि संवाद की यह परिपाटी खत्म नहीं होनी चाहिए। सर, कभी डाइनिंग टेबल पर बैठ कर यह मत कह दीजिएगा - "The House is adjourned to meet at 12.00 p.m."

Thank you so much, Sir. जय हिन्द!

श्री सभापति : श्री विक्रमजीत सिंह साहनी।

श्री विक्रमजीत सिंह साहनी (पंजाब) : सर, मनोज कुमार झा साहब ने अभी कहा कि वे आखिरी बार बोल रहे थे, लेकिन यह भी एक कैथार्सिस है कि मैं पहली बार बोल रहा हूँ।

Hon. Chairman Sir, I rise before you as a first time young parliamentarian today, who does not come from a political background and are simply social workers. I appreciate your wisdom, articulation, keeping cool and handling the various situations in this House very diligently. Contrary to the perception which I had under the Public Leadership programme at the Harvard University, I had a different perception of the Upper House. But I will always remember your words of wisdom that we have collective responsibility in this House to work and encourage healthy debates as we are accountable to billions of people as their representatives who have sent us here to represent them and the respective States. Having said that, it is an inspiration for all of us who have witnessed you as a young rebel student activist raising issues of student rights as Student union and the Jaiprakash Narayan Chatra Sangharsh Samiti which you launched in Nellore. Your leadership in Jai Andhra Movement at a very young age, I think it is befitting for you, Sir, to have an autobiography, for the benefit of the younger generation. To defend the democracy of this great nation, you spent so much difficult nights in the Emergency. Your contribution in the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana is very, very meaningful. Sir,

many of us will not know that hon. Chairman. You founded a social service organisation called 'Swarna Bharat' in your hometown at Nellore which runs a school for poor, orphaned and special-need children and self-employment. This shows your empathy and humaneness. I would convey my support to this noble cause and I am indebted to you; it was in your hands a few days back, that I committed my entire salary and perks for the education of poor children. I would conclude at the end by saying that you are leaving behind a legacy of retired but not tired, as hon. Pradhan Mantriji said. You are living behind a legacy. Your tenure have many interesting anecdotes. You retire from this House with great memories. At the end, I would say that this couplet is very synonymous to your personality.

*"खुदी को कर बुलंद इतना कि हर तदबीर से पहले
खुदा बंदे से खुद पूछे, बता तेरी रज़ा क्या है?"*

Jai Hind.

SHRI BIKASH RANJAN BHATTACHARYYA (West Bengal): Sir, I stand here to bid you farewell. But, at the moment, I will just recollect the day when I entered in this House for taking oath, in the bad days of Covid period. On that day, one particular incident which struck me so well was when many Members were taking oath and I took my oath in my mother tongue Bangla, someone had chanted something which really hit the basic concept of Indian secularism. And I was very happy and proud to say that I found yourself immediately reluctant and said that this sort of slogan should not be raised in the House. Sir, this constitutional morality which is very important for country, we find lacking in many personality but you have been able to uphold that. Another thing which really impressed me, I think impressed everybody is your concept of plurality. When there has been an attempt to say that we have a singular attitude, there, you have impressed upon us with your sense of plurality. That is the personality which has impressed me. Another one which struck me is your sense of humour. When I am wondering at this sense of humour, then, I recollect what George Bernard Shaw said, 'A person without humour is a person without education'. Therefore, that basic education of yours really enlightened us to confirm our faith in Indian secularism, constitutional morality and plurality. These are the very important things that I learnt from you. At the end, I just say a few lines from Tagore, which

means, * "I won't let you go". I don't want you to leave but I have to leave you because of the rule of nature. Therefore, Sir, we are not letting you go from us but you are, by call of nature, by the rule, leaving the Chair, but remaining in our heart permanently. With this, I wish you a very good time in future.

श्री राघव चड्ढा (पंजाब) : सर, हर व्यक्ति को अपना पहला अनुभव याद होता है, स्कूल का पहला दिन, पहले प्रिंसिपल, पहली टीचर और पहला प्यार। जब मैं इस सदन आया और मैंने अपने संसदीय जीवन की शुरुआत की, तो मेरे पहले चेयरमैन के रूप में मैं सदैव आपको याद रखूंगा। यह मेरा सौभाग्य है कि जब मैंने अपने संसदीय जीवन की शुरुआत की, तो मुझे आपका संरक्षण प्राप्त था, लेकिन यह मेरा दुर्भाग्य भी है कि मुझे सिर्फ एक ही सत्र में आपके संरक्षण में काम करने का मौका मिला। इसी के साथ-साथ जिस दिन मेरी ओथ थी, उस दिन आपने मुझे पंचवुएल्टी का बड़ा पाठ पढ़ाया था। मुझे याद है, करीब 11 बजे का समय था और चूंकि मैं अपने माता-पिता के साथ सुबह पहले गुरुद्वारे गया, वहां मत्था टेका और रास्ते में ट्रैफिक भी था, जिसकी वजह से मुझे आने में आठ-दस मिनट की देरी हो गई, तब तक शपथ ग्रहण समारोह समाप्त हो गया और आप मुड़कर वापस भी चले गये, फिर मेरी रिक्वेस्ट पर आप वापस आए और आपने मुझे पंचवुएल्टी का एक पाठ पढ़ाया और उसके साथ-साथ मेरी ओथ भी आपने ही कराई।

इसके साथ मैं इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा कि आपकी जो जर्नी रही, जो यात्रा रही, वह कहीं न कहीं हम लोगों की यात्रा से मेल खाती है। आप भी श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण साहब का जो एक भ्रष्टाचार विरोधी आंदोलन रहा, उसकी एक समिति के अध्यक्ष रहे। हम भी भ्रष्टाचार विरोधी आंदोलन से जन्मे। हमारी पार्टी, हमारे नेता, श्री अरविंद केजरीवाल जी की एक समानता मैं आपके साथ, आपके जीवन से ड्रॉ करता हूं।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज़, डिस्टर्ब मत कीजिए।

श्री राघव चड्ढा : इसी के साथ आपकी जो एक जर्नी रही, वह हम सारे युवाओं के लिए एक प्रेरणास्रोत है। एक साधारण कार्यकर्ता से लेकर एक विधायक, सांसद, मंत्री और फिर देश के उपराष्ट्रपति के तौर पर आपने अपना कार्यभार संभाला।

अंत में, मैं सिर्फ इतना कहूंगा कि राज्य सभा का पहला सत्र जब 1952 में हुआ था, तो उस समय के चेयरमैन, डा. राधाकृष्णन साहब थे, उन्होंने एक बात कही थी, जिसे मैं पढ़कर सुनाऊंगा। "I belong to no party and that means I belong to every party in the House. It shall be my endeavour to uphold the traditions, the highest traditions of parliamentary democracy and act towards every party with fairness, impartiality, with ill-will to none and goodwill to all."

आपने उन सारे शब्दों को सार्थक किया है, मैं आपको अपना सफल कार्यकाल समाप्त करने पर बहुत-बहुत बधाई देता हूं, धन्यवाद।

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Bengali.

श्री सभापति : राघव, मेरे ख्याल से प्यार एक ही होता है ना, एक बार, दूसरी बार नहीं होता है, पहला प्यार ही होता है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राघव चड्ढा : सर, मैं इतना अनुभवी नहीं हूँ, अभी जीवन में इतना अनुभव नहीं हुआ है, लेकिन अच्छा होता है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति : पहला प्यार अच्छा होता है, वही प्यार हमेशा जिंदगी भर रहना है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी (राजस्थान) : नीड़ का निर्माण फिर-फिर और नेह का आह्वान फिर-फिर, बार-बार होता है।

श्री सभापति : ठीक है, थैंक यू, श्रीमती पी.टी. उषा।

SHRIMATI P.T. USHA (Nominated): Most Respected Chairman, Rajya Sabha, Shri Venkaiah Naiduji, a great orator, scholar who always stood along with the downtrodden people, particularly during his Nellore days. Sir, your yeoman service to the society as a whole, the nation will ever remember. We, the common man, always extend our love and affection towards your gentle parenting who for the first time stepped into the temple of democracy. I personally have been experiencing the same for the last few weeks. Sir, we can express our gratitude towards you to say a mere 'thank you', but you will always live in our hearts, as a master of oratory. On behalf of our entire Indian sports fraternity, I express my deep gratitude towards your true sportsman spirit, which reflects in your entire life and as Chairman of this august House. I sincerely wish you and your all family members good health, peace and cheer and I wish that you would continue to serve the nation and community as a whole. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR (West Bengal): Sir, I thank you for this opportunity and I am reminded that exactly five years ago, you were gracious enough to preside over my farewell at a time when there was a lot of palpable tension about my departure from Government. I saw the degree of pettiness that I thought I would never live to see, but you rose above that pettiness to say very gracious words. They are inscribed in my heart and that is the impression I have carried one who rises above pettiness and is known to be gracious. I followed your knowledgeable interventions and speeches and that is one thing that I bemoan. I often feel that I am wasting my time because the quality of debate in the House is not packed with that degree of knowledge any more for various reasons. I have not been able to communicate in the last one year or

so because much of it went in disruptions and I am not comfortable with disruptive politics. I understand and support the need for protest. Protest is an essential ingredient of democracy but there are Members who are more comfortable with it that side, but I am not comfortable. I shall remember your fairness ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री सभापति : प्लीज़। बैठ कर कोई कमेंट नहीं कीजिए। अननेसेसरी आखिरी दिन भी मेरे मुँह से ऐसा शब्द नहीं निकलना चाहिए।

SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR: I shall remember your fairness both as a Minister--I have had the good fortune of having fair Ministers like you, Mr. Jaitley and Mr. Javadekar--and in the Chair. But, fairness comes with a certain degree of brutality. It is inevitable. I would only say that 73 is not an age to retire. There are temptations and many of allurements of retirement at an early age come from the people around you with intentions, good or otherwise. But, having said that, I would still say that you will continue to hold your head high and continue to contribute, and though the woods are lovely, dark and deep, there are miles to go before you sleep, and miles to go before you sleep. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you have tension, you will not be able to pay attention and have retention, and it will only be pretension! That is why, please don't have any tension in the House!

SANT BALBIR SINGH (Punjab): * "Many many thanks to you Sir. I came to this House for the first time and when I got an opportunity to speak for the first time in my language the words that you spoke in Punjabi at that time, "you spoke well" and that is being talked about not only in Punjab but in the entire world. These are our regional languages, our Gurus' languages and we needed to learn a lot from you but you are now demitting Office. I will definitely make a request that like the way you have given us a right to speak in Punjabi; every day these papers that are laid on the Table of the House, come in English & Hindi. So, we can get these translated in Punjabi from outside, but what we have to do, discuss and argue here, that we need in Punjabi. This is a request and while leaving, people give something. We are praying to you for this as this is not only our problem. It must be the difficulty of many others here but they have not spoken about it. I request that we should get those papers in Punjabi. Thank you very much Sir. May you be blessed!"

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Punjabi.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shrimati Vandana Chavan on behalf of all remaining women!

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, thank you very much. I was hoping that we get a chance. This House has seen many farewells but in the last ten years that I have been here, it has not been a farewell as sombre an atmosphere as this. Farewells and farewell speeches are, a lot of times, mere formalities. But this one is different. It is different only because of the person and personality that you are. You have given us so much love and affection that definitely we feel very much honoured and very much revered to you. Sir, you have been a disciplinarian. You have been very strict. Sometimes, you reminded us of a head master in a school. But, you know that the strictest teacher is the most loved one. Similarly, Sir, even though you are strict with us, you try to imbibe discipline in us. You are the most loved up to now. You have been witty with your repartees. You have been witty with the kind of rhymes in your sentences, which you just exhibited. You have been extremely passionate. That is what made you very different. You encouraged Members to speak in their mother-tongue, pushing them to attend Committee meetings, which sometimes we would slip. Your passion was seen even when one of my colleagues, Vijila Sathyananth, spoke about child pornography in her Zero Hour mention, there you immediately put an *ad hoc* committee in place under the Chairmanship of Shri Jairam Ramesh and you had it sorted out. This is the kind of passion that you have. Even when important issues were spoken about, your voice itself vibrated and showed that you were very concerned about that issue. Sir, you have been gracious. A lot of people have said that you have been a wonderful host. Not only you, your wife and your entire family have also been wonderful hosts whenever we came to your place. I had the opportunity and honour of inviting you to two functions. One was in Pune for the prestigious *Punyabhushan Puraskar* and the second was here, in Parliament Annexe, when some of us Parliamentarians, formed a group on children, and invited you to have a dialogue with the children and I saw, Sir, not just inside the House, but even outside the Parliament wherever you went, you attracted a lot of fan following and that makes you different. Sir, I also remember that during Covid times Pune was doing very badly. I can never forget that you had called me up to ask about my own welfare, my family's welfare and the welfare of the Pune-kars. I have never had an experience earlier like this. Even lately, when my name was not included in the six-Member panel, you were gracious enough to call me up and talk about your predicament, but thank you, Sir, you have been great to us. You have been a wonderful fatherly figure. You have been like an elder brother to

all of us, sisters. I specially wish you good health and I wish you the best for the new innings which is coming forth. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am a new entrant to politics. When I came here, I was a senior advocate practising in the High Court and the Supreme Court, but when I saw you, I felt that you have all the good qualities of a judge and good qualities of fairness. You allowed equal opportunity, and you used to remind us that we have to do something for the people, that the people are watching us. We really feel that after seeing you, all politicians should train themselves as to how they have to behave inside this august House. Every time I see you, your endeavour is to uphold the dignity and the honour of this House. In fact, you have guided us on many occasions as to how we have to present ourselves when we speak on a Bill, when we speak even in Zero Hour and even on matters touching upon the nation. In fact, one thing is very common to us. I come from Tamil Nadu and, Sir, your second home State is Tamil Nadu. I feel that you are very close to the hearts of the people in Tamil Nadu and I pray that you should settle down in our home State. That is what I feel. Another thing is, you have touched our hearts and you have moved us with a lot of love and affection. On every birthday, I receive a call from you and you wish us. We have never seen a leader like you. We have never seen a Chairman like you. We are really moved by your good nature. In fact, I would only say that all of us have to carry forward whatever you have preached to us and whatever you have taught us and, certainly we will take it forward. I wanted to say, as my earlier speaker said, that we are going to miss you and I don't know whether anyone can occupy your place. Thank you very much, Sir.

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): * "Namaskar, Sir. Thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on this occasion. Just because of you, I am speaking here in my mother tongue, Gujarati. For this, I am thanking you in Gujarati. Much has been spoken on this occasion in this august House. Hon. Prime Minister, Honourable Leader of Opposition and other distinguished members have spoken at length about their experiences with you and your career. I associate myself with them. I would not like to repeat it. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House regarding two aspects pertaining to you. I also would like to remind the people of

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Gujarati.

Gujarat specifically about these two aspects. One is your love and gratitude towards hon. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. As far as I know, you are personally a big admirer of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. You have installed the portraits of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at your residence, in your office and at your official residence. As a Gujarati, I salute the admirers of Sardar. You had visited Somnath to offer your prayers. You wanted to accomplish two tasks the same time. The first, of course, was to worship Lord Somnath. And the second was to take a glimpse of Sardar Patel in the temple complex, who was one of the foremost devotees of Lord Somnath. I don't think there is any exaggeration in saying this. The current President of BJP, Shri J P Nadda is present in this August House. I want to remind him that during 1996-1997, there was an internal problem in our party. And the Gujarat chapter of BJP was passing through crisis. And today as a worker of Bharatiya Janata Party, I would sincerely and seriously like to bring it to the notice of this august House that at that time you came to Gujarat and stayed there for 15 days and enhanced our moral strength. You stood by us, gave us wisdom and strength. It is not an exaggeration to say that the capacity enhancement of the Gujarat State Bharatiya Janata Party is because of the motivation provided by you at that time. You had a hectic schedule at that time. In the evening, you briefed all the MLAs about all the developments that had taken place throughout the day. Your briefing sessions used to be in English. And our knowledge of English was quite limited. So, Shri Jay Narayanbhai Vyas used to interpret your English speech into Gujarati. We have a strong memory of those days. And hence today I feel like mentioning a couplet in Gujarati:

धन को ऊँडा नव धरे, रण में खेले दांव
भागी फौजू भेळवे, ताको रंग चढ़ाव

The one who does not hide the wealth, the one who plays smart tactics in the battlefield, the one who unites the separated armies, is the one who is worthy of praise.

At that time, you had given guidance to unite our separated armies. We offer our gratitude for that. Sir, those who have enjoyed your hospitality can never forget those memorable moments throughout their lives. The warmth and love extended to guests at your house is incredible. Dulabhaya Kaag, the eminent Gujarati Poet has written a beautiful poem on hospitality. He would not have thought that the hospitality which he is describing in his poem will come to life when someone visits the home of the Vice-President of India.

हे जी तारा आँगणिया पूछिने जो कोई आवे रे, आवकारो मीठो आपजे रे जी ।

Do extend a warm welcome to anyone who comes to meet you, putting in a lot of effort.

You are a living example of this beautiful poem by Kaag Bapu. Your hospitality is the mirror image of this poem. I wish you Ram-Ram, Jay Somnath. It is the month of Shravan and I offer my prayers to Lord Somnath that he may give you good health, a very long life and you may always keep guiding us through your wisdom. Ram-Ram."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rupalaji, you spoke very well. Thank you.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, there have been two distinguished Indians who have occupied the position of Vice-President and Chairman of the Rajya Sabha who hail from Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh. The first is a man whose photograph we see every day and whom we take it for granted today, but he is one of the great institution builders of modern India, is, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. And, the second to leave a distinctive mark on Indian political life is * "our elder and respected Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu Garu." Sir, five years ago, when you took over, you started your innings characteristically by saying, 'If you cooperate, I can operate.' Today, after five years of cooperation and operation, it has become a time of separation. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is a very emotional moment for all of us because you have conducted this House in a very unusual way. People have praised you for allowing all languages of India to be spoken in this House; that is a remarkable achievement. People have congratulated you for giving youngsters equal opportunity; that is a remarkable achievement. But, Sir, there are other remarkable achievements of yours, which have struck in my mind. You are the only Chairman who has adjourned the House while standing up; you are the only Chairman who has adjourned the House as soon as he has sat down; and, you are the only Chairman whose decisions have, sometimes, mystified not only the Opposition but also the ruling party. So, you have been very fair in spreading your largesse. For that, I commend you because, although you have come from a political party, been president of a political party, you have not allowed that background to influence any decisions you took. Some of your decisions baffled the Treasury Benches, that they came to me to ask me whether I have any inside knowledge of why you took certain

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Telugu.

decisions. So, I think that is a hallmark of a true Chairman that you have treated all of us equally, given all of us equal opportunity, and conducted the proceedings of this House, at very tense moments, in a spirit of wit and humour.

Sir, Mr. Derek O'Brien, my friend, was very unkind to you. He reminded you of some of your speeches you made while you were sitting here. Sir, I am tempted to add to this unkindness, because I remember the five hour ordeal that I had to undergo in an argument with you on 20th of February, 2014, when the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Bill was being discussed on the floor of this House, and the last word, Sir, belonged to you. After the Prime Minister had said that "we will give special category status to the State of Andhra Pradesh for five years; you got up and said, When our Government comes, we will give it for 10 years." I am sorry, Sir, that I have to remind you of this promise. But this is part of life. We are here; we are there; some of us migrate to where you are sitting. I think it is a remarkable tribute to your skills that you have occupied all positions of this House and other Houses. Sir, everybody has remarked about your sense of humour. I know many people with a sense of humour but their sense of humour is directed at somebody else. You are one of the very few I know who directs his sense of humour at himself. I remember, after three terms in the Rajya Sabha in Karnataka, I had a conversation with you. I said to you, "Sir, why aren't you coming back for the fourth term from Karnataka?" I went to Bangalore and I saw people shouting * "enough of Venkaiah," and, you said to me immediately, "No, no; they say, * "we want Venkaiah." And, very soon, you came back to this House from Rajasthan. So, your sense of humour is directed at yourself, not necessarily at somebody else. That is why, the other day, at your house, I remarked, "Many people aspire to be great in public life, but you have aspired to be good." And, you will be remembered long after the great men have been forgotten because you are a good man, because you have been a kind man, you have been a large-hearted man. Finally, Sir, you are moving to 1, Tyagraj Marg. I want to make a special request to you. You have been a champion of Indian languages. Who is this Tyagraj? In Tamil, he is Thyagaraja. In Telugu, he is Tyagaraja. Why is he made Tyagraj in Delhi? This is what 'Hindi imperialism' does. This is what 'Hindi zealotry' does. And, Sir, when you go to occupy your house, you will find, it is not 'Tyagaraj' as one word -- 'Tyag' and 'Raj'. Nobody in 'Raj' does any 'Tyag', Sir. It is 'Tyagaraja'. So, I hope, you will ensure that the name of the house that you will occupy for the next innings of your life will be 'Tyagaraja Marg' and not 'Tyagraj Marg'. ...(Interruptions)...

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Kannada.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I associate. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I am told that this has been there for long. Definitely, I will change it. Don't worry. 'Tyagaraja' is a great musician. The people in Tamil Nadu, in Telugu and in Karnataka love his music, and he is a great man. ...(Interruptions)... He is now becoming international also -- Tyagaraja. So, we will all be remembering 'Tyagaraja' also. I will also try my bit to highlight his contribution to the music world across the country.

About 'humour', I would like to tell you Members, before I leave this House at the end of the day or whenever the House is going to be adjourned -- 10th is my last day -- that 'humour' is very much required. If 'humour' and 'grammar' are combined together -- 'grammar' means 'subject'; not the English grammar -- then you will be 'glamorous'. That has to be understood by all of you. ...(Interruptions)... If there is 'humour', 'grammar' and 'glamour', then people will pay more attention to you and they will be able to take you seriously. If you speak in a very serious language which is not understood by people and which only Harvard and Oxford people can understand, then it will not reach the common man. That is why I try to sometimes add lighter one-liners. There is no other intention.

Hon. Members, before I go to Parliamentary Affairs Minister and also the Leader of the House, I would like to say that the Finance Minister and a couple of Ministers also want to speak. We should give them an opportunity also, but there are other names also. But if I take the names, then there is a request also from both sides. There is one Bill which is pending, which has to be disposed of today. Then we have a function also.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give an opportunity to you. So, please bear with me. Do not think otherwise. I know the love and affection you have. Now, we will hear our Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shri Pralhad Joshi. Will you speak in Kannada?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL; AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Yes, Sir. You know, Sir, you have a lot of connections even today in Karnataka. With your permission, I would like to

speak in Kannada. * You share a very special relation with the state of Karnataka, and even today you are well-connected with various people from the state.

Sir, the way you have performed your duties as Vice-President and as Chairman of Rajya Sabha, it offers immense inspiration to the present as well as the future generations. You have been a constant source of motivation and encouragement. Besides, you have been a mentor and a guide to all those serving the people of the country, be it in States or here in Parliament.

I remember those days when you were serving as the Party President and I used to be the Vice President of our Party. You would call me and talk with utmost affection and respect which you also extended invariably to each and every District President. One habit that we all need to learn from you and inculcate in ourselves is punctuality. Punctuality is a prominent trait of your personality. Any programme or meeting that you attend as Party President or as a Minister, your presence always meant to be well on time and required us to be there 10 minutes in advance. People attending those meetings would often say on a lighter note that the Headmaster is coming and, therefore, we have to be there a little early. This practice made people punctual and more responsible towards their work and duties. Even as a Headmaster, we can say that you were profusely strict with regard to the discipline, and equally soft and affectionate with your words.

Many of our colleagues and senior members have talked about your love for native languages. Sir, you have always exhibited immense love for your mother tongue and with the same love and respect, you speak and endeavour to promote other languages as well. Along with the language, you always wore the traditional South Indian dress in bright white colour with the same pride. Only during winters, your traditional dresses were a bit different.

Sir, you never neglected your language, your traditional dress code and your native place, Nellore. Even after being an occupant of this highly prestigious post, you called me a couple of days back to work on a pending project in Nellore. Besides, your NGO is also doing incredible work for the betterment of people.

Sir, your relation with Karnataka is very special. I have seen you as All India secretary, as All India President and as a minister and also after assuming the post of the Vice President of India, even to this very day, whenever you are in Bengaluru, you visit Janardhan Hotel. It reflects your simplicity when you visit this small hotel. You visit it just like a common man where people can walk up to you and talk without any restriction or any prior appointment. Oh yes! You get amazing Masala Dosa

* English translation of original speech delivered in Kannada.

there. Moreover, it was really a very bold and audacious decision on your part, when you declined the offer of the post of a Minister and instead preferred to accept the responsibility of the post of president of a national party.

Sir, you have tremendous knowledge about the unification of India and leaders like Sardar Patel, and you have written numerous articles about the same.

In those days, you spoke in a rapid and rhythmic manner and I used to translate your speeches into Kannada. While rendering simultaneous interpretation of your speeches, I would find it quite challenging to be able to keep up with your pace. Your speeches had a combination of both humour and seriousness touching upon crucial issues at the same time. You have been a source of inspiration to party workers and many more people beyond the party spectrum. I have always known you as a leader with a charismatic personality. I look forward to receiving your guidance in the future. After this, you will enter into a new phase, and we hope that you will continue to guide us in the right direction with the same enthusiasm and vigour as has been the case so far. I wish you all the very best. Namaskar !

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: There was a correction; it is all right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In the Bill? Okay.

श्री उपसभापति (श्री हरिवंश): सर, आपके कार्यकाल के समापन के अवसर पर आपसे जो कुछ सीखा, जो हमारा निजी अनुभव रहा, उस पर मैं बड़े भरे मन से कहने की अनुमति चाहूंगा। आपकी पहली तस्वीर जो मेरे ज़ेहन में, मेरी स्मृति में दर्ज है, उस समय मैं युवा विद्यार्थी था। जयप्रकाश जी के घर पर, एवरीमैन मैगज़ीन में एक विशाल रैली के साथ आपकी तस्वीर थी, जिसमें आप जयप्रकाश जी का हाथ पकड़े हुए थे और आंध्र प्रदेश की वह तस्वीर मेरे ज़ेहन में बैठी, तो स्पष्ट हुआ कि बदलाव के लिए संघर्ष करने वाले युवा के रूप में, छात्र नेता के रूप में आपने लीक से अलग हटकर, भीड़ से अलग हटकर जीवन का रास्ता चुना है। सर, हमने बचपन में यह सुना था कि लीक से हटकर चलने वाले ही नया रास्ता बनाते हैं। आपने इस धारणा और मान्यता की पुष्टि अपने जीवन से की। हम लोगों ने, माननीय दो सांसदों ने रॉबर्ट फ्रॉस्ट की मशहूर कविता 'Woods are lovely' का उल्लेख किया, पर जब मैं आपके जीवन से जोड़कर देखता हूँ, तो मुझे रॉबर्ट फ्रॉस्ट की एक और कविता याद आती है - 'The road less travelled'.

सर, आपने लीक छोड़कर कैसे रास्ता बनाया और हम सबको वह कैसे लगातार प्रेरित करेगा? आंध्र में जब आपने राजनीतिक जीवन में पांव रखा, तो उस विचारधारा को चुना, जिसको मानने वाले तब शायद वहां नहीं थे। आपका जो प्रिय खाने-पीने का शौक रहा है, उसका भी अनुपालन वहां नहीं होता था, यह भी हम सबने सुना। फिर भी आपने अपनी राजनीतिक यात्रा की

यह मानकर शुरुआत की कि हम अपने कन्विकशन से नया रास्ता बनाएंगे। सर, यही जीवन का मर्म है, 'The road less travelled', उससे चलकर ही आपने कन्विकशन की राजनीति से जीवन के प्रति समर्पण सीखा। अगर कन्विकशन राजनीति के प्रति हो, अपनी आइडोलॉजी और मान्यताओं के प्रति हो, तो कुछ भी नामुमकिन नहीं है। यह आपने सिद्ध किया है और यह आने वाली पीढ़ियों को हमेशा प्रेरित करेगा। सर, मैं अपने निजी अनुभव के बारे में कुछ चीजें कहना चाहूंगा। सर, मैं सांसद के रूप में आया, तो आपके साथ कंसल्टेटिव कमेटी में काम करने का पहला रूबरू मौका मिला। मेरा आपसे कोई परिचय नहीं था, हालांकि मैं आपको बहुत पढ़ता और जानता रहा हूं। बिना कहे मैंने पहली मीटिंग से समझ लिया कि आपके साथ काम करने के लिए अच्छी तरह से होम वर्क करके आना जरूरी है। बगैर पूरा होम वर्क किए, बेहतर काम, जिसकी अपेक्षा आप करते हो, वह संभव नहीं है। तेलुगू नए वर्ष के अवसर पर एक बैठक थी, आपने कैसे उस दिन प्रतीक के रूप में इस्तेमाल होने वाली घर की चीजों, गांव की चीजों को अपने घर से मंगवाया, सारे सदस्यों को उत्साह से, जो आपके जीवन का, व्यक्तित्व का हिस्सा है, खिलाया। उससे मुझे संदेश मिला कि देश की भारतीयता की मिट्टी स्वस्थ रीति-रिवाजों, परंपराओं, संस्कृति और भाषा के प्रति आपका कितना गहरा लगाव है। आधुनिकता की जो कथित आंधी और देश की जो एलीट क्लास है, उसके मुकाबले देश कैसे इन चीजों से ताकत ग्रहण कर सकता है, यह हमने आपके साथ रहकर जाना।

सर, जब मैं उपसभापति के रूप में आया, तब मुझे आपके साथ कुछ और नजदीकी रूप में काम करने का अवसर मिला। सर, मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि it would have been very difficult for me to carry out my responsibilities as a Deputy Chairman without your guidance, support, advice and encouragement. हर क्रिटिकल मूवमेंट में जिस तरह से आपका सपोर्ट मार्गदर्शन मिला, वह मुझे हमेशा स्मरण रहेगा, प्रेरित करेगा और राह दिखाएगा। It was a privilege for me to work with you. कुछ चीजें, जो बगैर आपके कहे, आपके व्यक्तित्व से सीखीं, उनका मैं उल्लेख करना चाहूंगा। आपके आचरण से, कार्यशैली से - समय की पाबंदी और जो गांधीयन लीगेसी थी, जो गांधी जी कहा करते थे कि 'Indiscipline is violence', उस तरह आपने किस तरह स्व-अनुशासन को जीवन में उतारा, देश के प्रति आपका लगाव, मिट्टी के प्रति लगाव, यह हमने जाना। आपने राज्य सभा में हमेशा कहा, हम सबको निर्देश दिया कि नये सदस्यों का लगातार उत्साहवर्द्धन हो। यदि समय हो, लोग देर तक बैठने के लिए तैयार हों, तो उन्हें बहस के लिए पर्याप्त समय मिले, मुद्दे उठाने और बोलने का मौका भी मिले।

महोदय, पैनल ऑफ वाइस चेयरमैन में नये सदस्यों को लाना, उन्हें सदन चलाने का मौका देना एवं आपके पार्लियामेंटरी विट और ह्यूमर के बारे में भी बताया गया। मैं मानता हूं कि यह आपमें गिफटेड है, यह आपका स्वाभाविक नेचर है। आपमें शब्दों से खेलने और शब्दों को साधने की अद्भुत कला और क्षमता है। एक पंक्ति में अपनी बात कहने की कला - यह साधना है। आपका तनाव के क्षणों में भी लाइटर वेन में महत्वपूर्ण बातें कहने का अंदाज है। सर, जब मैं एक सदस्य के रूप में नीचे बैठता था, तो मुझे याद है कि आपने एक चीज कही थी, जो मेरे दिमाग में चस्पा है और हम आने वाले समय में संसदीय जीवन की मर्यादा को मानने के लिए उसे हमेशा अपनाएंगे, वह वन लाइनर हमेशा काम करेगा। सर, आपने कहा था, "If you are not well on facts, you will be in the Well of the House." सर, एक कहावत सुनी थी, यह शायद रस्किन द्वारा कही गई

है, "Thoughts that breathe, and words that burn" - विचार जो साँस लेते हैं, यानी जीवंत विचार और शब्द, जो उद्देलित करते हैं। सर, मैं आपके वैचारिक लेखों को लगातार पढ़ता रहा। आप सदन के संबंध में, खास तौर से संसदीय परंपराओं के संबंध में जिस तरह से थॉट प्रोवोकिंग लिखते रहे हैं, मैंने उनमें से एक-एक शब्द को ग्रहण करने की लगातार कोशिश की है। सर, हमने निजी बातचीत पर हमेशा पाया कि rules, conventions, practices and precedents, जो इस हाउस में हाउस बनने के बाद रहे हैं, उनके विपरीत एक भी चीज़ न हो, और आपने वह होने नहीं दी - यह मैं कह सकता हूँ।

सर, संसदीय नियमों, कामों के प्रति आपकी मर्यादा, उन्हीं के अनुरूप चलना और श्रेष्ठ बहस हो, तो उस दिन आपकी प्रसन्नता और हाउस न चले, तो उस दिन आपकी जो आत्मपीड़ा थी, मैं उसका साक्षी रहा हूँ - मैं यह भी कह सकता हूँ।

सर, इसके साथ ही साथ कोविड-19 के चुनौतीपूर्ण और न भूलने वाले क्षणों में आपने हम सभी को किस तरह से सावधानी से काम करने और हमारे जो फर्ज़ हैं, उनको निभाने का लगातार हौसला दिया, प्रेरित किया तथा कोविड के नियमों को हम अपने जीवन में किस तरह से स्व-अनुशासन से उतारें, इसके लिए भी प्रेरित किया।

सर, मैंने आपमें हमेशा एक नयापन, यानी चीज़ों को नये ढंग से सोचने का तौर तरीका पाया। मैं इनोवेशन पर आपके लिए कह सकता हूँ कि आप man of ideas हैं। सर, मैं बहुत संक्षिप्त में बताना चाहूँगा कि मैंने आपकी कार्य-शैली यहाँ किस-किस रूप में देखी। पहली - Rules of Procedure, जिनका ओरिजिन फंडामेंटली कोलोनिअल समय का है, जिनमें आज के समय की जरूरत के अनुरूप सुधार की जरूरत है, आपने उन्हें मॉडर्नाइज़ करने के लिए रूल्स रिव्यू कमेटी का गठन किया। इसने अपनी रिपोर्ट में बड़े अच्छे सुझाव दिए हैं और माननीय एलओपी ने भी इसका उल्लेख किया है। सदन के साथ-साथ राज्य सभा की समितियों के कामकाज में कैसे सुधार हो - आपकी लगातार उस पर नज़र रखना, उसका उल्लेख करना, बैठकों में उपस्थिति कैसे बढ़े - इसकी निरंतर कोशिश और मोटिवेशन देना, मैं इन सभी चीज़ों का साक्षी हूँ।

सर, आपके यहाँ नये प्रयास रहे। सदन व सचिवालय पेपरलेस हों, इसके लिए टेक्नोलॉजी के उपयोग में उल्लेखनीय प्रगति, सदन में डिजिटाइजेशन के काम को गति, ई-ऑफिस सिस्टम में उल्लेखनीय प्रगति - क्योंकि बदलते समय में हम टेक्नोलॉजी से अलग होकर नहीं चल सकते, समय किसी की प्रतीक्षा नहीं करता, हम इसमें कैसे आधुनिकता और बदलाव के साथ गति रख सकें - आपने हमेशा इसके लिए प्रेरित किया।

सर, भारतीय भाषाओं के उपयोग के बारे में बहुत कहा गया है, लेकिन मैं इस संबंध में एक उल्लेख करना चाहूँगा। भारतीय भाषाओं के जो प्रचलित शब्द हैं, जो यहाँ हिंदी में वाद-विवाद में कठिन शब्द लगते हैं, वे कैसे इस्तेमाल किए जाएं, आपने उस पर एक कमेटी बनाई थी। उस समिति ने इस पर महत्वपूर्ण काम किया और उसमें अनेक भाषाओं के काफी शब्द लाए गए। राज्य सभा सचिवालय की कार्य प्रणाली में सुधार के लिए भी समिति का गठन हुआ।

सर, आपके जीवन का वह संदेश हम जैसे लोगों के लिए हमेशा प्रेरणा के रूप में रहेगा कि आप गाँव से सर्वोच्च पद तक पहुँचे, आपके परिवार में कोई राजनीति में नहीं रहा, आपने साइकिल से स्कूल, कॉलेज की यात्रा की, आप अटल जी के भाषणों से प्रभावित हुए, आपने एबीवीपी की लीडरशिप की, फिर भारतीय जनसंघ में युवा नेता रहे, यानी एक साधारण कार्यकर्ता

से भारतीय जनता पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष तक विभिन्न मंत्रालयों का दायित्व, आपका उन्नीस वर्षों का इस सदन का अनुभव, फिर राज्य सभा के चेयरमैन और देश के उपराष्ट्रपति तक पहुंचना लॉग, डिस्टिंगुइश्ड पब्लिक लाइफ का उल्लेखनीय पड़ाव और बेदाग करियर।

सर, मैं अंत में दो चीजें कहकर अपनी बात खत्म करना चाहूंगा। सर, आपकी ह्यूमन एप्रोच, आपकी सेंसिटिविटी और अनुशासन - आपके व्यक्तित्व के ऐसे अनेक पहलू हैं, जो हमें आजीवन संबल देंगे। काशी विद्यापीठ के दीक्षांत समारोह में देशरत्न डा. भगवान दास ने 1925 में त्रिउपनिषद् कहकर यादगार उल्लेख किया है, उसकी एक पंक्ति है, 'कभी संशय हो कि यह काम अच्छा है या नहीं तो जो स्वस्थजन आचरण करते हों, उनका आचरण करना।' ऐसी घड़ी में जब भी आत्मद्वंद हो, उसमें आपके बताये रास्ते हमें रास्ता दिखाएंगे।

अन्त में, राज्य सभा के 249वें सत्र के दौरान आपने कहा था, यह सीख हमें जब तक यहां हैं, अवश्य ज़ेहन में रहेगी। Sir, you said, "As the House of Elders, we need to lead by example. It is a privilege that people bestowed on us. The expectations are high. Our responsibilities are onerous. We can ill-afford to regret over lost opportunities that we had. If we fail, we fail our people, we fail our nation." ईश्वर से प्रार्थना है कि आप दीर्घायु हों, आपकी सेहत हमेशा अच्छी रहे, आपकी यह सक्रियता हमेशा बनी रहे, देश और हम सबका आप इसी तरह मार्गदर्शन और उत्साहवर्द्धन करते रहें, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Leader of the House, Shri Piyush Goyal.

सभा के नेता (श्री पीयूष गोयल) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, आज हमारे कई सांसद मित्रों ने अपनी-अपनी बातें रखीं। कई मित्र ऐसे हैं, जिनको बोलने का मौका नहीं मिला। मैं कोशिश करूंगा कि हम सब की भावनाएं आपकी तरफ जो हम सब के दिल में मिक्स्ट फीलिंग्स हैं, उनके बारे में थोड़ी सी अपनी बात रख सकूँ।

वास्तव में ऐसे दिन हम सब के लिए तकलीफ होती है कि एक तरफ अच्छी यादें हैं, आपके जीवन की अच्छी चीजें ध्यान में आती हैं, आपके पांच वर्ष के कार्यकाल की, आपके सफल और एक प्रकार से ऐतिहासिक कार्यकाल की और मैं कहूंगा कि क्यों मैं उसको ऐतिहासिक कहता हूँ। इसकी खुशी भी हम सब के दिल में है, साथ ही साथ आपकी अनुपस्थिति भी हम सब को तकलीफ देती है कि अब आने वाले अगले सत्र से आप यहाँ नहीं रहेंगे। जिस निष्पक्ष तरीके से आपने इस सदन की कार्यवाही चलाई, उस सब को हम मिस करेंगे, पर यह तो प्रकृति का नियम है, समय चलता रहता है। पिछले पांच वर्षों में जिस प्रकार से आपने सुचारु रूप से राज्य सभा चलाई है, सदन की गरिमा बढ़ाई है, उसके बारे में हम अच्छी यादों के साथ आज विदाई लेंगे। मैं समझता हूँ कि हम सब के व्यक्तिगत अनुभव भी हैं और सामूहिक अनुभव भी, वे गत पांच वर्षों के बहुत अच्छे रहे हैं।

आपके कार्यकाल में बहुत महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय लिए गये, जिनका प्रभाव भारत की राजनीति पर और हमारे इतिहास में सदैव रहेगा। आपकी अध्यक्षता में इस सदन में बहुत कूशियल लेजिस्लेटिव बिजनेस, विधेयक पारित किये। चाहे गरीब कल्याण हो, सामाजिक सुरक्षा हो, ईज ऑफ डूइंग बिजनेस या ईज ऑफ लिविंग हो, राष्ट्रीय एकता की बात हो, महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के सम्बन्ध में विधेयक हो, युवाओं के बारे में चर्चा हो, स्पोर्ट्स हो, इकोनॉमिकली वीकर सैक्शंस को

रिजर्वेशन देने का काम आपके कार्यकाल में किया गया। ट्रांसजेंडर्स का एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बिल आपके कार्यकाल में पास किया गया। किसानों के लिए, कामगारों के लिए, समाज में शोषित, वंचित लोगों के जीवन में एक नयी उमंग और उत्साह देने का काम इस सदन ने आपके कार्यकाल में किया और मैं मानता हूँ कि ये सब विधेयक, ये सब काम स्वर्णिम अक्षरों में लिखे जायेंगे, जब इस सदन का और भारत का इतिहास लिखा जायेगा।

आपका सान्निध्य मुझे बहुत छोटी आयु से मिला। आपके मार्गदर्शन में काम करने का मौका पहले पार्टी कार्यकर्ता के रूप में, फिर अलग-अलग दायित्वों को निभाते हुए, अलग-अलग चुनावों में काम करते हुए और फिर आपके साथ एक जूनियर मिनिस्टर के रूप में आपका मार्गदर्शन मिला। आपने बताया कि कैसे अलग-अलग कामों में हमें काम करना है, कैसे माननीय प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के विज़न को आगे लेकर जाना है, जिस प्रकार से इस देश का भविष्य हम बनाना चाहते हैं, किस प्रकार से इस देश का भविष्य देखना चाहते हैं, उसमें आपने मुझे बहुत कुछ सिखाया, बहुत कुछ समझाया। समय-समय पर मुझे आपके पास आने का मौका मिला। मुझे आपसे सीखने का मौका मिला। मुझे आज याद आता है कि 2010 में जब मैं पहली बार सांसद बना, तब मैं सेकंड लास्ट रो में ठीक सामने बैठता था। मुझे सांसद बने तीन-चार दिन ही हुए थे, जब प्रणब दा ने इरडा और सेबी के विवाद के बारे में एक बिल इंट्रोड्यूस किया था और हमारी पार्टी के व्हिप से मुझे बोलने का आदेश आया। तब मैं थोड़ा नर्वस था, मुझे पार्लियामेंट में चार दिन ही हुए थे। मेरे पास तैयारी का समय भी कम था। तब आपने मुझे बुला कर जिस प्रकार से मेरा हौसला बढ़ाया, जिस प्रकार से हिम्मत दी, जिस प्रकार से समझाया कि क्या विषय रखा जाए, कैसे रखा जाए, क्या तैयारियाँ की जाएँ, किन लोगों से सलाह-मशविरा किया जाए, उससे वास्तव में मेरे लिए मेरी मेडेन स्पीच देना बहुत सरल हो गया। आजकल तो मेडेन स्पीच में भी समय की पाबंदी रहती है। मुझे ध्यान है, उस समय समय की पाबंदी न होने के कारण मैं विषय से ऐसा प्रभावित हो गया कि शायद 45 मिनट तक मेरी मेडेन स्पीच चली। एक प्रकार से एक नए सांसद की जो हिचक रहती है, वह हिचक मेरे दिल से निकल गई और आगे के लिए मेरे लिए सांसद के रूप में काम करना सरल हो गया।

(उपसभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए)

आपके जीवन के बारे में कई माननीय सांसदों ने कई बातों को बताया, सबने अपने कई स्मरण शेयर किए। उपसभापति महोदय, आपने जय प्रकाश नारायण जी के समय से शुरू हुए इनके राजनीतिक प्रवास के बारे में विस्तार से बताया। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी माननीय वेंकैया नायडु जी के अपने कई सारे व्यक्तिगत अनुभवों के बारे में हम सबको अवगत कराया। लेकिन वेंकैया जी के जीवन के तीन पहलू, जिसने हम सबको कभी न कभी टच किया है, उनमें से एक है ट्रेवलिंग, दूसरा है टॉकिंग और तीसरा है ट्रेनिंग। उनको प्रवास करने में बहुत रुचि रहती है। मैं समझता हूँ, वे अलग-अलग दायित्व निभाते हुए देश के कोने-कोने में गए हैं। हम सबने उनको अपने-अपने क्षेत्र में देखा है। एक प्रकार से देश की जमीनी वास्तविकताओं के बारे में माननीय वेंकैया नायडु जी ने बहुत गहराई से चिंतन किया है, चयन किया है और समझा है, जिसके कारण उनका इतना लंबा राजनीतिक जीवन सफल रहा।

इसी प्रकार से ओरेटरी के बारे में आज कई माननीय सदस्यों ने बात की। उनके वन लाइनर्स, उनका विट, उनका ह्यूमर, ये सभी को आकर्षित करते हैं। जिस प्रकार से वे हम सबको प्रेरित करते हैं कि आप मातृभाषा में बात करिए, उसकी बहुत सारी चर्चा हुई, बल्कि वे स्वयं भी एप्रिशिएट करते हैं, जब कोई सदस्य मातृभाषा में बात करते हैं। मुझे याद है कि जब हमारे नए माननीय सांसद, संत बलबीर सिंह जी ने अपनी स्पीच दी, तो वेंकैया जी ने तुरंत कहा - "तुसी चंगा बोलेया"। इसी प्रकार से आज भी परशोत्तम जी और प्रहलाद जी को मूड आ गया कि हम भी मातृभाषा में अपनी फेयरवेल स्पीच दें। एक प्रकार से वेंकैया जी बहुत ह्यूमरस तरीके से बातचीत तो करते ही हैं, वे दूसरों को भी प्रभावित करते हैं कि वे हिम्मत से बात करें, अपनी बात अच्छी तरह से रखें, पर बड़े शालीन तरीके से रखें। उनका आग्रह रहता है कि शालीनता खराब नहीं होनी चाहिए। वाद-विवाद शब्दों का हो सकता है, मतभेद हो सकता है, लेकिन मनभेद न किया जाए। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह उनकी एक विशेषता रही कि उन्होंने कोशिश की कि साथ में मिल कर सदन सुचारु रूप से चलता रहे, अच्छे तरीके से चले।

तीसरा, मैंने ट्रेनिंग की बात की। व्यक्ति निर्माण, यह शायद इनके स्वभाव में ही है। कोई भी विषय हो, कभी किसी की स्पीच भी चल रही हो, तो माननीय वेंकैया जी बीच में कुछ न कुछ सुझाव देंगे कि क्या और कैसे बोलना चाहिए, क्या शब्द इस्तेमाल करना ठीक है या नहीं है।

(सभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए)

एक कन्टिन्युअस टीचर का जो इनका स्वभाव है, लोगों को ट्रेन करने का जो स्वभाव है, मैं समझता हूँ कि हम सभी को इसका अलग-अलग समय पर लाभ मिला और यह लाभ जिन्दगी भर हम सब माननीय सांसदों के साथ रहेगा। माननीय सभापति महोदय, आपके नेतृत्व में सदन की उत्पादकता के बारे में अभी माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी उल्लेख किया। 2010 के बाद से इस सदन की सबसे अधिक उत्पादकता 2020 में, 82.27 प्रतिशत रही है, जो 2010 के बाद, आपके नेतृत्व में इस सदन की हाइएस्ट प्रोडक्टिविटी रही।

सर, अभी कई माननीय सदस्यों ने आपकी पंचकुएल्टी के बारे में बात की। एक तरीके से यह बहुत अच्छी बात है कि आप बहुत पंचकुअल हैं, हर चीज़ को समय पर करते हैं, पर राजनीतिक जीवन में कई बार हमें इससे तकलीफ भी होती है। हमारी बीएसी की मीटिंग में, लीडर ऑफ दि अपोज़िशन और मैं, जब हम दोनों पहुंचते हैं, तो हमसे पहले ही आप पहुंच जाते हैं और कई बार तो समय से पहले ही मीटिंग शुरू करने का आपका उत्साह भी रहता है। आपसे हमें यह सीखने को मिला कि पंचकुएल्टी कितनी महत्वपूर्ण है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह भी आपका ट्रेनिंग देने का एक तरीका है कि पहले आप स्वयं उसे प्रैक्टिस करते हैं, जो हम सबको करने के लिए बताते हैं। आपकी कोशिश रहती है कि हम सभी अच्छी तरह से काम करें। आपने समय-समय पर सांसदों और विधायकों के लिए ट्रेनिंग सेशन भी किए, वर्कशॉप्स भी चलाए, जिनका हम सभी को लाभ मिला है।

सर, मेरा मानना है कि आपकी यह जो जीवन यात्रा है, देश के प्रति आपकी जो निष्ठा है, इसने हम सबको एक अच्छी मिसाल दी है और हम सबके लिए यह एक बहुत अच्छा उदाहरण रहेगा। नये मेम्बर्स भी आपकी संसदीय यात्रा को जब पढ़ेंगे, सुनेंगे और देखेंगे, तो उनको भी अपना

कार्यकाल चलाने में बहुत अच्छी सीख मिलेगी और एक अच्छे उदाहरण के रूप में वे आपके काम से सीखेंगे।

सर, इस उच्च सदन ने अपकी निपुणता से, आपकी राजनीतिक कुशाग्रता से, आपकी मैनेजमेंट स्किल से और जिस प्रकार से आपने सदन को चलाया, आपसे बहुत कुछ सीखा है। हम सब आपके प्रति, आपके नेतृत्व के प्रति कृतज्ञ हैं। हम सभी आपकी लम्बी आयु और अच्छे स्वास्थ्य के लिए भगवान से प्रार्थना करते हैं और उम्मीद करते हैं कि आप आगे भी हम सबको मार्गदर्शन देते रहेंगे और हम सबको अपना प्यार देते रहेंगे, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री सभापति : धन्यवाद, पीयूष जी।

मित्रो, जैसा मैंने शुरू में ही कहा, हालांकि समय का अभाव था, लेकिन सब पार्टीज कवर हो गई हैं। उनके अलावा और भी कुछ माननीय सदस्य बोलना चाहते थे, लेकिन हमारे पास अभी उतना समय नहीं है। अभी हमें एक बिल भी लेना है और शाम को कार्यक्रम भी है, इसलिए मैं आपमें से कुछ लोगों को बोलने का मौका नहीं दे पाया हूँ, इसको आप अन्यथा मत लीजिएगा।

अभी आते समय नागालैंड की एक सदस्य बहन, श्रीमती फान्गनॉन कोन्याक ने मुझे यह अंगवस्त्र दिया है। यह मुझे अच्छा लगा, इसलिए मैंने यह पहना है, इसमें और कोई अर्थ निकालने का प्रयास मत करिएगा।

Mitron, I don't want to make a long speech. I will be speaking anyhow in the evening meeting also. But these will be my last remarks. I don't know whether we are going to continue the Session or not. It will be decided today. I think today is the last day of the Session. Keeping that in mind, I will just make a few observations.

We are the largest parliamentary democracy in the world. We are very fortunate that our forefathers, the Constitution-makers and the great freedom fighters have given their life and their best to the country and gave us the great Constitution and this parliamentary democratic system. Nobody has forced it on us. We have taken it on ourselves. In a parliamentary democracy, we have the Parliament means the Upper House and the Lower House; then we have Legislative Assemblies and the Legislative Councils, wherever they are; and then we have the local bodies, the panchayati raj institutions. These three tiers are very important. In this, we being the Upper House, the House of Elders, we have a greater responsibility. The entire world is watching India. India is on the rise. India is on the move. Keeping that in mind, I only appeal to the Members of the Rajya Sabha and to those who are going to come to this House in future, to maintain decency, dignity and decorum so that the image and respect of the House is maintained and people will be receptive to show us, to hear us and also to follow our advice. This is my advice to all of you. As I told you, students, rural people, ordinary people, etc. will be watching the parliamentary proceedings. That is why, sometimes, I have to intervene, I have to be strict and also I have to take not a happy decision of naming some Members. Otherwise, it gives me

no enjoyment to take such extreme action. I have no ill-will against anybody or any party. On the day, when I was selected to be the Vice-President of India and when the Prime Minister and the then President of the Party, to which I belong, told me in the Parliamentary Board meeting that I was being selected, I was in tears. I did not ask for this. But you know, as a disciplined soldier of the party and as the party had given the mandate, I obliged, and I resigned from the party. There were tears not because of my shirking the responsibility but because I had to leave the party which had given me all this. That was the occasion. Otherwise, there was no problem at all. I did my best to maintain the dignity of the House and I tried to accommodate all sides -- South, North, East, West and North-East. I tried to give opportunity to all sides of the House. I might not have given them enough time that they wanted but each one of you have been given time, whether it is Zero Hour or Special Mentions or Question Hour or discussion and debates on the Bills. People want the House to Discuss, Debate and Decide -- 3Ds. They do not want the other D, that is, Disrupt. Members always say, 'Please do not pass the Bill in the din'. I do agree. वह शोभा नहीं देता। For that, simple solution is that do not create din and do not pass the Bill in the din. This is my advice to all and also for the future because whoever is going to occupy the Chair will have to follow the precedents and go by the decisions taken earlier.

Of course, I will speak separately regarding normal feeling about politicians and all. I don't want to utilize this forum. The respect is declining everywhere because value systems are declining. Keep that in mind and try to do your bit while committing yourself to your ideological line. But see to it that the democratic principles and the standards set by our great people are followed. I am not of that type as people often talk, है तो precedent, नहीं तो dissident and otherwise, resident. ये तीनों मैं करने वाला नहीं हूँ। I never asked for precedent, never became a dissident or never confined to residence. I will be moving around -- going around, meeting, greeting and talking to you all on larger issues. I will not get into politics, as I told you. We are all working in our own ways. We are not enemies; we are rivals. We must work hard to outshine each other like competitors but not to run down each other. This is my last advice to all of you. My wish is, Parliament functions well. There are many Members who are very good speakers when given opportunities. I see even the new Members coming prepared and making great contribution. Brilliant speeches are made. Sometimes, brilliance is lost because of disturbances. Unfortunately, in our country, the weakness is that the media also does not report if you speak constructively. If you speak obstructively and do something unusual, it gets coverage. It is the weakness of the media, and media should get out of it at the earliest without trying to give some reasons here and there.

Friends, language is quite dearer to me. I am happy that the President, the Prime Minister, the Chief Justice are speaking in not the same language but in the same vein on respecting our respective mother tongues. First mother tongue, afterwards brother tongue or any other tongue, no problem. But, primacy should be given to mother tongue. Please encourage mother tongue in your respective areas. I would like to see in my lifetime that the Parliament, the Assemblies and also the school, college, university, vocational courses and also the administration, everything should be carried in their respective State official languages and there can be translation. There should be translation. I told the Secretariat and I am telling you all today, before I leave, there has to be a permanent mechanism. I will come to sign that file on 10th Morning. I told them whether the House is there or not that for all speeches, translation should be made available, not at request even otherwise also. That is the process that has to start. The proceedings of this and the administration also, and also, I want to see the arguments in courts, district courts, High Courts and Supreme Court, also in respective Indian languages and the judgements are also delivered. It is because, I do not want to use the word, 'litigant', people who come to the courts, they do not know English. They will not be able to understand the judgements. So, it should be. But it will take time, I am aware of it. An honest beginning has to be made, and we all should move in the direction and having communication in our respective mother tongues, that is, encourage Indian languages.

Friends, I would like to conclude with a hope that we move forward. I am thankful to the hon. Prime Minister who has given me love and affection. I am thankful to all the Ministerial colleagues who have all responded to my queries any time for consultation on larger developmental issues. Also, I would like to thank the Leader of the Opposition and other leaders on this side who have cooperated with me and also the Members from different political parties who have given a helping hand and who have all today participated in the discussion and said so many good things about me. Thank you very much. I am really moved by your love and affection.
धन्यवाद, नमस्कार।

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will take up the Legislative Business, the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw.

GOVERNMENT BILL**The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022**

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS; THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW): Sir, with your kind permission, I rise to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The motion for consideration of the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022, आप इस पर अभी कुछ बोलना चाहते हैं या बाद में रिस्पॉंस देंगे?

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Sir, very short.

श्री सभापति : अगर अभी कुछ बोलना है, तो संक्षेप में बोलिए, बाद में पूरा बोलिएगा।

श्री अश्वनी वैष्णव : सर, ट्रांसपोर्ट सेक्टर देश की इकोनॉमी में एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण सेक्टर है। जिस तरह से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने कम्प्लीट..

श्री सभापति : एक मिनट। जैसा मैंने कहा कि यह आखिरी दिन है। बाद में, पूरा देश बात करता रहेगा। इसलिए, हाउस के पूरा एडजॉर्न होने तक कृपया हाउस में बैठ जाइए और जो भी सेंट्रल हॉल में हैं, वे लोग भी कृपया यहाँ आ जाइए और हाउस की शोभा बढ़ाइए। वैष्णव जी, अब आप बोलिए।

श्री अश्वनी वैष्णव : सर, जिस तरह से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने देश में इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर सेक्टर को डेवलप करने के लिए एक नया विज़न दिया है और गतिशक्ति का एक नया फ्रेम वर्क, एक नया मिशन दिया है, उसमें बहुत सारे सेक्टर्स जैसे रेलवे, हाईवे, मेट्रो, एयरपोर्ट, वाटरवेज़, इन सबके विकास की एक नयी -

(उपसभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए)

एक तरीके के नये इंडिया का निर्माण हो रहा है और इन सबके विकास से एक सामान्य मानव के जीवन में भी क्वालिटेटिव चेंज आता है। माननीय उपसभापति जी..

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA(Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is to be moved by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: I have taken permission. I have taken permission. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has got permission of the hon. Chairman. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: I have taken permission. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, it is listed.

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: I have taken permission. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Chairman has already permitted him. This is for your information. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No; Sir, in the List of Business, it has to be moved by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Sir, the hon'ble Chair has already permitted the Railway Minister, and on behalf of him, I am moving it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: That you have to tell. That you have to tell. If you speak without that, we cannot understand.

श्री अश्वनी वैष्णव : सर, इन सब सेक्टर्स की कॉम्प्लेक्सिटी और इनमें तेजी से आते हुए परिवर्तन के कारण देश में एक टैलेंटेड, वेल ट्रेन्ड और फोकस्ड कैडर की जरूरत है। ऐसे ट्रांसपोर्ट फोकस्ड कैडर को तैयार करने के लिए इस बिल के द्वारा एक सेन्ट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी की स्थापना की जा रही है। गतिशक्ति विश्वविद्यालय प्रधान मंत्री जी के गतिशक्ति विज्ञान को साकार रूप देने का एक बहुत बड़ा प्रयास है।...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, प्लीज़। कृपया सदन में शांति रखें।

श्री अश्वनी वैष्णव : सर, गतिशक्ति विश्वविद्यालय रेल मंत्रालय द्वारा संचालित होगा और नेशनल एजुकेशन पॉलिसी और शिक्षा मंत्रालय की एजुकेशन से रिलेटेड जो पॉलिसीज़ हैं, उनके द्वारा कोऑर्डिनेटेड रहेगा।

महोदय, मैं गतिशक्ति विश्वविद्यालय के बारे में दो-चार बातें बता देता हूँ, उसके बाद we can start the discussion. 2018 में नेशनल रेल एंड ट्रांसपोर्टेशन इंस्टिट्यूट यानी एनआरटीआई की स्थापना की गई थी। इसमें ट्रांसपोर्ट मैनेजमेंट, रेलवे टेक्नोलॉजी, रेल सिस्टम्स - इन सबसे रिलेटेड बहुत सारे कोर्सेज़ स्टार्ट हुए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति : कृपया पीछे बैठ कर बात न करें। हाउस चल रहा है। प्लीज़, प्लीज़।

श्री अश्वनी वैष्णव : सर, बीबीए, बीटेक, एमबीए - इन सब कोर्सेज़ को आरंभ किया गया है। इसमें अब तक कुल 725 स्टूडेंट्स एडमिशन ले चुके हैं। पहला बैच ग्रेजुएट भी हुआ, उसका बहुत अच्छा रिजल्ट है और सबको बहुत अच्छे प्लेसमेंट्स भी मिले हैं। अब इस बिल के द्वारा एनआरटीआई को एक सेन्ट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी में कन्वर्ट किया जाएगा, अपग्रेड किया जाएगा। महोदय, इसके पाँच फोकस एरियाज़ रहेंगे। पहला, ट्रांसपोर्ट फोकस्ड कोर्सेज़, दूसरा, अप्लाइड रिसर्च, जैसे ब्रिजेज़, टनल्स, मैटीरियल साइंस, आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस फॉर ऑपरेशनल एफिशिएंसी, न्यू एनर्जी, जैसे हाइड्रोजन का कैसे इस्तेमाल हो - इन सब कोर्सेज़ पर फोकस किया जाएगा। तीसरा, स्किल डेवलपमेंट है। बीटेक, पीएचडी के साथ ही साथ स्किल डेवलपमेंट पर भी बहुत ध्यान दिया जाएगा, जिससे कि शॉप फ्लोर पर जो स्किल्स रिक्वायर्ड हैं, उन सबको इसमें ट्रेनिंग दी जाए। चौथा, टेक्नोलॉजी डेवलपमेंट है। जिस तरह से देश ने आईआईटीज़ के साथ मिल कर 5जी बनाया और जिस तरह से वंदे भारत और क्वच जैसी नई टेक्नोलॉजीज़ का निर्माण हुआ, उसी तरीके से और भी कई सारी टेक्नोलॉजीज़ का डेवलपमेंट भी गतिशक्ति विश्वविद्यालय में होगा।

महोदय, इसका पाँचवाँ उद्देश्य ट्रांसपोर्ट इकोनॉमिक्स और इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर फाइनेंस है। आज देश में रेलवे में कम से कम तीन लाख करोड़ रुपए की एनुअल इन्वेस्टमेंट की जरूरत है। इसी तरह से हाइवे में दो लाख करोड़ रुपए के आसपास का इन्वेस्टमेंट हो रहा है। इन सबकी फाइनेंशियल मॉडलिंग, नए तरीके के कंस्ट्रक्शंस - इन सबकी जरूरत के लिए इसमें एजुकेशन के कोर्सेज़ रहेंगे।

महोदय, इस यूनिवर्सिटी का मेन कैम्पस बड़ौदा में रहेगा, जहाँ पर रेलवे का इंस्टिट्यूट है और इसके ऑफ कैम्पसेज़ देश में अलग-अलग जगहों पर विकसित किए जाएँगे। रेलवे के बजट में ऑलरेडी 166 करोड़ रुपए का प्रावधान है। मेरा सदन से निवेदन है कि इस बिल पर अपने मूल्यवान सजेशनस दें और आज इसको पारित करें। धन्यवाद।

The question was proposed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Motion moved. Now, Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIHAH (Karnataka): Sir, the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022, seeks to establish Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya at Vadodara in Gujarat State amending the Central Universities Act of 2009, and the National Rail and Transportation Institute will be converted into Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya. Sir, the scope of this new university, new vishwavidyalaya will extend beyond railways and include transport sector as a whole. So, this is the second Central University in the Gujarat State. And I have seen, earlier also, a lot of individual institutes have been converted either into Centre of Excellence or Central Universities for Gujarat only and not for other States, which is one of my observations. This Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya master plan is essentially a digital platform bringing together 16 Ministries, including Roadways, Railways, Waterways and even UDAN also, which is connecting all the transport systems. And, it is planning and coordinated infrastructure connectivity projects for movement of people, goods and services. Sir, this University is additionally expected to provide necessary technology and research to the transport industry. This is the intention of this University. Once it becomes the Central University, it will enjoy greater autonomy. That is what the Minister says. Is it a fact that when we observe the other Central Universities, will this University get the full autonomy or not? This is my question. Currently, this University provides B.Sc. in Transport Technology, BBA in Transport Management and M.Sc. in Railway System Engineering and Integration. This is what this Institute is now serving.

Sir, the objective of Gati Shakti University is to support vision and goals, as per the Government, Atmanirbhar Bharat and provide best possible education to the people of Gujarat. I just want to ask one more question. What about the other parts of India, where from the only one institute which is into the research and which is into giving degree of B.Sc., M.Sc. and BBM, people from other parts like South India, North-East India and Central part of India are not going to get the benefit of this. Is it going to be extended to all parts of the country and all the students can have the admission here? What is the mode of admission for them? How are the admissions going to take place? Whether the examinations are to be conducted across the country, like, CUET, NEET, this is not clarified in the Bill.

Sir, let us look at the Central Universities now. About this Bill, the National Education Policy, 2020 stressed the need for multi-disciplinary approach to education within institutions. This is a very important issue to be discussed. The academicians across the country have raised the concerns that if a transport-oriented institute is converted into a Central University, this does not match the multi-disciplinary spirit of the National Education Policy. That is what the academicians say. And, the academicians also observed that converting a University into a Central University is

just a matter of changing the name of the University not the purpose of making the transport system across the country as a research institute. Sir, the status does not help the growth and development of the education sector. This is what the observation of the academicians is. I wanted to have the answer from the Minister. It is necessary for this change in nomenclature to accompany with increased public funding and autonomy. But, in this Bill, the public funding is missing; the autonomy is only in the saying but not actually being done in the support of the Bill. Sir, let us see the other Central Universities in the country; how they are working; whether they are enjoying the full autonomy or not, whether or not they are enjoying the autonomy across the country. There are about 64 Central Universities. Under this Government, Sir, the Central Universities have typically been criticised regarding lack of permanent staff, poor infrastructure and poor academic governance. That is what I wanted to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister. This is due to ideological clash between the administration, staff, student and other agencies. Sir, we have seen in Jawaharlal Nehru University, we have seen in Jamia Millia University and Jadavpur University, which are called the Central Universities, but the administration of these Universities is not up to the mark and there is a lot of criticism of University administration on ideological basis and in administrative matters also. A huge backlog of vacancies is there in the Central Universities. The unfilled faculty vacancies in Central Universities are a worrying factor. Sir, the Government should know that against 19,366 posts sanctioned in the Central Universities, 6,558 posts are not filled up. Sir, this is about 33.86 per cent of vacancies in faculties which are not filled up by the Government of India. Sir, as on 18th July, 2022, that is, very recently, the answer is given in the Lok Sabha, that the *ad hoc* vacancies are 122, guest faculty is 1,931, contract basis teachers are about 1,820, re-employed, who have retired, are about 31. Sir, the total strength of these kinds of vacancies is 3,904. Let us also observe as to what is the reservation maintained in these Central Universities. Sir, I wanted to bring to your kind notice the number of vacant posts in the reserved category; the vacancies are 65.61 per cent which are not filled, especially from the reserved category and marginalized communities. Sir, about the number of vacant posts, General category- it is 2,252; SC category- it is 988; ST category- it is 576; Other Backward Classes -it is 1,761; EWS- it is 628 and it is 344 in PwD. The total vacancies are 6,549, which comes to 65.61 per cent. Sir, these vacant positions in the Central Universities are of a very serious concern, which this Government has to take very seriously. Just converting an Institute into a Central University and not filling up any vacancies and not giving proper infrastructure, will not be going to solve the problems of the Central Universities, and also it will be a burden in the name of Central Universities. Sir, the

experts have called for reforms to the Governing Councils of all Central Universities. This is a serious observation across the country. Not only this, what these reforms include is to cap on number of members in the Governing Council. Requirement of social representation and involvement of the alumni is another issue which they have raised. Sir, why this is required is another important question. Sir, the same kind of ideological thinking people are in the Governing Council. So, the Governing Councils are not running properly. The Governing Councils should be above the political and ideological thinking of the people. They should be experts in the field of education, which is not being followed. Sir, including eminent alumni in the General Councils is the global best practice across the world. It ensures endowments, it ensures accountability, and it ensures the innovation also. The Harvard University, which is practicing this involvement of the alumni, has given the best results in that University. It has become a practice across the world that this kind of alumni involvement into the University Governing Councils is going to help the standard of education going to a higher level and not going to reduce it. Carelessly planned Central Universities Entrance Test, CUET, is another concern. The irresponsible and student-unfriendly actions of the Union Government can be seen in CUET admissions. Sir, CUET was introduced in 2022, you know about it. As a major reform to the admission process in the history of the education sector, this has been brought. Subsequently, what happened? The UGC introduced CUET as a single gateway to admissions in the Central Universities, only three months prior to admissions and examination. This was during the time of students writing board examinations. While they were writing board examinations, this CUET was announced. Students were in a serious confusion whether to write this examination or prepare for CUET. After some time, the UGC announced that the board examination marks will not be considered for their admissions. There were only fifteen days left for them to attend CUET. We must also think whether the students who have finished their board examination can write CUET in fifteen days. After the examination, they announced that and there were only fifteen days. On account of that, a lot of students could not efficiently write their examination. Those who scored very well in the examination could not get good marks in CUET; as a result, they could not get a proper admission.

In some centres, the examinations were cancelled. What does it say? There is a lack of academic diversity in the syllabus and questions asked. That is another important question which the students were raising. They could not write the examination properly. On account of that, they could score only 15 marks. Subsequently, they cancelled the examination and the students were asked to write again. Again, there was confusion among the students.

When a question was put in Lok Sabha about this, the Ministry did not answer. In fact, they evaded and told Lok Sabha that they will take care and conduct the examinations further. This is not supposed to be done by an organisation like UGC and the Ministry of Education.

Sir, the Parliamentary Standing Committee observed something. I am referring to ST students' overseas scholarship. In this, the Standing Committee observed that the national overseas scholarship scheme provides financial assistance to 20 students every year for pursuing higher studies abroad, that is, for Ph.D. and post-doctoral studies. During 2014-15, there were 20 students; in 2015-16, there were only 15 students; in 2016-17, there were only 16 students. What is the reason for this decline? Across the country, there is ST population which is more than 7 per cent. Now, they have become very competitive and there are very brilliant students who can attend any examination. But, for the whole country, you can't send 20 students! The Parliamentary Standing Committee says that it should be enhanced to 30 at least. But, I request the Government to enhance it to at least 50.

But this decrease in trend is because there was no proper advertisement and every student from the rural areas was not able to apply online. That is another problem with the rural India. There is one more problem. Their income ceiling is Rs. 6 lakhs per annum. For Scheduled Tribe students, even an ordinary Group D employee's income crosses Rs. 6 lakhs per year and it is allowed in other cases for Rs. 8 lakhs, but for a Scheduled Tribe candidate, you have fixed it as Rs. 6 lakhs per year. So, I request the Government to look into this and liberalise this economic ceiling at least from Rs. 6 lakhs to Rs. 8 lakhs so that students across the country can be able to apply. This is what my request is. Just making a Central University, converting a name will not solve the problem. Provide all the infrastructure, give them proper teachers, then only the Central University will have proper guidance. Thank you very much, Sir.

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to speak on this Bill, the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022. Since we are discussing the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill today, I would humbly request the Chancellor of the Vishwa Bharati University, another Central University, who is also our hon. Prime Minister, to share his wisdom by being here. We will all benefit from his insights. *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the subject.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MS. DOLA SEN: This Bill seeks to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009 by converting the NRTI into a Central University. I am in favour of it, Sir. I am glad that the House is running today all through, *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You please speak on the subject.

MS. DOLA SEN: Coming to the point, first of all, education being in the Concurrent List, I would like to know whether the concerned State Governments have been consulted to give their points of note of dissent or consent towards this. If no, it is again unfortunate. It is good that another university is getting the status of a Central University. We are proud, but I have one clarification. Why should the Railway Department bear the cost? Why not the Education Ministry or UGC pay the same? However, there is a need to address some of the existing issues faced by various Central Universities. Most Central Universities across the country lack adequate infrastructure and face big fund shortages. Even the existing infrastructure in these universities is breaking down. The facilities provided to the residential students are also depleting day by day. The 2021-22 Budget allocation for education has decreased by six per cent as compared to 2020-21. This year, there was only a five per cent increase over the allocation of 2020-21. This is extremely low for post-pandemic recovery. The Budget for the *Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan* (RUSA) was also cut from Rs. 3000 crores to Rs. 2000 crores. It is again unfortunate. A Centrally sponsored scheme, RUSA supports State higher educational institutions, especially those that give priority to education in backward and aspirational districts. While I am speaking on this Bill, allow me to point out that earlier, six out of ten Bills were sent for parliamentary scrutiny. This was done to improve the quality of legislation. Now, Sir, only about one out of ten Bills is sent for scrutiny. This is a dangerous trend.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You please speak on the subject.

MS. DOLA SEN: Sir, I am speaking on the subject. For today's Bill, I thank you, Sir, for allowing adequate time and having a healthy discussion. *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Kindly speak on the subject.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MS. DOLA SEN: Now, I would like to highlight how our universities are suffering because of such fund shortages. The Andhra Pradesh Central University set up in 2014, after bifurcation of the State, is in shambles. Between 2014-15 and 2021-22, budget for some of the gems in India's educational system has been cut. The overall funding for Jamia Milia University witnessed a sharp fall. The overall allocation for Aligarh Muslim University has been reduced sharply by Rs. 306 crores between 2020-21 and 2021-22. It fell from Rs. 1,520 crores in 2020-21 to Rs. 1,215 crores in 2021-22. So far, we have come to know that *

The diversity of India's educational system is with institutions like these and many hundreds of premium educational institutions run by minority communities, including Christian Missionaries, but imparting education to all communities, must be protected.

Sir, why is infrastructure so neglected? I urge upon the Government to pay attention and provide adequate funds for betterment.

Sir, now, I say a few words about my State, West Bengal, where the Government has introduced multiple schemes to support higher education.

*The West Bengal Government has launched schemes like Swami Vivekananda Merit-cum-Means Scholarship for UG, PG and even for Ph.D. courses across all subjects. Our Flagship Scheme, Kanyashree Prakalpa, has currently around 70 lakh beneficiaries. The scheme has been awarded by the United Nations Public Service Awards and has also been recognized by the UNICEF.

I would, now, like to draw the Government's attention to the issue of vacancies in the Central Universities under the SC, ST and OBC categories. Sir, the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006, mandates 15 per cent, 7.5 per cent and 27 per cent quota for SC, ST and OBC students respectively. However, the intake of students under the reserved categories in the Central Universities is much lower than the mandated norms. I urge upon the Government to look into this also.

Sir, I would, again, like to emphasize on a very important point. We have waited for 12 days in this Session for discussion on Price Rise, but the Government told us that the House cannot discuss the Price Rise issue, because...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the Central Universities Bill.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Please listen to her, Sir.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MS. DOLA SEN: Sir, it is related. It is because the hon. Finance Minister was not available and she will only reply to the debate. But, however, today, we are seeing that the same Government did not think for a moment to allow the hon. Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics and Information Technology to pilot a Bill on education.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Chairman has already permitted this. Ms. Dola Sen, for your information, hon. Chairman has permitted this.

MS. DOLA SEN: According to the data from the Ministry of Education, there are 880 vacancies for the post of Professor across the five backward categories of SC, ST, OBC, EWS and PWD in 43 Central Universities. Similarly, the number of vacancies for Associate Professors and Assistant Professors are 1,624 and 1,793 respectively. But, they have also been reduced.

My last point is: There is an urgent need to fill these vacancies to ensure adequate representation across all sections of people. At the same time, the Government needs to ensure that sufficient infrastructure facilities and adequate funds are made available to all the Central Universities.

I support this Bill to make Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya a Central University hoping that the hon. Minister would address all other issues raised. Thank you.

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am in support of this Bill, because already this National Rail and Transportation Institute is a deemed to be university and is now being given the status of Central University.

However, Sir, I am totally disappointed looking at the intentions of the present NDA Government. The new name proposed for this university is “Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya” which can be understood only by a few people or States. The new name proposed for this University is “Gati Shakti Viswavidyalaya”, which can be understood by a few people or States. Earlier, it was “National Rail & Transportation Institute”, which can be understood by all the people and States and also internationally. Now, in this Bill also, only the word ‘Institute’ is required to be changed to the word ‘University’.

Each State and the Union Territory have one or more official languages and the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution recognizes, in particular, 22 languages. However, English is used extensively in business and administration and has the status of an “associate official language”, the reason being to unite the Indians on common language.

When all the States are comfortable with English as common communication language, why should the educational institution be named in Hindi only, which is now being changed through this Bill?

The NDA Government is often overlooking the emotions or sentiments of the non-Hindi speaking States. Almost all the names of the schemes or campaigns that this NDA Government has proposed during their tenure are in Hindi; now, they have started this in Bills also. By doing this, they are hurting the sentiments of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, West Bengal, Assam and some other States. These non-Hindi speaking States are also part of India and the people of these States are also paying taxes such as 'education cess' to the Union of India. For example, during the UPA Government, in the year 2008, they established one Central University called "the Indian Maritime University", combining six different institutes from Chennai, Mumbai, Visakhapatnam, Kochi, and Kolkata through Indian Maritime University Act, 2008. This shows the matured and generous mindset of the UPA Government.

Many of the Central Universities established through the territorial jurisdiction of State in the First Schedule in Section 3(4) were established as 'Central University of Bihar, Central University of Gujarat' etc. etc. Though the territorial jurisdiction of this proposed university is whole of India, however, the Ministry has proposed to name this University as "Gati Shakti Viswavidyalaya". This shows the narrow mindset and behaviour of this Government towards its own States.

Secondly, this University will take measures to provide quality teaching, research and skill development in fields related to transportation, technology and management. Currently, there is an imperative need for advanced education in disciplines such as transportation, technology and management. Many States have their own PSUs in transport and logistics sector and they need highly skilled human resources. Owing to its necessity, I request the hon. Minister to establish or extend the campuses to various States which show their interest in establishing such a university in their respective States.

Thirdly, the university status alone is not enough for the institution to run on its own; it requires economic independence. I request the Ministry to allocate necessary budget without discounting the proposals made by the Board, because the revenue generated by the University alone is not sufficient for them to manage all the expenses.

Finally, already this Institute has partnership with foreign universities -- Hon. Railway Minister, I have seen this in the website -- like Cornell University, USA, Japan Transport and Tourism Research Institute, University of Birmingham, U.K.,

and St. Petersburg State Transport University, Russia. If they change the University's name to Hindi, how will these foreign universities or students recognize our university? How will they understand this? We are not against the Hindi language, but we are against the Hindi imposition. Federal nature of this nation is 'Unity in Diversity'. (*Timebell rings*) One minute, Sir. I request the NDA Government to understand this.

To conclude my speech, in order to promote the University worldwide, and to respect the sentiments of tax paying non-Hindi speaking citizens of India, it is necessary to change the name of the University as 'Indian Rail and Transportation University.'

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR: I would like to tell the hon. Railway Minister that this Act is the principal Act of Central University. But this University's administration is brought under the Railway Ministry. So, I request the hon. Minister to change the name. Thank you.

डा. अशोक कुमार मित्तल (पंजाब) : उपसभापति महोदय, धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी अमेंडमेंट बिल पर बोलने का मौका दिया। मुझे सदन में बोलने का, किसी बिल पर बात करने का यह पहला मौका मिला है, इसके लिए भी बहुत धन्यवाद।

इस बिल के माध्यम से भारत सरकार नेशनल रेल एंड ट्रांसपोर्ट इंस्टिट्यूट को, जो कि एक डीम्ड यूनिवर्सिटी है, उसे फुलफ्लैज्ड यूनिवर्सिटी का दर्जा देने जा रही है, गतिशक्ति विश्वविद्यालय, जो कि रेल मंत्रालय के अधीन सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटी होगी। मैं सबसे पहले इसके लिए भारत सरकार को बधाई देना चाहूंगा।

जब हम शिक्षा की बात करते हैं तो मेरे दिमाग में छोटी सी पंक्तियां आती हैं, मैं आपसे उन्हें साझा करना चाहूंगा - 'रोशनी केवल चिराग से ही नहीं, शिक्षा से ही घर रोशन होते हैं।' इसी दौरान, क्योंकि हम लोग भी शिक्षा से ही सम्बन्धित हैं तो मुझे एक और बात याद आती है, जो हमारे देश में स्लोगन चल रहा है, 'पढ़ेगा इंडिया, तभी तो बढ़ेगा इंडिया' तो यह नया इनीशिएटिव लेने के लिए धन्यवाद। हम दो वर्ष से ज्यादा समय से कोरोना महामारी से जूझ रहे हैं और हर क्षेत्र इससे अफेक्ट हुआ है। एजुकेशन का क्षेत्र तो सबसे बुरी तरह से अफेक्ट हुआ है, हम जानते हैं, हमारे 30 करोड़ स्कूली बच्चे हैं और तीन करोड़ विश्वविद्यालय के बच्चे हैं, तकरीबन 33 करोड़ हमारे बच्चे जो विद्यार्थी हैं, वे दो साल से घरों में बंद होकर बैठे हुए थे। कोरोना के बाद यह पहला वर्ष है, जिसमें पूरा भारत ऑफ लाइन मोड में, मतलब अपने स्कूल, अपने कॉलेज के प्रांगण में जाकर पढ़ेगा। मैं इन सब चीजों के लिए पूरे सदन को बधाई देना चाहूंगा कि कोरोना की महामारी को पार करते हुए भारत वापस नॉर्मल सिचुएशन में आ गया है, इसके लिए सभी को बहुत-बहुत मुबारकबाद।

अब हमें शिक्षा का मौका मिल गया है कि हम कॉलेज में पढ़ें या अपने स्कूल में पढ़ें। देखा गया है कि ऑनलाइन शिक्षा एक कम्प्लीमेंटरी हो सकती है, यह सबस्टीट्यूट नहीं हो सकती थी, क्योंकि जब हम ऑनलाइन मोड में होते हैं तो आपस में मिल नहीं पाते, बात नहीं कर पाते, शिक्षकों से वार्तालाप नहीं कर पाते, ढंग से खेल नहीं पाते, कल्चरल इवेंट्स में पार्टिसिपेट नहीं कर पाते, डाइवर्सिटी को एंजॉय नहीं कर पाते। शिक्षा ही हमें ये सब चीज़ें सिखाती हैं, जो कि छूटी जा रही थीं। लेकिन जब हम इसमें आगे बढ़ते हैं तो एक चीज़ भारत सरकार को भी, हम सब को, पूरे सदन को हमेशा डिस्टर्ब करती है, वह हम सब को करती आई है, कि जब टाइम्स हायर एजुकेशन रैंकिंग की बात होती है तो अभी तक हम 200 में नहीं पहुंच पाये, क्यू.एस. हायर एजुकेशन रैंकिंग की बात होती है तो हम 100 में नहीं पहुंच पाये, जबकि हम विश्वगुरु माने जाते थे, पर मैं उम्मीद कर रहा हूँ कि जो नये प्रयत्न चल रहे हैं, उनके अन्तर्गत हम विश्वगुरु बनने की तरफ तेजी से अग्रसर होंगे।

अब इस बिल की बात करें। इसमें एक सेक्शन चार है। महोदय, जो थोड़े से प्रावधान इस बिल में हैं, मैं उनके बारे में मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगा। वैसे 1, 2, 3 बड़ा छोटा सा बिल है, इसमें प्रोसीजरल हिस्सा ज्यादा है और इसमें कोई नई चीज़ें नहीं आई हैं तो एक तो ओवरऑल मैं कहना चाहूंगा, इस बिल में कोई भी नये प्रावधान नहीं किये गये, जिससे शिक्षा की क्वालिटी को सुधारा जा सके। उसके बारे में कृपया ध्यान दीजिएगा। सेक्शन 4(जे) है, जिसमें कहा गया है कि यदि कोई एम्प्लॉई, जो कि एग्जिस्टिंग इंस्टिट्यूट में काम कर रहा है, वह नई शर्तों को नहीं मानता तो उसको हल्का सा समझाया जाये, नहीं तो उसको निकाल दिया जाये और अगर फिर भी अपनी टर्म्स पर काबू नहीं आता है तो उसको तीन महीने का कम्पेंसेशन देकर बाय-बाय कर दिया जाये। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह निवेदन करूंगा कि इतने हार्श न होइये, उस एम्प्लॉई ने अपने जीवन के 20 साल, 30 साल इस संस्था को दिये हैं, उनको हटाते समय थोड़ा सा रहमदिल रहें और उनके लिए थोड़ा सा ध्यान करके भावुक होते हुए फैसला लें, हार्श होकर कोई फैसला न लें, यह मेरा मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन रहेगा। सर, अब हम सेक्शन 5 पर आते हैं। इसमें कुछ अच्छे प्रोविज़ंस दिए गए हैं कि इस इंस्टीट्यूशन के, इस यूनिवर्सिटी के देश में और विदेशों में भी और सेंटर्स खोले जा सकते हैं। चूँकि मैं पंजाब से हूँ और चूँकि हर कोई सैल्फिश होता है, मैं भी सैल्फिश हूँ, तो मैं मंत्री जी से निवेदन करूंगा कि आप प्लीज़ एक पहला सेंटर पंजाब में खोलिएगा। जब भी आपको सेंटर खोलना होगा, तो आप फर्स्ट सेंटर पंजाब में खोलिएगा। यदि आप अभी बहस का जवाब देते टाइम इसकी घोषणा कर पाएँ, तो हम सबके लिए यह बहुत ही हर्ष का विषय होगा।...(समय की घंटी)...

सर, मैं और आधा मिनट लूँगा। जहाँ तक एग्जिस्टिंग रिसोर्सिज़ की बात है, हमारे देश में बड़े-बड़े विश्वविद्यालय हैं। हमारे देश में आईआईटीज़ हैं, आईआईएम्स हैं, सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटीज़ हैं, उनमें बड़े रिसोर्सिज़ हैं। उनमें लैब्स हैं, बिल्डिंगज़ हैं, स्विमिंग पूल्स हैं, ऑडिटोरियम्स हैं, सब कुछ हैं, लेकिन वहाँ बच्चों की संख्या आम तौर पर कम होती है और वे रिसोर्सिज़ अनयूटिलाइज़्ड रहते हैं। इसलिए मेरा सरकार से निवेदन रहेगा कि आप एग्जिस्टिंग रिसोर्सिज़ को बेटर यूटिलाइज़ करने के लिए उनमें नए प्रोग्राम्स ऐड कीजिए। यदि ये आईआईटीज़ में हैं, तो हम इनमें मेडिकल को क्यों नहीं ऐड कर लेते हैं; यदि मेडिकल है, तो वहाँ इंजीनियरिंग को क्यों नहीं ऐड कर लेते हैं या मैनेजमेंट क्यों नहीं ऐड कर लेते हैं! जब हम दुनिया को देखते हैं, जैसे हार्वर्ड है,

स्टैनफोर्ड है, ऑक्सफोर्ड है, कैम्ब्रिज है, ये सब मल्टी-डिसिप्लिनरी यूनिवर्सिटीज़ हैं। दुनिया की जितनी भी टॉप यूनिवर्सिटीज़ हैं, वे मल्टी-डिसिप्लिनरी यूनिवर्सिटीज़ हैं और वे अपने रिसोर्सेज़ को पूरा यूटिलाइज़ करती हैं। हम गरीब मुल्क हैं, तो उनसे सीखते हुए हम क्यों नहीं अपने रिसोर्सेज़ को बेटर यूटिलाइज़ करें। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... यह चीज शायद हमें रैंकिंग और अक्रेडिटेशन लेने में भी मदद करेगी। चूँकि हम सिंगल डिप्लिनरी हैं, इसीलिए हम रैंकिंग और अक्रेडिटेशन में इंटरनेशनल इंस्टीट्यूशंस के मुकाबले मात खा जाते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति : डॉक्टर साहब, आप कन्क्लूड कीजिए।

डा. अशोक कुमार मित्तल : सर, एक छोटी सी बात है। आज देश में बहुत मेडल्स आ रहे हैं। यह बड़ी खुशी का विषय है कि आजकल कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स चल रहे हैं और भारत की झोली में गोल्ड मेडल्स भर-भर कर आ रहे हैं। पिछले साल इसी महीने में ओलंपिक हुआ, उसमें भी हमने खूब मेडल्स जीते। मैं फिर इस सदन को इस चीज के लिए मुबारकबाद देना चाहूँगा कि आप सबके प्रयत्न से भारत स्पोर्ट्स में बहुत अच्छा कर रहा है। चूँकि यह एजुकेशन का बिल है ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

श्री उपसभापति : प्लीज़, आप कन्क्लूड कीजिए।

डा. अशोक कुमार मित्तल : सर, मुझे आधा मिनट दीजिए। सर, इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूशंस की जो रैंकिंग और अक्रेडिटेशन है, उसके लिए एनआईआरएफ है, नैक है, उसमें कहीं भी स्पोर्ट्स को कोई वेटेज नहीं दी गई है। इसलिए मेरा मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन रहेगा कि स्पोर्ट्स को सफिशिएंट वेटेज दी जाए, ताकि हम सब यूनिवर्सिटीज़/कॉलेजेज़ वाले स्पोर्ट्स के ऊपर भी उतना ही ध्यान दें, जितना हम बाकी अकैडमिक एक्टिविटीज़ के ऊपर देते हैं। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय सुजीत कुमार जी।

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022 aims to convert NRTI into what is to be known as Gatishakti Vishwavidhyalaya, which would be under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways.

Sir, as our economy grows at close to seven or eight per cent, and we are one of the fastest growing economies in the world, our transportation sector is also growing rapidly, whether it is aviation, maritime, highways or ports. Hence, there is a need for quality manpower and talent in this very, very crucial transportation sector. Thus, it was the need of the hour to have a university like this.

Sir, while introducing the Bill, the hon. Minister said that the Gatishakti Vishwavidhyalaya will provide quality training, research and skill development as well

in transportation technology management, TRM. This is a very lofty goal and this would help build a world-class, multi-modal, multi-sectoral academic ecosystem in our country. Further, he referred to the fact that there was a need for multi-disciplinary learning in our academic ecosystem. Various sectors, ports, highways, waterways and also information technology, can be integrated in this learning ecosystem.

Sir, I think hardly anyone would have an issue with such a Bill. It is a welcome Bill, but this has provided me with an opportunity to talk about some larger issues pertaining to education in our country. First and foremost, I think there is no standardized protocol or criteria to set up Central Universities in our country. For example, Delhi has 7 Central Universities; UP has 6; Bihar has 4; Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Manipur have 3 each and the State like Odisha, with population of 45 million, has only one Central University. So, I urge you to consider setting up another Central University in the State of Odisha, which has almost 23 per cent tribal population. Currently, Odisha has only one Central University which is called the Central University of Koraput. Secondly, many other speakers and colleagues have spoken about the large number of vacancies in Central Universities. The sanctioned strength is 18,905 in Central Universities, of which 6,333 post are currently vacant. This is close to 35 per cent and is definitely unacceptable. In this august House, I have already raised the issue of vacancies in Central Universities, particularly in the Central University of Koraput, where there are over 80 per cent teaching posts vacant. So, this has serious consequences for the educational landscape of our country, particularly in the tribal pockets. It is detrimental to the goal that we have for our nation. Hon. Education Minister has assured this House that these posts will be filled soon and I take this opportunity to urge the Government again to fill all the vacant posts soon so that the academic ambience of our country is not hampered. Thirdly, the Bill states that, if required, the University may also establish campuses and centres in India and abroad. The State of Odisha is strategically located in the eastern part of the country. The East-Coast Railways, which is headquartered in Bhubaneswar, is India's most profitable railway zone. Hon. Railway Minister is here and he knows it better than anyone else that the railway freight traffic has crossed 200 million tonnes for the second year in a row. So, my request to you would be to set up a branch of Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya in the State of Odisha, which also aligns with the Purvodaya Vision of hon. Prime Minister. Fourthly, we are aiming towards a net zero carbon-emission nation and the world is looking at India as a destination of green technology. We are the pioneer of International Solar Alliance -- one of the greatest achievements, I would say. My hope is that Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya will

introduce multi-disciplinary courses and programmes in the areas of green economy and green technology. I read out one of the proposed goals of the University. It is to carry out critically needed Research and Development by creating innovative technologies to encourage local manufacturing and substitute the imports of expensive technology, equipment and products. It is a very commendable goal. Let me highlight a concern which I have spoken about many a time. As a nation, our R&D spending is only 0.7 per cent of our GDP, which is abysmally low. Please allow me to compare this with other nations -- China 2.2 per cent; Israel 4.9 per cent; South Korea 4.6 per cent; US 3 per cent. Where are we? Our R&D spending is nowhere compared to these nations and these are large economies compared to us. So, I hope that hon. Minister and the Government will take initiative to hike R&D budget when they set up this University. Finally, the goal is to reverse brain drain through this University. Our University Ranking globally is very low. I really hope that this University will have tie-ups globally. While promoting indigenous technology and innovation, we should try to scout for the best talent in the world and get them to be part of the University.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Finally, we have hiked our education budget by 12 per cent roughly this year, which is Rs.11,000 crore. It is very commendable. But, still, it is nowhere near the recommendation of Kothari Commission, which was made way back in the 60s that 6 per cent of the GDP should be spent on education.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Today, we are spending only 3 per cent. So, while we are speaking about this University, I hope that the Government will augment the spending on education. Thank you.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, this Bill seeks to establish Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, a Central University, but the current State of the Central Universities in the country is really pathetic, and I would like to remind the hon. Minister of Railways to take cognisance of this issue.

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

In the Central Universities, over 20,000 posts are lying vacant, as already stated by Dr. Hanumanthaiah, in 45 Central Universities, under the purview of Ministry of Education. So, the Ministry of Education had sought time to fill up these vacancies in a mission mode by 14th September, 2022. We are in the month of August and there is only one month left. The hon. Minister is not present. I request the hon. Minister of Education to take cognisance of this and fill up the vacancies in a time-bound manner.

Now, coming to the Indian Railways, I would like to say that it is a great institution. It is the world's largest Railways network with 68,000 kilometres of routes, 21,000 trains, 2.2 crore passengers, hauling 30 lakh tons of freight every day with 7,350 stations. I really appreciate the hon. Minister for heading this great institution - the Indian Railways.

There are certain points which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister. Women's participation in logistics and transportation of the Railways is pitiable. Only 20 per cent of the women are employed in the logistic sector. Please take note of this point that only one per cent of the women have got the commercial driving licences and the licences are owned by women. This is very, very unfortunate in this country.

Regarding pending vacancies, Dr. Hanumanthaiah has already mentioned the figures. I don't want to repeat it. The Railways recruited just 10,637 employees in 2021-22 and 9,529 employees in 2020-21. If the Railways continue to recruit at this pace for the future years, it will take 30 years for the Railways to fill the aforesaid vacancies. Therefore, this has to be expedited. The current recruitment is done through the RRB. He has already stated about NTPC. I don't want to repeat it. The amount that has been collected by the applicants is to the tune of Rs.864 crores in 2019. Now, we are in 2022. Why is there so much of delay? Just like we have the Union Public Service Commission, which takes cognisance of the total vacancies in the country for the IAS, IPS, IFS and 14 or 15 other Services, and it is mandatory on the part of the UPSC to conduct the examination every year in a time-bound manner, I am asking the hon. Railway Minister as to why can't the same principle and logic be applied in the case of the Railway Recruitment Board also. Therefore, it has to be made mandatory and constitutional responsibility has to be fixed on the Railway Recruitment Board to conduct the examination and fill up the vacancies in a time-bound manner like the UPSC.

The next point that I would like to bring to the hon. Minister's notice is about the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. ...(*Interruptions*)... It is a relevant point for the TDP also. Sir, the Vizag Steel Plant has been built with the state-of-the-art technology

and has a turnover of Rs.28,000 crores and a profit of Rs.835 crores in 2021-22. The hon. Railway Minister, and also the Ministry which he is heading, has failed to provide the rakes for transportation of coal from Mahanadi Coal Fields to Vizag Steel Plant. That is why the two of the furnaces have been closed and only one furnace is being operated. With one furnace, a profit of Rs.835 crores has been earned. It is such a great institution. It is a Navratna institution. The Government of India, particularly the BJP Government is trying to privatise it, which is very unfortunate and it is the policy of the NDA Government... (*Time-bell rings.*)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Your time is over.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: No, Sir, I have time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): It will be your last point.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: It is the policy of the NDA Government not to privatise the profit-making sectors and, unfortunately, this is being done by the NDA Government. Now, let me make my last two points.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Please make it the last point.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, this is regarding pending Railway Zone. Unfortunately, my friend, Jairam Ramesh ji, has loosely drafted the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act and everywhere he has used the word 'may' instead of 'shall'. This is being taken advantage of by the NDA Government and they are not setting up the Railway Zone with its headquarters at Visakhapatnam. It is very unfortunate. For the omission and commission that has been made by my friend, who is the author of the Reorganization Act, Andhra Pradesh cannot be penalised. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to take cognizance of it and immediately set up a Railway Zone with its headquarters at Visakhapatnam. (*Time-bell rings*)

The Project report has been pending for the last three years. My last point is about Railway Recruitment Board. Sir, there are 21 Railway Recruitment Boards in different parts of the country. Andhra Pradesh currently does not have any Railway Recruitment Board and the applicants have to travel from various places to Secunderabad to take the examination. I urge the hon. Minister to take cognizance of this and set up a Railway Recruitment Board at Visakhapatnam or any place in Andhra Pradesh. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Thank you very much. Next speaker is Dr. V. Sivadasan. You have two minutes' time. We have to complete this.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, the Central Universities Amendment Bill is not capable to address the core issues of the education sector. First of all, as far as enrolment ratio is concerned, in India, the enrolment ratio is 25. Let me tell you about the enrolment ratios in other countries. In the USA, it is 88; in Britain, it is 60; in Germany, it is 70 but the Government of India has made a target of only 50 by the year 2035 and the Government is not ready to spend proper amount in education sector.

Secondly, Sir, this new university will invite the researchers but what is the condition of research scholars? Sir, all the research fellowships have been cut down. Sir, the National Fellowships for SC/ST students have been decreased from 9,000 to 4,000. The Maulana Azad Research Fellowship has been reduced from 4,000 to 2,000. The National Fellowship for Basic Science Research has been reduced from 4,000 to 700. The Post Doctoral Fellowship for Women has also been reduced from 600 to 400. In the other fellowships also, same trend is seen.

I also want to mention the situation of Adivasi researchers. I do not know whether this university will provide research facility to Adivasi students. Sir, in India, 21 research institutes, IITs and IIMs have not admitted a single Adivasi research scholar in 2021. Sir, 12 IITs and IIMs have not admitted a single *Dalit* student as a research scholar in 2021. I would also like to speak about the status of teachers. I do not know whether this university will provide teaching facility or not.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Please make one last point.

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Sir, my only point is that in the Central Universities, 6,500 teaching posts are lying vacant. This number in IITs is 4,000; and, in IIMs, this number is 450. In NITs, 2,500 posts are lying vacant. Thousands of posts are lying vacant in the universities.

My last point is about the National Testing Agency, which has been proposed by the Government. Sir, it is not National Testing Agency; it is Notional Testing Agency. The UGC-NET examination system has totally collapsed. The Central Universities Entrance Test has totally collapsed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): You have made your last point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Because the examination system has totally collapsed. Sir, the name of this University is Gati Shakti University. Sir, the Government is ...*(Interruptions)*... The students and teachers of the universities ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Please. You have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*...You have made your point.

DR. V. SIVADASAN: The Government is providing each and every *gati* and *shakti* to the richest of the rich. You please look into the issues of the students, teachers and the universities. Thank you, Sir.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, this Bill seeks to convert a deemed university into an autonomous Central university, called the Gati Shakti Vishawavidyalaya. What is interesting about this Bill is that it has confined itself not only to railways, but the complexity in the transportation sector has increased to such a level that this Bill tries to bring in its ambit road, rail, aviation, marine, etc. Sir, I support this Bill, but I would like to flag only three issues. So, please don't stop me. There are only three issues.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): You have two minutes.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: All these three issues are in respect of Clause 5. I wanted to read Clause 5, but I am not reading it because I have no time. I feel that this Clause should have been more comprehensive. It talks only about transportation. I feel that environmental and ecological sustainability should also have been mentioned here. Considering that 900 kilometres of *char dham* project has absolutely caused danger to the fragile Himalayas, the national highways in the Western Ghats have absolutely damaged the bio-diversity of the hotspot and also the Environment Ministry giving permissions and environment clearances left, right and centre, it is very necessary that we mention environmental and ecological sustainability in that specific provision.

Sir, the concern number two which I wish to flag is, right from 1992, the United Nations Earth Summit to the Paris Agreement, the transport sector has been recognized as an important player while addressing environmental degradation, as it impacts air quality and health of the people. Even the UNFCCC has said that one-fourth of the energy-related global GHG emissions come from the transport

sector. Sir, world-over, whenever the transport sector has been referred to, it has always been referred as sustainable transportation. So, I feel that kind of terminology needs to be added.

My last point is, considering that we are urbanizing very fast, 40 per cent of our population is now going to live in cities by 2030. Cities are known as engines of economic growth but are also large contributors to climate change. Our country needs urban transport planners, urban designers, land use planners, which are equipped with indigenous knowledge of sustainable transport. But this Bill does not refer to any of these.

I feel that the intention of the Government is very laudable. However, the kind of comprehensiveness which this Bill should have shown is totally a miss. I wish this comes through subordinate legislations. I congratulate the Ministry for having done this, but again, I would say that this is absolutely a half-hearted initiative. I remember the Medical Health Services Bill which was tabled by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, which was an absolutely comprehensive Bill. We all would expect that this Bill also meets that kind of standards. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Thank you Vandana ji. Now, Shri Abdul Wahab. You have two minutes.

SHRI ABDUL WAHAB (Kerala): Sir, I congratulate the Minister for bringing this Bill. I wish it could have been in Kerala instead of Gujarat. Anyway, you are not giving any priority in case of railway lines and all that to Kerala. At least, you could have given this University to Kerala. One more thing I would like to say is that in Kerala, we are having one problem. There are a lot of universities. But with much difficulty, we got Aligarh Muslim University off campus. 300 acres of land has been given by the Government. But nothing is done. It is lying vacant. There is only one central university in Kerala, Kannur. So many universities are being allowed, including Aravali University in Punjab. Our Government is not allowing private universities. ...*(Interruptions)*... Where are the universities? ...*(Interruptions)*... We are asking, asking and asking. But so far, it is not there. Even our friend is saying ...*(Interruptions)*... Please keep quiet because you are not allowing to us make our point. That is why I was telling, we are between ...*(Interruptions)*... इधर बीजेपी गवर्नमेंट, उधर कम्युनिस्ट गवर्नमेंट! They are against every proposal. For KERI also, you are also agreeing. ...*(Interruptions)*... My request is to have good teachers in the Universities. I will have two-three points.

Increase PHD seats in Central Universities. Another is timely recruitment of teaching vacancies. Ensure transparency and merit-based procedures in faculty recruitment. Have mechanism for timely disbursement of Fellowship. The UGC must increase non-NET Fellowship for Research students. Have affirmative action on Depreciation Point for minority communities and other backward classes. Improve residential facilities in universities. Make our universities differently-abled and transgender friendly.

I hope the Minister will respond positively to my suggestions in the reply. It is a good combination of Education Minister and Railway Minister. Thank you, Sir.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I support the Bill. The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022 aims to convert the National Rail and Transportation Institute, which is a deemed to be university under the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, to an autonomous Central University to be known as Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya.

Hon. Members spoke regarding its name. We are always speaking about our hon. Prime Minister encouraging mother tongue and other recognized official languages. When you are giving the name, you can give the name in Tamil and other languages also. You are even advocating a three-language formula. Whenever the names are coming in Hindi, there is no English or any other language. Here when you say *Gati*, it has different meaning in Tamil. That means '*ho gaya*'. Therefore, you put it in English also. Or you put it in Tamil which is my mother tongue. All the hon. Members were praising the Vice-President for encouraging all the languages. Even the Prime Minister advocates all recognized languages. Mother tongue is more important. ...(*Interruptions*)... I don't want to take much of the time. Why are you converting a deemed to be university to a Central University? I could not understand it. If a deemed to be university has NAAC A+ grading, it can have its centre anywhere. This University may not have that kind of capacity. That is why you are converting it to a Central University. Many private deemed to be universities are getting A+ just like that. They are making money. I could not see the Education Minister here. That is why I did not speak more on deemed to be university. Because of that, many institutions are suffering a lot.

The concept of deemed to be university was introduced by Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan when he was the President of India. Why did he introduce it? The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, is a reputed Central Government Institute. But why haven't you come forward to bring a Bill to convert the Indian Institute of

Science, which is an excellent institution, to a Central University? You should have converted it to a Central University. You have not done that. Why? I could not understand that. But you are coming with it. I am appreciating it. At the same time, I am requesting you to see that the name has to be given in other languages also. (*Time-bell rings.*) Not just on this subject. You take any programme whether it is *Sadak Yojana* or any other programme. There are so many programmes. You give a word whose equivalent word is given in other languages what you call regional or national languages. It must be there. Otherwise, people cannot understand what this is. The other Members have said this. Therefore, once again, I am requesting you to consider this. I am supporting this Bill. At the same time, please respect the sentiments of the States and the people who speak other languages. An equivalent word must be given side by side. Otherwise, if I put three languages, it means one language is Hindi. It is welcome. We are not against any language. At the same time, you put English also. It is common.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Thank you, Dr. Thambidurai.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Sir, put it at any place. In Tamil Nadu, you put that name in Tamil; it will be useful. In Odisha, you can put it in Odia language. In Rajasthan, you can put it in Rajasthani language. Anyway, that has to be the spirit. It must not be one language. Today, we all spoke that all languages are our languages. These are India's languages. We fought for freedom not for one language; we fought for freedom for all the national languages of this country. That kind of spirit must be there in governance. I always support the Prime Minister saying that we have to speak in mother tongue. Tamil language, Tamil poetry and so many other things our Prime Minister says. I am always supporting that kind of sentiment of the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. I hope that your Ministry will also accept that and do the necessary. Thank you very much.

श्री रामजी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : श्रीमान जी, आपने मुझे इस महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद।

श्रीमान जी, शिक्षा व्यक्ति के व्यक्तित्व के साथ ही देश का विकास भी करती है। शिक्षा एक सभ्य समाज के साथ-साथ विकसित राष्ट्र का भी निर्माण करती है, इसलिए बाबा साहेब भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी ने भी कहा- शिक्षित बनो। जब माननीय बहन जी उत्तर प्रदेश में कई बार मुख्य मंत्री बनीं, तो बाबा साहेब के 'शिक्षित बनो' के उपदेश पर ही उन्होंने उत्तर प्रदेश के अंदर कई सारे स्कूल्स, डिग्री कॉलेजेज़ और कोचिंग इंस्टिट्यूट्स खोलने का काम किया। इसके साथ ही,

उन्होंने गौतम बुद्ध यूनिवर्सिटी, नोएडा, शकुंतला मिश्रा रिहैबिलिटेशन यूनिवर्सिटी, लखनऊ, माननीय श्री कांशीराम साहब उर्दू-फारसी यूनिवर्सिटी, लखनऊ जैसे कई महत्वपूर्ण विश्वविद्यालय खोलने का काम किया और उन्होंने जनहित में ऐसे ही तमाम काम किये। इसलिए, इन सब बातों को ध्यान में रखते हुए मैं इस बिल का सपोर्ट करता हूँ।

श्रीमान जी, मैं सरकार का ध्यान कई अन्य बातों की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ और शिक्षा के अंदर जो कमियाँ हैं, जो परेशानियाँ हैं, उन बातों को मैं यहाँ जरूर रखना चाहता हूँ। श्रीमान जी, विश्वविद्यालय बनाना तो बहुत अच्छा कदम है, परन्तु उनमें सभी समाजों की जनसंख्या के अनुपात में प्रतिनिधित्व देना भी सुनिश्चित करना चाहिए। यह संविधान और सामाजिक न्याय की माँग है, हालांकि कुछ समाजों ने इसकी अवहेलना भी की है, जैसे कि ये विश्वविद्यालय किसी एक समाज के ही हैं। उदाहरण के लिए, 54 केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय हैं, जिनमें से एक विश्वविद्यालय के अंदर भी अनुसूचित जाति का कोई भी कुलपति या वाइस चांसलर नहीं है। इसी तरह, दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय से संबद्ध 80 डिग्री कॉलेजेज हैं, लेकिन वहाँ पर एससी/एसटी का एक भी व्यक्ति प्रधानाचार्य नहीं है। यही हाल राज्यों का भी है। उत्तर प्रदेश में 23 स्टेट विश्वविद्यालय हैं, जिनमें से एक का भी कुलपति एससी/एसटी का नहीं है। जहाँ तक केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालयों में अनुसूचित जाति के प्रोफेसरों की नियुक्ति का प्रश्न है, तो उनमें प्रोफेसर के 204 सृजित पदों में से केवल 11 पद भरे गए हैं और रीडर के 360 पदों में से मात्र एक प्रतिशत पद भरे गए हैं। अगर मैं आईआईटीज़ की बात करूँ, तो आईआईटीज़ के अंदर आज भी 4,500 वैकेन्सीज़ खाली पड़ी हुई हैं।

श्रीमान जी, अब मैं पीएचडी की बात करना चाहता हूँ। **...(समय की घंटी)...** श्रीमान जी, अब मैं कन्क्लूड कर रहा हूँ। जो छात्र पीएचडी करना चाहते हैं, उनके लिए 30 नम्बर का वायवा होता है। जो एससी/एसटी और ओबीसी के छात्र होते हैं, उनको उस 30 नम्बर के वायवा में केवल 2, 3 और 4 नम्बर दिए जाते हैं और उनकी पीएचडी को रोका जाता है। इसलिए, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह आग्रह करता हूँ कि इस वायवा को 10 नम्बर का किया जाए। श्रीमान जी, यह 30 नम्बर के बदले 10 नम्बर का होना चाहिए। यही मेरी आपसे विनती है, धन्यवाद। जय भीम, जय भारत!

(उपसभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Bill proposes to convert the National Rail and Transportation Institute, Vadodara, a deemed to be University, as Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya. A new provision in Section 5 in the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill is a positive step in this direction. It can be seen from the proviso that Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya shall establish centres in India and abroad. I urge the Minister to establish one such regional centre in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Sir, at this juncture, I also urge the Minister to take immediate steps to fill the vacancies which are existing in the

institutes of higher education. Sir, the prolonged vacancies in faculties seriously affect the education of the students who are studying in these institutes. In response to my question to the hon. Minister of Education, he had stated that there are around 27 vacancies in Indian Institute of Management at Vizag alone. There are 15 vacant posts of faculty in IIT, Tirupati. The vacancies at NIT, Tadepalligudem stands at 20. The vacancy position in Indian Institute of Information Technology, Design and Manufacturing at Karnool is 6. This is the situation in the institutes of higher education in the State of Andhra Pradesh alone. What could be the number of vacancies in Institutes of Higher Education can be anybody's guess.

So, I urge the hon. Minister to take steps on war footing to fill up all these vacancies in a time-bound manner by strictly adhering to the reservation policy of the Government of India.

Sir, as per the provision of Section 93 and the Schedule 13 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014, the Central University of Andhra Pradesh at Ananthapuram and Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh at Vizianagaram have been established and functioning. In those two universities also, the Government has to take time-bound measures to fill up vacancies and to have a permanent infrastructure. Already, the TDP Government had allocated land but no buildings are constructed.

Sir, I request the Minister of Education to give special focus and attention to the State of Andhra Pradesh in the education sector. It is because the present Government is not taking any steps to complete those projects. Also, the State Government is taking steps and pursuing the policies which are against the new Education Policy which focuses on imparting education to youngsters in their mother tongue.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, Shri Kanakamedala, time is over. ...*(Time Bell)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: But, the State Government to everybody's surprise and in dismay, has introduced English as the compulsory medium of instruction in the State.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. I am calling now Shri Sandosh Kumar P. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: This is a serious issue. There is a need for urgent intervention by this Government.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is paucity of time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Sir, one more. One more. Sir, final one, with these submissions...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. Shri Sandosh Kumar P, you please. speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... You speak, it will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Sir, one more issue. Sir, one more. One more. Sir, the last...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Kanakamedalaji, now, it is not going on record....*(Interruptions)*... No, sorry, the time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*... There are a few more speakers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No; it is not going on record now. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Sandosh Kumar, please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): How can he speak?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no, he has already taken his time.

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Sir, we have 126 deemed universities in this country, according to available statistics. I would like to ask you as to what is the criteria in selecting a particular university and to enhance its position to that of Central University. For example, in Kerala, there is a renowned institution which was established in the year 2007, that is, Indian Institute of Space Science & Technology. Luminaries like Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam were at the helm of affairs of that university.

* Not Recorded.

Now, you are trying to enhance status of a university, which was established only in the year 2018 only, to that of a central university. So, there must be a criteria. Unfortunately, the Government may be, the great Prime Minister, I am not questioning his authority, having a vision like that. So, in the name of Prime Minister's vision and everything, you are actually trying to undermine the interests of other States and other important universities. This is very sad and you have to stop this. Secondly, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is stated, 'To reverse brain drain'. It is important to note that you have acknowledged the fact that there is brain drain in this country. So, to stop brain drain, you have to enhance the higher education and the research works. We are spending just 0.7 per cent of the GDP for research purposes whereas the international average is around 2 per cent. With that only, you can reverse the phenomenon called 'Brain Drain'! Thirdly, I can tell you, as most of my fellow speakers have pointed out, that universities are facing a lot of problems. Higher education is in a kind of mess. Most of these vacancies are un-filled, teachers' posts are vacant and reservations is not being followed but your Government is interested in fragmentation of this university education.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. ...(*Time Bell rings*)...

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P: Now, you are starting this kind of university and tomorrow, you will start another kind of university. So, please stop this as this will not suit the purpose of nobility of university education.

So, your Government has to think seriously about that. Finally, the best thing about the Central Universities is that the Governments are having no role in it. That is the best thing, fortunately. Otherwise, it would have been more difficult. I would like to request one more thing.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P: Railway is the lifeline of this country. And if at all, you are going to implement this thing, then, a branch must be started in Kerala also because that will be a multi-purpose university. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपसभापति महोदय, शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में कोई भी कदम उठाया जाए और प्रोग्रेसिव हो, तो वह अच्छा ही होता है। हालांकि कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने जो

प्रश्न खड़े किए हैं, वे स्वाभाविक हैं और जायज़ भी हैं। मैं सिर्फ यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब इस तरह के केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय बनाने के बारे में केन्द्र सरकार सोचती है, विचार करती है, तो इसमें अन्य राज्यों का भी ख्याल रखना चाहिए। हमारे बगल में बैठे हुए माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि केरल में खुलना चाहिए। शायद बाकी राज्य भी ऐसा कह सकते हैं। जो राज्य पहले से ही इन यूनिवर्सिटीज़ से संपन्न हैं, उनकी जगह दूसरे राज्यों में ये खुलने चाहिए। प्रधान मंत्री जी का राज्य अब उत्तर प्रदेश है। वे उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य से एम.पी. हैं और प्राइम मिनिस्टर भी हैं, तो आप गुजरात के बजाय यह यूनिवर्सिटी उत्तर प्रदेश के वाराणसी या काशी में खोल देते। वहां यूनिवर्सिटी है, उसको और अपग्रेड कर देते, तो बेहतर होता। एक प्रश्न डा. एल. हनुमंतय्या जी ने शुरू में ही किया था और मैंने स्वयं भी सोचा था, जिसका आपके बिल में ज़िक्र नहीं है कि यूनिवर्सिटी में बच्चों का एडमिशन किस तरह से होगा? कोई उसका एंट्रेंस का कम्पीटीटिव एग्जामिनेशन होगा, सारे देश के बच्चों को उसमें एडमिशन लेने का मौका मिलेगा या नहीं मिलेगा, ये चीज़ें स्पष्ट होनी चाहिए, ताकि कोई कन्फ्यूजन न हो कि उसमें केवल एक राज्य के बच्चे ही पढ़ेंगे। सारे देश के बच्चों को मौका मिले, यह मैसेज लोगों के बीच जाना चाहिए। अभी कहेंगे कि वह गुजरात के लिए बनाई जा रही है, तो उसमें गुजरात के बच्चे ही पढ़ेंगे। जब आपने यूनिवर्सिटी को अपग्रेड किया है, तो पूरे देश के बच्चे उसमें एडमिशन लेने आएंगे, उसके लिए पूरा इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर तैयार रहना चाहिए। उसमें रहने के लिए पहले से होस्टल की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए, क्योंकि जब बच्चे निजी मकानों में किराए पर रहते हैं, तो उनके पास इतने पैसे नहीं होते हैं कि वे दे सकें। वहां पर न होस्टल है और न पर्याप्त मात्रा में मैस हैं। बच्चों को इधर-उधर रहना पड़ता है और बहुत ज्यादा किराया देना पड़ता है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... उनके गार्जियन्स को ऐसे विश्वविद्यालयों में पढ़ाने में बहुत मुश्किल होती है। वे पढ़ाना चाहते हैं, लेकिन पढ़ा नहीं पाते हैं। मैं तो दिल्ली में देखता हूँ। हमारी ग्रैंड डॉटर एलएसआर में पढ़ती है। उसको होस्टल नहीं मिला, तो एक छोटा-सा कमरा है। मैं एक दिन देखने गया था, तो उसमें एक बच्ची विशाखापट्टनम की है और दूसरी वह रह रही है। वहां दोनों से तीस-तीस हजार रुपये महीना लिए जाते हैं, जबकि उस कमरे की कीमत पांच हजार रुपये भी नहीं है। बच्चों की मजबूरी है। जब ये यूनिवर्सिटी अपग्रेड कर रहे हैं, तो माननीय मंत्री जी मेरा सुझाव है कि वहां होस्टल की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। होस्टल में मैस की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए, ताकि बच्चों को खाने के लिए बाहर न जाना पड़े और एक्स्ट्रा पैसे न देने पड़ें। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति : माननीय मंत्री जी का जवाब।

श्री अश्वनी वैष्णव : उपसभापति महोदय, 14 माननीय सांसदों ने बहुत ही अच्छी डिबेट की और उनकी ओर से बहुत अच्छे सुझाव भी आए हैं। अगर इन सुझावों को हम सात या आठ कैटेगरीज़ में बांटें, तो मुख्य मुद्दे, जो कि गतिशक्ति विश्वविद्यालय और पार्टिकुलर इस बिल से रिलेटेड हैं, उनको मैं एड्रेस करना चाहूंगा। कई मुद्दे रेलवे से रिलेटेड थे, कई मुद्दों से एजुकेशन के दूसरे सवाल या प्रश्न उठते हैं, उनसे जुड़े हुए विषय थे। उन विषयों को शायद किसी ओर फोरम में एड्रेस किया जाए।

(सभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए)

सभापति महोदय, सबसे पहला मुद्दा यह उठा कि क्या यह केवल गुजरात के लोगों के लिए है? अगर कोई भी इस बिल को पढ़ेगा, तो मेरे ख्याल से यह कहने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता है। Clause 6, में बहुत स्पष्ट लिखा है कि यह यूनिवर्सिटी सारे देश के लिए है। It will extend to the whole of India. सभापति महोदय, इसमें क्लियरली लिखा हुआ है कि ज्यूरिस्ट्रिक्शन होल ऑफ इंडिया होगा, तो इसमें प्रश्न ही कहां उठता है कि यह केवल गुजरात के लिए है। गुजरात में रेलवे का जो नेशनल ट्रेनिंग इंस्टीट्यूट है, वह इस्टैब्लिश्ड है और यह यूनिवर्सिटी सारे ट्रांसपोर्ट सेक्टर को कवर करती है। रेलवे उसमें एक बहुत बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण रोल अदा करती है। रेलवे, हाइवे, पोर्ट्स, एविएशन और विशेषकर मेट्रो, वंदना जी ने जो अर्बन के बारे में बात की, अर्बन, ट्रांसपोर्टेशन और इन सबको लेकर इस यूनिवर्सिटी को डेवलप किया जाएगा। इसमें देश के सभी बच्चे एडमिशन ले सकते हैं और एडमिशन लेंगे। इसके साथ ही बहुत अच्छे तरीके से देश की कई सारी जगहों पर इसके कैम्पसेज भी बनाए जाएंगे। कई मान्यवर सांसदों ने कहा कि हमारे इस राज्य में कैम्पस बने, उस राज्य में कैम्पस बने। सभापति महोदय, बहुत ही सोच-समझकर इस यूनिवर्सिटी को रेलवे मंत्रालय में रखा गया और इसका कारण है कि रेलवे के बहुत सारे सेन्ट्रल ट्रेनिंग इंस्टीट्यूट्स हैं और रीजनल ट्रेनिंग इंस्टीट्यूट्स हैं। वे ट्रेनिंग इंस्टीट्यूट्स देश भर में फैले हुए हैं। एक बहुत ही अच्छा इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर है। जैसा कई मान्यवर सांसदों ने कहा कि we should be using the infrastructure that we already have. Exactly, that is what we are doing in this Bill. हमारे पास जो इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर ऑलरेडी है, उसको अच्छे से यूज किया जाए। Already there are so many laboratories which are available; there are Centres of Excellence which have been developed; there are facilities for staying. मान्यवर, श्री यादव जी ने कहा था कि होस्टल होना चाहिए। होस्टल्स ऑलरेडी कई जगह बने हुए हैं, तो क्यों न इसको लेकर एक नया आयाम दिया जाए, एक नया डाइमेंशन दिया जाए, एक नए लेवल पर लेकर आया जाए। बहुत सोचकर इस गतिशक्ति विश्वविद्यालय की कल्पना की गई है।

दूसरा प्रश्न उठा कि मल्टी-डिसिप्लिनरी यूनिवर्सिटी क्यों नहीं हो? ट्रांसपोर्टेशन फोकसड क्यों हो? सभापति महोदय, रेलवे, मेट्रो और ट्रांसपोर्टेशन सेक्टर बहुत ही कॉम्प्लेक्स सेक्टर है। मैं विशेषकर रेलवे और मेट्रो की बात कहना चाहूंगा। इतने सारे डिप्लिन्स मिलकर कहीं पर एक रेलवे सिस्टम को चला पाते हैं। मेकैनिकल, इलेक्ट्रिकल्स, सिग्नलिंग, टेलिकॉम, सिविल इंजीनियरिंग, ऑपरेशन्स, इन सबको अगर मिलाते हैं, तब जाकर कहीं सिस्टम चल पाता है। ऐसी परिस्थिति में अगर एक बच्चा जो किसी भी इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेज से आता है, चाहे आईआईटी से आए, किसी भी अच्छे इंस्टीट्यूट्स से आए, उसको कई वर्ष लग जाते हैं। A graduate takes typically five to six years to be able to understand कि रेलवे होता क्या है, मेट्रो होता क्या है and then only the real productivity and real skill comes. उसके बजाय अगर हम पहले से एजुकेशन देकर, प्रॉपली ट्रेन्ड रेलवे सेक्टर के लिए, मेट्रो सेक्टर के लिए, पोर्ट सेक्टर के लिए बच्चों को तैयार करें, तो wouldn't that increase the productivity; wouldn't that increase the level of skill which is there in the sector, which is needed in the sector!

सभापति महोदय, आपने अर्बन डेवलपमेंट मिनिस्टर रहते हुए, देश के कोने-कोने में मेट्रो का जाल बिछाया। आज उसके लिए एक कैडर की जरूरत है, उसके लिए यह जरूरत है कि एक ट्रेन्ड मैनपावर हो। इसी परिकल्पना को लेकर गतिशक्ति को ट्रांसपोर्ट फोकस्ड बनाया गया है। यह मल्टी-डिसिप्लिनरी जरूर रहेगा, वंदना जी का जो प्रश्न था, सस्टेनेबल ट्रांसपोर्ट, अर्बन प्लानिंग, ये सब इसमें रहेंगे। जरूरी नहीं है कि हर शब्द को बिल के आरंभ में ही लिखा जाए, लेकिन ये सब इसके इन्टीग्रल पार्ट रहेंगे।

सभापति महोदय, पब्लिक फंडिंग और प्राइवेट फंडिंग का प्रश्न भी उठाया गया। This is a public university. इस यूनिवर्सिटी में फंडिंग के संबंध में, जैसा मैंने आरंभ में कहा कि ऑलरेडी मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ रेलवेज़ ने इसके लिए बजट में 166 करोड़ रुपये का प्रावधान किया है। इसके साथ ही इसकी जो बिल्डिंग बनेगी, उस बिल्डिंग के लिए अलग से एक और बजट बन रहा है। This is going to be publicly funded university. इसमें कोई भी डाउट नहीं है। किसी भी मान्यवर सांसद को इसमें डाउट हो, उनके लिए मैं स्पष्ट जवाब देना चाहता हूँ।

सभापति महोदय, एक मान्यवर सांसद ने एग्जिस्टिंग एम्प्लॉयीज़ के संबंध में पूछा कि उनका क्या करोगे? Again, I would like to refer to Clause 4(j), जिसकी अन्य हाउस में बहुत प्रशंसा भी की गई कि एक्सोल्यूटली कोई डिसरप्शन नहीं हो, एक सीमलैस कंटीन्यूइटी बने, उस परिकल्पना के साथ क्लॉज 4(j) लाया गया। "Every person employed by the NRTI immediately before the commencement of the Central Universities Amendment Act,.. " यह वाला बिल, "shall hold his office or service in Gati Shakti Vishwavidayala established under this Act by same tenure, at the same remuneration and upon the same terms." बेसिकली एक कंटीन्यूइटी बनी रहे, उसका बहुत अच्छी तरह से प्रावधान किया गया है और उस प्रावधान का, बाकी सब जगह, इन फैक्ट, जो एम्प्लायीज़ हैं, उन्होंने भी इसका स्वागत किया है कि आपने इस बात को बहुत सोच-समझकर रखा है कि हमारी सर्विस में कहीं पर भी कोई डिसकंटीन्यूइटी नहीं आए। इसमें बहुत ही ह्यूमेन तरीके से सोचा गया है। माननीय सभापति महोदय, इसके अलावा और भी कई सारे विषय आए हैं, सदन में समय की मर्यादा है, इसलिए मैं उनके विस्तार में नहीं जाऊंगा।

महोदय, रेलवे में रिक्रूटमेंट का एक विषय आया था। मैं एक बार फिर से दोहराना चाहूंगा कि 2014-2022 के बीच में करीब साढ़े तीन लाख, यानी 3.50 lakh persons have been given employment by Indian Railways. So, this is not a small number, Hon'ble Chairman, Sir. This is a very large number. If some Hon'ble Member needs more detail, more details can be provided, but please don't, quote selectively and mislead the House. This is what I will request Hon'ble Member who gave this number in a different context.

महोदय, और भी मुद्दे आए। Women participation in transport and logistics यह डेफिनिटली एक बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट मुद्दा है और मैं बहुत ही गर्व के साथ यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इंडियन रेलवेज़ ने विमेन पायलट, यानी जो लोको और इंजन को ड्राइव करते हैं, उसके लिए विमेन पायलट का भी रिक्रूटमेंट आरंभ किया है, उनकी ट्रेनिंग भी की है and the results have been

very good. This is a very good example of women's empowerment in a very difficult and very complex sector, Hon'ble Chairman, Sir.

महोदय, और भी बहुत सारे विषय उठाए गए। मैंने अरबन प्लानिंग विषय पर एड्रेस किया है। About language, this University will definitely have global standards of education. अगर हम इससे कोरिलेटिड दुनिया के इंस्टिट्यूट्स देखें, तो MIT of US is probably the best in the world. उन्होंने किस तरह से ट्रांसपोर्टेशन फोकस्ड कोर्सेज लेकर, they have created a cadre of people who are today serving all over the world as the best professionals in the transportation sector. We already have tied up with them. We will be tying up with many of the institutes in the world and the education standard will be of global standard. The thought process will be that students who come out of this University not only serve the transportation sector of India but also they should be capable and be prepared for serving the transportation sector all over the world and they should be the biggest brain because, Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, ऐसी कॉम्प्लेक्सिटी और इस तरह का कॉम्प्लेक्स नेटवर्क बहुत कम देशों में होता है, जिसमें स्टूडेंट्स अपने स्किल्स को होन कर सकें, उसे और डेवलप कर सकें। हम लोग सौभाग्यशाली हैं कि भारत में इतना कॉम्प्लेक्स नेटवर्क और एक ऐसा नेटवर्क अवेलेबल है, जहाँ पर स्टूडेंट्स अपनी थ्योरी के अलावा प्रैक्टिकल नॉलेज भी ले सकेंगे। वे इन सभी प्रैक्टिकल नॉलेज को लेकर दुनिया भर में भारत का परचम फहराएं, भारत को 'विश्व गुरु' का जो दर्जा देना है, उस राह पर चलें और भारत की जो टेक्निकल कैपेबिलिटीज हैं, उनको आगे लेकर जाएं।

सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि आज आपने अपने फेयरवेल समारोह के बावजूद इस बिल के लिए समय दिया। मेरा आपके साथ कई वर्षों तक जुड़े रहने का पर्सनल सौभाग्य रहा है, आपने मुझ पर हमेशा आशीर्वाद रखा है और स्नेह दिया है, हमेशा गाइड किया है और आज आपकी चेयरमैनशिप में यह हाउस इस बिल को भी पास करेगा। यह इस हाउस का सौभाग्य है कि आपका युवाओं के साथ, एजुकेशन के साथ हमेशा जुड़ाव रहा है और उस जुड़ाव की सबसे बड़ी मिसाल यह गतिशक्ति विश्वविद्यालय बनेगा। सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is: ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: About language, you have not given any clarification. ...*(Interruptions)*.. It should be at least in English and Hindi. ...*(Interruptions)*.. It should be at least from English to Hindi. ...*(Interruptions)*.. He has not given any clarification. ...*(Interruptions)*.. What is the need for that? ...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. ...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: The hon. Minister did not...*(Interruptions)*..

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have made your point. ...(Interruptions).. There is no question of imposition. ...(Interruptions).. No imposition, no opposition, there should be proposition. ...(Interruptions)..

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, the hon. Minister did not say anything about the Railway Zone which has been promised at the time of A.P. Reorganisation Act. ...(Interruptions)..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, do you have anything to say about the Railway Zone? ...(Interruptions)..

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, there is no relation with this Bill, but still I would like to mention that whatever has been promised is being done in a very meticulous way. The South Coast Railway Zone issue has been deliberated with the Hon'ble Member outside this House also. The DPR has been prepared; land for constructing the building has been identified. This is something which is already 'work in progress', Hon'ble Chairman, Sir.

DR. K. LAXMAN. (Uttar Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in pursuance of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, there was supposed to be a tribal institution in Telangana also. But, due to the delay in the allocation of land by the State Government as also due to the changed priorities of the State Government ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are not debating, please.

DR. K. LAXMAN: Sir, I would like to know the latest position of the Government in establishing a tribal institution in Telangana. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That the Bill further to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill. In Clause 2, there is one Amendment (No.1) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. Are you moving it?

Clause 2 - Amendment of Section 2

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I move:

1. That at page 1, line 8, *for* the words “Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya”, the words “Mahatma Gandhi Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya” be *substituted*.

The question was put and the motion was negatived.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In Clause 3, there is one Amendment (No.2) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. Are you moving it?

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Sir, I am not moving it.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In Clause 4, there is one Amendment (No.3) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. Are you moving it?

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Sir, I am not moving it.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In Clause 5, there is one Amendment (No.4) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. Are you moving it?

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Sir, I was expecting a Silver Line; they are allowing the Silver Line and hence I am not moving it.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In Clause 6, there is one Amendment (No.5) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. Are you moving it?

DR. V. SIVADASAN: Sir, I am not moving it.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is the Member's prerogative to move the Amendment or not.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister to move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022

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

“In accordance with provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill, 2022, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th August, 2022.”

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Special Mentions. As there is paucity of time, hon. Members may lay them on the Table. Shri Mukul Balkrishna Wasnik is absent.

Receding water level in Haryana

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.) (Haryana): Sir, half of the nation is reeling under heavy rains and two-third of Punjab is water logged. Excess rainwater is flowing to sea and SYL completion has been hanging for decades. Through the hon. Chairman, I want to suggest that the matter may be solved amicably in phases.

Punjab should complete the SYL canal and permit excess water to Haryana for starved fields to change the water table. I request that the Central Government should take necessary steps in this regard.

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

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

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Nath Thakur is absent.

Need for Salary and allowance for priests of Hindu temples

श्री हरद्वार दुबे (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, उत्तर प्रदेश में योगी आदित्यनाथ सरकार ने हाल ही में पेश किए गए बजट में सनातन भारतीय संस्कृति और सभ्यता के संरक्षक मंदिरों के पुजारियों की आर्थिक और सामाजिक स्थिति में सुधार के लिए "पुजारी कल्याण बोर्ड" का गठन किया है। केन्द्र और कई राज्य सरकारों की तरफ से अन्य धर्मावलंबियों के पुजारियों को मासिक वेतन भत्ता दिया जा रहा है। कई सामाजिक संगठन लंबे समय से यूपी और दिल्ली सहित विभिन्न राज्यों में मंदिरों के पुजारियों को मासिक भत्ता देने की मांग कर रहे हैं। उनकी मांगों पर योगी सरकार का जो सकारात्मक रुख है, वह पुजारियों के लिए आशा की एक किरण बना है।

मेरा अनुरोध है कि केन्द्र सरकार देश भर के उन हिंदू मंदिरों के पुजारियों के लिए वेतन भत्ते की व्यवस्था करने के बारे में गंभीरता से विचार करे। पुजारियों की आर्थिक दशा सुधरेगी तो इसका फायदा यह होगा कि देश की सनातन संस्कृति को बल मिलेगा और हमारी भावी पीढ़ी में सनातन मूल्य मजबूत होंगे। इससे भारत के विश्वगुरु बनने का सपना भी जल्द साकार होगा।

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

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

Need for law to implement single charging device mandate for all consumer electronic devices in the country

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI (Bihar): Sir, with the doubling of per-capita disposable income and private consumption between FY 2012 and FY 2022, India has become one of the largest markets for electronic devices in the world. As per 2019-20, the electronic devices industry was valued at USD 118 billion, 46 per cent of which accounts for mobile phones and consumer electronics.

This increase in ownership and use of electronic devices by consumers in India has consequently expanded the ownership of charging devices. An average consumer may be expected to own 5-6 charging devices which essentially means that users are spending money on redundant chargers and are generating greater electronic waste.

According to Government estimates, e-waste generation has increased by 32 per cent between FY 2019 and FY 2020. Moreover, less than 25 per cent of the waste is systematically disposed of. Consequently, improper disposal of unused devices in open spaces and water bodies comes with environmental threats.

To respond to these issues, the European Union has agreed on a single charger mandate for all small and medium-sized electronic devices. It requires all manufacturers to switch to USB Type-C charging portals by 2024. Expected benefits include annual savings of 250 million euros spent on unnecessary charger purchases and significant reduction in e-waste generation.

I, therefore, urge the Government to consider the expected benefits of such a mandate within India and implement a similar law to increase consumers' convenience and reduce circulation of electronic waste.

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I would also like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

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

Need to de-limit the Lok Sabha Constituencies by giving due weightage to factors other than population

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the construction of a new Parliament building is a welcome step. It will truly act as the symbol of a modern and vibrant democracy for India. While it is a positive thing that the new Parliament is expected to have 888 Lok Sabha seats, what is of concern is whether the increase in seats would be based just on demography as is the trend.

Presently, the delimitation of constituencies is based on the 2001 Census, but the total number of seats in the Assemblies and Parliament decided as per the 1971 Census was not changed. In the 1971 Census, the population of united Andhra Pradesh was 49.2 per cent when compared to Uttar Pradesh. In 2011, united Andhra Pradesh became 42.4 per cent of Uttar Pradesh, a drop of 6.8 per cent. Some estimates put combined Andhra Pradesh's population at present to be 39.6 per cent of Uttar Pradesh. Therefore, if demography is the sole consideration for increase in Lok Sabha constituencies, then the southern States such as Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Kerala will be at a disadvantage in the new Parliament. It may just so happen that the seats of Uttar Pradesh may go up by 50 per cent, to 120, and that of Andhra Pradesh just by 20 per cent, to 30.

I would, therefore, request that whenever the next legislation is enacted for a new delimitation commission, its mandate should be to delimit the Lok Sabha constituencies by giving due weightage to factors other than population such as area, forest and ecology, income gap and demographic performance. This will avoid injustice to the southern Indian States.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Likely closure of Ordinance Factory Schools

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, the Ordinance Factory Schools, which were under OFB, the Ministry of Defence, Government of India, are going to be closed, rather have been closed, as OFB has been dismantled already by the Government of India.

The Central Government now has formed 7 DPSUs instead of OFB. If the OFB schools may come under those DPSUs all over, we will be obliged.

In fact, 24 schools were situated in different parts of the country in different States like UP, MP, Odisha, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, etc. Many of these schools have more than 100 years of history. For decades, these schools have been providing fruitful generation for the nation. These schools are running from primary to secondary level. Approximately, 20,000 students are studying in these schools where free education is provided from I to VIII and fee structure is between Rs.100 to Rs.200 annually from IX to XII. Obviously, students' strength is much higher where majority SC, ST, OBC and lower-middle class students are studying in these schools.

Keeping all the facts and findings, I urge upon the Central Government, hon. Minister of Defence, through you, to keep away these schools from the process of corporatisation and continue to run these under MOD only, under DPSUs, instead of OFB to save the students and the schools as well to continue for this academic session accordingly.

SHRI SANDOSH KUMAR P (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

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

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

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

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

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

Need for Setting up a Central Tribal University at Rairangpur in Odisha

श्रीमती ममता मोहंता (ओडिशा) : महोदय, मैं आपको बताना चाहती हूँ कि ओडिशा के मयूरभंज जिला को जंगल, पहाड़ घेरा, प्राकृतिक संपदा परिपूर्ण तथा आदिवासी अंचल के रूप में जाना जाता है। 2011 की जनगणना के अनुसार इस जिले में 25 लाख से ज्यादा लोग रहते हैं। इस जिले की साक्षरता दर 85.89 प्रतिशत है, जिसमें 90.77 प्रतिशत पुरुष और 80.82 प्रतिशत महिलाएँ हैं। इस जिले में आदिवासी संप्रदाय के संथाल, कोल्हा, बथुडी, भूमिज, हो, भुइयां, महली, मुंडा, गोंड, मनकीर्डिया, खड़िया समेत आदिवासी मान्यता माँग करने वाले कुर्मी, पुराण, तमुरिया, भांज पुरान और कुम्भार जाति के लोग रहते हैं। इस संप्रदाय के सामाजिक तथा आर्थिक विकास के लिए केन्द्र सरकार प्रतिबद्ध है। शिक्षा क्षेत्र के विकास के बिना सामाजिक और आर्थिक विकास संभव नहीं हो सकता। इसीलिए मयूरभंज जिला के 60 प्रतिशत आदिवासियों के सामूहिक विकास के लिए रायरंगपुर में केन्द्र सरकार की तरफ से एक केन्द्रीय आदिवासी विश्वविद्यालय स्थापित करने के लिए कदम उठाया जाए।

यहाँ विश्वविद्यालय स्थापित होने से मयूरभंज जिला सहित केन्दुझर, सुन्दरगढ़, देवगढ़, बालेश्वर और पश्चिमी बंगाल, बिहार तथा झारखंड के छात्र-छात्राएँ यहाँ विभिन्न आदिवासी भाषाओं का अध्ययन कर पाएँगे, साथ ही इससे आदिवासी भाषाओं की गवेषणा भी हो पाएगी। इसके साथ ही इससे राज्य की आदिवासी संस्कृति की सुरक्षा सहित शिक्षा क्षेत्र में आदिवासी भाषाओं का प्रचार-प्रसार भी हो पाएगा।

श्री सुजीत कुमार (ओडिशा) : महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. सांतनु सेन (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डॉ. जॉन ब्रिट्टास (केरल) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री अवीर रंजन बिस्वास (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विशेष उल्लेख से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**Need for compensation/jobs to the injured/deceased personnel of Gorkha Regiment
in Manipur landslide**

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of this august House that on the night of 30th June, 2022, a huge landslide struck the 11 Gorkha Rifles personnel stationed at Manipur, which led to the tragic death of several Gorkha Regiment personnel while several others are still missing.

I humbly urge this august House to draw the kind attention of the Defence Minister to urgently provide jobs to the next of kin of the deceased personnel and grant compensation to all who lost their lives, those who are missing and those are severely injured. Thank you.

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

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

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

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made raised by the hon. Member.

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

Need for de-silting of river beds falling under railway bridges in Punjab

SANT BALBIR SINGH (Punjab): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the spans of railway bridges on rivers have got choked due to accumulation of sand and silt. This leads to stoppage of passage of water and breaches the '*Dhussi Bandh*', resulting in floods. A peculiar case is that of the railway bridge near village *Gidderpindi* on the Jalandhar - Ferozepur railway section, which has about 21 spans, out of which only 3 to 4 were clear and rest were choked due to accumulation of sand and silt. Sir, as an area of 1,200 ft on upstream side and 800 ft on the downstream side fall under the jurisdiction of Railways, the main problem in the process of de-silting is the illegal occupants of

land, who are opposing it tooth and nail. They are using the land falling under railway jurisdiction for cultivation and only railways can get it vacated and cleaned. As per law, cultivation is not permitted on this land as it is meant for the smooth flow of river under the railway bridge. Because of the choking of these about 17 to 18 spans, there was a massive flood in Sutlej river during the monsoon of 2019 in the area, which resulted in an approximate loss of State property worth Rs. 200 crores. It also resulted in loss of crops, livestock and homes of the people amounting to approximately Rs. 1,000 crores. The floods of 1985, 1988, 1995 and 2008 were also caused due to similar reasons. The Railway department should take steps to avoid any breach in '*Dhussi bandh*' in future.

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

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

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

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

Need for political solution for the problems of Naga people

SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK (Nagaland): Sir, this year makes the 25th year since ceasefire in Nagaland came into effect. After years of stalemate, in 2015, under the strong leadership of hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, the 'Framework Agreement' was signed between the Government of India and NSCN (IH) to pave way for peace and end insurgency. Naga people want peace and solution cutting across tribal and political lines. The people have voiced their desire democratically through various mediums and platforms. But an agreement could not be reached between the negotiating parties by 31st October, which was the Government's deadline. On behalf of the people, I appeal to all negotiating parties to find a solution that will serve the interests of the people for peace and development. In Nagaland, rallies are being held and numerous meetings commenced requesting for a solution at

the earliest. The Government in Nagaland is oppositionless as all political parties have come forward to unite for the Naga political solution.

I request the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, and the hon. Union Home Minister, to use their wisdom and usher in an era of peace in Nagaland. This peace accord, once signed, will herald a new era of development and progress for the Naga people. We request a solution at the earliest.

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

**Need to establish a National Institute of Technology in the name of Chhatrapati
Shahu Ji Maharaj at Kolhapur**

श्री धनंजय भीमराव महादिक (महाराष्ट्र) : महोदय, राजर्षि छत्रपति शाहू महाराज महाराष्ट्र के कोल्हापुर के महान राजा (1874-1922) थे। इस वर्ष राजर्षि छत्रपति शाहू महाराज की 100वीं पुण्यतिथि है और इसे कृतज्ञता महोत्सव और राजर्षि शाहू महाराज स्मृति-शताब्दी महोत्सव के रूप में मनाया जा रहा है।

महोदय, शाहू महाराज ने पिछड़े वर्ग के गरीब मेधावी छात्रों के लिए कई छात्रवृत्तियाँ शुरू कीं। उन्होंने अपने राज्य में सभी के लिए मुफ्त प्राथमिक शिक्षा भी शुरू की। उन्होंने सामाजिक परिवर्तन, पिछड़ों, महिलाओं और सामाजिक रूप से वंचित लोगों को शिक्षा दिलवाने की जरूरत महसूस की। महाराज विभिन्न प्रकार की शिक्षा और प्रशिक्षण से भी अवगत थे। उन्होंने न केवल पारंपरिक शिक्षा पर अपना ध्यान केन्द्रित किया, बल्कि औद्योगिक, चिकित्सा एवं कृषि शिक्षा के लिए भी प्रयास किए। सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बात, उन्होंने उस युग में सभी के लिए मुफ्त और अनिवार्य शिक्षा की अवधारणा को महसूस किया। उन्होंने पांचाल, देवदनी, नाभिक, शिम्पी, धोर-चंभर समुदायों के साथ-साथ मुस्लिम, जैनियों और ईसाइयों सहित विभिन्न जातियों और धर्मों के लिए छात्रावास बनवाये।

महोदय, राजर्षि शाहू महाराज के स्मृति-शताब्दी महोत्सव के अवसर पर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि छत्रपति शाहू महाराज के नाम पर कोल्हापुर में नेशनल इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी की स्थापना की जाए।

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

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

**Need to approve and allocate funds to develop Mamallapuram as iconic site
for tourism**

SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, has identified Mamallapuram as one among the 17 tourism iconic sites in the country in August, 2018, for development of a world-class tourist destination and found innovative ways to leverage tourism potential of Mamallapuram. The Ministry of Tourism had appointed a consultant for preparing the Master Plan.

Hon. Prime Minister of India and the Chinese President had an informal summit at Mamallapuram during the month of October, 2019. The ambience, warmth and hospitality extended during the visit reflected a perfect blend of tradition and professionalism. The attention generated by the informal Summit gave an encouragement to the tourism sector in Tamil Nadu, especially Mamallapuram. The developmental activities in Mamallapuram have enhanced its image and helped to increase the tourist footfalls. To add value to it, the State Government and the Union Government together is conducting 44th Chess Olympiad at Mamallapuram.

The consultant team has submitted the Master Plan to develop the Mamallapuram with the total estimated budget of Rs. 461 crores. However, despite the fact that Master Plan has been submitted, the project approval is still pending and is under consideration with the Ministry of Tourism.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, as we all know, tourism industry has affected majorly during the COVID Pandemic. In order to revive this industry, these kinds of investments are necessary.

Hence, I humbly request the hon. Minister to approve and allocate funds for this project.

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

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

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

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

Interest amount accruing from MPLADS Funds

DR. JOHN BRITTAS (Kerala): Sir, vide Office Memorandum F.No.1(18)/PFMS/FCD/2021 dated 9.3.2022 issued by Department of Expenditure, the Government revised the procedure for flow of funds under Central Sector Schemes including MPLADS. Para 3(viii) of the said O.M. stipulates that all interest earnings from the funds released for each Central Sector Scheme shall mandatorily be remitted back to the Consolidated Fund of India. Para 3(xi) stipulates that implementing authorities shall immediately return all unspent amounts of the schemes, that is, including interest accrued, lying in their accounts to Central Nodal Agency. However, it has been specified in the extant MPLADS guidelines in unequivocal terms that the interest accrued on the funds released under the MPLAD Scheme to the District Authority is to be used for permissible works recommended by the MP concerned. The interest accrued on the funds released under the Scheme to the implementing agencies shall be calculated while arriving at the savings for each work. As such, MPs have categorically been bestowed with the solemn right to recommend works also for the interest amount accrued for the MPLADS Fund disbursed to them. Otherwise, interest loss will be around Rs.800-1000 crore for five years when all MPs are considered in toto.

Hence, I request the Government to take steps to preserve the said facility by excluding MPLAD Scheme from the ambit of the revised guidelines and continue to permit Members of Parliament to recommend works for the interest amount accrued for MPLADS Funds disbursed to them every year by retaining the procedure in vogue as such.

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

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

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

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

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Jayant Chaudhary; not present.

Need for amendments in IT Act, 2000 to deal with criminal activities through social media

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it is common feature that criminal elements are using social media to spread fake news and hate campaigns. These social media websites employ algorithms to analyse words, phrases or hashtags to create a list of topics sorted in order of popularity. Their business model thrives on the prospect of an increasing cumulative engagement. However, this facilitates the spread of hate, bigotry and fake news by feeding mob mentality. The situations are worsened by the use of automated bot accounts to influence engagement, target and troll certain persons or communities. Malicious actors influence others to target, defame & malign persons, groups & communities through social media mostly by disseminating fake news and defamatory content. More often than not they target holders of public office & constitutional functionaries including the judiciary. Usage of such bot accounts by disgruntled persons to troll & stifle criticism is an open secret. By the time the affected party moves to court, the damage is already done. Currently, there are no penal provisions to book the offenders after Section 66A of the IT Act which was struck down by the Supreme Court due to its infirmities. It is essential for the Police to have powers enabling them to immediately curtail the dissemination of such posts that defame persons or incite criminal activities, riots or threaten the security of the State. I request the hon. IT Minister to bring necessary amendments with stringent penal provisions in IT Act, 2000 which is the need of the hour.

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

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

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

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

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

Need for revision in salary of the Judges

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, through you, I would like to bring to the attention of the House, the very urgent need to revise the salaries of the Judges of the Supreme Court, High Court and subordinate judiciary. The last pay revision was seen in 2016. There is a need to revise the pay structure for the judges as the judiciary forms the sentinel of the Constitution. The financial self-sufficiency of the judiciary is an essential prerequisite to attaining true independence of the judiciary in India, which is a basic structure of the Constitution.

Sir, further, I would like to draw your attention to the salaries of the Chief Justice of India and Supreme Court judges vis-a-vis their international counterparts. The Chief Justice of India earns Rs.33.6 lakh a year. His counterpart in the U.S. earns Rs. 66.34 lakh, in Singapore earns Rs.95 lakh, and in Australia earns Rs.84 lakh. These figures are adjusted according to the Purchasing Power Parity of each of those countries. Similarly, a Supreme Court Judge in India earns just 47 per cent of a Judge of equal stature in the U.S. and 40 per cent of his peer in Australia.

Sir, this assumes increased importance as the National Judicial Data Grid data suggests that case pendency rose by almost 10.53 per cent in the Supreme Court, 20.4 per cent in 25 High Courts, and 18.2 per cent in the district courts over the pandemic year. Increased pendency equates to an increased burden; thus, a commensurate revision of the pay structure is essential.

DR. SANTANU SEN (WEST BENGAL): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention raised by the hon. Member.

DR. V. SIVADASAN (KERALA): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (WEST BENGAL): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention raised by the hon. Member.

VALEDICTORY REMARKS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as we move towards the conclusion of the Session, I have to report to the House that the, 257th Session of Rajya Sabha which commenced on the 18th of July, 2022 comes to a close today.

In all, the House had 16 sittings, during which it conducted its Business for more than 38 hours. However, more than 47 hours were lost due to interruptions, which is a sad reflection on the functioning of the Upper House of Parliament. The Session was characterized by regular and continuous disruptions, which deprived Members of the opportunity to discuss matters of urgent public importance and seek the accountability of the Executive through questions. Out of the 235 Starred Questions admitted, only 61 could be answered orally and Question Hour could not be taken up on seven days. Only 25 matters could be raised by Members with the permission of the Chair and only 60 Special Mentions could be made during the entire Session. The House discussed the issue of rising prices of essential items in the form of a Short Duration Discussion which lasted for more than four hours in which 33 Members participated in the debate. Only five Government Bills were considered and passed during the Session. Twenty-seven Private Members' Bills were also introduced and only one Private Members' Bill regarding 'Right to Health' could be partly discussed during the entire Session. No Private Members' Resolutions could be taken up.

I once again thank the hon. Prime Minister, hon. Deputy Chairman, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the House and Leaders of various parties/Groups and all the hon. Members for offering their good wishes on completion of my tenure as the Chairman of this august House. I thank the Leader of the Opposition, the leaders of various parties and Groups and the hon. Members for the cooperation extended by them in the overall conduct of proceedings and functioning of the House. I also thank the Secretary-General, Officers and Staff of the Secretariat for their help and assistance. Detailed statistics pertaining to this Session will be circulated in due course by the Secretariat.

Now, before we adjourn the House *sine die*, we will have the National Song.

(The National Song, "Vande Mataram", was then played)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House is adjourned *sine die*.

The House then adjourned sine die at twenty-one minutes past five of the clock.

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