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Tuesday,
8th August, 2023
17 Sravana, 1945 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT (FLOOR VERSION)

(PART-II)

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Website: <http://rajyasabha.nic.in>

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E-mail: rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in

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RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 8th August, 2023/17 Sravana, 1945 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I take the opportunity to wish birthday greetings to Shri Kapil Sibal, a renowned lawyer, known for his grace, eloquence, wit and highly impactful persuasive aggression inside the court as well as in Parliament.

He has been in this august House for two terms, in 1998 and 2016. He is into his third term in Rajya Sabha since July, 2022. He has served as a Union Minister in various capacities and was a Member of Lok Sabha for two terms. He is an alumnus of the University of Delhi and Harvard Law School.

Shri Kapil Sibal was appointed as Additional Solicitor General of India in 1989 when I happened to be a part of the ruling dispensation. He also has the rare distinction of entering Parliament as a lawyer and successfully defending Justice V. Ramaswami in his removal proceedings.

Shri Kapil Sibal belongs to a very reputed family that has been in the premium category of legal profession for three generations. All three generations have attained the distinguished status of Senior Advocates. His distinguished father, Padma Bhushan Shri Hira Lal Sibal, was also a Senior Advocate and had the rare distinction of being the Advocate General of Punjab and Haryana.

He is married to Shrimati Promilaa Sibal. He is blessed with two sons, Akhil and Amit, both distinguished Senior Advocates and recognized in their own right. I have had the occasion to assist the court against all three of them at different points of time. I can vouchsafe, they have amazing intellect and grace.

My greetings to another fellow lawyer and a Member of this House since April, 2018, Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar.

For the upliftment of children, he has worked enthusiastically and assiduously. Hon. Members, he earned a befitting recognition by UNICEF-India for consistently raising issues of children in the Parliament.

He is married to Shrimati Usha Rani and has a son, Kanakamedala Ranadheer.

My greetings to Shri Subhas Chandra Bose Pilli, who has been a Member of this august House since June, 2020.

Shri Pilli, a man with disarming habits and a senior politician, has served as the Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh from June, 2019 to June, 2020. He has also been a Member of the Andhra Pradesh Legislature for four terms. He has passionately espoused the cause of agriculture, himself being an agriculturist. He has also made immense contribution as a social worker.

He is married to Shrimati Satyanarayanamma and has two sons, Dr. Raveendranath and Suryaprakash -- सुभाष जी, आपने सूर्य और रवि नाम बहुत सोचकर रखे हैं -- and a daughter, Aruna.

On your and my behalf, I wish them a long, healthy and happy life and extend our greetings to their families and friends.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

Notifications of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): Sir, I lay on the Table:-

(i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, under sub-section (4) of Section 469 of the Companies Act, 2013:-

- (1) G.S.R. 242 (E), dated the 31st March, 2023, publishing the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules, 2023, along with Delay Statement.
- (2) G.S.R. 298 (E), dated the 17th April, 2023, publishing the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Amendment Rules, 2023, along with Delay Statement.
- (3) G.S.R. 354 (E), dated the 10th May, 2023, publishing the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Second Amendment Rules, 2023.
- (4) G.S.R. 367 (E), dated the 15th May, 2023, publishing the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Amendment Rules, 2023.
- (5) G.S.R. 408 (E), dated the 2nd June, 2023, publishing the Companies (Accounts) Second Amendment Rules, 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (5) See No. L.T. 10040/17/23]

(ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs Notification No. G.S.R. 411 (E), dated the 2nd June, 2023, publishing the Limited Liability Partnership (Amendment) Rules, 2023, under sub-section (3) of Section 79 of the Limited Liability Partnership Act, 2008.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10041/17/23]

(iii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, under Section 40 of the Cost and Works Accountants Act, 1959:—

- (1) No. EL-2023/1, dated the 31st March, 2023, notifying the procedure of holding the elections to the Council and the Regional Councils of the Institutes of Cost and Works Accountants of India.
- (2) No. EL-2023/2, dated the 31st March, 2023, notifying the numbers of member to be elected, inviting their nominations and fees to be paid by them for election to the Council and the regional constituencies of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India.
- (3) No. EL-2023/3, dated the 31st March, 2023, notifying the manner of holding elections to the Regional Councils of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India.
- (4) No. EL-2023/4, dated the 31st March, 2023, notifying the constitution of Regional Councils of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India.
- (5) No. EL-2023/5, dated the 31st March, 2023, notifying the manner of payment of fee for elections to the Council and the Regional Councils of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India.
- (6) No. EL-2023/6, dated the 31st March, 2023, notifying the manner of payment of Security Deposit for the elections to the Council and the Regional Councils of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India.
- (7) No. EL-2023/7, dated the 31st March, 2023, notifying the qualifications of the candidates for the nominations for elections to the Councils and the Regional Councils.
- (8) No. EL-2023/8, dated the 31st March, 2023, notifying the availability of list of members eligible to vote (list of voters) from the various constituencies for elections to the Council and the Regional Councils of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India.
- (9) No. EL-2023/9, dated the 31st March, 2023, fixing the ceiling of expenditure to be incurred by a candidate for election to the Council and the Regional Councils of the Cost and Works Accountants Council and other Rules to be followed by the candidate, as mentioned therein.

- (10) No. EL-2023/31, dated the 18th July, 2023, notifying the name of members who have been declared elected to the Council of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India for the term 2023-2027.
- (11) No. EL-2023/32, dated the 18th July, 2023, notifying the name of members who have been declared elected to the Regional Councils of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India for the term 2023-2027.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (11) See No. L.T. 9753/17/23]

(iv) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Corporate Affairs Notification No. 710/1(M)/2, dated the 3rd April, 2023, publishing the Company Secretaries (Amendment) Regulations, 2023, under Section 40 of the Company Secretaries Act, 1980.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9752/17/23]

Notifications of the Ministry of Power

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कृष्ण पाल): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

(i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Power, under sub-section (1) of Section 59 of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001:-

- (1) No.BEE/S&L/TFL/22-23, dated the 22nd June, 2023, publishing the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Particulars and Manner of their Display on Labels of Tubular Fluorescent Lamps) (Regulations), 2023.
- (2) No.BEE/S&L/LED/52/2023, dated the 23rd June, 2023, publishing the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (Particulars and Manner of their Display on Labels of Self-ballasted LED lamps) Regulations, 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 9963/17/23]

(ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Power, under Section 179 of the Electricity Act, 2003:-

- (1) No. JERC-TECH/2023/08, dated the 25th April, 2023, publishing the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the UT of Jammu & Kashmir and the UT of Ladakh (Electricity Trading) Regulations, 2023.
- (2) No. JERC-JKL/Reg/2023/09, dated the 25th April, 2023, publishing the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the UT of Jammu & Kashmir and the UT

of Ladakh (Appointment of Consultants) Regulations, 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 9862/17/23]

- (3) No. RA-14026(11)/3/2019-CERC, dated the 2nd May, 2023, notifying that certain provisions of the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Ancillary Services) Regulations, 2022, as mentioned therein, shall come into force from 01.06.2023 and that the Detailed Procedure issued shall cease to be in operation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9863/17/23]

- (4) No. L-7/1/0S44 (59)-CERC, dated the 19th May, 2023, publishing the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Appointment of Consultants) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2023.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9864/17/23]

- (5) No. JERC-21/2017, dated the 20th May, 2022, publishing the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for the State of Goa and Union Territories (Connectivity and Open Access in Intra- State Transmission and Distribution) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2022, along with delay statement.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9862/17/23]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

II. Circulars of the Ministry of Finance

III. Statement on Half Yearly Review (2022-23) of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पंकज चौधरी): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), under Section 3A of the Government Savings Promotion Act, 1873:-

- (1) G.S.R. 237(E), dated 31st March, 2023, publishing the Mahila Samman Savings Certificate, 2023.
- (2) G.S.R. 239(E), dated 31st March, 2023, publishing the National Savings (Monthly Income Account) (Amendment) Scheme, 2023.

- (3) G.S.R. 240(E), dated 31st March, 2023, publishing the Senior Citizens' Savings (Amendment) Scheme, 2023.
- (4) G.S.R. 324(E), dated the 28th April, 2023, publishing the Kisan Vikas Patra (Second Amendment) Scheme, 2023.
- (5) G.S.R. 325(E), dated the 28th April, 2023, publishing the National Savings (Monthly Income Account) (Third Amendment) Scheme, 2023.
- (6) G.S.R. 326(E), dated the 28th April, 2023, publishing the Senior Citizens' Savings (Third Amendment) Scheme, 2023.
- (7) G.S.R. 327(E), dated the 28th April, 2023, publishing the National Savings Time Deposit (Second Amendment) Scheme, 2023.
- (8) G.S.R. 328(E), dated the 28th April, 2023, publishing the National Savings Certificates (VIII Issue) (Second Amendment) Scheme, 2023.
- (9) G.S.R. 329(E), dated the 28th April, 2023, publishing the Sukanya Samriddhi Account (Amendment) Scheme, 2023.
- (10) G.S.R. 330(E), dated the 28th April, 2023, publishing the National Savings Recurring Deposit (Amendment) Scheme, 2023.
- (11) G.S.R. 489(E), dated 6th July, 2023, publishing the Post Office Savings Account (Amendment) Scheme, 2023.
- (12) G.S.R. 490(E), dated 6th July, 2023, publishing the National Savings (Monthly Income Account) (Fourth Amendment) Scheme, 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (12) See No. L.T. 9764/17/23]

(ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), under sub-section (3) of Section 15 of the Government Savings Promotion Act, 1873:—

- (1) G.S.R. 238(E), dated 31st March, 2023, publishing the Government Savings Promotion General (Amendment) Rules, 2023.
- (2) G.S.R. 488(E), dated 6th July, 2023, publishing the Government Savings Promotion General (Second Amendment) Rules, 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 9764/17/23]

(iii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), under Section 31 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992:—

- (1) No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2023/130, dated the 23rd May, 2023, publishing the

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue of Capital and Disclosure Requirements) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2023.
- (2) No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2023/131, dated the 14th June, 2023, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2023.
 - (3) No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2023/132, dated the 15th June, 2023, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Alternative Investment Funds) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2023.
 - (4) No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2023/134, dated the 27th June, 2023, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Mutual Funds) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023.
 - (5) No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2023/135, dated the 5th July, 2023, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Issue and Listing of Non-Convertible Securities) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2023.
 - (6) No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2023/136, dated the 3rd July, 2023, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Credit Rating Agencies) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023.
 - (7) No. SEBI/LAD-NRO/GN/2023/137, dated the 3rd July, 2023, publishing the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanism) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (7) See No. L.T. 9882/17/23]

(iv) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) Notification No. S.O. 2436 (E), dated the 5th June, 2023, under Section 26A of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992, Section 26A of the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956 and Section 22C of the Depositories Act, 1996, designating the Court of Additional Sessions Judge-03, South-West District, Dwarka, Delhi, as Special Court for the purposes of the aforesaid Acts.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9982/17/23]

(v) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Draft Notification of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), providing for application of certain provisions of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 and the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006 with such modifications, as mentioned therein, to the financial products, financial services or financial institutions, as the case may be, in an International Financial Services Centre, under sub-section (2) of Section 31 of the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9984/17/23]

(vi) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Draft Notification of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), providing for application of certain provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 with such modifications, as mentioned therein, to the financial products, financial services or financial institutions, as the case may be, in an International Financial Services Centre, under sub-section (2) of Section 31 of the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9895/17/23]

(vii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) Notification No. G.S.R. 533(E) dated the 24th July, 2023, publishing the Coinage (Issue of Commemorative Coins on the Occasion of India's G20 Presidency) Rules, 2023, under Section 25 of the Coinage Act, 2011.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9894/17/23]

(viii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 166 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, along with Explanatory Memorandum:—

- (1) G.S.R. 537(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 690(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by inserting/substituting/omitting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (2) G.S.R. 540(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 691(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (3) G.S.R. 543(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 692(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (4) G.S.R. 547(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 673(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by inserting/substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (5) G.S.R. 550(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 1263(E), dated the 31st December, 2018, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (5) See No. L.T. 9889/17/23]

- (6) G.S.R. 506(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 699(E), dated the 10th November, 2020 by substituting certain

entries, as mentioned therein.

- (7) G.S.R. 507(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 385(E), dated the 24th May, 2023 by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (8) G.S.R. 508(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, extending the due date for furnishing the return in FORM GSTR-3B for the quarter ending June, 2023 till the thirty-first day of July, 2023, for the registered persons whose principal place of business is in the State of Manipur.
- (9) G.S.R. 509(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 452(E), dated the 28th June, 2019, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (10) G.S.R. 510(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 1600(E), dated the 29th December, 2017, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (11) G.S.R. 511(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 246(E), dated the 31st March, 2023, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (12) G.S.R. 512(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 249(E), dated the 31st March, 2023, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (13) G.S.R. 513(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 250(E), dated the 31st March, 2023, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (14) S.O. 3192(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 1563(E), dated the 31st March, 2023, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.

[Placed in Library. For (6) to (14) See No. L.T. 9983/17/23]

(ix) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, along with Explanatory Memorandum:-

- (1) No.26/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 6th April, 2023, determining the rate of exchange of conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice versa* for imported and export goods with effect from 7th April, 2023 along with a Delay Statement.

- (2) No.29/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 20th April, 2023, determining the rate of exchange of conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice versa* for imported and export goods with effect from 21st April, 2023.
- (3) No.33/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 4th May, 2023, determining the rate of exchange of conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice versa* for imported and export goods with effect from 5th May, 2023.
- (4) No.36/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 18th May, 2023, determining the rate of exchange of conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice versa* for imported and export goods with effect from 19th May, 2023.
- (5) No.39/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 1st June, 2023, determining the rate of exchange of conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice versa* for imported and export goods with effect from 2nd June, 2023.
- (6) No.40/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 7th June, 2023, amending the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs Notification No. 39/2023-CUSTOMS (N.T.), dated the 1st June, 2023 with effect from 8th June, 2023, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (7) No.41/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 8th June, 2023, amending the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs Notification No. 39/2022-CUSTOMS (N.T.), dated the 1st June, 2023 with effect from 9th June, 2023, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (8) No.42/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 12th June, 2023, amending the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs Notification No. 39/2023-CUSTOMS (N.T.), dated the 1st June, 2023 with effect from 13th June, 2023, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (9) No.44/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 15th June, 2023, determining the rate of exchange of conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice versa* for imported and export goods with effect from 16th June, 2023.
- (10) No.46/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 23rd June, 2023, amending the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs Notification No. 44/2023-CUSTOMS (N.T.), dated the 15th June, 2023 with effect from 24th June, 2023, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (11) No.50/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 6th July, 2023, determining the rate of exchange of conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice versa* for imported and export goods with effect from 7th July, 2023.
- (12) No.52/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 13th July, 2023, amending the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs Notification No. 50/2023-CUSTOMS (N.T.), dated the 6th July, 2023 with effect from 14th July, 2023, by substituting

certain entries, as mentioned therein.

- (13) No.54/2023-Customs (N.T.), dated the 20th July, 2023, determining the rate of exchange of conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or *vice versa* for imported and export goods with effect from 21st July, 2023.
- (14) G.S.R. 243(E), dated the 31st March, 2023, publishing the Courier Imports and Exports (Clearance) Amendment Regulations, 2023.
- (15) G.S.R. 244(E), dated the 31st March, 2023, publishing the Courier Imports and Exports (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Amendment Regulations, 2023.
- (16) S.O. 1562(E), dated the 31st March, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 748(E), dated the 3rd August, 2001, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (17) S.O. 1735(E) dated the 13th April, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 748(E), dated the 3rd August, 2001 by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (18) S.O. 1967(E), dated the 28th April, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 748(E), dated the 3rd August, 2001, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (19) S.O. 2182(E), dated the 15th May, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 748(E), dated the 3rd August, 2001, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (20) S.O. 2368(E), dated the 31st May, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 748(E), dated the 3rd August, 2001, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (21) S.O. 2663(E), dated the 15th June, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 748(E), dated the 3rd August, 2001, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (22) S.O. 2833(E), dated the 30th June, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 748(E), dated the 3rd August, 2001, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (23) S.O. 3148(E), dated the 14th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 748(E), dated the 3rd August, 2001, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (23) See No. L.T. 9888/17/23]

- (24) G.S.R. 557(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending certain Principal Notifications, by inserting/substituting/omitting certain entries, as mentioned

therein, in those Notifications, under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.10042/17/23]

(x) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 24 of the Integrated Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, along with Explanatory Memorandum:-

- (1) G.S.R. 538(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 683(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by inserting/substituting/omitting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (2) G.S.R. 541(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 684(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (3) G.S.R. 544(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 685(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (4) G.S.R. 548(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 666(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by inserting/substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (5) G.S.R. 551(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 1266(E), dated the 31st December, 2018, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (5) See No. L.T. 9891/17/23]

(xi) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 24 of the Union Territory Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, along with Explanatory Memorandum:—

- (1) G.S.R. 539(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 702(E) dated the 28th June, 2017, by inserting/substituting/omitting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (2) G.S.R. 542(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 703(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (3) G.S.R. 545(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 704(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.

- (4) G.S.R. 549(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 710(E), dated the 28th June, 2017, by inserting/substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.
- (5) G.S.R. 552(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 1269(E), dated the 31st December, 2018, by substituting certain entries, as mentioned therein.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (5) See No. L.T. 9891/17/23]

(xii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 296 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, along with Explanatory Memorandum:—

- (1) G.S.R. 118(E), dated the 21st February, 2023, publishing the Income-tax Amendment (Third Amendment) Rules, 2023.
- (2) G.S.R. 379(E), dated the 22nd May, 2023, publishing the Income-tax (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2023.
- (3) G.S.R. 399(E), dated the 30th May, 2023, publishing the Income-tax (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 2023.
- (4) G.S.R. 403(E), dated the 31st May, 2023, publishing the Income-tax (Eighth Amendment) Rules, 2023.
- (5) G.S.R. 452(E), dated the 21st June, 2023, publishing the Income-tax (Tenth Amendment) Rules, 2023.
- (6) G.S.R. 457(E), dated the 23rd June, 2023, publishing the Income-tax (Eleventh Amendment) Rules, 2023.
- (7) G.S.R. 514(E), dated the 17th July, 2023, publishing the Income-tax (Twelfth Amendment) Rules, 2023.
- (8) G.S.R. 519(E), dated the 18th July, 2023, publishing the Income-tax (Thirteenth Amendment) Rules, 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (8) See No. L.T. 9893/17/23]

(xiii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), issued under clause (v) of the Explanation to Section 48 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, along with Explanatory Memorandum:—

- (1) S.O. 1692(E), dated the 10th April, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 1790(E), dated the 5th June, 2017 by inserting certain entries, as mentioned therein.

- (2) S.O. 2571(E), dated the 12th June, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. S.O. 1790(E), dated the 5th June, 2017 by inserting certain entries, as mentioned therein.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 9893/17/23]

(xiv) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification No. G.S.R. 553(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, amending the Principal Notification No. G.S.R. 720(E) dated the 28th June, 2017, by substituting/inserting certain entries, as mentioned therein, under Section 13 of the Goods and Service Tax (Compensation to States) Act, 2017 along with an Explanatory Memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9894/17/23]

(xv) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) Notification No. S.O. 2352(E), dated the 29th May, 2023, issued under sub-section (5) of Section 246 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, publishing the e-Appeals Scheme, 2023, along with Explanatory Memorandum.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9893/17/23]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Circulars of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), under Section 206C of the Income Tax Act, 1961 along with Explanatory Memorandum:—

- (i) Circular No. 10 of 2023, dated the 30th June, 2023, removing difficulty in implementation of changes relating to Tax Collection at Source (TCS) on Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) and on purchase of overseas tour program package.
- (ii) Circular No. 11, dated the 6th July, 2023 publishing a corrigendum to Circular No. 10 of 2023, dated the 30th June, 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (i) and (ii) See No. L.T. 10043/17/23]

III. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Statement on Half Yearly Review of the trends in receipts and expenditure in relation to the Budget, at the end of the half of the Financial year 2022-23 and Statement explaining deviations in meeting the obligations of the Government, under sub-section (1) of Section 7 and sub-section (3) (b) of Section 7 of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, 2003.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9897/17/23]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Finance**II. Reports and Accounts (2022-23) of NABARD, Mumbai and EXIM bank, Mumbai and related papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. BHAGWAT KARAD):
Sir, I lay on the Table:-

I.(i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), under Sub-section (5) of Section 17A of the General Insurance Business (Nationalisation) Act, 1972:—

- (1) S.O. 3345 (E), dated the 26th July, 2023, publishing the General Insurance (Rationalisation and Revision of Pay Scales and Other Conditions of Service of Supervisory, Clerical and Subordinate Staff) Amendment Scheme, 2023.
- (2) S.O. 3346 (E), dated the 26th July, 2023, publishing the General Insurance (Employees') Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 10044/17/23]

(ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services) Notification No. G.S.R. 554(E), dated the 26th July, 2023, publishing the Life Insurance Corporation of India (Employees) Pension (Amendment) Rules, 2023, under sub section (3) of Section 48 of the Life Insurance Corporation Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10045/17/23]

II. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (5) of Section 48 of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) Act, 1981:—

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Mumbai, for the year 2022-23, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10046/17/23]

(ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (5) of Section 19 and sub-section (5) of Section 24 of the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981:—

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM bank), Mumbai, for the year 2022-23, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Report on the Performance of the above Bank, for the year 2022-23.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10047/17/23]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

II. Reports and Accounts (2021-22) of the Sagarmala Development Company Limited, New Delhi; SPFO, Mumbai and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS (SHRI SHANTANU THAKUR): Sir, I lay on the Table:-

I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Notification No. S.O. 2372 (E), dated the 1st June, 2023, notifying that, Cochin Shipyard Limited is allowed to perform Aadhaar authentication facility, on voluntary basis, for identification of residents entering its premises, adhering to the guidelines as laid down by the Central Government including certain other guidelines, as mentioned therein, under Section 55 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies Benefits and Services) Act, 2016.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10048/17/23]

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

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sagarmala Development Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2021-22, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T.10049/17/23]

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

- (a) Fifty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organization (SPFO), Mumbai, for the year 2021-22, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Organization.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10050/17/23]

Notification 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 56 of the National Commission for Homoeopathy Act, 2020, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Ayush Notification No. 3-41/2022/NCH/HEB/Regulation-DRL-Pt., dated the 19th July, 2023, publishing the National Commission for Homoeopathy (Recognition of Qualifications of Homoeopathy) Regulations, 2023.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10051/17/23]

I. Appropriation Accounts (2021-22) of the Union Government (Postal Services) and Indian Railways and related papers

II. Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General 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 (अंग्रेजी तथा हिंदी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- I. (i) Union Government Appropriation Accounts (Postal Services) for the year, 2021-22;
- (ii) Indian Railways Appropriation Accounts Part I-Review, Part II-Detailed Appropriation Accounts and Part II-Detailed Appropriation Accounts (Annexure-G) for the year 2021-22;
- II. (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Role of Tea Board India in development of tea in India — Union Government — Ministry of Commerce & Industry — Report No. 8 of 2023 (Performance Audit);
- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on

Departmental Trading Units including Supply Chain Management in Khadi and Village Industries Commission — Union Government — Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises — Report No. 9 of 2023 (Compliance Audit);

(iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Performance Audit of National Social Assistance Programme — Union Government (Civil) — Ministry of Rural Development — Report No. 10 of 2023 (Performance Audit.);

(iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Performance Audit of Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana — Union Government (Civil) National Health Authority — Ministry of Health & Family Welfare — Report No. 11 of 2023 (Performance Audit.);

(v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2022 - Union Government (Railways) Railways Finances - Report No.13 of 2023 ; and

(vi) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on IT Audit of Indian Customs Electronic Data Interchange System (ICES) 1.5 — Union Government — Department of Revenue — Indirect Taxes (Customs) Report No. 14 of 2023.

[Placed in Library. For (I) and (II) See No. L.T. 10051-A/17/23]

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND SPORTS

SHRI VIVEK THAKUR (Bihar): Sir, I present the following Reports (in English and Hindi) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports:-

- (i) 352nd Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 348th Report of the Committee on "Demands for Grants 2023-24 of the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education";
- (ii) 353rd Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 335th Report of the Committee on "Reforms in the Education of Performing and Fine Arts";
- (iii) 354th Report on "Review of Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram" (RYSK); and

- (iv) 355th Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in 349th Report of the Committee on "Demands for Grants (2023-24) of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education".

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Seventh Report (in English and Hindi) (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2022-23) on 'Health Facilities for Tribal Women'.

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Twenty-fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on 'India's Policy Planning and Role of Think Tanks with Special Reference to ICWA and RIS'.

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

DR. V. SIVADASAN (Kerala): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas:-

- (i) Twenty-first Report on action taken by the Government on recommendations contained in the Eighteenth Report of the Committee (17th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands For Grants 2023-24'; and
 - (ii) Twenty-second Report on action taken by the Government on recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of the Committee (17th Lok Sabha) on 'Safety and Security of Oil Installations of Public Sector Oil Companies with Specific Reference to Baghjan Blow-out incident'.
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**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS**

सुश्री सरोज पाण्डेय (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, मैं विभाग-संबंधित रेल संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2022-23) के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिंदी में) सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ:-

- (i) Fifteenth Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in their 14th Report of the Committee (17th Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)' of the Ministry of Railways'; and
- (ii) Sixteenth Report on 'Performance of Rail Land Development Authority'.

**MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE ALL INDIA INSTITUTES OF MEDICAL
SCIENCES (AIIMS)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to move a Motion for election to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences.

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 Section 4(g) read with Section 6(3) of the All India Institutes of Medical Sciences Act, 1956, as amended by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Amendment) Act, 2012, this House do proceed to elect, in such a manner as directed by the Chairman, six members from amongst the Members of the House, to be members of Institute Bodies *i.e.* one each for the All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), at Guwahati, Raebareli, Patna, Gorakhpur, Bibinagar and Bathinda, against the casual vacancies existing therein."

The question was put and motion was adopted.

REGARDING NOTICES UNDER RULE 267 AND VARIOUS OTHER ISSUES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Statement by Minister correcting answer to question, Rao Inderjit Singh; not present. Hon. Members, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): The Minister is not present! This is contempt of the House, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA (Chhattisgarh): Sir, such things are happening very often. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Rajasthan): Sir, you are asking about decorum ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Venugopal ji, ...*(Interruptions)*... It seems it has happened for the first time in 70 years! ...*(Interruptions)*... माननीय सदस्यगण, मुझे ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, as per the Business of the day, this Statement is listed after the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, at least scold them. ...*(Interruptions)*... सर, यह आपका अपमान है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, एक सेकंड। ...*(व्यवधान)*... श्री राजीव शुक्ला।

श्री राजीव शुक्ला (छत्तीसगढ़): सर, मैं संसदीय कार्य मंत्री था। इस तरह जब कोई मंत्री नहीं आता था, तो हमेशा चेयरमैन, हामिद अंसारी साहब बहुत जोर से डांट लगाते थे और वेंकैया नायडू जी भी डांट लगाते थे। आपने उनको ढीला छोड़ा है। कल संसद की वोटिंग मशीन नहीं चली। इसके लिए दिन भर से तैयारी रखनी चाहिए थी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: राजीव जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ला: हम डिजिटल इंडिया की बात कर रहे हैं और हाउस में वोटिंग नहीं हो पा रही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह कौन सी बात है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: राजीव जी, मेरी समस्या क्या है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं धीरे-धीरे सीख रहा हूं। मुझे डांट लगानी नहीं आती है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री राजीव शुक्ला: सर, आपकी समस्या यह है कि आप बहुत सॉफ्ट हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप हमें डांटते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: मुझे डांट लगानी नहीं आती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... I believe in persuasion. I don't believe in aggression. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, where is decorum? ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री सभापति: माननीय दिग्विजय सिंह जी, मैं आपको एक घटना बताता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

सभा के नेता (श्री पीयूष गोयल): सर, विपक्ष इतना विषयहीन हो गया है कि अब इसको भी विषय बना रहे हैं। राव इन्द्रजीत सिंह जी हाउस में थे, उन्होंने पहला आइटम सदन में टेबल किया। क्योंकि यह क्वेश्चन से रिलेटेड है और यहां पर क्वेश्चन ऑवर के बाद लिस्टेड है, उन्हें लगा कि यह क्वेश्चन ऑवर के बाद आएगा, इसलिए वे बाहर गए हैं। इसके लिए मैं क्षमा मांगता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपने उनको कॉल किया, वे नहीं थे, अगर आप अनुमति दें, तो मैं उनके बिहाफ पर इसे प्रस्तुत कर देता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, my result of election for the post of Vice-President was declared on 6th July. I take this House to 8th August, 2022 proceedings. I had not taken oath by then. 8th August को इस हाउस में विपक्ष के नेता खरगे जी का एक बयान था और वह बहुत अच्छा था -- full of wit, full of elegance and paying compliments to my predecessor. उनका बयान बहुत शानदार था। उनका यह कहना था कि "अगर तलाश करूं, तो कोई मिल जाएगा। मगर आपकी तरह कौन मिलेगा? आपके साथ यह मंजर रौनक जैसा है, आपके बाद मौसम बहुत सताएगा।" क्या मौसम लेगा, कैसा सताएगा, यह मुझे मालूम नहीं।

मान्यवर, यह मौसम मुझे सता रहा है। I seek your protection. इस मौसम का शिकार आपने मुझे कर दिया है। मतलब आप देखिए कि मेरे लिए तो मौसम सुहाना होना चाहिए था, लेकिन आपने ऐसा नहीं होने दिया। Let us make a new beginning. मौसम ठीक-ठाक रहे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

Hon. Members, when Mr. Derek O'Brien pointed out two issues, I found that there was need for correction because he was right on both. I need to indicate to the House that this item 'Statement by Minister Correcting Answer' was listed down. I changed it myself. And I changed it for some purpose. It has been my experience that when I go to the next item, Rule 267, तो मौसम की बात मैंने कर ली है। वह मौसम मुझे बहुत सताता है, तो मैंने कहा कि कम से कम करेक्शन हो जाए। The hon. Minister is not at fault. And that is why Rajeev ji I gave a subdued response. आप पार्लियामेंटरी अफेयर्स मंत्री रहे हैं। मैं भी 1990 में जूनियर पार्लियामेंटरी अफेयर्स मंत्री रहा हूँ। मैंने देखा कि I have been unfair to the hon. Minister. It had not been indicated to him. मैंने यह चेंज क्यों कराया, मौसम को देखकर कराया। मैंने देखा कि रूल 267 के बाद हाउस का मौसम अचानक बदल जाता है, रोज बदल जाता है और उसी मुद्दे को लेकर बदल जाता है। हालात क्या हैं? मैंने कह दिया कि

डिस्कशन कराने के लिए तैयार हूं, गृह मंत्री जी ने कह दिया, सदन के नेता ने कह दिया, सप्लीमेंटरी लिस्ट आ गई, टाइम एलोकेट कर दिया, ढाई घंटे से एक्सटेंड कर दिया कि चाहे जितना बोलो, हर वर्ग बोलेगा, लेकिन तब भी संभव नहीं हुआ - मैं रोज मौसम की मार खाता हूं।
...(व्यवधान)...

Hon. Members, I have received 51 notices under Rule 267. Most of the Members have demanded discussion on the ongoing situation of violence.
...(Interruptions)... डिस्कशन के लिए तो एलाउ हो चुका है, 20 जुलाई को हो गया है, सप्लीमेंटरी लिस्ट भी आ गई है, टाइम एलोकेट कर दिया, गृह मंत्री जी ने कह दिया, सभा के नेता ने कह दिया, मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है कि डिस्कशन कब करेंगे? ...(व्यवधान)... You are going against the record. ...(व्यवधान)... आज हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... Nothing will go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री पीयूष गोयल: सभापति जी, मैं अभी गृह मंत्री जी से कंविनिएस लेकर आता हूं। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं चेक करता हूं कि गृह मंत्री जी कहाँ पर हैं। ..(व्यवधान)... अगर ये एग्री करते हैं, तो इसको लिस्ट करके 12 बजे शुरू करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... Let me find out if the Home Minister is there. पहले इनको एग्री करवाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... अगर ये एग्री करते हैं, तो 12 बजे शुरू करते हैं।
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, gentlemen. ...(Interruptions)... Take your seats.
...(Interruptions)... Hon. Members, the Leader of the House has indicated that he is prepared for a discussion at 12.00. ...(Interruptions)... Do you want discussion or do you want Rule 267? ...(Interruptions)... Sorry. ...(Interruptions)... I can't go against my ruling. ...(Interruptions)... There is another notice from Shrimati Priyanka Chaturvedi. ...(Interruptions)... She wants discussion on Manipur and Haryana.
...(Interruptions)... Shri P. Wilson wants discussion but his notice again is invalid.
...(Interruptions)... Dr. John Brittas, I consider only those notices which are received in accordance with rules in the timeframe. So, raising an issue to score a brownie point, to get space in public domain and simultaneously not acting in accordance with rules is inappropriate. ...(Interruptions)... As the notices are not in conformity with the rules and my ruling dated 8th December, 2022, I am unable to persuade myself to allow the notices. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, a point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Yes, Sir. We need to communicate that we are ready for a discussion on Manipur but not the way they want. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Derek O'Brien, are you determined? ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Derek O'Brien, take your seat.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I am taking my seat. My point of order is ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: First take your seat. Let me inform the House that I would reluctantly, and I am constrained, to take a very strong view if a Member seeks to raise a point of order and then does not raise point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)... Listen to me. Why are you upset? I think it is time that we need to keep our composure. If you rise to raise a point of order, -- I am saying so because your past is proof of it -- do raise a point of order. Don't make a speech on that. You will rise; you will not raise a point of order; you will not wait for my ruling and you will occupy space! That can't be done. If you are sure that there is a point of order, then, go as per the rule book approach, the textbook approach. Tell me under which rule, you are raising point of order. First mention the rule, under which rule.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: It is under Rule 267 on page 92. The Leader of the Opposition has been asking for a discussion on Manipur.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: You allow the discussion on Manipur. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: That is my point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, I name Mr. Derek O'Brien. ...(*Interruptions*)... He may leave the House. ...(*Interruptions*)... I name him. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SUSPENSION OF MEMBER

THE LEADER OF THE HOUSE (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): Sir, I wish to move a motion for suspension of Shri Derek O'Brien for the remainder of this session for continuously and wilfully disturbing the proceedings of the House, for disobeying the Chair and for continuously creating disturbance in the House. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, with your permission, I move the motion that Shri Derek O'Brien be suspended from the services of the House for the remaining part of the current Session for his unruly behaviour unbecoming of a Member of Rajya Sabha today, the 8th of August, 2023 ...(*Interruptions*)...Shouting slogans from the Well of the House thereby disregarding the authority of the Chair, and from his chair, disregarding every instruction of the Chair and bringing disrepute and shame to this august House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Derek O'Brien is directed to leave the House. ...(*Interruptions*)... He is suspended for the rest of the Session. ...(*Interruptions*)... The House is adjourned to meet at 12.00 noon today.

The House then adjourned at twenty-six minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you please take your seats.

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI (Rajasthan): Sir, I have a point of order. It is a request.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under which rule?

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, रूल्स 255 और 256. सर, हम आपको वैसे ही इसको सुना देते हैं, आप रूल-बुक क्यों देख रहे हैं? आप मेरे ऊपर ट्रस्ट करिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute.

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, रूल्स 255 और 256 सस्पेंशन के बारे में हैं और उसका एक प्रोसीजर है। शायद मुझ से ज्यादा आप इस बात को समझ रहे हैं कि वह एक एक्स्ट्रीम स्टेप है। वह एक एक्स्ट्रीम स्टेप है। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि वह एक्स्ट्रीम स्टेप कब उठाया जाए, क्योंकि घटना सबके सामने हुई। एक्स्ट्रीम स्टेप तब उठाएं, जब एक्स्ट्रीम हो जाए, पराकाष्ठा हो जाए, लेकिन मैं

समझता हूँ कि साहब, अभी पराकाष्ठा नहीं हुई है। कहीं न कहीं आपको भी यह लग रहा है, इसीलिए उस समय वोटिंग नहीं हुई थी।

श्री सभापति: क्या आप कुछ आकलन देंगे कि पराकाष्ठा कहां तक जानी चाहिए?

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: जी हां, सर, मैं दूंगा, एक नहीं सैकड़ों उदाहरण ऐसे हैं कि पराकाष्ठा के बाद सस्पेंशन भी हो जाता है। उसके बाद एक चीज़ और है, जो आपके हार्ट में ज्यादा मात्रा में पाई जाती है और मेरे हार्ट में कम मात्रा में है - वह है उदारता वाला भाव। सर, आप उदारता दिखाइए, ताकि सदन चले। मेरा कहना यह है कि इस नियम में अभी वोटिंग नहीं हुई है। वह वोटिंग न हो और आप इस प्रकरण को वैसे ही समाप्त कर दें। पराकाष्ठा उसको कहते हैं...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: कौन से प्रकरण को समाप्त करें?...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, अभी-अभी का श्री देरेक ओब्राईन वाला प्रकरण, जो अभी पास नहीं हुआ है।...(व्यवधान)... सर, इतनी देर में बहुत सी बातें हुईं और दुनिया बहुत आगे बढ़ गई। अब तक तो आपका मूड चेंज हो गया होगा।

श्री सभापति: मैं मानता हूँ, वैसे भी मैं अदर बैकवर्ड क्लासेज़ में आता हूँ, तो मैं बैकवर्ड हूँ, यह मैं मानता हूँ। दुनिया आगे चली गई, लेकिन मैं बैकवर्ड हूँ, लेकिन क्या आप इसको सही मानते हैं?

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, मैं खुद अनुरोध कर रहा हूँ।

श्री सभापति: क्या आप इसको सही और उचित मानते हैं कि सदन में इस प्रकार का व्यवहार हो! सदन में इस प्रकार का व्यवहार हो कि लोग वैल में आ जाएं!

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, मैं बहुत विनम्रता से फिर से अनुरोध कर रहा हूँ, सारे सीनियर मेम्बर्स अनुरोध कर रहे हैं और मेरे ख्याल से I.N.D.I.A. की हर पार्टी के सदस्य अनुरोध कर रहे हैं कि आप उदारता दिखाते हुए इस मामले को यहीं छोड़ दें। सर, इसमें मेरा मान-सम्मान नहीं बढ़ेगा, इसमें तो आपका मान-सम्मान बढ़ेगा।

श्री सभापति: मैं किस बात की उदारता दिखाऊँ?

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, जो कुछ हुआ, उसके लिए मैं आपसे बहुत विनम्रतापूर्वक कह रहा हूँ।...(व्यवधान)....

श्री सभापति: आप मेरी एक बात सुनिए, यदि माननीय सदस्य देरेक ओब्राईन का इस सत्र के लिए निष्कासन हो जाता, तो क्या आपको लगता है कि माननीय सदस्य देरेक ओब्राईन बाहर जाते,

उसके बाद अंदर आ सकते थे? क्या वे बाहर जाकर अंदर आ सकते थे?...**(व्यवधान)**... इसीलिए मैं यह कह रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... माननीय सदस्यगण, मेरे लिए किसी भी सदस्य के खिलाफ कुछ भी ऐक्शन लेना बड़ी पीड़ा का विषय है।

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, मैं आपकी पीड़ा खत्म करना चाहता हूँ। मैं नहीं चाहता कि आपको पीड़ा हो। Sir, I don't want to see you in pain.

श्री सभापति: लेकिन तिवारी जी, मुझे बड़ा अफसोस है कि मेरी पीड़ा को मैंने खुद खत्म किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मुझे बड़ा अफसोस है कि उस समय मेरी पीड़ा को किसी ने खत्म नहीं किया। उस समय मैंने हाउस को ऐड्जर्न किया, हाउस की सेंस नहीं ली।

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, आप इंटेलिजेंट हैं।

श्री सभापति: उस समय बहुत सोच-समझ कर मैंने हाउस की सेंस नहीं ली, बहुत दूरदर्शिता दिखाते हुए नहीं ली। जयराम जी, आप इसके लिए थोड़ा तो कॉम्प्लिमेंट कीजिए।...**(व्यवधान)**... यदि आदेश पूरी तरह पारित होता, तो आप सदस्यगण जानते हैं that Shri Derek O' Brien would have left the House. He could not have entered again. Why he entered because it had not fructified into a final step. Why? I did not take that sense of the House deliberately. It is my obligation to ensure to an extreme degree that the House runs and I have been extremely accommodative whenever there has been an input to me in my Chamber. And Mr. Derek O' Brien is a witness of it. If he has ever requested me in my Chamber, I have invariably gone in that direction...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I am on Rule 267 point of order. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Take your seat. ...**(Interruptions)**... Don't force my ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Sir, I am on the rule book. ...**(Interruptions)**... I am on the rule book. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am declining. ...**(Interruptions)**... I am declining, please. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Sir, I am on the rule book, on a point or order. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, I am on the rule book, on a point of order. I have not gone to

your Chamber between 11 o'clock and 12.00 noon now. So please do not put this message out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: I have not gone to your Chamber. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can suspend me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Derek, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: I have not gone to your Chamber. Please do not insinuate that... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, do you approve of this conduct? ...*(Interruptions)*... Do you approve of it? ...*(Interruptions)*... Do you approve of this conduct? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुकुल बालकृष्ण वासनिक (राजस्थान): सर, माननीय सदस्य देरेक ओब्राईन ने ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mukulji, you are a very, very senior Member. You will enlighten us.

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Yes, Sir. With full responsibility, I have got up to intervene in this discussion. माननीय सदस्य देरेक ओब्राईन एक वरिष्ठ सांसद हैं और उन्होंने नियम 267 के तहत एक मामला आपके समक्ष उठाया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसी मामले को लेकर विपक्ष के नेता के साथ-साथ आज आपने वह आंकड़ा बताया कि करीब 51 ऐसे सांसद हैं, जिन्होंने इस नियम के तहत, Sir, let me complete. I will just take one minute more. Since the 20th of July, the first day, we have been taking up this issue on continuing violence in Manipur.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point?

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: The violence started on 3rd of May.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mukulji, what is your point? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: Not even for a day, violence stopped in Manipur. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK: We are raising this because this is a matter of national importance...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Thank you, Mukulji. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members,...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One second. ...*(Interruptions)*... On the current situation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I just want to bring to your kind attention that following your direction, the Leader of the House and certain leaders of political parties belonging to the I.N.D.I.A. alliance met in the LoP's room. A discussion took place in which the Leader of the House and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs were present. It was under your direction, it was under your instruction to find a middle path to break the logjam. What was the discussion, Sir? Discussion was, we insisted on Rule 267. The Government said, "Rule 267 is not acceptable to us, we are insisting on Rule 176". We said, "Rule 267 is not acceptable to you, Rule 176 is not acceptable to us. Let us have a middle path of 167. Let us mutually negotiate." Sir, the word is, 'mutually negotiate'. In the spirit of what you said, let us have a mutually-negotiated motion which expresses the sense of the House on what has happened in Manipur and more importantly, what the way forward is. That was the discussion that took place with the Leader of the House and the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. The meeting concluded by saying, three or four leaders from our side and three or four leaders from their side, we will sit, -- it will not take very long -- we will produce a mutually negotiated draft of a motion that could be taken up under 167.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How do you react to the present situation? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: That was discussed four days ago. We are reiterating that demand. Let us have a mutually negotiated motion on Rule 167 and start the discussion today at 2 o' clock or start the discussion tomorrow at 11 o' clock. That is an offer that was made. The Leader of the House was not averse to the idea, but we

have not moved forward. I have not said one word which is unparliamentary ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jairam Ramesh...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I have not said one word which is false and I have just followed the direction that you gave.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jairam Ramesh, one minute. I am, at the moment, on the scenario in the House. You heard the distinguished Member of Parliament a while ago. You heard every word he said. Every word was a challenge to the Chair, every word was outside the realm of decorum. What do you say on that?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I am trying to find a way forward.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How long would you take to find a way out?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the ball is in their court. ...*(Interruptions)*... It has been in their court for four days. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not on this point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: The Leader of the House, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, they are supposed to get back to us. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jairamji, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: And, I would request you, they should get back to us directly not via the media. ...*(Interruptions)*... They should come back to us directly. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Perhaps you have not understood.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I am available 24X7.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. Would you please take your seat now? You have not appreciated what I was saying. I am currently on the indecorous scenario in the

House. I am on that. You were fully attentive when the hon. Member, Mr. Derek O'Brien, said it while ago. You heard every word of it. I want all of you to reflect, introspect on every word he said, the manner in which he said, the gesture in which he said, the language he employed, the challenge he threw. What do you have to say on that? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, the LoP has been silenced by the Members of the Treasury Benches. Observations have been made against the LoP yesterday including by the hon. Home Minister. We have kept quiet, Sir. We raised our voice...
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, I should keep quiet!

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: No, no. We are not saying, you should keep quiet. You are the Chair. You are the custodian of this House. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Chair is supreme.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Digvijaya Singhji, please help us get out of this situation.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, please mark my words. The Chair is supreme. But, this justice also seems to be done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As a Leader of the House in the State for ten years, Digvijaya Singhji has handled situations. Please help us. What will be the way out?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I am not privy to what discussion took place between the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right now, ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. Not on that.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, I endorse... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Digvijaya Singhji, we need your enlightened input on the current scenario where you were fully attentive to what Mr. Derek O'Brien said. You listened to every word he said.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, going into the Well was mentioned by the then Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Arun Jaitley, as a legitimate opposition strategy.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, this has been the practice in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is the right of the Opposition to protest. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I expect a leader of your stature to focus on the limited scene you saw ten minutes ago and what you have to say on that. Do you sanctify, approve such kind of a conduct which the House had the occasion to see a while ago?

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: This has not been happening for the first time. This has happened earlier also when you were not the Chairman of the House. Sir, the Ruling Party was in the Opposition.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, you approve of it!

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: And, we have seen the demonstration of the Members of the then Opposition Party and the Statement of Shri Arun Jaitley, ...
...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I get your point.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: It is our legitimate right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I think... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would urge the Leader of the House to speak on this scene which the entire House has seen, every word used, every gesture indicated and the challenge to the Chair of this kind. Please say on this. This is too serious a matter for me to be overlooked. I had all the patience, and in full thoughtfulness, after deep immediate deliberations, I did not take the sense of the House earlier. If I had really fructified the process, Mr. Derek O'Brien would have been out of the House. In my

wisdom, I thought, I must not take it to that conclusion at that point of time. But, when I gave him an opportunity here again, the conduct is for all you to see. I need your guidance. Go ahead.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Hon. Chairman, Sir, I feel extremely embarrassed as the Leader of this House when I see continuous disregard and discourteous behaviour that is meted out to the Chair. Not only today, but over a period of time, we have been seeing this situation in terms of the behaviour of several Members. It is a matter of extreme pain for all of us who desire that the House runs in a smooth way, who desire that the Question Hour is held, that the Questions are responded to and everybody gets a chance to raise matters of urgent importance. ...*(Interruptions)*... Everybody in this House wishes the House to debate and deliberate as we did yesterday on different Bills. Sir, regarding the hon. Member of the House, Mr. Derek O'Brien, this is not the first instance that such a behaviour has been seen. It has been requested several times of him that whatever he needs to say, he can say it in a more courteous manner. But, thumping of desk, talking loudly to the Chair, being discourteous to the Chair is, certainly, a behaviour nobody in the House approves of, nobody in the House desires to endorse. ...*(Interruptions)*... I appreciate the magnanimity shown by the Chair that despite my moving the Motion, you did not go to the extreme step. ...*(Interruptions)*... With full respect to the magnanimity that the Chair has shown, I would urge the hon. Member, and, through you, Sir, I would urge all the Members that let us all agree to maintain decorum. ...*(Interruptions)*... I think the least that can be expected of Mr. Derek O'Brien is that he expresses regret to the Chair, particularly when the Chair has felt hurt on this issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we should try to run the House smoothly. Derek, you are my good friend, you are an honourable senior Member and the leader of the party; please show that respect to the Chair who has felt hurt and let us try to move forward in the deliberations in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Derek O'Brien, I will give you the floor; please take your seat. I will give the floor to you.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: That is the least that we can all do as a mark of courtesy to the Chair. On behalf of the whole House, I would like to express our full faith in you, Sir. On behalf of the whole House, we have full faith and confidence in you. I regret any behaviour which anybody in the House has done which has hurt you. But, I would

also urge the concerned Members to show that same magnanimity and with regret, let the proceedings of the House continue.

SHRI SAKET GOKHALE (West Bengal): Sir, he is doing this to stop the Manipur discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would you please take your seat? ...*(Interruptions)*... Does it look nice?

SHRI SAKET GOKHALE: Sir, I am a new Member, I am shocked to see what is happening.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The whole world is watching us. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, please, ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Leader of the House, please control your team. Shri K.C. Venugopal, I seek your guidance on a limited issue at the moment. To run this House, I will never run out of patience. I will have enough patience, but, at the same time, the situation is being watched not only by us, but by everyone. I know, a Member may have got it in a different state of mind, there may be pressure for a moment and there may be heated arguments. But, you have seen what happened. Would you kindly consider and then respond that out of deliberations, I did not culminate the proceedings by taking sense of the House. Now, after having taken that step, if I again urge the hon. Member, he has only improved on the ferocity of behaviour! ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Rajasthan): Sir, please do not take it in that way. Sir, you know the mental situation of all the Members of Opposition from day 1 onwards. We want Manipur, and from day 1 onwards, we are seeking...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Venugopalji, on this point?

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: I am coming to the point, Sir. We are seeking a discussion. We are mentally pained. The way in which the Leader of the House has moved the Resolution is exactly indicating a pre-planned move to suspend him. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is totally pained, Sir. It is not against you. He is totally pained. They have prepared a letter. That letter was prepared earlier and they read it out.

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: It was a pre-planned move to suspend Mr. Derek O'Brien. ...*(Interruptions)*... That pained him. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is not against you, Sir. Please don't think that it is against you. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is against them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I got your point. So, the point is that Mr. Venugopal has given me - - I don't think thoughtfully -- a rare certification that the Treasury Benches were determined to ensure that Mr. Derek O'Brien ...*(Interruptions)*... I came in the way, so I suffer! Means, the Leader of the House had come with a prepared statement, he read out and the Chair did not allow him to fructify it! So, I need your assistance. Number one. ...*(Interruptions)*... There are not many people here who know how to deal with the Opposition. They have only nine years of experience, and you have ten years of experience. So, tell me how I deal with him. My good friend, let me tell you, at the moment, for example, when I said 'Mr. Derek O'Brien met me in the Chamber', he immediately concluded as if he met me in the Chamber today between this hour. I never said that. What I said, *bona fide*, was whenever Mr. Derek O'Brien has met me in my Chamber--we keep on meeting otherwise also--I have always had highest regard for his words. So, I least expected him at this occasion ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, I have a simple solution. We may start the discussion under Rule 267. That is the only solution, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: We may start the debate under Rule 267. You have already said that he is prepared to start the debate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Digvijaya Singhji, I had listed the debate a few days ago and I had made it open-ended. It was to start at two o'clock. It never started.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I would raise a point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: On this point only.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, only on Mr. Derek O'Brien. I have no hesitation in saying that Mr. Derek O'Brien didn't fully appreciate what you had been saying. He didn't refer to your meeting today. He was referring to his meeting, as always. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, let me finish. ...*(Interruptions)*... On behalf of Mr. Derek

O'Brien, I say that he is mistaken. You didn't refer to him meeting today. He was referring to all the meetings. He was wrong. On his behalf, I am saying that. He was wrong. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, he was wrong. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... Dr. Sudhanshu Trivedi.

DR. SUDHANSHU TRIVEDI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I want to raise a very serious and important issue. A very serious thing has appeared in a foreign media. In the New York Times, there has been news that an issue came up by investigation in the U.S. There are certain things which have come; they have been used as propaganda against India, that too from the back hand of the Chinese Communist Party. मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ पर नेविल रॉय सिंघम नाम के एक अमेरिकन के बारे में इस प्रकार की बातें आई हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... भारत के जिन संस्थानों के ऊपर कुछ समय पहले ईडी की रेड हुई थी, उनके बारे में आज समाचार-पत्रों में यह आया है कि भारत-विरोधी शक्तियों के द्वारा उनके पास आर्थिक स्रोत आते थे, जिसके डिटेल्स और रिपोर्ट भी आई है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि 'न्यूजक्लिक' नाम की एक न्यूज एजेंसी के विषय में यह बात आई है कि उसको अमेरिका से - यानी वहाँ पर वर्ड निकला है- "शंघाई से शिकागो होते हुए वह फंडिंग भारत के अंदर आ रही है।" ...(**व्यवधान**)... मैं सदन का ध्यान इस विषय की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहूँगा कि हमारे विपक्ष के नेता एक नहीं, अनेक बार उसी संस्था के बारे में बोल चुके हैं, जिसके बारे में विदेशी फंडिंग की बात आई है, चाइनीज़ प्रोपेगेंडा की बात आई है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... कांग्रेस पार्टी ने कहा है कि ...(**व्यवधान**)... यह फ्रीडम ऑफ प्रेस के ऊपर हमला है। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री पीयूष गोयल: सर, यह बहुत ही गंभीर विषय है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... यह बड़ी अजीब गाथा है, बड़ा अजीब रिश्ता है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... कांग्रेस और इन सब का यह जो * गठबंधन है, यह * गठबंधन सभी चाइनीज़ मीडिया को सपोर्ट करके भारत के खिलाफ * कर रहा है। ...(**व्यवधान**)... यह बड़ा गंभीर मामला है। इसके ऊपर सदन में चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... ये सभी * गठबंधन एक-दूसरे की मदद करते हैं, ...(**व्यवधान**)... ये लोग पैसे की फंडिंग करते हैं और उस फंडिंग के माध्यम से भारत विरोधी ताकतें भारत के खिलाफ प्रोपेगेंडा करती हैं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... राहुल गांधी का Communist Party of China के साथ क्या रिश्ता है?

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute, please. ...(*Interruptions*)...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair

श्री पीयूष गोयल: क्या एमओयू साइन किया है? ये सब तथ्य सामने आने चाहिए। देश को पता चलना चाहिए कि इनकी क्या मंशा है।...**(व्यवधान)**... ये भारत के साथ खड़े हैं या चाइना के साथ खड़े हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**... देश को पता चलना चाहिए कि इनके नेताओं की भारत के प्रति क्या प्रतिबद्धता है?...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members,.. ...**(Interruptions)**.... The House is adjourned to meet at 12.45 p.m.

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

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

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL (Gujarat): Sir, one minute. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, one minute. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Rajasthan): Sir, the hon. Leader of the House used a highly objectionable word. ...**(Interruptions)**... Hon. Leader of the House used a highly objectionable word. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN (Karnataka): Sir, it is objectionable and also unparliamentary. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: The Leader of the House should apologize. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition... ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL: Sir, one minute. ...**(Interruptions)**... Sir, you expunge it. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please, take your seats. ...**(Interruptions)**... Shri Jairam Ramesh, please. ...**(Interruptions)**...आप भी यहां आ जाइए ...**(व्यवधान)**... नहीं-नहीं, you better come here. ...**(Interruptions)**... Hon. Members, यह क्या है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... Do you think the Chair is powerless? ...**(Interruptions)**... They are doing; you are doing it! ...**(Interruptions)**... Both sides, take your seats. I will come to that. ...**(Interruptions)**... Take your seats. ...**(Interruptions)**...Neerajji, take your seat. ...**(Interruptions)**... Be on your seats. ...**(Interruptions)**... Hon. Members, Shri Jairam Ramesh met me in my Chamber. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, today. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Today! ...*(Interruptions)*...

AN HON. MEMBER: Today also. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is hardly a day when he doesn't come to my Chamber. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I don't find objectionable meeting you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is for the first time he is creating history by not finding objectionable! He indicated to me, in all seriousness, that the Leader of the House...

AN HON. MEMBER: Uttered an objectionable word.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That I will check-up, Sir. But, he limitedly told that the Leader of the House had used a word which, according to him, was totally inappropriate. I don't give out the word before the House. I will examine it and, if it is that way, it cannot find place in the record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, a highly objectionable word has been used. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, he has to take back his word. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: In this House... ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: He must apologize. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will examine it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me examine it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

ORAL ANSWER TO QUESTION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Question No.196. Shri Raghav Chadha; not present. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Minister.

**Q. No.196. [The questioner was absent.]*

GDP Forecast

*196. SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the IMF slashed India's GDP growth forecast for financial year 2023-24 by 20 bps to 5.9 per cent;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of RBI's projection of economic growth for the same period;
- (d) the reasons due to which growth in the country is expected to slow down in financial year 2023-24 by 0.3 per cent point downward from January as per revised data; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken by Government to make India a 5 trillion-dollar economy and the progress made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The International Monetary Fund (IMF), in its latest World Economic Outlook (WEO) of July 2023, has revised India's real GDP growth forecast for the financial year 2023-24 by 20 basis points (bps), raising it from 5.9 per cent (as per its April 2023 WEO) to 6.1 per cent. The positive revision is due to the momentum gained from stronger-than-expected growth in the fourth quarter of 2022-23, driven by robust domestic investment. The RBI has projected India's real GDP to grow at 6.5 per cent in 2023-24.

(e) A series of measures have been undertaken by the Government in the past which will help the country become a USD 5 trillion economy and beyond. These include the introduction of Goods and Services Tax (GST), implementation of the Insolvency and

Bankruptcy Code (IBC), reduction in Corporate Tax Rate, and rationalization of Labour Laws, among others, which have also improved the Ease of Doing Business. The Production Linked Incentive Scheme, which was initially announced as a major component of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission, has been expanded to cover 14 sectors, which, together with the National Infrastructure Pipeline of Projects, will boost investment and growth in the economy. The Government has recapitalised banks, merged them and strengthened their balance sheets so that bank lending can grow faster.

To promote growth, a series of measures have also been announced in the Union Budget 2023-24, including an increase in capital investment outlay for the third year in a row by 33 per cent to ₹10 lakh crore (3.3 per cent of GDP); the enhanced outlay for PM Awas Yojana, the launch of Aspirational Blocks Programme covering 500 blocks for saturation of essential government services; increase in agriculture credit target to ₹20 lakh crore with a focus on animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries; and setting up of Agriculture Accelerator Fund to encourage agri startups by young entrepreneurs in rural areas, among others. Direct capital investment by the Centre is also complemented by the provision made for the creation of capital assets through Grants-in-Aid to States. The 'Effective Capital Expenditure' of the Centre is budgeted at ₹13.7 lakh crore (4.5 per cent of GDP) for 2023-24. The newly established Infrastructure Finance Secretariat will assist all stakeholders for more private investment in infrastructure. Further, to improve logistics performance, one hundred critical transport infrastructure projects for last and first-mile connectivity for ports, coal, steel, fertilizer, and food grains sectors have been identified and will be prioritised for development. On account of the above initiatives and strong macroeconomic fundamentals of the Indian economy, India became the 5th largest economy in the world in 2022-23, at current prices and exchange rates.

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

SUSPENSION OF MEMBER- Contd.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat, Mr. Venugopal. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ...*(Interruptions)*...

सुश्री सुष्मिता देव (पश्चिमी बंगाल): चाइना देश में घुस गया, मोदी जी ने क्या किया?
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please take your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... Can you take your seat now? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्रीमती रंजीत रंजन (छत्तीसगढ़): सर, अपोजिशन को कुछ भी बोल देंगे! ...(व्यवधान)...

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Is it the way he speaks? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Leader of the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

सभा के नेता (श्री पीयूष गोयल): सर, अगर मैंने कोई वर्ड इस्तेमाल किया है, जो unparliamentary है, तो कृपा करके उसको expunge किया जाए। ...(व्यवधान)... अगर कोई भी वर्ड unparliamentary है, तो उसे expunge किया जाए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I appreciate what the Leader of the House has said. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): That is number one. ...(*Interruptions*)... Number two, ...(*Interruptions*)... The charges which he has levelled against us ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Digvijaya Singhji ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: He has called us traitors. ...(*Interruptions*)... Are we taking Chinese money? ...(*Interruptions*)... What is all that? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Digvijaya Singhji ...(*Interruptions*)... So, you don't want to run the House? ...(*Interruptions*)... You don't want to run the House? ...(*Interruptions*)... Is it the way to run the House? ...(*Interruptions*)... Is it the conduct we want? ...(*Interruptions*)... Hon. Members, I am yet to conclude on Mr. Derek O'Brien. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have to conclude on him. ...(*Interruptions*)... Your place is here! ...(*Interruptions*)... You may come here. ...(*Interruptions*)... You may come here. ...(*Interruptions*)...

The House is adjourned to meet at 2.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned at fifty-three minutes past twelve of the clock.

*The House reassembled at two of the clock,
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please take your seats. Hon. Members, what we were discussing in the pre-lunch Session, I have had interaction with some of the hon. Members and leaders and also with Mr. Derek O'Brien. There is quietus to the issue. We will move ahead indicating our full commitment that our productivity must be known to the people at large and we exemplify our conduct by best traditions of the House.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Thank you very much, Sir. You are very large-hearted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Inter-services Organisations...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, please be large-hearted for Manipur also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023. Shri Rajnath Singh to move a motion for consideration of the Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी (राजस्थान): सर, मेरा एक प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है।

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, आप मणिपुर पर चर्चा करवाइए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me tell you....*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Defence Minister is known all over the world and in India as the Defence Minister of *Bharat*. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Therefore, he hails from Uttar Pradesh is fine, but people in Rajasthan, including me, love and respect him as much as others do. Yes, Shri Pramod Tiwari.

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, पहले तो आपकी इस उदारता के लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद, *। श्री जयराम रमेश जी ने जिस बात के लिए आग्रह किया, उसे तो आपने स्वीकार कर लिया।...*(व्यवधान)*...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

श्री सभापति: जयराम जी की बात ही कुछ और है।

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: सर, हम सब और पूरा सदन यह बताने का प्रयास कर रहा है कि मणिपुर जल रहा है, इसलिए आज उस पर चर्चा हो जाए। आप तो शायद चाहते हैं, लेकिन ये नहीं चाहते। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, अगर मणिपुर पर चर्चा हो जाए, तो बड़ी कृपा होगी, अन्यथा हम सब मिल कर वॉकआउट कर रहे हैं।

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, आप मणिपुर पर चर्चा नहीं होने दे रहे हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री जयराम रमेश : **

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rajnath Singh to move a motion for consideration of the Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023

रक्षा मंत्री (श्री राजनाथ सिंह): आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से "The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023" को माननीय सदस्यों के बीच रखने के लिए यहां उपस्थित हुआ हूँ।

सभापति महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ :

"कि सेना कार्मिक, जिनको वायु सेना अधिनियम, 1950, सेना अधिनियम, 1950 और नौसेना अधिनियम, 1957 लागू होता है, जो अनुशासन बनाए रखने और अपने कर्तव्यों के निर्वहन के लिए अपनी कमान के अधीन सेवा कर रहे हैं या उससे संलग्न हैं, के संबंध में अंतर-सेना संगठनों के चीफ कमांडर या कमांड आफिसर को सशक्त करने के लिए और उससे संलग्न या आनुषंगिक विषयों का उपबंध करनेवाले विधेयक पर, लोक सभा द्वारा पारित रूप में, विचार किया जाए।"

** Not recorded.

सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि सदन को विदित ही है कि वर्तमान में जो वैश्विक परिस्थितियां हमारे सामने हैं, उनको ध्यान में रखते हुए हमारी सेनाओं का सशक्त होना बहुत आवश्यक है। अपनी सेनाओं को सशक्त करने की दृष्टि से ही यह बिल लाया गया है। सेनाओं में बेहतर ज्वॉइंटनेस होनी चाहिए और उसके साथ ही साथ बेहतर इंटीग्रेशन भी होना चाहिए। हमारी सेनाएं वांछित परिणाम को हासिल करने की दिशा में तेजी से आगे बढ़ सकें, इस बिल का मुख्य उद्देश्य यही है। सेनाओं के बीच बेहतर तालमेल और इंटीग्रेटेड स्ट्रक्चर को सुदृढ़ करने के उद्देश्य से ही यह बिल लाया गया है। लोक सभा द्वारा इस बिल पर विचार करने के बाद इसे पारित किया गया है।

माननीय सभापति महोदय, जब भी कोई राष्ट्र प्रगति के पथ पर आगे बढ़ता है, तो समय की मांग के अनुसार उसे अपने अंदर बहुत सारे बदलाव लाने की जरूरत भी होती है। मैं यह मानता हूँ कि कानूनों के सम्बन्ध में भी यही बात पूरी तरह से लागू होती है। हमारे माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में हमारी सरकार ने देश की प्रगति में बाधा डाल रहे बहुत सारे पुराने कानूनों को रद्द किया है। साथ ही कुछ ऐसे कानून भी हैं, जिनमें संशोधन किया गया है। महोदय, इस बिल को लोक सभा में पारित होने के बाद राज्य सभा में पेश किया गया है। "The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023" भी उन्हीं प्रयासों का एक अहम हिस्सा है। इस बिल का उद्देश्य हमारे सैन्य बलों में निहित अनुशासन की महान परम्परा को और मजबूती देना है। यह अनुशासन ही है, जो हमारे सैनिकों के अन्दर न सिर्फ आत्मविश्वास पैदा करता है, बल्कि एक यूनिट या एस्टैब्लिशमेंट के रूप में उनके अन्दर एकता की भावना को भी मजबूत करता है। इसलिए यदि अनुशासनहीनता का कोई प्रकरण आता है, तो उसका त्वरित निराकरण होना चाहिए और त्वरित निराकरण होना अत्यन्त आवश्यक भी होता है। "The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023" यह प्रोविजन करता है कि इंटर-सर्विसेज़ ऑर्गेनाइजेशन में डिसिप्लिन बनाये रखने के लिए त्वरित कार्रवाई की जा सके। महोदय, यह बिल एक ऐसा एनवायर्नमेंट क्रिएट करने में निश्चित रूप से मदद करेगा, जो हमारे इंटर-सर्विसेज़ ऑर्गेनाइजेशन में अनुशासन को स्वाभाविक रूप से मजबूत करेगा।

सभापति महोदय, वर्तमान में जो व्यवस्था है, उसके अनुसार चाहे भारतीय सेना हो, नौसेना हो या वायु सेना हो, सभी अपने रिस्पेक्टिव एक्ट के द्वारा ही गवर्न होते हैं। जैसे - हमारा आर्मी एक्ट 1954 का है, एयरफोर्स एक्ट 1954 का है और इंडियन नेवी एक्ट 1957 का है। इसी के तहत बनाये गये जो रूल्स और रेगुलेशन हैं, उन्हीं के अनुसार सारी चीजें गवर्न होती हैं। इस एक्ट के तहत कमांडर-इन-चीफ या ऑफिसर-इन-कमांड अपनी डिसिप्लिनरी या एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव पावर्स का प्रयोग अपनी ही सर्विस के पर्सनेल पर कर सकते हैं, अब तक का यह प्रोविजन है। महोदय, उन्हें दूसरी सर्विसेज़ से सम्बन्धित पर्सनेल, जो उनके संगठन में कार्य कर रहे हैं, उन पर डिसिप्लिनरी या एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव पावर्स का प्रयोग करने का अधिकार अभी तक प्राप्त नहीं है। ऐसे प्रोविजन से इंटर-सर्विसेज़ ऑर्गेनाइजेशन में स्वाभाविक रूप से कई बार समस्याएँ खड़ी होती हैं। खास कर तब, जब किसी इंसिडेंट में विभिन्न सर्विसेज़ के पर्सनेल इन्वॉल्व होते हैं और उन पर डिसिप्लिनरी या एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव एक्शन के लिए इंटर-सर्विसेज़ ऑर्गेनाइजेशन में कार्यरत पर्सनेल को उनके पैरेंट सर्विस यूनिट्स में वापस भेजने की आवश्यकता पड़ती है। यदि उन पर कार्रवाई करनी है, तो फिर उनको अपने पैरेंट ऑर्गेनाइजेशन में भेजना पड़ता है। ऐसी स्थिति में

पूरा प्रॉसेस न केवल टाइम कंज्यूमिंग होता है, बल्कि इसमें पर्सनेल की आवाजाही के कारण अधिक धन का भी व्यय होता है। इसके अतिरिक्त, यह समस्या भी आती है कि कई बार एक ही ऑफेंस के लिए अलग-अलग जगहों की जो अथॉरिटीज़ होती हैं, उनके द्वारा अलग-अलग निर्णय लिये जाते हैं। इससे क्वांटम ऑफ पनिशमेंट स्वाभाविक रूप से किसी को अधिक, किसी को कम होता है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप विसंगतियाँ पैदा होती हैं।

सभापति महोदय, इसलिए सभी इंटर-सर्विसेज़ ऑर्गेनाइजेशंस के कमांडर-इन-चीफ या ऑफिसर्स-इन-कमांड के लिए उनके ऑर्गेनाइजेशंस में डिसिप्लिन को बनाये रखने के लिए एक एनेबलिंग एक्ट बनाया जा रहा है। अतः आर्मी, नेवी और एयरफोर्स से इनपुट्स लेकर मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ लॉ एंड जस्टिस के परामर्श से "The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023" को ड्राफ्ट किया गया है। यह बिल हमारी सेना के अन्दर प्रॉपर इंटीग्रेशन एंड ज्वाइंटनेस को प्रमोट करेगा। सभापति महोदय, इसके साथ ही यह बिल इंटर-सर्विसेज़ ऑर्गेनाइजेशंस के चीफ्स को बेहतर डिसिप्लिनरी और एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव पावर्स भी प्रदान करता है, जिससे वे अपने ऑर्गेनाइजेशंस में प्रभावी कमांड, कंट्रोल और डिसिप्लिन ला सकेंगे और वे हमारे सुरक्षा ढाँचे को और मजबूत बना सकेंगे। मैं सदन को यह विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि यह बिल भारत के सैन्य सुधारों की दिशा में एक मील का पत्थर साबित होगा।

माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से "The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023" विधेयक पर विचार करने का प्रस्ताव करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

The question was proposed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now call upon the Members whose names have been received for participation in the discussion. Dr. Sasmit Patra.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, Shri Sujeet Kumar would be speaking from our Party. He is number two; he would take all the time. I had given a correction slip also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Shri Sujeet Kumar.

DR. SASMIT PATRA: Thank you, Sir.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Thank you, Sir, for your indulgence. Sir, this is an extremely important Bill as far as our security and territorial integrity are concerned. The Biju Janata Dal has always been with the Government when it came to India's security. So, we support this Bill.

Sir, the hon. Minister has already explained the rationale behind the Bill. Currently, personnel of the three Services, namely, Army, Navy and Air Force, are governed by their respective Service Acts. The Army personnel are governed by the

Army Act, 1950, the Navy personnel are governed by the Navy Act, 1957 and the Air Force personnel are governed by the Air Force Act, 1950. When these three Acts came into force, personnel of these services were largely serving in their respective organizations. But, of late, we have seen many inter-service organizations, like the Andaman & Nicobar Island Command, training institutes such as National Defence College, National Defence Academy, the Strategic Forces Command or the Defence Space Agency. Now, only an officer of the same service can initiate disciplinary proceedings over the personnel of that service. This directly impacts the command, control and discipline of the personnel serving in the Inter-Services Organizations, in short, the ISO, because the Commander-in-Chief or the Officer-in-Command has no disciplinary authority over personnel of the other two organizations, irrespective of whether they are serving in the ISO or not. So, there is lack of disciplinary authority. Also, anyone accused of a crime has to be sent back, to the parent organization to which that personnel belongs, for any disciplinary action or administrative proceedings. Now, this is time-consuming and this has financial implications for our nation. And, if the case is such that there are multiple accused belonging to different organizations, namely, Army, Navy and Air Force, for the same set of offences, then, it becomes more complicated because then everyone has to be sent back to their respective parent departments for disciplinary proceedings.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA), *in the Chair.*]

Now, Madam, this Bill will have many tangible benefits because, as I said, it will increase efficiency, it would increase discipline in the inter-service establishments, it will be less time-consuming to initiate judicial proceedings or administrative actions against the accused and it will also lead to expeditious disposal of cases because now they won't have to be sent to their parent organizations; they can be tried by the Commander-in-Chief or the Officer-in-Command of the ISO. So, since they don't have to be sent to their parent organizations, the cases can be disposed of expeditiously. Therefore, Madam, we support this Bill.

Madam, while I speak on this Bill, I would also like to request the hon. Minister to speak on the theaterisation plans, which has been on the table for a while now. The idea of a theaterisation plan is to integrate the capabilities of our three Services. Now, what is a theatre? A theatre would have units from all the three services and they would be operating under a Commander. The idea is that this unified body will be able to better address the security of our country in a particular geography.

Now, Madam, many military personnel have compared the move towards theaterisation without any comprehensive security strategy to putting the "cart before the horse". These are not my words. I did some research and found this to be the view of many military professionals. Some others are of the view that India is geographically not suited for theaterisation and resources can be easily moved even without the theatre command plan.

Finally, Madam, we already have a Tri-Service Command in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, but not much is known about the outcome of this and not much analysis or report is available as to the performance or complexities of this Tri-Service Command. So, I would request the hon. Minister to share his views. If it is in our national interest, if it is confidential, I can totally understand and he may not share it, but if it is not confidential and if he is willing to share it, then I would love to hear the views of the hon. Minister. Thank you, Madam.

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA (Andhra Pradesh): I thank you, Madam, for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Disciplinary) Bill, 2023. Today, we gather here to deliberate upon a momentous piece of legislation that holds the promise of transforming our armed forces and fortifying our nation's security. The Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023, is not just a piece of legislation; it is a testament to the power of unity and jointmanship among our armed forces. As we stand at the cusp of establishing integrated or joint commands, this Bill emerges as a guiding light, illuminating the path towards more coordinated, agile and efficient armed forces. Let us take a moment to recognise the dedication and sacrifice of our brave soldiers, sailors and airmen who safeguard our borders day and night, undeterred by the challenges they face.

Now, I would like to dwell upon a few of the positive points of this Bill. This Bill is to empower the Commander-in-Chief or Officer-in Command to exercise disciplinary and administrative control over the service personnel under their command, regardless of their service. This empowerment is not just a symbolic gesture; it is a strategic move towards forging a cohesive force that operates seamlessly and cohesively.

In extension, the Bill seeks to recognise and strengthen the existing Inter-Services Organisations, such as the Andaman and Nicobar Command, the Defence Space Agency and the NDA, by providing them the constitutional backing and the authority to ensure effective command and control over the personnel serving in or attached to them.

Furthermore, the Central Government is empowered to constitute new Inter-Services Organisations, each comprising personnel from, at least, two of the three services, the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. This opens up avenues for greater cooperation, coordination and synergy among our armed forces, ensuring that they operate as a unified entity, responding swiftly and effectively to any threat that may arise.

There is a provision in the Bill for Joint Services Command, which will operate under the command of a Commander-in-Chief. This is a significant stride towards the theaterisation plan of our armed forces, enabling integrated planning and joint operations. As we witness, nations around the world adapting to the changing nature of warfare, this move signifies our commitment to remain at the forefront of military excellence.

Now, I have a few suggestions. As we lend our support to the Inter-Services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023, we have a few suggestions to offer to the Union Government to consider. These suggestions aim to further strengthen our defence capabilities and enhance the security of our nation. First is the integration of the entire marine system. As we recognise the importance of maritime response to neighbouring nations, it is crucial to integrate all aspects of the marine system. This includes not only naval support but also marine merchants, fisheries and trade capacities. A coordinating body at the apex level can assist in seamless integration and cooperation among these sectors, fostering a holistic and comprehensive approach to maritime security.

Also, in an era of evolving threats, it is imperative that our armed forces adapt to the changed nature of warfare. Modern-day wars demand simultaneous operations across land, sea and air requiring a well-coordinated multi-pronged strategy. The incorporation of net-centric operations, information warfare, cyber attacks and the consideration of nuclear overhang is vital to address security challenges effectively.

In conclusion, I stand before you to lend my wholehearted support to this transformative legislation. Thank you, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): Now, Dr. Ashok Bajpai; you have ten minutes.

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपने मुझे 'अंतर-सेना संगठन (कमान, नियंत्रण और अनुशासन) विधेयक, 2023' पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत आभार!

महोदया, मैं माननीय रक्षा मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहूँगा कि वे आज इस सदन में यह बिल लेकर आए, क्योंकि आज यह सैन्य बल की एक बड़ी महती आवश्यकता थी। इस विषय पर बहुत दिनों से चिंतन हो रहा था कि जब हमारी तीनों सेनाओं की फोर्सों संयुक्त रूप से काम करती हैं, चाहे वह थल सेना हो, वायु सेना हो या नौ सेना हो, जब तीनों कमान के लोग एक साथ काम करते हैं, तो उस समय उनके ऊपर कोई भी अनुशासनात्मक या दंडात्मक कार्रवाई कैसे की जाए, क्योंकि इन सबका कमांडेंट कंट्रोल इनकी मूल यूनिट से होता है, जहाँ से इनकी नियुक्ति होती है और नियोक्ता अधिकारी ही इनके विरुद्ध किसी प्रकार की अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई कर सकता है। यह कठिनाई हमेशा उनके सामने आती थी और उसके लिए बार-बार उनको अपनी उस यूनिट में जाना होता था, जहाँ उनके विरुद्ध कोई प्रशासनिक या अनुशासनिक कार्रवाई प्रचलित होती थी। उस कार्रवाई में काफी लम्बा समय लगता था, वह कार्रवाई काफी महँगी हो जाती थी और वह समय से पूरी भी नहीं हो पाती थी। जहाँ हमारी संयुक्त कमान काम कर रही है, वहाँ पर जो भी कमांडिंग ऑफिसर होता था या ऑफिसर-इन-कमांड होता था, उसके लिए भी तीनों सेनाओं की अलग-अलग यूनिट्स के ऊपर कंट्रोल करना एक कठिन काम होता था। इसके लिए उसके पास संवैधानिक अधिकार या शक्तियाँ नहीं थीं। लेकिन इस विधेयक के बनने के बाद उसको वे शक्तियाँ वहाँ के लिए प्रदत्त हो जाएँगी, जहाँ तीनों कमान एक साथ काम करती हैं।

मैडम, अगर आप देखें तो पाएँगी कि अंडमान-निकोबार में एक तरीके से कमान कंट्रोल हमारी तीनों सेनाएँ करती हैं। वहाँ थल सेना भी है, वायु सेना भी है और नौ सेना भी है। वहाँ ये तीनों सेनाएँ कंट्रोल करती हैं, यानी एक तरीके से वहाँ कमान कंट्रोल एक साथ होता है। वहाँ पर यह कठिनाई विशेष रूप से अनुभव की गई कि अगर वहाँ का कमांडिंग ऑफिसर थल सेना का है तो वह नौ सेना के किसी कर्मचारी के विरुद्ध कैसे कार्रवाई करेगा या वहाँ जो थल सेना का कमांडिंग ऑफिसर है, वह एयर फोर्स के किसी अधिकारी के विरुद्ध कैसे कार्रवाई करेगा? इसके लिए यह सोचा गया कि अंतर-सेना संगठन बनाया जाए। इसके लिए एक इंटर-सर्विसेज़ संगठन की जरूरत महसूस की गई और उसी के तहत 2014 के बाद इस पर चिंतन शुरू हुआ। लेकिन समस्या यह थी कि इससे संबंधित जो तमाम स्टेकहोल्डर्स हैं, उन सबसे विचार किया जाए, सबकी राय ली जाए। फिर, सारे स्टेकहोल्डर्स से राय लेने के बाद इसका विधिक परीक्षण किया गया, ताकि इसमें कोई ऐसी विधिक त्रुटि न हो, जिससे आगे जाकर काम में अड़चन हो। ऐसे तमाम स्टेकहोल्डर्स के विचार लेने के बाद तीनों सेनाओं के गहन-गंभीर अध्ययन और विचार के बाद यह सोचा गया, यह माना गया कि अगर इस तरह की कोई व्यवस्था बनती है तो हमारी सेनाओं में एक बेहतर अनुशासन और काम करने की बेहतर क्षमता उत्पन्न होगी। उनके मन में भी यह होगा कि अगर हम कोई अनुशासनहीनता करते हैं तो तत्काल मेरे विरुद्ध कार्रवाई हो सकेगी। अभी तक यह होता था कि चाहे आईएमए हो या एनडीए हो, इंडियन मिलिट्री अकैडमी में भी तीनों सेनाओं के अधिकारी एक साथ काम करते हैं और नेशनल डिफेंस अकैडमी में भी वे एक साथ काम करते हैं। इसी तरीके से अंडमान-निकोबार, जहाँ संयुक्त कमान काम करती है, वहाँ पर भी तीनों सेनाओं के कर्मी और अधिकारी होते हैं। अगर वे कोई गड़बड़ी करते हैं या कोई अनुशासनहीनता करते हैं तो इसके लिए वहाँ के कमांडिंग ऑफिसर के पास अभी तक कोई शक्ति नहीं थी कि वह दूसरे कमान के किसी अधिकारी या कर्मचारी के विरुद्ध कोई कार्रवाई कर सके। वे उसके लिए उसकी कमान को लिखते थे या उन फोर्सों को लिखते थे, जहाँ से वे आए हैं। उसके बाद, एक लम्बी प्रक्रिया

चलती थी, जिसके चलते इस काम में बड़ा विलम्ब होता था। इसीलिए एक बहुत सुविचारित निर्णय लिया गया कि इस तरीके का कोई इंटर-सर्विसेज़ संगठन बने। उसी दृष्टि से वर्ष 2023 में यह विधेयक इस सदन में लाया गया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस विधेयक के पारित होने के बाद सेना की सक्रियता और गतिविधियों में तेजी आएगी, अनुशासन अच्छा होगा, काफी समय भी बच सकेगा और जन-धन, दोनों की हानि से भी काफी बचत होगी। हम जानते हैं कि हमारी सेनाएँ आज दुनिया की सबसे समृद्ध सेनाओं में मानी जाती हैं। उनकी दक्षता, उनकी योग्यता और उनकी सामरिक शक्ति का आज दुनिया लोहा मानती है, तो हमारा कमान कंट्रोल भी उतना ही अच्छा हो और हमारी रक्षा संबंधी जो भी यूनिट्स हैं, उनमें एक अच्छी व्यवस्था हो, जो दूसरी सेवाओं के लिए भी एक आदर्श उत्पन्न कर सके। इसलिए इस विधेयक की आवश्यकता पड़ी। बहुत सारे लोग यह भी कह सकते हैं कि यह ज्वाइंट थियेटर कमांड बनाने की दिशा में कोई कदम हो सकता है, लेकिन ऐसी कोई मंशा नहीं है, किन्तु जहाँ तीनों सेनाएं एक-साथ मिलकर ऑपरेट करती हैं, एक-साथ काम करती हैं, वहाँ के कर्मियों पर कैसे अनुशासन कायम किया जा सके, कैसे संस्था को उनकी बेहतर सेवाएं मिल सकें, इसके लिए इस विधेयक की आवश्यकता पड़ी। इसका ज्वाइंट थियेटर कमांड से कोई संबंध नहीं है। हालांकि अंडमान और निकोबार में तीनों सेनाएं एक-साथ काम करती हैं और एक ही कमांडिंग ऑफिसर होता है और वह कमांडिंग ऑफिसर तीनों सेनाओं के अधिकारियों और कर्मचारियों को कंट्रोल करता है, तो एक तरीके से वही ज्वाइंट कमांड उसकी होती है, जो थियेटर कमांड की कल्पना है। यह उससे बिल्कुल अलग है, जिसको हम इस विधेयक के रूप में यहां लाए हैं। केवल सेनाओं के ही नहीं, बल्कि पैरामिलिट्री के लोग भी जहां-जहां ऐसी सेवाओं में हमसे संबद्ध होते हैं, उन पर कार्रवाई करने का अधिकार इस विधेयक के बाद हमारे कमांडिंग ऑफिसर को होगा। कमांडिंग ऑफिसर एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी होगा। यदि वह सेना का होगा, तो ब्रिगेडियर रैंक से नीचे का कोई कमांडिंग ऑफिसर नहीं होगा, जो कमांड कंट्रोल होगा। इसी प्रकार से एयर फोर्स, नेवी और दूसरी सेवाओं के जो पैरलल ऑफिसर्स हैं, वे भी इससे कम रैंक के नहीं होंगे। ब्रिगेडियर और उससे ऊपर के अधिकारी ही कमांडिंग ऑफिसर होंगे, जो उनके विरुद्ध अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई कर सकेंगे। यह विधेयक बहुत सोच-समझकर लाया गया है। यह बहुत सुविचारित विधेयक है। इससे रक्षा संबंधी मामलों में हमारी सक्रियता बढ़ेगी, हमारी गतिशीलता भी बढ़ेगी और बहुत सारे निर्णय, जो बहुत समय तक विलंबित होते थे, जिनके ऊपर बहुत सारा पैसा खर्च होता था, वह भी बचेगा - इस सब पर हर तरीके से विचार करने के बाद यह विधेयक आया है। जैसा मैंने कहा कि सारे स्टेकहोल्डर्स की राय ली गई है, सारे judicial purview में परीक्षण किया गया है कि इसकी judicial sanctity क्या है, ताकि इसमें ऐसी कोई चीज़ न हो, जो न्यायिक प्रक्रिया के विपरीत हो। इन सारी चीज़ों को ध्यान में रखकर इस विधेयक को लाने का काम किया गया है। मैं इसके लिए भारत सरकार को और देश के माननीय रक्षा मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ जो बहुत ही सामयिक और बहुत ही आवश्यक विधेयक को सदन के सामने लाए हैं। इस विधेयक के पारित होने से हमारी सेना की दक्षता बढ़ेगी, कार्यकुशलता बढ़ेगी और मैं समझता हूँ कि अनुशासन में भी एक बड़ा परिवर्तन आएगा। आपने मुझे इस विधेयक पर बोलने का मौका दिया, उसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI G.K. VASAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, it is a very important and much-needed Bill brought before the House by the hon. Defence Minister at the right time. I congratulate the hon. Minister for the same. This particular Bill empowers our Army for better coordination and cooperation to achieve their final goals. In this Bill, many laws have been amended and many laws, which are not necessary, have been taken away. Working together as a unit is very important in the three Forces, and this Bill has achieved this objective. This Bill seeks to empower the Commander-in-Chief or the Officer-in-Command of an Inter-services Organisation to exercise disciplinary or administrative control over the service personnel under his command. There are three-four aspects in this. One is the Inter-services Organisation. The second is the control of Inter-services Organisations. The third is the other Forces under the Central Government. Number four is the Commander-in-Chief, who will be vested with all disciplinary and administrative powers. The next one is the Commanding Officer. The Bill provides for a Commanding Officer who will be in command of a unit, ship or establishment. The Officer will also perform duties assigned by the Commander-in-Chief or the Officer-in-Command of the Inter-services Organisation. This is the crux of the Bill. Everybody has talked about it in detail. I will conclude by saying this. Regarding indiscipline, which has to be corrected, the Minister has been very categorical in bringing this Bill. And I am sure this will stop indiscipline and bring more unity. This is a milestone for our defence sector. With this, I support this Bill. Thank you very much, Madam.

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.) (Haryana): Thank you very much, Madam, for permitting me to speak on such an important Bill. First I thank the hon. Defence Minister and our यशस्वी प्रधान मंत्री, क्योंकि वे न तो समस्या को टालते हैं और न उसको पालते हैं। यह बहुत पुरानी need of the hour थी। I wish कि सुनने के लिए हमारे अपोज़िशन के ऑनरेबल एमपीज़ भी यहां होते, क्योंकि समस्या बहुत पुरानी है, इसके बारे में मैं बाद में ज़िक्र करूंगा। एक बात जरूरी है, जैसा कि मेरे से पूर्व के वक्ताओं ने बताया कि यह एक enabling Act है -- The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill. Inter-services organizations जैसे Andaman and Nicobar Command, Space Agency, strategic forces, National Defence Academy, National Defence College और ऐसे बहुत से इन्स्टिट्यूशन्स हैं, which are being commanded by an officer of the rank of Lieutenant General. These are tri-service institutions. मगर उनके पास अख्तियारात, पावर्स नहीं हैं - डिसिप्लिनरी पावर्स एंड एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव पावर्स। बगैर डिसिप्लिनरी और एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव पावर के उनकी इफेक्टिविटी नहीं होती है। एयर फोर्स और आर्मी एक्ट 1950 के हैं और नेवल एक्ट 1957 का है। अब किसी Naval personnel को, जो पोस्टेड है, try करने के लिए for any offence, he has to be attached to a Naval Unit. There is a provision that an officer cannot be

punished by the other services or officers or organisations. The personnel have to be moved out to Naval Units or Air Force Units or Army Units for disciplinary purposes which consume time. उनकी जो एबिलिटी है, उससे वे उस स्टेशन में रहकर काम भी आ सकते हैं। अभी वर्क ऑवर का भी लॉस होता है और साथ में इकोनॉमिक लॉस भी होता है। कमांडर्स को enable करने के लिए उनको इस बिल के द्वारा ये अख्तियारात दे दिए गए हैं। इस बिल को पूरा maturely deliberate किया गया है। इसको फ्रेम किया गया; Chiefs of Staff Committee को इसका प्रेजेंटेशन किया गया; फिर डिफेंस स्टैंडिंग कमेटी को इसका प्रेजेंटेशन किया गया। हमारी डिफेंस फोर्सों के Judge Advocate Generals, यानी एयर फोर्स, नेवी और आर्मी के Judge Advocate Generals, जो हमारे legal luminaries हैं, फिर उनके बाद हमारे legal luminaries को भी इसे refer किया गया और फाइनली इसकी framing of the language and all legal aspects were considered under the supervision of the Ministry of Law and Justice. अब यह एक परिपक्व बिल है। सुजीत कुमार जी ने कहा, within constraints, I would like to say on the need for theatre command. Theatre command basically वर्ल्ड वार-2 में भी था। अमेरिका तो global policing का काम करता है। They have many four-star Generals commanding the theatre command और five-star Generals भी हैं। Pacific Command, African Command, European Command, यानी पूरे वर्ल्ड पर उनकी global policing का एक्शन है and their economy permits them to move the forces all over the world. Threat perception ऐसी है कि चीन ने भी थिएटर कमांड्स बनाए हैं। उनके पास भी पांच कमांड्स हैं और उनका western command is facing us. जहां तक हमारा सवाल है, अभी तक तो हमारी strategy defensive ही है। It is to defend the territories of India. मगर जैसे हम दुनिया की पांचवीं इकोनॉमिक पावर हैं और मोदी जी की कमांड में हम जितनी तेजी से आगे बढ़ रहे हैं, तो 2030 तक या 2027 तक हम तीसरी सबसे बड़ी इकोनॉमी हो जायेंगे। We have a very big sea line to defend. In Asia Pacific, we have a role. We are member of Quad also. In these situations, we may also have to follow the steps which the super-powers have. Therefore, we should not look in a very limited way towards our territories also. It has also been brought out that the Government, with specific notifications, though we are not creating a theatre command just now, is enabling it. It is certainly a platform for the constitution because it will be a decision of the Ministry of Finance and the Cabinet Committee on Security. If they notify it, certainly, a theatre command can be constituted. In the same way, for other paramilitary forces, standing orders are there. When war comes, then BSF, CRPF, Coast Guards, etc. will come under the command of their respective Armed Forces. As far as discipline is concerned, the Central Government can very well notify it. With this notification, they become part of theatre command also. In totality, it is an enabling Act. As I was mentioning, अगर हम fully prepared होते, तो 1962 में चीन के हाथों हमारा bitter experience नहीं होता। अब हमारी फोर्सों हिमालय की चोटियों पर खड़ी हैं, उनके plateau को overlook कर रही हैं और बॉर्डर रोड ऑर्गनाइजेशन द्वारा बहुत अच्छे-अच्छे रास्ते बना लिए गए हैं। We are fully prepared. We

are a nuclear-powered nation and we need to grow. For that growth, we need to strategize with proper prior planning. Then, we have to exert our might. You can say that we have a policy of an iron first in a velvet glove. If you are not strong, then, people will not acknowledge your might. Though we want peace in the world -- वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम् -- मोदी जी का नारा है, मगर उसके लिए हमें ताकतवर होना पड़ेगा और उस ताकत के लिए, enabling Bills की बहुत जरूरत है कि ये ऐक्ट बनकर वजूद में आएँ और फोर्सिज़ का डिसिप्लिन चुस्त, दुरुस्त और मजबूत हो। Thank you very much for giving me time. I support this Bill.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Vice-Chairperson, Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. On behalf of my Party and my leader, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy *Garu*, I rise to support this Bill. We support this Bill. This Bill seeks to rectify crucial blockages in the Inter-services Organisations and hence we support this Bill. I would like to make three suggestions to the hon. Defence Minister on the overall military reforms in this regard.

Madam, the first point is low defence spending. India was the third largest spender in absolute monetary terms after the US and China. China's economy is a very large economy and it implies that it spends about 3.5 times over India. In absolute terms, India spends about 77 billion US dollars but in terms of percentage of GDP, it works out to be 2.66 per cent whereas China's spending on this as a percentage of its GDP is only 1.74 per cent. However, in absolute monetary terms, it is 293 U.S. billion dollars. Where is '293' and where is '77'? So, the comparative figures may give a different indication. However, there is a necessity to increase the military spending which I request the hon. Minister to kindly look into.

Madam, the Ministry has a share of Central Government expenditure. The share of Ministry in Central Government expenditure in 2016-17 was 17.8 per cent which has declined to 13.2 per cent in 2023-24. In fact, a suggestion has been made by the Committee on Defence, the Ministry of Defence should be allocated, at least, a minimum of 3 per cent of GDP to ensure adequate preparedness of the armed forces. Madam, I request the hon. Defence Minister to kindly look into the issue and ensure that the minimum amount of 3 per cent of GDP is allocated to the Ministry in the interest of the nation.

The second point, which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Defence Minister, is high number of vacancies. As per the Government data available with me, there are about 1.55 lakh unfilled positions across the three forces. The Army accounts for the maximum of 1.36 lakh vacancies followed by Navy of 12,500 vacancies and Air Force, 7,000 vacancies. I request the hon. Defence Minister to

kindly look into the vacancies and address the issue by giving a renewed thrust to the recruitment in mission mode.

The third point, which I would like to bring to the notice of hon. Defence Minister, is absence of National Security Strategy which has long impeded tri-service integration. This is a very important issue. Most of the global players, be it U.S., China, U.K., France, all developed countries, including Japan, have the formal National Security Strategy or policy. I request the hon. Defence Minister to clarify the status of N.S.S. in the country and steps being taken towards it. Thank you very much, Madam. We support this Bill.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I support the Bill introduced by hon. Defence Minister, Raj Nath Singhji. While introducing the Bill, he spoke about the policy of the present Government, especially, under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister, Modi ji and also Raj Nath Singhji, how they are strengthening the Army and modernizing it. At the same time, what are the reforms required, in that respect only, he has brought the Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023 which seeks empowerment of the Commander-in-Chief or the Officer-in-Command of Inter-services Organisations with all disciplinary and administrative powers in respect of service personnel in or attached to such organizations. This is a very important thing which he has brought in.

First of all, Madam, when we are discussing about the defence department, we are also discussing about security. About Indian security, not only the Army is strengthened, border security is also more important. For example, if you take Tamil Nadu, *Katchatheevu* issue is there. As one of our hon. colleagues spoke about the marine security, when fishermen are going, how the Navy is protecting them and also, other Navy, that is, Sri Lankan Navy, how they treat our fishermen. *Katchatheevu* is part of our Indian territory, still, it is under the control of Sri Lanka because at that time, during Shrimati Indira Gandhi period, it was given to Sri Lanka unceremoniously but it was not passed and approved by the Parliament. If you are giving any territory to any other country, it has to be approved by the Parliament. Still, it is not yet approved. Madam, in this regard, our former Chief Minister, Madam Jayalalithaaji, went to the Supreme Court and put a case that this *Katchatheevu* is part of our Indian territory and because of it, the Navy can also use that area and save our Tamil Nadu fishermen. It is a kind of way to give protection not only to the country but also to our Tamil Nadu fishermen community. The Defence Minister must come forward to see that somehow *Katchatheevu*, once again, comes into our territory. We are requesting that it has to be done. For a long time, we are demanding this

issue. It is very, very important to solve this issue of Tamil Nadu fishermen. Also, the Tamil Nadu fishermen are taken away by the Sri Lankan Navy. They are shooting our fishermen. I do not know as to what our Navy is doing. Sometimes they are rescued but sometimes they are not. Instead, all Tamil Nadu fishermen have been put in the Sri Lankan prisons. We are going on requesting our hon. Prime Minister to release them. But, after the NDA Government has come to power, we have seen that our hon. Prime Minister took a lot of steps to free our fishermen from Sri Lanka. We are appreciating that. We are not denying that. At the same time, for security reasons, especially, for the defence reasons, now, you are bringing so many reforms and I appreciate that as disciplinary things are very, very important. At the same time, defence area is also important for the country. In that respect, I request our hon. Defence Minister to fulfill the Tamil Nadu's long pending demand of bringing back *Katchatheevu* as part of our Indian territory. That is my request. In that respect, I am supporting this Bill. Thank you very much.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Madam, for giving me this opportunity. With the Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023, the Government intends to bring the officers belonging to various services of defence establishment, that is, Air Force, Navy and Army who are serving in an Inter-services Organization under Commander-in-Chief or the Officer-in-Command under single Act so that while serving under the Commander-in-Chief or the Officer-in-Command, if any disciplinary issue arises, it can be dealt accordingly without referring the matter to the respective Service for taking appropriate action under the relevant Act, that is, Air Force Act, 1950, the Army Act, 1950 and the Navy Act, 1957.

The Bill is basically is an enabling legislation, which empowers the Heads of the Inter-services Organisations to service effective command, control and discipline on all personnel of regular Air Force, Army and Navy and to persons of other forces as notified by the Central Government, who are serving in or attached to an Inter-services Organisation, without amending the respective Acts.

[Mr. Chairman *in the Chair.*]

Sir, over the period of time, military operations become more complex and inter-dependent because the global security landscape has evolved in such a manner. The emergence of asymmetric threats, cyber warfare, and the need for joint operations demand greater coordination, communication, and seamless integration among the

different branches of the Armed Forces. The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control & Discipline) Bill, 2023 is essential under these circumstances.

Everybody knows what happened during Mumbai terror attack. Due to systematic coordination between varied security forces, the threat was handled in such a coordinated manner that the perpetrators were forced to run for shelter and they took shelter in neighbouring countries.

This Bill acknowledges the requirement for a unified approach to command, control and discipline within the Armed Forces by establishing a precise and uniform mechanism across all ISOs. By granting the Commander-in-Chief and Officer-in-Command of ISOs, the authority to exercise disciplinary and administrative powers, regardless of the specific service the personnel belongs to, the Bill fosters a sense of unity and collective responsibility.

This Bill would have a direct impact on command, control and discipline of Inter-services organizations like Andaman and Nicobar Command or Defence Space Agency, and joint training establishment like National Defence Academy or National Defence College. The Commander-in-Chief or Officer-in-Command of such inter-services organisations are not empowered to exercise disciplinary or administrative powers over the personnel belonging to other services. In view of this, Sir, this Bill is very much needed. I congratulate the hon. Defence Minister. In view of this, I welcome and support the Bill. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sujeet Kumar. He wants to make...

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR : Thank you for allowing me another 30 seconds, though I have already spoken on this Bill. सर, मैं सरकार को दो बातों के लिए बधाई देता हूँ। The entire nation knows about the aggression of China in the Indo-Tibet border, not India-China border. लेकिन सर, पहली बार 1962 के बाद, हम लोग चीन को मुँह-तोड़ जवाब दे पाये और हम आज चीन के साथ आँख से आँख मिला कर खड़े हैं। Definitely, these are compliments and commendation on behalf of the House to the hon. Defence Minister. Secondly, I would like to salute the work of Border Roads Organisation (BRO). Sir, I have interest in strategic issues and I have been to Pangong Lake, Daulat Beg Oldi (DBO) and Bumla Pass near Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh. The kind of roads we have today in our border areas is to be seen to be believed. सर, हम लोग 10 साल पहले चीन के इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के सामने उससे बहुत पीछे थे। Really, the BRO has done such a stupendous and stellar work and for this also, I would like to commend the hon. Defence Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I happened to be from Sainik School, Chittorgarh and I keep on meeting several three-star Generals and Admirals. There is upbeat mood. The hon. *Raksha Mantri*'s contribution is so impactful, so massive, making the nation proud and I am so glad, you took time again and reflected on this. Now Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa.

श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा (असम): सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे इस बिल पर बोलने का जो अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए आपका धन्यवाद। मैं "The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill, 2023" पर बोल रहा हूँ और इसके सपोर्ट में खड़ा हूँ।

महोदय, मैं ऑनरेबल रक्षा मंत्री, श्री राजनाथ सिंह जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि वे यह जो "The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill" लाए हैं, इसके लिए वे बहुत दिनों से सोच भी रहे थे और अब वास्तव में यह बिल आया है। ऑनरेबल प्राइम मिनिस्टर, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के टाइम में, हम लोगों का सम्मान पूरे वर्ल्ड में बढ़ा है। केवल पॉलिटिक्स में ही नहीं, बल्कि ऑल साइड्स में, स्क्वेयर साइड में ऑनरेबल प्राइम मिनिस्टर, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के टेन्योर में यह सम्मान बढ़ा है और उसमें ऑनरेबल राजनाथ जी का भी एक बहुत बड़ा रोल रहा है।

सर, हम लोग जानते हैं कि आज के टाइम के हिसाब से डिफेंस सेक्टर में जो परिवर्तन आया है, वह सराहनीय है। हम लोग जानते हैं कि हमारी कंट्री एक डिफेंसिव मोड में रहती है, लेकिन अब यह एक ऑफेंसिव मोड में भी आयी है और विभिन्न समय में हमें यह देखने को मिल रहा है। सीडीएस की जो पोस्ट है, यह पोस्ट क्रिएट हुई है और इस पोस्ट के क्रिएट होने के बाद तीनों सर्विसेज़ में - एयरफोर्स, नेवी एंड मिलिट्री में जो तालमेल है, यह तालमेल बहुत सुन्दर हुआ है, यह भी हमें देखने को मिला है। टाइम के हिसाब से थिएटर कमांड की भी जो थ्योरी थी, वह कमांड अभी वास्तव में हो रहा है, वह भी हम देख रहे हैं।

सर, मैंने डिफेंस कमेटी में रहते हुए देखा कि डिफेंस सेक्टर में, विभाग में जो परिवर्तन आया है, यह सभी टाइम की तुलना में सबसे ज्यादा है। यह 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत' बनाने की जो थ्योरी है, इस थ्योरी को वास्तव में रूपान्तरित करते हुए, चाहे मिसाइल हो, बंदूक हो या तोप हो, इनमें जो चेंजेज़ लाये गये हैं और तीनों सर्विसेज़ में, यानी एयरफोर्स, नेवी और मिलिट्री में जो आपसी तालमेल है, इसको जितना बढ़ाने का काम किया गया है, इसके लिए मैं रक्षा मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मैं देख रहा हूँ कि तीनों फोर्सों में एक अच्छा सा तालमेल होने के बाद यह डिफेंसिव मोड से ऑफेंसिव मोड में आया है। जैसा रक्षा मंत्री जी विभिन्न मीटिंग्स में, सेमिनार में भी बोलते हैं, कई जगह बोले हैं, यह वास्तव में कार्य रूप में रूपान्तरित हुआ है। यह जो "The Inter-services Organisations (Command, Control and Discipline) Bill" आया है, इसमें discipline के बारे में मैंने देखा है कि यहाँ discipline है। फिर भी Inter-services Organisations में इनका जो तालमेल है, इसको बनाये रखने के लिए जो बिल का प्रबोधन किया गया है, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह तीनों बिल्स से थोड़ा अलग तो नहीं है, लेकिन तीनों बिल्स को समाहित करके लाया गया है। जो आर्मी कमांड है, आर्मी के ऊपर भरोसा और ज्यादा बढ़े, इसकी भी

व्यवस्था की गई है। ऑनरेबल रक्षा मंत्री जी ने अपने ओपनिंग रिमार्क्स में पूरा बोल ही दिया है। जहाँ तक 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत' की बात है, डिफेंस में हो या एयर फोर्स में हो या मिलिट्री में हो, डिफेंस सेक्टर में इसको किया गया है। यह बहुत अच्छा किया गया है, क्योंकि यह सामान इंडिया में ही बन रहा है। जो यहाँ नहीं मिलता है, उसकी बात अलग है, लेकिन ऑनरेबल प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने आत्मनिर्भर भारत का जो concept सोचा था, उसको डिफेंस मिनिस्टर लेकर आए हैं। यंग ऑफिसर्स के बीच इनके काँफिडेंस को मैं देख रहा हूँ।

सर, मैं देख रहा हूँ कि सैनिक स्कूल बढ़ाने की भी व्यवस्था की गई है। स्कूलिंग टाइम से सैनिक स्कूल का जो चिंतन है और स्टेट्स में इसकी संख्या बढ़ाने की जो व्यवस्था की गई है, इसके लिए मैं रक्षा मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूँ। ऐसा करने से from very early stage लोगों को आर्मी के ऊपर भरोसा भी होगा। अभी विभिन्न स्टेट्स में आर्मी के ऊपर जो फोकस किया जा रहा है - यह भी अच्छा है। इस बिल में inter-service organization के बारे विस्तृत विवरण है, इसलिए मैं बिल पर नहीं जा रहा हूँ। इसमें Statement of Objects and Reasons है। जैसा रक्षा मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि लोगों के मन में आर्मी के ऊपर जो भरोसा है, वह बढ़ा है...**(समय की घंटी)**... तीनों फोर्सेज में Inter-Service Organization की जो मानसिकता है, इससे भविष्य में इसमें बदलाव आएगा और यह विश्व में सबसे बड़े मिलिट्री फोर्स में रूपांतरित हो जाएगा - ऐसा मुझे विश्वास है। धन्यवाद!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Raj Nath Singh to reply to the discussion.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: माननीय सभापति महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं इस सदन के सम्मानित सदस्य श्री सुजीत कुमार जी, श्री अयोध्या रामी रेड्डी आला जी, डा .अशोक बाजपेयी जी, श्री जी. के. वासन जी, ले. जनरल (डा.) डी. पी. वत्स (रिटा.) जी, श्री वि. विजयसाई रेड्डी जी, डा .मु .तंबी दुरै जी और कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। मैं इनको इसलिए बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ इन लोगों ने यहाँ पर इस बिल का समर्थन किया है, वहीं जो कुछ भी सुझाव आवश्यक थे, उन्होंने वे सुझाव भी दिये हैं। मैं अपनी बात रखने से पहले, जो बातें सुजीत कुमार जी के द्वारा की गई हैं, उनके संबंध में कहना चाहूँगा। उन्होंने theaterisation के संबंध में हमारा विचार जानना चाहा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि theaterisation एक अलग सब्जेक्ट है और इस संबंध में अभी कुछ कहना premature होगा, लेकिन इतना मैं जरूर आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि यदि theaterisation होता है, तो हमारा जो एक्ट है, एक सामान्य notification के द्वारा, एक सामान्य परिसूचना के द्वारा, जो हमारा theatre command होगा, उस पर यह प्रभावी होगा - मैं यह जानकारी देना चाहता हूँ।

हमारे अयोध्या रामी रेड्डी आला जी ने Maritime system और agencies के close coordination की बात कही। सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से इतना आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारा maritime interest पूरी तरह से protected है, इसलिए इस सदन को उसकी चिंता करने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। मैं यह भी आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि हम हर प्रकार के warfare के लिए पूरी तरह से तैयार हैं और तैयारी का यह सिलसिला लगातार आगे बढ़ता ही जा रहा है।

यहाँ पर हमारे रेड्डी साहब ने कुछ और बातें कही हैं। उन्होंने low defence-spending, vacancies in armed forces और National Security Strategy के बारे में कहा है। सभापति महोदय, मैं पहले भी कह चुका हूँ और फिर से मैं अपनी बात को यहाँ पर दोहराना भी चाहता हूँ कि भारत की सुरक्षा और आत्म-सम्मान की रक्षा के लिए हम वित्तीय संसाधनों की किसी भी प्रकार की कोई कमी नहीं आने देंगे, बल्कि मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जितने वित्तीय संसाधन उपलब्ध हैं, उसके अंतर्गत हमारा जो टारगेट है, उस टारगेट को achieve करने के लिए इन्हीं संसाधनों के अंतर्गत ही हम लगातार काम कर रहे हैं। 3 to 4 per cent of GDP की जो बात कही जा रही है, मैं समझता हूँ कि इसकी कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। 3 to 4 per cent of GDP ही क्यों, आवश्यकता पड़ी तो 5 per cent, 6 per cent of GDP भी इस देश की security के लिए, defence के लिए खर्च किया जा सकता है। Vacancies को भरा जाना - इसका एक continuous process है और इस समय लगातार भर्ती चल रही है। जहाँ तक National Security Strategy का सवाल है, इस संबंध में मैं सदन को आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि National Security Strategy के संबंध में भी appropriate level पर इस समय हमारे यहाँ काम हो रहा है।

3.00P.M.

हमारे यहाँ जो कॉम्प्रिहेंसिव स्ट्रेटेजी होनी चाहिए थी, वह अभी तक बन नहीं पाई है, लेकिन इस पर फिलहाल काम चल रहा है। महोदय, तंबी दुरै जी ने कुछ बातें जाननी चाही हैं। इन्होंने बिल का सपोर्ट भी किया है, जिसके लिए मैं इन्हें धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। इन्होंने फिशरमेन की बात भी उठाई है और the island handed over to Sri Lanka be brought back के बारे में भी कहा है। 'Tamil Nadu system should be started by Sri Lanka', इन्होंने ऐसा कुछ भी कहा है। मैं इस संबंध में माननीय सदस्य को यह बताना चाहूँगा कि इंडियन नेवी भारतीय फिशरमेन की सुरक्षा और हितों की रक्षा के लिए सदैव मुस्तैद है और हमारी फोर्स, हमारी नेवी इस दृष्टि से काम भी कर रही है।

सभापति महोदय, जहाँ तक वॉरफेयर का प्रश्न है, तो इसका स्वरूप समय के अनुसार बदलता रहता है। यह हम सभी जानते हैं कि अब वॉरफेयर conventional नहीं रह गया है, बल्कि टेक्नोलॉजी व नेटवर्क सेंटरिक होता जा रहा है। अतः यह आवश्यकता है कि हम लोगों के सामने जो नए चैलेंजेज़ आ रहे हैं, उनका सामना करने के लिए हमारी सेनाओं, चाहे वह आर्मी हो, नेवी हो, एयर फोर्स हो, मैं बेहतर कोऑर्डिनेशन होना चाहिए, बेहतर तालमेल होना चाहिए। इसी बात को ध्यान में रखकर यह बिल सदन में लाया गया है कि तीनों सेनाओं के personnel आपस में मिलकर काम करें, क्योंकि इन तीनों के मिलने से ही यह इंटर सर्विसेज़ ऑर्गेनाइजेशन बनता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह ऑर्गेनाइजेशन बन जाने के बाद, यह एक्ट पास हो जाने के बाद हमारा इंटर सर्विसेज़ ऑर्गेनाइजेशन और बेहतर तरीके से काम कर सकेगा।

सभापति महोदय, मैं सदन को यह भी अवगत कराना चाहता हूँ कि यह बिल स्टैंडिंग कमिटी, रक्षा विभाग के समक्ष विचाराधीन था, तो उस स्टैंडिंग कमिटी ने इस बिल को इतना कॉम्प्रिहेंसिव माना है, अपने में इतना परफेक्ट माना है कि उसने रिक्मंड किया है और दोनों सदनों से अपील की है कि इसे सदन के द्वारा बिना किसी संशोधन के पारित किया जाना चाहिए।

मैं समझता हूँ कि ऐसा पहली बार हुआ है, जब किसी स्टैंडिंग कमिटी ने रिकमेंड किया हो कि इसे बिना किसी अमेंडमेंट के पारित किया जाए। मैं सभी माननीय सदस्यों को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि वे बिना किसी अमेंडमेंट के इस बिल को अपना समर्थन दे रहे हैं। उन्होंने जो भी सुझाव दिए हैं, उन पर हमारा जो व्यू प्वाइंट है, उसे भी मैंने इस सदन के समक्ष रखा है। सर, रिफॉर्म एक continuous प्रोसेस है, यह चलता ही रहता है। मैं सदन को आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि जिस-जिस प्रकार के रिफॉर्म्स की जरूरत होगी, हम उन्हें सदैव लाते रहेंगे। जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने इस बिल के ऊपर अपने विचार व्यक्त किए हैं, मैं उनका पुनः आभार व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ। माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके प्रति भी विनम्रतापूर्वक आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस बिल के ऊपर अपने विचार व्यक्त करने का अवसर दिया, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

That the Bill to empower the Commander-in-Chief or the Officer-in Command of Inter-services Organisations in respect of service personnel who are subject to the Air Force Act, 1950, the Army Act, 1950 and the Navy Act, 1957, who are serving under or attached to his command for the maintenance of discipline and proper discharge of their duties, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 15 were added to the Bill.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Rajnath Singh to move that the Bill be passed.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ :

कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Shri Dharmendra Pradhan to move a motion for consideration of the Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

The Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION; AND THE MINISTER OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The question was proposed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now call upon the Members whose names have been received for participation in the discussion. Dr. Amar Patnaik.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to welcome the introduction of this Bill. This was necessary considering the fact that the Original Act of 2017 had basically tried to give academic autonomy to all the IIMs.

[The Vice-Chairman (Shri Ghanshyam Tiwari) *in the Chair.*]

The IIMs have been perceived to be institutes of pre-eminent and national importance in our country and in fact, in some ways, across the globe. They had very high rankings. Some of the IIMs featured in the top 50. The current Bill, which has been brought in, essentially has two parts. One part is to upgrade the National Institute of Industrial Engineering in Mumbai into an Indian Institute of Management, Mumbai. I support this particular upgradation, but at the same time, I could probably recommend to the hon. Minister if, instead of only looking at public sector institutes, if it is possible to also upgrade some other institutes of importance in States with private participation or joint State and Central Government participation so that we would have more number of institutes in the country and the management education ecosystem will spread across the country and will not get limited to only State capitals or in some cases important cities of the country. It is important that for rural people of India, agro management, agro forestry management etc. should also be taken up in management institutes and not necessarily only business management. This is the inter-disciplinarity that India can actually bring in, which the foreign institutes of management do not have. Now the second part, basically, consists of five important amendments, and these amendments, I will refer to one-by-one. The first one is relating to Section 10 of the Principal Act. Section 10 of the Principal Act states that

the President of India shall be the Visitor of every institute. This is an insertion which has been made and I, wholeheartedly, support this because all the Indian Institutes of Technology which have equal amount of stature in the global arena, also have the President as the Visitor. I think this was necessary. While this particular insertion is welcome, I would also like to refer to the Insertion of 10 (a) (2) "The Visitor may appoint one or more persons to review the work and progress of any institute, to hold enquiries into affairs thereof and to report in such manner as the Visitor may direct." Why has this come up? This has come up because the existing situation in the Indian Institutes of Management, after the 2017 Act, which have given them complete freedom, operational, financial, academic, all kinds of freedom, did not really institutionalise the kind of protocols required to deserve that kind of autonomy. I will refer to one of their very celebrated ex-Directors of IIM, Ahmedabad, Dr. Bakul Dholakia. In an interview, he said, "The IIM Act -- I am talking about the 2017 Act -- mandated an independent review of each institute every three years which was to be conducted by eminent independent individuals who could objectively evaluate the institute's overall performance. The IIM Act specifies that the review report must be presented to the Board and, after its approval, should be placed in the public domain." The idea is, the Director would be responsible to the Board and the Board will be responsible to the public. The idea is that the Director would be responsible to the Board and the Board would be responsible to the public; because, after all, many of these IIMs are completely funded by the Government. There has to be some amount of accountability. But, he himself states, 'However, in the last six years, only IIM (Bangalore) has conducted such a review.' Therefore, I support insertion of 10A (2) which says that the Visitor may appoint one or more persons to review the work and progress. However, I would like to add a word of caution here. The word of caution is: The review of work in progress should be in areas other than academic and research-related matters; because, I think, there the interference should be minimum, unless the person who is reviewing is also an expert in that particular domain.

I believe, autonomy and accountability go hand-in-hand. If you want autonomy, you also have to be accountable which was not happening and, therefore, this Bill is welcome.

Inefficiency of the existing grievance redressal procedure and breakdown of the governance structure in IIMs resulted in introduction of these amendments to the original 2017 Act. However, as I said, while under-regulation is bad, over-regulation, which might lead to interference, is far worse. So, I think, we have to be careful about this. The history has, however, revealed — this is what Dr. Dholakia said — that

Government's intervention in the affairs of IIMs has been very minimal. This is really welcome. I hope, this particular trend will continue, despite introduction of the Visitor and a Committee to look after the affairs of reviewing their performance from time to time.

Sir, I come to Section 16 of the principal Act which is proposed to be amended. It is proposed to substitute Sub-Section (3). It says that the Director shall be appointed out of the panel of names recommended by a Search-cum-Selection Committee to be constituted by the Board consisting of X, Y and Z. The point here is that such a procedure already exists. But, it is a kind of 'inbreeding' that was happening. There was nobody from outside. Now, the Visitor will be able to appoint somebody to the Search-cum-Selection Committee, which is welcome. I could again give a suggestion to the hon. Minister, since he is present here, that this process should not, however, be longer than the previous system. It should be seen whether it is possible that some of the members from the existing Board could be designated and act as the Search-and-Selection Committee and recommend a panel of names to the hon. President who will do the selection, in which case the process may become faster.

Sir, certain experts believe that IIMs are public institutions, answerable to the people of India and the Bill will ensure that they do not turn into private fiefdoms. This is what I explained just now. But, there is also a belief of unnecessary interference. The Bill, however, precludes this possibility by ensuring that the President will be at the helm of affairs while directing any kind of inquiry. Earlier, the inquiry used to be ordered by the Board itself into its affairs which is, definitely, a conflict of interest. So, I think, the amendments are, more or less, in order. The only thing I would now hope is this. In 2009-10, IIM (Ahmedabad) ranked 11th in the Financial Times Rankings for one year programmes and 41st in the Economist Rankings for 2-year programmes. However, its current rankings have declined to 51st in Financial Times Rankings. It came down from 11th to 51st! And, 41st ranking has come down to 99th in the Economist Rankings!

With these changes and with the kind of affirmative intervention into the scheme of things, under the direction of the hon. Minister, I am sure, the rankings and ecosystem will improve. However, it is extremely important that the management education should spread across the country. People who are, probably, not able to learn in English, learn in local languages. Some kind of mechanism could be developed in which IIMs would handhold some of these institutes at the State level and give them courses in local language, so that management education knowledge

would spread. And, this is required for all disciplines, not necessarily in business management.

With these words, I support the Bill, commend the hon. Minister and also the Government for bringing in these changes. Thank you so much, Sir.

डा. अनिल अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका और अपनी पार्टी का धन्यवाद करता हूँ कि इस महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। महोदय, 1961 में यह महसूस किया गया कि देश की अर्थव्यवस्था और डेवलपमेंट ऑफ फाइनेंशियल ग्रोथ के लिए इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट का संचालन किया जाए, जिसमें देश के बेहतर स्टूडेंट्स पढ़ें और देश की आर्थिक प्रगति में सहायता करें। उसी क्रम में दो इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट्स ऑफ मैनेजमेंट शुरू किए गए - इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट, अहमदाबाद और इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट, कलकत्ता। बाद में चार इंस्टिट्यूट्स ऑफ मैनेजमेंट और बढ़ाए गए - इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट, बंगलोर, इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट, लखनऊ, इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट, इंदौर और इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट, कोझिकोड। इस प्रकार चार इंस्टिट्यूट्स और बढ़े हैं और कुल मिलाकर छः मैनेजमेंट इंस्टिट्यूट्स बनाए गए। पिछले 70 वर्षों में देश में लगभग छः इंस्टिट्यूट्स थे, लेकिन माननीय मोदी जी के आने के बाद, 2014 के बाद, सात इंस्टिट्यूट्स बढ़ाए गए और इस प्रकार इन इंस्टिट्यूट्स की संख्या 13 हो गई। आप समझ सकते हैं कि देश के यशस्वी माननीय प्रधान मंत्री, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी का जो देश को तीसरी बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्था बनाने का संकल्प है, उस पर बहुत तेजी से काम हो रहा है और उनके इस सहयोग में हमारे माननीय शिक्षा मंत्री, श्रीमान धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान जी इसमें एक और इंस्टिट्यूट का इजाफा करने जा रहे हैं।

महोदय, द नेशनल इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ इंडस्ट्रियल इंजीनियरिंग, मुम्बई एक बहुत अच्छा संस्थान है और इसने देश के टेक्नो-मैनेजीरियल स्ट्रेंथ में काफी वृद्धि की है, लेकिन इस इंस्टिट्यूट में सब कुछ होने के बावजूद, चूंकि इसको नेशनल इम्पॉर्टेंस का दर्जा प्राप्त नहीं था, तो यह अपनी डिग्री नहीं दे पाता था। इससे इंस्टिट्यूट की रैंकिंग में और इंस्टिट्यूट के छात्रों के मन में थोड़ी यह बात रहती थी कि इतना सब होने के बावजूद हमको जो मान-सम्मान मिलना चाहिए, वह नहीं मिला। इसलिए इस बिल के माध्यम से नेशनल इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ इंडस्ट्रियल इंजीनियरिंग को अब इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ मैनेजमेंट का दर्जा दिया जा रहा है, जिसका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ। मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि माननीय शिक्षा मंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में यह इंस्टिट्यूट बहुत अच्छा काम करेगा।

माननीय महोदय, आज जब भारत में देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को हमें विश्व में तीसरे स्थान पर लेकर जाना है, तो हमें आवश्यकता है कि देश में अच्छे मैनेजमेंट इंस्टिट्यूट्स हों और उनके छात्रों के माध्यम से हम देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को गति दें। आज न केवल 'ए' कैटेगरी, बल्कि 'बी' और 'सी' कैटेगरी के इस प्रकार के बहुत सारे इंस्टिट्यूट्स हैं, जो अच्छे मैनेजीरियल स्किल के साथ देश में अच्छे नागरिक और अच्छे मैनेजर बना रहे हैं, जो देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को बढ़ाने के लिए काम कर रहे हैं। महोदय, इस इंस्टिट्यूट के लिए 2022-23 के लिए 65 करोड़ रुपये का

बजट दिया गया था। बाद में इसमें 80 करोड़ रुपये इस बिल के माध्यम से और दिए जा रहे हैं। यह केवल एक बार के लिए दिया जा रहा है। अन्य वर्षों में इसकी आवश्यकता नहीं होगी।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से एक और अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि हम जहाँ मैनेजमेंट के इतने अच्छे इंस्टिट्यूट्स बना रहे हैं, हम इनको प्रैक्टिस करने के लिए भी अलाउ करें। यह मेरा सुझाव है। इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी हर क्षेत्र में बहुत सारी प्रॉब्लम सॉल्विंग का काम कर रहा है और उन इंस्टिट्यूट्स को डिजाइन के माध्यम से, इंडस्ट्री की प्रॉब्लम सॉल्व करने के माध्यम से बहुत आय भी होती है। हमारे मैनेजमेंट के जितने प्रीमियर इंस्टिट्यूट्स हैं, अगर वे सिक इंडस्ट्रीज़ या जिन इंडस्ट्रीज़ में मैनेजमेंट की प्रॉब्लम है, उनकी प्रॉब्लम्स सॉल्विंग के लिए काम करेंगे, तो मुझे लगता है कि मैनेजीरियल स्किल्स को इम्पूव करने के लिए और इंडस्ट्री को ग्रोथ देने के लिए यह बहुत अच्छा मील का पत्थर साबित हो सकता है।

महोदय, आज यह भी आवश्यक है कि हम अपने छात्रों को वर्ल्ड क्लास बनाएं और पूरी दुनिया में स्थापित करें, उसके लिए भी...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी): दूबे जी, यह गलत परंपरा है। जब माननीय सदस्य बोल रहे हों, तो उनके और आसन के बीच में नहीं आना चाहिए। आप बैठ जाइए।

डा. अनिल अग्रवाल: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का आभार व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ कि वे एक और वर्ल्ड क्लास इंस्टिट्यूट बना रहे हैं। आज दुनिया भर में जितने भी बड़े संस्थान हैं, जितनी बड़ी कम्पनीज़ हैं, उनमें बहुत सारे चीफ एग्जीक्यूटिव अफसर भारत के हैं। उन्होंने भारत में शिक्षा-दीक्षा ग्रहण की है और आज भारत का नाम पूरे विश्व में रौशन कर रहे हैं।

महोदय, इस बिल के माध्यम से जो हमारे मैनेजमेंट के इंस्टिट्यूट्स हैं - इस बिल में ही यह प्रोविज़न है, जो हमारा सैक्शन 10 था, उसको 10 (ए) से रिप्लेसमेंट दिया जा रहा है। इसमें जो विज़िटर है, उसमें बोर्ड के स्थान पर The President of India will be the Visitor of the Institute. इसमें अप्वाइंटमेंट का जो तरीका है, उसे पूरी तरह से पारदर्शी बनाया गया है, search-cum-selection committee पूरे देश में देखेगी कि कौन-कौन अच्छे faculty members मिल सकते हैं, अच्छे मैनेजमेंट के प्रोफेसर्स मिल सकते हैं, उनका नाम सर्च करके भेजा जाएगा और जो उनमें best possible होगा, उसको हम इस institute में डायरेक्टर बनायेंगे, faculty के रूप में रखेंगे।

अब इस बिल के पास हो जाने के बाद इस संस्थान को अपनी डिग्री allot करने का, डिग्री grant करने का मौका मिल जाएगा, जिससे निश्चित रूप से यह एक बेहतर कदम होगा।

महोदय, आज जैसा कि मेरे मित्र अमर पटनायक जी ने भी बताया कि global ranking में हम लोग थोड़ा पिछड़ रहे हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करूंगा कि एक बार उनके साथ मीटिंग करें, उनकी समस्याओं पर विचार करें और जो भी इसके लिए हो सकता है, वह करें। आज आवश्यक है कि हिंदुस्तान में हमारे जो institutes हैं, उनकी ranking को इम्पूव करें। आज माननीय मोदी जी ने, माननीय धर्मेंद्र प्रधान जी ने पूरी दुनिया की यूनिवर्सिटीज़ को भारत आने का एक मौका प्रदान किया है। लेकिन उसमें होगा यह कि अधिकांश institutes या अधिकांश यूनिवर्सिटीज़ initial level पर भारत के जो अच्छे लेवल के संस्थान हैं, उनके साथ collaborate

करेंगी, क्योंकि उनको अपने संस्थान बनाने में समय लगेगा। जब हमारी global ranking बढ़ेगी, तो ये न केवल भारत का नाम रौशन करेंगे, बल्कि यहां के पढ़े हुए जो लोग होंगे, वे भारत का विदेशों में भी प्रतिनिधित्व करेंगे और भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था को मजबूत करने में भी इसका फायदा होगा। जो यूनिवर्सिटीज़ हिंदुस्तान में आएंगी, उन यूनिवर्सिटीज़ को भी एक infrastructure ready मिलेगा। आज भी बहुत सारे institutes dual degree देते हैं, जिसमें स्टूडेंट्स कुछ समय यहां पर पढ़ते हैं और कुछ समय विदेश में पढ़ते हैं। इस तरह से स्टूडेंट्स का better exposure होता है। यह कार्यक्रम भी चल रहा है। जब यूनिवर्सिटीज़ हिंदुस्तान में आएंगी, तो उसका इसको और फायदा होगा। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का इस बेहतर बिल के लिए धन्यवाद करता हूं और इस बिल का पूर्ण रूप से समर्थन करता हूं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी): धन्यवाद अग्रवाल जी। श्री मस्थान राव बीडा।

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak on this important Bill. The Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are Management Education and Research Institutes in India. They primarily provide post-graduate, doctorate and executive education programmes as well as certain other courses. Following the enactment of the Indian Institutes of Management Act in 2017, the IIMs were designated as institutes of national importance. The Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023, comes six years after the IIM Act of 2017. The Amendment upgrades the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai, to the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), including it in the IIM network. The NITIE has encountered several hurdles as a result of absence of any Act of Parliament for it. With this Amendment, there shall be further seats available for management aspirants, which is a positive message for them.

The hon. President of India has been designated as the Visitor of each institute under the Amendment. The presence of the Visitor shall give further strength to the system and also a centralized system of designating persons to examine an institute's work, undertake investigations into its operations, and take necessary action depending on the results. However, there are certain pressing issues regarding the Bill which I would like to highlight. As per Section 10(2) (a) of the Amendment, the President of India would be appointed as the 'Visitor' of all the IIMs. The 'Visitor' is also endowed with the power to appoint one or two persons to assess the working and functioning of IIMs and provide a report on the same. Can the Minister please state the reasons and the need for appointing a Visitor to IIMs, given it directly leads to curtailing of autonomy of such institutes? Can the hon. Minister also state as to why the Visitor's prior approval is required in appointing or nominating people for the said positions?

Why has the autonomy of the IIMs being taken away? We should look at the top B-Schools and how they function to ensure that our IIMs are able to compete at the global stage. Institutions such as Harvard, Cambridge, Oxford or Berkeley are being partially or sometimes fully funded by the Government depending on the course, yet, they exercise a greater degree of autonomy.

Management is a course that needs specialists and institutional freedom. On the first reading, it looks like that the Bill is taking back what the 2017 Amendment had given to them. The Bill makes no mention of the exorbitantly high fees charged by the premier institutes. The quality of education offered by the IIMs remains unmatched, but it is still a dream for students from low-income households to get enrolled in such courses. The MBA fees for top IIMs such as IIM Ahmedabad, IIM Bangalore and IIM Calcutta are the highest, ranging from Rs. 23 to 25 lakhs. While there are provisions for scholarships offered by the Governments and different IIMs, many students do not have the right guidance and coaching facilities in order to land on the merit list.

Can the hon. Minister clarify if any provision would be made regarding fee-waivers for financially weaker strata of the society and whether the Ministry plans on initiating coaching facilities aimed at preparing students for CATs from the weaker sections of the society?

The provisions of IIM Act of 2017 enabled the Board to launch an investigation into an Institute if it failed to operate in compliance with the Act. Such investigations were to be carried out by a retired High Court Judge.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी): माननीय सदस्य, कृपया समाप्त कीजिए।

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: However, the Bill repeals all these provisions and proposes a new inquiry mechanism. It grants the Visitor the ability to inquire. Can the Minister state the reasons for doing away with Section 17 of the Act? Can the Minister also be pleased to explain the plan of action undertaken by the Visitor while investigating such cases? Also, as per constitutional position, the presence of Visitor equates to the presence to the Education Ministry in the process. How does the presence of Government in such processes benefit the IIMs or its students? ...*(Time-bell rings.)*... One minute, Sir. While the move to include NITIE, Mumbai under the ambit of IIMs has been widely appreciated, a few sections of the Bill tend to undermine the functioning of IIMs, thereby having a negative impact on their performances. I sincerely urge the hon. Minister of Education to address the concerns raised above and provide explanations for them.

With this, I support the Bill on behalf of YSR Congress Party and our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Jagan Mohan Reddy Garu.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी): श्री जी. के. वासन।

SHRI G.K. VASAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I congratulate the Minister for bringing this Bill at an appropriate time. IIMs are proof that the Indian education system is at par with top Business Schools around the world. Still, we understand that our ranking needs to be improved and I am sure, this Bill would help improve our global ranking.

Sir, we feel proud that our country caters to the need of lakhs and lakhs of students, not just in India but from all over the world, in higher education. This Bill seeks to declare Indian Institutes of Management as Institutes of national importance and regularize their functioning. The Bill designates the President of India as Visitor of every institute covered by the Act. This is very respectable not only for the country but also for students who come to India for studies from all over the world.

Then, Sir, appointment and removal of IIM Directors merit discipline and transparency, which the Bill seeks to ensure, no doubt. The amendment Bill also says that Visitor will have the power to appoint the Chairperson to the Board of Governors of the institute. This is the right gesture. Then, I would like to ask the hon. Minister about dissolution of the Board, which is very important. There the Visitor is not involved. There should not be any controversy in the dissolution of the Board. If it comes to the knowledge of the Visitor, then, it would be respectable. The Visitor will also have the power to appoint the Chairperson to the Coordination Forum of the institute, as per the Bill. To conclude, Sir, the need for top-class, uncompromised education is the future for the well-being and growth of our young generation. This Bill, I am sure, will further enhance the position of IIMs in the global rankings. Thank you, Sir.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी): श्री सकलदीप राजभर, माननीय सदस्य अनुपस्थित। Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I rise to support this Bill. It is a very good Bill and we appreciate the hon. Minister of Education for bringing such a good Bill. Sir, I wish to bring three points to the notice of the hon. Minister. The first point that I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is reduced budgetary support for IIMs. In the past seven years, seven new IIMs have been added and created, taking the total number of IIMs in the country to 20. The Bill seeks to convert

even the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai to IIM, which should be appreciated. However, there is an obvious mismatch between the increase in the number of IIMs and decrease in budgetary support to them. In 2022,-23, initially, the Budget Estimate was Rs. 654 crore while it was reduced subsequently, in the Revised Estimate stage to Rs. 608 crore. In 2023-24, next year, the budgetary allocation for IIMs was Rs. 300 crore, which is half of the earlier years. It is less than half of the allocation for the previous financial years. I request the hon. Minister to ensure that adequate budgetary support is given to all the 20 IIMs because the number has risen to 20.

Sir, the next point that I wish to bring to the hon. Minister's notice is vacancies in IIMs. In March, 2023, close to 500 posts remained vacant in all IIMs across the country. These vacancies are concerning given that the sanctioned strength of IIMs stands at 1,500. If, out of 1,500 posts, 500 posts are lying vacant, we can imagine the situation that students of IIMs are in. It is even more concerning that 60 per cent of the posts reserved for OBC and SC faculty members in IIMs remain vacant and that the number is more than 80 in the case of posts reserved for ST. There is a need to ensure that IIMs are adequately staffed so as to maintain the highest standards of education. In this regard, I would like to make one suggestion to the hon. Minister. In this regard, I would like to make one suggestion to the hon. Minister. Point No.5 (v) of the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill is to amend Section 29 of the Act relating to "Coordination Forum of the Institute". My colleague, Dr. Amar Patnaik, has also raised this point. In this regard, my suggestion would be to have a common recruitment board, and this Coordination Forum of Institute, comprising all the members of all 20 Institutes, can undertake the exercise of recruiting an adequate number of professors for all IIMs and staff for supervisory functions. The last point which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is regarding domicile quota. The domicile quota which is there in all the law schools is not prevalent in IIMs. So, I request the hon. Minister to satisfy the local students and ensure that domicile quota be fixed in respect of local students residing in that area. Thank you.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी): माननीय श्री अब्दुल वहाब। अनुपस्थित। माननीय डा. मु. तंबी दुरै।

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): I thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to participate in the discussion on this Bill introduced by the hon. Minister. This Amendment Bill seeks to further amend the Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017, and provide for upgrading the status of National Institute of

Industrial Engineering, Mumbai, and also the Indian Institute of Management Act declares certain institutes like Ahmedabad and Kolkata as Institutes of Excellence. I welcome this. You know that education is a Concurrent Subject and the Centre has every power to enact laws on this. There is no objection to it. At the same time, our hon. Members, especially Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy, raised an issue that when you are establishing this kind of institution, local students must be given admission. If you go by merit, the purpose of establishing this kind of institution in different places like Bangalore, Lucknow and other places is this. Hon. Prime Minister's ambition is to see that local people also get benefited. That is what he is saying. Modi's aim is to see that local people must also be benefited by getting admission in such institutions. That spirit must be there in the running of such institutions. That is what I am requesting. Some Members have also raised a point that the autonomy of the institution is taken away through this Bill. What is autonomy? When Government is funding, the institute must be accountable to the Government or the Parliament or the Assembly, whichever is giving funds. The accountability must be there. In the name of autonomy, they cannot misuse it. Funds are allocated to these institutions. But what is happening is that these institutions are charging very high fees. That is why poor people are not able to join these institutions. More allocation must be given and the Government must ensure that poor students also get admission in them. What is 'Institute of Excellence' I could not understand. This is a concept to attract foreign collaboration. But one dangerous thing is going on in that. Our friend mentioned about Cambridge and Oxford. Some institutions may be good there, but if you see the trend in western countries, especially in Europe, U.S.A. and other places, the number of students is going down there. After completing the school education, they are not interested in pursuing higher education. They go for some employment or some distant education.

[MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*]

That is the situation there. The population is going down. Marriages are not taking place, and the number of divorces is also rising there. So, the population in European countries and the U.S.A. is going down. As a result, except a few institutions, majority of institutions there have no students and Asian students are going there. According to statistics, eight lakh Indian students go abroad, mainly to countries like U.K., U.S.A., Germany and Australia. At the same time, we have attracted only 30,000 to 40,000 students from countries like Afghanistan and Nepal. In the name of different rankings, western countries claim that the standard of higher education in

Indian institutions is going down. We need to see whether there is some kind of vested interests in the western countries who intend to belittle our institutions in the name of various rankings. Using these rankings, they show their institutions at higher rankings and, as a result, our students prefer going there. So, I think, some kinds of vested interests are there. Therefore, when we talk about excellence of these institutions, I think, the IIMs should collaborate with various other Indian institutions to help them attain excellence. So, their standards can also be upgraded with the help of these IIMs, and you have to see that without this kind of sharing of their knowledge and experience for upgrading other institutions, there is no point in attaining excellence. That is my point of view. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, hon. Chairman, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. The Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017, itself was enacted with a view to declare certain Institutes of Management to be institutions of national importance with a view to empower these institutions to attain standards of global excellence in management, management research and allied areas of knowledge.

The present Amendment Bill intends to bring some changes. The first welcome provision is that the President of India shall be the Visitor of every Institute. Once the President of India becomes the Visitor, he may appoint one or more persons to review the work and progress of any Institute. There is no clarity about the persons to be appointed, their eligibility criteria and other standards to be taken into consideration. All these things have not been specified in this Bill. Then, the Bill states that the services of the Director may be terminated by the Visitor, in such manner as may be prescribed. Under what circumstances can the Director be terminated and what are other conditions in this regards? There is a provision for an eminent person to be nominated by the Visitor as the Chairperson. Likewise, regarding the appointment of the Chairperson, the eligibility criteria and qualifications have not been specified in this Bill.

Then, regarding Amendment to Section 39, the Bill states, "the rules and bye-laws of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai as in force immediately before the commencement of the Indian Institutes of Management (Amendment) Act, 2023 shall continue to apply to the National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai with necessary modifications and adaptations in so far as they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act." Now, who are the persons competent to frame the rules and the rules-framing power under this Bill has not been specified. The original Act is also not clear on this aspect. Apart from that, the standards of the Indian

Institutes of Management have to be improved. The faculty has to be improved. The vacancies have to be filled up. Quality standards have to be developed and the required strength, including the admissions with regard to local students, has also to be taken into consideration as far as this Institute is concerned.

Finally, Sir, the Bill seeks to amend Section 29 which is relating to Coordination Forum of the Institute. What are the functions of the Coordination Forum of the Institute? How to distinguish the functions of the management with regard to the Coordination Forum of the Institute? Whether the object of this Amendment Bill will serve the purpose is also not clear. It has to be clarified. With these words, I welcome and support the Bill. Thank you, Sir.

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान: सभापति महोदय, आदरणीय अमर पटनायक जी से लेकर कनकमेदला रवींद्र कुमार जी तक सात सम्माननीय सदस्यों ने इस बिल का समर्थन किया है। इसके लिए मैं आप सभी का आभार प्रकट करता हूँ। सभापति जी, आज आपने इस बिल पर चर्चा करने तथा इसे पारित करने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए सबसे पहले मैं आपका आभार प्रकट करता हूँ।

सभापति जी, आज की चर्चा के अवसर पर मैं दो-तीन विषयों का उल्लेख करना चाहूँगा। सभी ने इस विषय का cognizance भी लिया है और इसका समर्थन भी किया है। हमारे देश में 60 वर्षों में Indian Institute of Management की रचना हुई है। एक पार्लियामेंटरी एक्ट के तहत 2017 में मोदी जी की सरकार ने इसे Institute of National Importance का दर्जा दिया। IIM की कल्पना शिक्षा विभाग, भारत सरकार के एक Executive Order से की गई थी, लेकिन इसे एक एक्ट के तहत मान्यता नहीं मिलने के कारण, इसके पास degree awarding authority नहीं थी, इसलिए अच्छी पढ़ाई के उपरांत भी इसका nomenclature PG diploma था। इस प्रकार की academic excellence के लिए 2017 में इसे Institute of National Importance का दर्जा दिया गया और वह डिग्री दे पाए, इसके लिए 2017 में इसे एक्ट से सपोर्ट किया गया था। आज देश में विभिन्न कालखंडों में 20 IIMs का निर्माण हुआ है। National Institute of Industrial Engineering, Mumbai, यह इंस्टिट्यूट 1963 से इसी प्रकार से काम कर रहा है। एक प्रकार से यह centre of excellence है। इसकी core competency logistics and supply chain management में है। यह techno-economic management में विश्व का एक अच्छा institution है। देश के बहुत बड़े-बड़े मूर्धन्य व्यक्ति इस institute से ही पढ़कर आए हैं। सभापति जी, अगर हमारे देश में industry, academia और policy-making का कोई एक बेहतरीन उदाहरण है, तो वह NITIE, Mumbai है। आज आपकी अनुमति के उपरांत भारत सरकार की पहल है कि NITIE भी IIM की category में आ जाए। मुंबई भारत की आर्थिक राजधानी है। आज आपकी अनुमति के उपरांत और जब इस पर महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी की मोहर लग जाएगी, तब हमें यह कहने का सौभाग्य और अवसर मिलेगा कि financial capital मुंबई में भी एक IIM है। आप वहाँ की convocation में शीघ्र ही जाएंगे। अगर आप अनुमति देंगे, तो निश्चित रूप से हम आपको convocation में भी बुलाएंगे और हमें आपका मार्गदर्शन मिलेगा।

सभापति जी, इसका एक दूसरा पक्ष भी है। सभी ने इस विषय को भी recognize किया है कि जब 2017 में एक्ट आया था और उसे छः साल भी हो गए हैं, तो अब इसमें क्या परिवर्तन किए जा रहे हैं और क्यों किए जा रहे हैं। सभी ने इसकी merit के बारे में पूछा है और अपना अध्ययन भी किया है। मैं इसके minute details में न जाते हुए आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमने इसकी तीन चीज़ों में अमेंडमेंट propose किया है। अमर पटनायक जी ने कहा कि हमारे देश में IIT भी उतना ही बड़ा ब्रांड है। IIM तो है ही, लेकिन IIT को उनका equivalent ब्रांड या उनसे बड़ा कहना गलत नहीं होगा। हमारे देश में IIT का governance structure है, IIIT का governance structure है। हमारे देश में STEM education बढ़ाने के लिए IISER की कल्पना की गई है। हमारे देश में सात IISERs हैं और उनका गवर्नेंस स्ट्रक्चर है। आईआईएम ऐक्ट, 2017 थोड़ा उससे भिन्न था। उन सभी के प्रमुख विजिटर होते हैं। हमने इस अमेंडमेंट में प्रपोज़ किया है कि आईआईएम के भी एक प्रमुख विजिटर होंगे, यानी महामहिम राष्ट्रपति महोदया ही होंगी।

हम दूसरा अमेंडमेंट यह माँग रहे हैं कि जैसा पहले सभी मित्रों ने कहा कि इसके डायरेक्टर की नियुक्ति, उसके ऊपर जो बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नेंस बनता था, उस बोर्ड के मुखिया, यानी Chairman of the Board, उस बोर्ड के मेम्बर्स और डायरेक्टर, ये सब सरकारी संस्थान होने के उपरांत इनकी एकाउंटेबिलिटी सरकार के साथ नहीं है। इसलिए जैसे आईआईटीज़ में बोर्ड के गठन, बोर्ड के चेयरमैन की नियुक्ति और डायरेक्टर की नियुक्ति की एक प्रक्रिया है, उसी तरह उसकी एक सर्टेन प्रक्रिया सारे सेंट्रली फंडेड इंस्टिट्यूशंस की है और सब ऑटोनोमस हैं। वह इस पैरामीटर के साथ है कि उन सबकी एकेडमिक एक्सिलेंस बनी रहे। हमने बाकी सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटीज़, आईआईटीज़, एनआईटीज़ और IISERs के equivalent आईआईएम को भी विजिटर नॉमिनी, बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नेंस के चेयरमैन, डायरेक्टर की नियुक्ति की प्रक्रिया और उन पर disciplinary action, अगर आवश्यकता है तो लेने की समानता है, इसमें हमने प्रपोज़ किया है।

हमने इसमें एक थर्ड विषय भी प्रपोज़ किया है। इन सबको संचालित करने के लिए एक को-ऑर्डिनेशन बॉडी रहेगी। उस को-ऑर्डिनेशन बॉडी का मुखिया भी एक person of eminence होंगे। उनकी नियुक्ति सरकार नहीं करेगी, बल्कि विजिटर करेंगे, यानी राष्ट्रपति महोदया करेंगी। सरकार पैनल भेज सकती है, लेकिन उस पर विजिटर ही निर्णय करेंगे। इसमें हम मोटा-मोटी ये अमेंडमेंट्स लाए हैं।

सर, एक दो विषयों के संबंध में शंकाएँ आई हैं, जिनको मैं आपकी अनुमति से क्लेरिफाई कर देना चाहूँगा, क्योंकि कहीं न कहीं उस विषय का पक्ष और विपक्ष, दोनों इसकी चर्चा में आ रहे हैं। आंध्र प्रदेश के हमारे मित्र, श्री मस्थान राव बीडा जी ने इसका समर्थन किया है और उनकी पार्टी के नेता, श्री वि. विजयसाई रेड्डी जी ने भी इसका समर्थन किया है। They raised a very fundamental issue why you are getting into the autonomy area of institutions. I think other Members have enlightened us about it in their speeches. I would like to clarify that. He also raised a question why students from weaker sections are not getting admission in IIMs. Good question. He also asked why vacancies for faculty members are not filled to the desirable category. Vijayasai ji also mentioned that. I agree with that. यह कैसे होगा? हम इतना ही मानते हैं कि दो चीज़ें इकट्ठी नहीं होंगी। आईआईएम का कोर्स करिकुलम क्या होगा या उनको किस प्रकार के लोग पढ़ाने के लिए आएँगे, ये सरकार के विषय

नहीं हो सकते हैं। ये उसके डायरेक्टर, उसकी Academic Council और उसकी टीम के विषय होंगे। लेकिन देश की एक constitutional requirement है, जैसे हमारे देश की संवैधानिक व्यवस्था में the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 है। इन सभी का existing Act है। Reservation for students in Centrally Sponsored Institutions, यह आईआईएम में लागू होगा कि नहीं, अगर accountability रहेगी, तो यह पूछा जाएगा। अगर यह नहीं रहेगा तो हम किससे पूछेंगे? वे कहेंगे कि हम तो स्वतंत्र हैं, हम ऑटोनॉमस हैं। हमारा मानना है कि आपको ऑटोनॉमी academic excellence के लिए दी गई है, लेकिन आपको governance की accountability तो रखनी ही पड़ेगी।

आपने प्रश्न पूछा कि इतनी वैकेंसीज क्यों हैं? यह कई सेंट्रल इंस्टिट्यूशंस की समस्या है। सर, आज मुझे आपने अवसर दिया है, लेकिन अगर आज पूरा सदन मौजूद रहता, तो एक महत्वपूर्ण बात पर अच्छी चर्चा हो जाती। मैं आपकी उपस्थिति में इसका record straight करना चाहता हूँ। जो लोग कभी सामाजिक न्याय की बात कहते थे, वे कई बार संविधान निर्माता, बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर जी का नाम लेते रहते हैं, रटते हैं। हमें कभी उनको याद दिलाना चाहिए कि Higher Educational Institutions में एससी, एसटी, ओबीसी और बाद में मोदी जी के द्वारा लाया गया economically weaker sections के लिए आरक्षण सेंट्रल इंस्टिट्यूशंस में 2019 तक लागू नहीं था। प्रधान मंत्री, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने उसकी कल्पना की और उस ऐतिहासिक गलती को सुधारा, फिर एक एक्ट लाया - the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Act, 2019. उसके बाद आज रोस्टर मेंटेन हो रहा है। पहले यह था कि दिया, तो दिया, नहीं दिया, तो नहीं दिया। सामाजिक न्याय को पूरा करने की कोई constitutional Act supported व्यवस्था नहीं थी। नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की सरकार उसमें यह व्यवस्था लाई है। यह एक्ट आने वाले दिनों में सारे इंस्टिट्यूशंस पर लागू होगा। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि यह आईआईटी में लागू होना शुरू हो गया है, एनआईटी में लागू हो रहा है, सेंट्रल यूनिवर्सिटीज में लागू हो रहा है, लेकिन कुछ राज्य लागू नहीं करते हैं, वह अलग बात है। आप लोग यहां समर्थन कर रहे हैं, तो मैं ज्यादा नहीं बोलूंगा। कुछ राज्यों के लोग सामाजिक न्याय को नहीं मानते हैं। उसके बारे में हम कभी अलग से बात करेंगे।

सर, विजयसाई रेड्डी जी ने चिंता व्यक्त की, वह वाजिब है। This Amendment will strengthen the constitutional position through Parliament. You can ask questions as to why you are not adhering to the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Act, 2019. Now, they will be answerable. Previously, they were not answerable. That was the reality. अब 6 साल के बाद जो अनुभव आया, उसमें governance का, accountability का, Parliament के प्रति answerability का थोड़ा हनन हुआ, इसलिए इस अमेंडमेंट को लाया गया।

सभी ने फंडिंग की बात की है। जो IIM का financial structure है, उसमें भारत सरकार के लगभग 6 हजार करोड़ रुपये का इन्वेस्टमेंट है। आज भी जो व्यवस्था बनी है, उसके अनुसार HEFA से कोई भी IIM लोन लेना चाहे, विशेषकर ग्रीन फील्ड आईआईएम लेना चाहे, तो उसको यह आज भी उपलब्ध है। Viability Gap Funding की व्यवस्था IIM के अंदर है। जिसका जितना due था, सबको सरकार ने दिया है। IIM अपनी कोर्स फीस बनाए, अपना फीस स्ट्रक्चर बनाए,

अपना revenue generate करे, क्योंकि IIM कंसल्टेंसी के माध्यम से अपना revenue generate करता है। IIM बहुत अच्छा कर रहा है। सरकार नए IIM की टाइमली मदद कर रही है और आगे भी करती रहेगी। फंड का कोई इश्यू नहीं है।

हमारे देश में IIM की एक विश्वसनीयता है, एक ब्रांड आज दुनिया में है। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि मुझे सिंगापुर जाने का मौका मिला। सिंगापुर विशेषकर एक financial district है। हमारे भारत की ढाई हजार alumni IIM की है और 4,000 IITians की है। आज विश्व के बहुत सारे economic hotspot की लीडरशिप IIM और IITians के स्टूडेंट्स के माध्यम से होती है। ये हमारे देश के गौरव हैं। आज बाहर IIT बनाने की बात की जाने लगी है। विश्व के अनेक देशों के निमंत्रण भारत के पास हैं कि आप हमारे यहां IIT खोलिए। हमारे पास IIM खोलने की कतार लगी है कि हमें भी आप IIM की अनुमति दीजिए, हम अपने यहां IIM खुलवाना चाहते हैं। IIM की academic excellence बरकरार रहे, academic autonomy सर्वोपरि रहे, governance की accountability रहे, इसलिए हमने इस अमेंडमेंट को आपके सामने प्रस्तावित किया है। मैं सदन से अपील करता हूँ कि वह इस बिल को पारित करे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

That the Bill further to amend the Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 12 were added to the Bill.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Dharmendra Pradhan to move that the Bill be passed.

श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान: महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ :-

कि इस विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

4.00 P.M.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The most important thing is that the hon. Minister has clarified that it is not at all taking away autonomy with the core sector. It is only generating

accountability, transparency that was much needed in governance. This clarification will clear many doubts. A great step!

Now, Combined discussion on the National Dental and the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bills, 2023. Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to move motion for consideration of the following Bills; the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023; the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023.

€The National Dental Commission Bill, 2023

&

€The National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023

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

"That the Bill to regulate the profession of dentistry in the country, to provide for quality and affordable dental education, to make accessible high quality oral healthcare and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I also move:

"That the Bill to provide for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by nursing and midwifery professionals, assessment of institutions, maintenance of a National Register and State Registers and creation of a system to improve access, research and development and adoption of latest scientific advancement and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The questions were proposed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved. There is one Amendment by Dr. V. Sivadasan for reference of the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023, as passed by Lok Sabha, to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha. Member may move the Amendment at this stage without any speech. Member absent; Amendment not moved. The motion for

€ Discussed together

consideration of Bills are now open for discussion. I now call upon Members whose names have been received for participation in the discussion. Dr. Sasmit Patra.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Thank you, hon. Chairman, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I understand that instead of eight minutes, now, it is four minutes. As there are two Bills together, I would be quick. On behalf of my party, the Biju Janata Dal and my leader hon. Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik, I stand to support the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK) *in the Chair.*]

And I also commend the hon. Minister, Shri Mandaviya, for bringing in this Bill. It was long awaited and it is very necessary that today when we stand at the cusp that the Dental Council of India is going and the National Dental Commission Bill is coming, this would herald a new transformation in the area of dental health for 1.4 billion people and it truly is being the time and necessity. Since I have got only three or four minutes and we have another speaker, I would be quick. Hon. Vice-Chairperson, Madam, I would like to come to composition of the Commission on Clause 4 of this Bill which talks about having a chairperson, 8 *ex officio* members and 24 part-time members. I have a specific suggestion for the hon. Minister that while the Central Government has included the Director General, Dental Services, as a member of the Dental Advisory Council, it is necessary to include the Director General, Dental Services as an *ex officio* member of the National Dental Commission as well. I hope the hon. Minister would take it kindly and we will hope to include him also as an *ex officio* member. This is a humble request before the hon. Minister. I would quickly like to turn from the composition to something that has been done on Clause 11 of this Bill which is the Dental Advisory Council. Madam, Dental Advisory Council is extremely crucial because it heralds a new change today in the dimension and thinking of dental health. Many times, the Dental Advisory Council, as we know, is going to be the platform where the States and the Union Territories will put forth their views, their concerns before the Commission which would help in shaping the overall agenda, policy and strategy of dental health and dental support for this entire country. So, it is an extremely welcome step and I support the same. I, therefore, come to a very critical issue that has been flagged which is Clause 14 and Clause 15 which deals with National Eligibility Entrance Test and National Exit Test for dental streams. That has been clarified. This is a welcome step. There is continuity. I thank the hon. Minister for ensuring continuity. Madam, through this clarification which I believe, hon.

Minister will also give in his reply, thousands and lakhs of Indian students, would not feel uncomfortable. Now that the Dental Council is going and Dental Commission is coming, what are the steps and how will we go for examinations. If that clarification is provided, it will help the students to feel more re-assured. Hon. Vice-Chairman, Madam, I would like to come to Clause 16 of the Bill. There have been autonomous boards that have been created. It is a very good step. There are three autonomous boards, in fact, which have been created for this Commission. I would like to specifically talk about the first one, that is, the Under-Graduate and Post-Graduate Dental Education Board which would, primarily, focus and regulate dental education at under-graduate and post-graduate level. Secondly, there is a Dental Assessment and Rating Board which has, for the first time, come up to carry out inspections, assess and rate the dental institutions and grant permissions, etc. The third one is the Ethics and Dental Registration Board to regulate professional conduct, ensure ethics and ensure that the dental profession is carried out along with a digital National Register. I think, these are extremely good steps. Of course, Clauses 34, 35, 36 & 37 talk about recognition, withdrawal and de-recognition. Many such matters have been taken up. I would not want to take more time talking about it. There are live-registers. I have just got a minute more. I will just make a couple of suggestions to the hon. Minister. He is a very forthcoming and a very bright Minister. He has been taking this thing forward. I would just like to talk about a couple of challenges that India faces today with respect to dental community and profession of dentistry. While India may have achieved the recommended dentist-to-population ratio, it has come at the cost of a massive privatization of dental education, uneven distribution of colleges and questionable control over the quality of dental services. I think, that is something, probably, this new Dental Commission and with the Dental Council being scrapped, is going to be of help. Second, the undergraduate curriculum that forms the framework of dental education was revised last by the Dental Council of India in 2007. It has been 15 years. I hope that the hon. Minister will have this opportunity now with the new Commission to look at it. Finally, our dental students are presently studying outdated clinical techniques. There are many new techniques that have come in and the Dental Council of India, with all due respect to it, had not kept up pace with the world, where dental techniques and dental surgeries and endodontics and many such sciences have come together and really transformed the entire arena of dentistry. Therefore, I am sure with this Dental Commission, these new waves of dental dentistry and new waves of dental healthcare will be taken up, and, especially, in under-graduate programmes, these revisions in the techniques and the curriculum will help our students to go forward. Finally, hon. Madam Vice-Chairman, before I

stop, I would like to only mention that India imports most of its dental equipments from China, Switzerland and Israel and is the largest importer of dental equipment in the world. Amongst the top three importers of dental equipments, India is at about 73,000 shipments followed by United States and Netherlands. (*Time-bell rings.*) I will just take 30 seconds and I close. In the 'Make in India' domain, I believe that the hon. Minister will co-ordinate with innovation, start-ups and see that in the dental healthcare framework also -- there are many start-ups that are coming up with new technologies and equipment development -- they would be able to undertake that.

With these words, on behalf of the Biju Janata Dal and my leader, Shri Naveen Patnaik, we support the Dental Commission Bill and we hope that it is going to harness a new era of dental health. Thank you.

डा. सिकंदर कुमार (हिमाचल प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज राष्ट्रीय दंत चिकित्सा आयोग विधेयक, 2023, जो माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी द्वारा सदन में लाया गया है, मैं उसका समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। जब से माननीय मोदी जी देश के प्रधान मंत्री बने हैं, चाहे वह कृषि का क्षेत्र हो, शिक्षा का क्षेत्र हो, स्वास्थ्य का क्षेत्र हो, अंतरिक्ष का क्षेत्र हो, खेलों का क्षेत्र हो, ज्ञान का क्षेत्र हो, विज्ञान का क्षेत्र हो, कला का क्षेत्र हो या तकनीक का क्षेत्र हो, हर एक क्षेत्र में 2014 से लेकर अब तक ऐतिहासिक विकास हुआ है। जहाँ तक स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र की बात है, तो स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र भी मोदी सरकार की प्राथमिकता में रहा है। जहाँ तक हेल्थ इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर, हेल्थ फेसिलिटीज की बात करें, तो पूरे देश में इसका विकास हुआ है। मैं एक छोटे से पहाड़ी राज्य, हिमाचल प्रदेश से आता हूँ। जब हिमाचलवासी एम्स की बात करते थे, तो बड़ी दूर की सोचते थे। हम भी सुनते थे कि दिल्ली में एम्स है। मैं माननीय मोदी जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ और उनका आभार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे छोटे से प्रदेश को वर्ल्ड क्लास फेसिलिटीज के साथ लगभग 1500 करोड़ रुपये का एम्स किसी ने दिया है, तो वह मोदी सरकार ने दिया है। एक छोटे से हिमाचल प्रदेश को पीजीआई सैटेलाइट सेंटर और आठ मेडिकल कॉलेज दिए हैं। जहाँ तक पूरे देश की बात है, तो पूरे देश में स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र में एक अभूतपूर्व विकास हुआ है।

महोदय, जब पूरा विश्व कोरोना महामारी से जूझ रहा था, विश्व के बड़े-बड़े देशों को कोरोना महामारी ने बेहाल कर दिया था, तब पूरा विश्व भारत की ओर देख रहा था कि डेढ़ अरब का देश किस तरह से कोरोना को काबू करेगा! मैं मोदी सरकार और हेल्थ मिनिस्टर डा. मनसुख मांडविया जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि उनके कुशल प्रबंधन में भारत ने किस तरह से कोरोना पर काबू पाया है। भारत ने सिर्फ कोरोना पर ही काबू नहीं पाया, बल्कि जो देश अपने आपको विकसित राष्ट्र समझते थे, उनको भी सहायता दी। उन्होंने 200 सौ करोड़ मुफ्त वैक्सिनेशन करके पूरे देशवासियों का स्वास्थ्य भी सुरक्षित किया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सदन में जो 'नेशनल डेंटल कमीशन बिल, 2023' पेश किया गया है, मैं इस पर बताना चाहता हूँ कि 2020 में स्वास्थ्य और कल्याण मंत्रालय ने 'राष्ट्रीय दंत चिकित्सा आयोग विधेयक' के लिए एक प्रस्ताव रखा और प्रस्तावित विधेयक पर सार्वजनिक टिपणियाँ मांगीं। विधेयक का उद्देश्य राष्ट्रीय दंत चिकित्सा आयोग (एनडीसी)की स्थापना करना

और 'दंत चिकित्सक अधिनियम, 1948' को रद्द करना है। 'राष्ट्रीय दंत चिकित्सा आयोग विधेयक, 2023' का मुख्य लक्ष्य उच्च गुणवत्ता और किफायती दंत चिकित्सा शिक्षा प्रदान करना, देश भर में दंत चिकित्सा पेशे को विनियमित करना और सभी नागरिकों के लिए दंत स्वास्थ्य देखभाल की सार्वभौमिक उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करना है। 'राष्ट्रीय दंत चिकित्सा आयोग विधेयक, 2023' को 1948 के दंत चिकित्सक अधिनियम को रद्द करने के इरादे से संसद में पेश किया गया है। विधेयक का उद्देश्य Dental Council of India को रद्द करना और राष्ट्रीय दंत चिकित्सा आयोग (NDC) को एक अलग कॉरपोरेट इकाई के रूप में स्थापित करना है, जो देश भर में दंत चिकित्सक, शिक्षा और पेशेवरों के पर्यवेक्षण के लिए जिम्मेदार होगा। इस बिल का उद्देश्य मौजूदा 'दंत चिकित्सक अधिनियम, 1948' की कमियों को दूर करना और वर्तमान कानून के भीतर प्रचलित मुद्दों को संबोधित करने के लिए NDC की शक्तियों और अधिकारों में वृद्धि करना है।

प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य के उच्चतम स्तर को प्राप्त करने के उद्देश्य से राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य नीति, 2017 की शुरुआत करके स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र में एक क्रांति ला दी। मोदी सरकार ने लगातार निवारक दृष्टिकोण और उच्च गुणवत्ता वाली स्वास्थ्य देखभाल तक पहुंच बढ़ाने पर जोर दिया है। एन.एच.पी., 2017 विशेष रूप से दंत स्वास्थ्य के महत्व को संबोधित करने वाली पहली व्यापक नीति थी, जिसे पहले स्वास्थ्य सेवा क्षेत्र में नजरअंदाज कर दिया गया था। आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी अकसर स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रणाली के समग्र विकास पर जोर देते रहे हैं। यह विधेयक स्वायत्त निकायों की स्थापना और बहु-स्तरीय प्रणाली के माध्यम से एक प्रभावी शिकायत निवारण तंत्र बनाकर दंत चिकित्सा क्षेत्र के लिए भी ऐसा ही करने का प्रयास करता है। इससे हमें सभी शिकायतों के त्वरित समाधान में सहायता मिलेगी। हालांकि भारत की व्यापक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल प्रणाली में दंत स्वास्थ्य की अकसर उपेक्षा की जाती है, लेकिन वर्तमान सरकार ने इसके महत्व को पहचाना है। 2019 की शुरुआत में, प्रधान मंत्री जी के 'आयुष्मान भारत कार्यक्रम' में दंत स्वास्थ्य की देखभाल भी शामिल थी। लोगों को अपने दंत स्वास्थ्य को प्राथमिकता देने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए सरकार के द्वारा कई योजनाएं शुरू की गई थीं। बजटीय आवंटन के संदर्भ में यूपीए की सरकार ने स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय को पहले 33,238 करोड़ रुपये आवंटित किए थे, लेकिन 2023-24 के लिए मोदी सरकार ने इसे 86,175 करोड़ रुपये तक बढ़ा दिया है। यह आवंटन यूपीए के द्वारा दिए गए आवंटन की तुलना में लगभग 159% अधिक है।

महोदया, मोदी सरकार ने मेडिकल काउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया के प्रतिस्थापन के रूप में एन.एम.सी. की स्थापना करते हुए 'राष्ट्रीय चिकित्सा आयोग अधिनियम, 2019' लागू किया। पूर्ववर्ती सरकार के विपरीत, एन.एम.सी. ने भारत में स्वास्थ्य देखभाल की पहुंच को बढ़ाने और चिकित्सा शिक्षा में सुधार करने पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया है। एमसीआई को भ्रष्टाचार, कुप्रबंधन और पारदर्शिता की कमी के मुद्दों का सामना करना पड़ा था, जो कई दशकों के U.P.A. के शासन के दौरान और बढ़त हो गई थी। 'एनडीसी विधेयक, 2023' का लक्ष्य दंत चिकित्सा देखभाल के क्षेत्र में सम्मानजनक परिवर्तन लाना है।

भारत के स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र में उपेक्षित क्षेत्रों को संबोधित करने की मोदी सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता, मानसिक स्वास्थ्य के प्रति उनके प्रयासों में स्पष्ट है। 2022 की बजट प्रस्तुति में माननीय वित्त मंत्री, आदरणीया श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण जी ने मानसिक स्वास्थ्य की देखभाल की पहल के

लिए विशेष रूप से धन आवंटित किया है। इसके अतिरिक्त, उन्होंने 'राष्ट्रीय टेली मानसिक स्वास्थ्य कार्यक्रम' का उद्घाटन भी किया, जो जरूरतमंद व्यक्तियों को 24/7 कॉल सेवा की सुविधा प्रदान करता है। दंत चिकित्सा देखभाल के क्षेत्र में सुधार पर प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी का यह प्रयास आश्चर्यजनक है। जहां पिछली U.P.A. की सरकार ने आम आदमी के स्वास्थ्य की उपेक्षा की थी, वहीं मोदी सरकार स्वास्थ्य सेवा में सुधार लाने के लिए लगातार अतिरिक्त प्रयास कर रही है। मोदी सरकार विभिन्न स्तरों पर डिजिटल माध्यमों से पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही को बढ़ावा देने के लिए लगातार प्रयासरत है। दंत चिकित्सकों के राष्ट्रीय रजिस्टर और राज्य रजिस्ट्रों का डिजिटलीकरण करके, धोखाधड़ी की घटनाओं को रोका जा सकता है। प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी का उद्देश्य नियमित निगरानी और एक कुशल शिकायत निवारण प्रणाली के माध्यम से दंत चिकित्सा के क्षेत्र में सभी गड़बड़ियों को समाप्त करना है।

महोदया, मैं आदरणीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री, डा. मनसुख मांडविया जी और उनकी पूरी टीम को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि कई डेलिगेट्स, जो दंत व्यवसाय से जुड़े हुए हैं, उनकी कुछ मांगें थीं। आज जब यह बिल सदन में पास हो जाएगा, तो उनकी मांगों का भी समाधान हो जाएगा, इसके लिए मैं आपको बधाई देता हूँ और आपका धन्यवाद करता हूँ। अंत में, आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया इसके लिए धन्यवाद करते हुए, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। मैं आप सबसे भी आग्रह करता हूँ कि आप भी इस बिल का समर्थन करें, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, Vice Chairperson, I rise to support both the Bills, namely, the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023 and the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023. I may first speak on the Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023. The reason I support the Bill is because the legislation, as I see is, both fluid and modern-looking. I say this because the legislation looks ahead. It also looks across other enactments, when it is making provisions under this Act. Madam, when I say it looks ahead, in Clause 10 specifically, the Act requires the Commission, while conducting its affairs, to ensure that this nursing industry would be subjected to cutting-edge technology and hybrid education requirements. So, the Commission will now ensure that the curriculum have all this. It also very importantly provides for certain soft skills development to be taken into account. Now, this is very important, Madam, because in the modern age of artificial intelligence, the kind of jobs, that can never be changed, are jobs like nursing and midwifery because no artificial intelligence can do this. When we are looking at large scale displacement, when you look at these kinds of jobs, these are the skills that normally the legislations do not tend to look at. So, I would like to commend the Government and the hon. Minister for bringing out a legislation that is so all encompassing. When I say that it also looks across other laws, it provides in Clause 18 that it would align with the needs of National Health Programme and in one of the clauses, Clause 10 (4), it provides for an interface with different medical fields to see

what is the requirement of nursing staff and midwifery staff across various sectors. So, this is, as I said, a very, very fluid Bill, the way the legislation ought to be. So I would commend the Government. Now, I feel that this legislation might empower the Commission and the Government to deal with the challenges that may be faced by the country in terms of the staff requirements for nursing and midwifery. Madam, firstly, India is now hub of medical tourism; potential is likely to grow tremendously. Secondly, I find that even within India, there is a huge demand for nursing sector with the requirements of medical infrastructure going up. So, the new Bill might enable that this ecosystem is built in very quickly for ensuring that the requirements are taken into account. Having said this about the Bill, there are two or three things that I may want the Central Government to focus on. I find that the nursing sector is a little skewed in terms of a few of the sectors being underserviced. For instance, in entire North-East India, only two percent of nursing colleges which are there. Unlike in engineering and medical courses where people will be able to travel far, a localised nursing sector close by might help. The other concern that I wanted the hon. Minister to kindly show some attention to is that while this is largely female dominated, it seems that the leadership is skewed in favour of male leadership up till now shepherd in this particular sector, I would request the hon. Minister to consider it. Madam, now that I am concluding my speech, I just want to make two quick points on the Dental Commission. This is taking inspiration from the Medical Commission Act, a very salutary Bill, so we support it. In the working of Medical Commission, I have found that there are two areas which may be considered by the Central Government. First, we find that unlike nursing and medicine, in dental sector, India is now facing an over-supply. We have now crossed the World Health Organisation requirement of 1 dentist for 7,500 people... ..(*Time-bell rings.*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Please conclude.

SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY: Madam, I will take just one minute because there are two Bills. There is the NITI Aayog recommendation. Madam, just give me thirty seconds, I will conclude.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): There are other speakers.

SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY: I need only thirty seconds for making two quick points. There is NITI Aayog recommendation that a bridge course can be done so that some

of these dentists can be trained to become the basic medical practitioners for providing primary healthcare. The Government may consider it. Then, both in Medical Council and in Dental Council, I find that the Dental Assessment and Rating Board, which is equal to the Medical Assessment and Rating Board, the Government has very importantly provided that these functions can be carried out by independent accredited agencies. The National Medical Commission has not accredited any agencies. I am suggesting that Commission will be able to focus on more important issues if these accredited agencies can be quickly identified. They will carry out the inspection. It can be supervised by the National Medical Commission or the Dental Commission. I thank you, Madam and I support both the Bills. Thank you.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Madam Vice-Chairman. We are embarrassed to take two Bills together which have different aspects; but we have to discuss it. Anyhow, the Chair has decided and we have to follow that. I am speaking on these Bills. The Dental Council is separate. This is a very important subject, I want to discuss. Madam, here the hon. Minister brought certain changes in the Council, I welcome that. I am not objecting to that. Regarding establishment of a National Dental Commission in place of Dental Council of India, I appreciate that. He has correctly done it. But, my another point is, what we are not able to accept is single national entrance examination. It is a State subject. Health is a State subject. Education is in Concurrent List. In our State, Tamil Nadu, still we are not able to accept the NEET examination because it is involving commercial activities. Instead of all higher educational institutions, the NEET examination centres are flourishing. Therefore, I raised this point at many levels, including in our Committees to say that this kind of NEET coaching centres should be banned. The Government should come forward and ban these. Otherwise, the syllabus we are having, as a result of the National Education Policy, in terms of the school education, no student is attending the schools. In the same way, now you are bringing national entrance examination; then the students would go to the coaching centres only. There is an encroachment upon the State-subjects also. Therefore, as far as the Tamil Nadu is concerned, our AIADMK Party is not for NEET examination and we are also not for the single entrance examination conducted by the Dental Council. We are objecting to these.

Secondly, I raised this issue with the hon. Minister that some Central bodies like the Pharmacy Council are not allowing new institutions. Then the other option is to move the court, the High Court or the Supreme Court. We have to go there. From their directions only, we will be able to start. Why are these Councils not having powers to allow new institutions? Our hon. Prime Minister wants establishment of

more institutions and more medical colleges. In each district, he wants to establish one medical college at least. His aim is that. Similarly, more nursing colleges also should come up in India. That is Modiji's dream. When that is the case, why are these kinds of Councils not allowing?

The same thing is about the Dental Council too. The Dental Council is not permitting establishment of any new medical college. This is another problem. Therefore, our Minister should consider these things to see that these Councils do not usurp more powers. Even though the Central and the State Governments are interested in starting new institutions, they are not cooperating. What sort of powers they are having, we don't know. (*Time-bell rings.*)

Madam, that is why, I said that by discussing the Bills together, we can't speak anything. Especially, nursing is an important subject. Madam, you are sitting in the Chair. You are sitting like a mother! Nursing is not an industry but a service, motherly service. Mother only can protect. God has given the power of patience to you people. I request you not to press the bell. If you are pressing the bell, it means you are asking me to sit down! Therefore, I request you to be patient.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): You have forty seconds to conclude.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Madam, nursing is a very important subject. Many Indians are serving throughout the world. If you go to an American hospital, you may find nurses from Kerala! That is their speciality. Human resource development is an asset for India. Education is very important. Health sector is important. Agriculture too is important. In these three major sectors, India can flourish. In other sectors, like China encroaching our industrial space, etc., that kind of competition can be there.

Finally, I request the hon. Minister to let the new courses be there; the State Governments should not allow starting of allied courses. Many people are applying, but the States are keeping quiet. In Tamil Nadu, the Health Ministry is not allowing any new course. Let the Central Government not interfere in our denial to allow such new courses.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Please conclude.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: With these words, I conclude. Thank you very much.

SHRI G.K. VASAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I stand here to support both the Bills on behalf of my Party. Firstly, when we talk about Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023, naturally, we are bound to think of Covid-19. The service of nurses to the common people of India is excellent. They have saved lakhs and lakhs of people in our country and many have sacrificed their lives because of Covid-19. We have to be ever thankful to them.

Madam, coming to the point, nursing and midwifery professionals in the country are facing several challenges due to lack of educational qualifications. Furthermore, there is an uneven distribution of nursing institutions and there is a gap in the quality of teachers and nursing curriculum. These professionals have a lack of opportunity and that forces them to migrate to different fields, to private sector. This has resulted in an acute shortage of nursing staff. So, I kindly request the Minister that this has to be rectified. This particular Bill, I well understand, Madam, proposes to remove the currently governing Indian Nursing Council Act, 1947 and replace it with the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission. The INC Act, I am sure will be responsible for ensuring the educational standards, minimum entrance requirements prescribed in curriculum for nursing courses. I am sure this will solve the problem and this particular Bill will bring limelight to them. Coming to the National Dental Commission's Bill, the Bill aims for registration to improve and revitalize the field of dentistry by repealing the Dentists Act of 1948, dissolving the Dental Council of India. I will quickly complete, Madam. I will just mention two points. One, the benefits, namely, promoting a uniform and excellent dental education; two, fostering ethical and professional dental care; three, encouraging innovation and research; four, fortifying dental education and practice. At the same time, I would like to tell the hon. Minister about certain areas which require further deliberation. Number one is representation and autonomy. The Bill raises concerns regarding the significant empowerment of the Central Government through its authority to appoint the Chairperson and ex-officio members of NDC. Some worry is there that this heavy reliance of the Central Government for the selection of all Commission Members could result in an undue concentration of power and control in the hands of the Central Government. It has to be taken care of. There are two more important points. One is feasibility and cost effectiveness which is very important. Establishing a District Dental Commission when a National Medical Commission already exists to oversee a branch of medical encourages a multi-layered bureaucratic system, creating new Commission particularly during economic downturn will have multiple challenges. I am sure the Minister will take care of this. The last important point is, lack of attention to dental auxiliaries. The Dental Act, 1948 recognises two categories of auxiliaries, dental hygiene and dental mechanics.

However, the present situation is unfortunate with only 6,605 auxiliaries in India indicating neglect of these allied health professionals. The current Bill overlooks the crucial role of dental auxiliaries and fails to provide adequate acknowledgement and recognition of their role. With this, Madam, I am sure the Minister will do the needful for this profession. With this, I support this Bill. Thank you very much.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam): Thank you very much, Madam Vice-Chairman. I am very happy to see you in the Chair and I congratulate you. I rise to support both the Bills, the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023 and the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023. While dealing with both the Bills, I will first speak a few points on the National Dental Commission. At the outset, I congratulate the Government, led by our Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and also congratulate the Health Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya and his team in the Health Ministry for bringing revolutionary changes, very significant changes in the health care system of this country. Madam, we have seen a lot of achievements and a lot of change and transformation in the healthcare system of this country. I am not going to count all of them as I will not have that much of time because I have to speak on the Bill also, but I must congratulate him that the original Bill was brought in 1948 and, after 75 years, this Bill has come. So, I congratulate the hon. Minister that he could think about it. Before this, Sir, he had brought the National Medical Commission Bill in 2019, which was, again, brought after a long gap of the original legislation. So, I congratulate the hon. Minister for taking both these initiatives and proposing to bring changes in the healthcare system of our country.

I start with the National Dental Commission Bill. The Bill deals with discrepancies and weaknesses in the original Act of 1948. The objectives of the Bill are: To replace the 1948 Act; aims to improve, access high quality and affordable dental education; ensure availability of dental professionals; provide services throughout the country; conduct periodic and transparent assessment of dental institutions; facilitate maintenance of national dental register and enforce high ethical standards in all aspects of dental services. Madam, with these aims in view, the Dental Council of India is proposed to be replaced with the National Dental Commission.

The proposed National Dental Commission would be chaired by the Cabinet Secretary and there will be ex-officio members, Presidents of three autonomous Boards, Director-General of Health Services and Chief of the Centre for Dental and Educational Research at AIIMS. Madam, it also includes part-time members. Here I have to make some suggestions, because part-time members are, normally, taken

from the fraternity. As you see, if the Commission is flooded with people from fraternity alone, independent views do not come. So, in formation of the Commission, it should be taken care that independent views also come from experienced persons in the healthcare system.

The functions of the National Dental Commission proposed to regulate governance of dental education, examination and training, regulate dental institutions and research, accessing infrastructure requirements in dental healthcare and ensuring admissions to Bachelor of Dental Surgery through the NEET Exam. Madam, the original Act of 1948 is nearly silent. But, this Bill has brought clarity to the entire system of dental education and training. I appreciate the hon. Minister and his Ministry for thinking to revolutionize the entire healthcare system.

Madam, we know that 'Health' is a State Subject. When our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, took over the office, he revolutionised the system. Most of the initiatives taken in the healthcare system of the country are by the Central Government, although it is a State Subject. I am not condemning the State Governments. They are also doing it. But, from COVID onwards and, in fact, even before that, the Central Government is bringing new Bills with new outlook. I congratulate again the hon. Minister, because all these initiatives are mostly coming from the Central Government and are being followed by the State Governments thereby revolutionizing healthcare system. We have, particularly, seen the initiatives taken by the hon. Minister during COVID under the guidance of the hon. Prime Minister. Sir, we have had the COVID pandemic which was never seen by the world. Sir, COVID was tackled very efficiently, appreciated all over the world and new areas have also been covered. Then, somebody was mentioning about the mental health. After the COVID, one thing has emerged as a new phenomenon, that is, the mental health. Of course, the sudden heart attacks too. These are the areas in which the Ministry is doing studies. Our Committee is also doing studies on all this. I hope these areas will efficiently be covered by the Ministry.

Now, I come to ethics and Dental Registration Board. Madam, in every area, ethics is one thing that is very necessary. Even in the original Bill, there was a mention about ethics. Here, as you see, the Dental Registration Board maintains online national registers for dentists and dental auxiliaries to regulate their standards of conduct, ethics, and scope of dental practice. It can suspend or cancel the licences of dentists for misconduct or unethical behaviour. This is a very sensitive area. How will an unethical behaviour be judged? How will it be determined? The hon. Minister has to give more attention to this and it has to be specifically specified.

Then, Section 37 deals with derecognition of dental qualifications granted by institutes outside India. Madam, you have seen that due to Ukraine War and other unrests in the world, the Indian students, studying in medical institutions abroad, had to face certain issues. They had to come back. If their degrees are derecognized and if they are not able to practice here, their entire family will get disturbed because they had gone to study abroad with the support of their families. They had taken loans from banks. They won't be able to repay their education loans to the banks. More attention is required to be paid to this issue.

I would also like to say a few words on the establishment of medical education institutes. This country is really happy that every district is going to have a medical college. At the same time, it will also have one nursing college also. In the last Budget, the hon. Prime Minister had declared that along with the medical college in every district, there will also be a nursing college. Madam Vice-Chairperson, you are quite aware that the nursing institutes in the North-Eastern Region are very few; whereas, a large number of nurses come from the North-Eastern Region. There is a large demand for Indian nurses abroad also because of their knowledge of English language, their sincerity, and their discipline.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Please conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: But, I am not saying that you should send all of them abroad because, then, we will have shortage of nurses in our own hospitals. I think, a mechanism can be devised to maintain a balance between the nurses going abroad and nurses required in our own country.

I have nothing more to add on this Bill. With these words, I once again thank and congratulate our hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Health Minister and his team in the Ministry of Health for bringing forward these Bills.

Thank you very much.

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): Madam, Vice-Chairman, here is a very good scenario, all governed by women. मंच पर और नीचे टेबल पर महिलाएं ही महिलाएं बैठी हैं।

श्रीमती ममता मोहंता (ओडिशा): वाइस चेयरमैन महोदया, मैं अपनी पार्टी, बीजू जनता दल की तरफ से the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 की चर्चा में भाग ले रही हूँ। दुनिया में सेवा से बढ़कर कोई काम नहीं है। इस सेवा क्षेत्र में जुड़े सभी लोगों को मैं इस पवित्र

गृह से नमन करती हूँ। सेवा का नाम लेते ही सबसे पहले मदर टेरेसा का नाम याद आता है। उनको सेवा के लिए नोबल प्राइज़ मिला था। यह हमें बताता है कि सेवा क्षेत्रों को कितना महत्व मिलना चाहिए। अब इस सेवा क्षेत्र से जुड़े सभी सेवक और सेविकाओं के लिए कुछ करने का वक्त आया है।

महोदया, यह National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 लोक सभा में पारित हो चुका है। यह भारतीय नर्सिंग काउंसिल अधिनियम, 1947 से संबंधित है। यह Nursing और Midwifery क्षेत्रों में कार्य करने वालों की शिक्षा, सेवा और उन्नत मानक को महत्व दे रहा है। इस बिल में इन सभी क्षेत्रों के लिए गठित कमीशन में 29 सदस्य रहेंगे। इस कमीशन का अध्यक्ष नर्सिंग और Midwifery क्षेत्र में 20 साल का अनुभव रखने वाले व्यक्ति को बनाया जाएगा और इसके बाकी सदस्य स्वास्थ्य विभाग और राष्ट्रीय चिकित्सा आयोग क्षेत्र से रहेंगे। यह कमीशन शिक्षा नीति प्रस्तुत करेगा। यह कमीशन शिक्षा दान केंद्र की नियमित जांच करेगा और शिक्षा दान केंद्र में शिक्षा व्यवस्था के सुधार के लिए विभिन्न स्तर पर अध्यापकों की नियुक्ति आदि पर नजर रखेगा। केंद्र सरकार एक परिषद स्थापित करेगी। यह परिषद राष्ट्रीय काउंसिल को सहयोग करेगी।

महोदया, इस बिल के हिसाब से इस कमीशन के अधीन तीन बोर्ड्स का गठन होगा, जो परीक्षा शिक्षा केंद्र की रैंकिंग, शिक्षा नीति और स्वास्थ्य क्षेत्र के ऊपर नजर रखेंगे। सभी राज्यों के लिए एक कमीशन का गठन होगा, जिसमें 10 सदस्य होंगे। स्वास्थ्य विभाग, नर्सिंग कॉलेज और नर्सिंग क्षेत्र में काम करने वाले लोग इसके सदस्य रहेंगे। राष्ट्रीय कमीशन के हिसाब से सभी राज्य राज्यों के कमीशन बनाएंगे। इस कमीशन का गठन होने के बाद जब कमीशन का कार्य शुरू होगा, तो अभिज्ञता प्राप्त सेवक या सेविका ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मैडम, मैं एक मिनट का समय और लूंगी, अभिज्ञता प्राप्त सेवक या सेविका आएँगे, जिनसे सभी को उन्नत स्तर की सेवा मिलेगी। इससे सभी सेवा का वास्तविक मूल्य समझेंगे।

महोदया, इस महत्वपूर्ण बिल को राज्य सभा में लाने के लिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद दूंगी। मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करती हूँ, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Now, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Vice-Chairperson, Madam.

Madam, both the Bills -- the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023, and the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023 -- are progressive legislations bringing crucial reforms in the medical sector. I, on behalf of my party, the YSR Congress Party, and my leader congratulate Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya and support both the Bills. Madam, I have only three points to be brought to the notice of the hon. Minister. The first point is, about 85 to 90 per cent of the adults and about 60 to 80 per cent children have got dental cavities. I also have got the dental cavities; it is no fault of the Minister, but, still, I am bringing this to his notice. Over 50 per cent of the

Indians with dental health issues receive treatment or advice from some other persons that are not really dentists, such as chemists, etc. This is the problem. In 2020, India achieved more than what is prescribed as the ideal dentist to population ratio. The ratio of number of dentists to that of the population proportion is 1: 5000 as against 1: 7500, recommended by the WHO. It is really good. However, there is a great urban-rural mismatch, which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister, with the ratio reaching 1:100000. There is a severe lack of awareness about the dental and oral health disease in the rural areas, as access to education is lower in rural areas. I have one suggestion to make to the Minister. Madam, the National Dental Commission should take initiatives to assign one Dental College to every rural area and appoint one dentist for each Primary Health Centre as the dentists play a key role in educating the rural people. This is the suggestion that I would like to give to the hon. Minister.

Madam, the second point which I would like to bring to his notice is that there are startling vacancies in the Dental Colleges, not the hospitals. There are vacancies which mean that we are not able to absorb the dental students into the system. Of the 1,89,420 seats offered between 2016-17 and 2022-23, 36,585 seats, almost about 20 per cent seats, remain unfilled. These concerning trends extend to both UG and PG dental courses across the country. I request the hon. Minister to take care of it to address this issue as to why the colleges are not able to fill the seats for the students. ...*(Time-bell rings.)*...

Madam, the last point which I would like to bring to your notice is that currently, the Bridge Courses are being offered to students who have Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery and Bachelor of Homeopathic Medicine. While the proposals were initiated by the Dental Council of India to design Bridge Courses, for dental students, no action has been taken or implemented in this regard. I request the hon. Minister to take care of these issues.

Madam, my last point concerns the nurses. So far as nursing is concerned, given the fact that nursing profession is largely dominated by women, they are subject to a host of problems at the workplace, including sexual harassment that they may not be able to express. This is the problem which is prevailing throughout the country. I urge the hon. Minister to outline how these concerns about the workplace conditions for nurses will be addressed. Thank you very much, Madam.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Madam Vice-Chairman, for giving me this opportunity to speak on the two Bills, namely, the National Dental Commission Bill and the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill.

Madam, this Bill vide Clause 4 speaks about the composition of National Dental Commission. As per the provisions of Clause 4 of the Bill, there is no place for States in the composition of National Dental Commission and the States will be represented in the National Dental Commission only as part-time members; that too, not all the States, only 10 members on rotational basis. But the procedure and eligibility criteria for appointment of such members have not been specified in the Bill. Those ten members will be nominated by the States and Union Territories in Dental Advisory Council on rotational basis from amongst the nominees of the States and Union Territories under Clauses (c) and (d) of sub-section (2) of Clause 11 of the Dental Advisory Council. The Bill has no provision for containing and prescribing the procedure with regard to that. The procedure will be prescribed later under the rules that will be framed by the Executive. That is vague. But nine members are to be appointed on rotational basis from amongst the nominees of the States and Union Territories under Clause (e) of sub-section (2) of Clause 11 of State Dental Council.

So, to be a member in the National Dental Council, one has to be first a member of either Dental Advisory Council or State Dental Council. Then only the respective name will be considered for the membership in National Dental Commission. Not all the members from the State and UT will become a member of National Dental Commission. Some will be selected on rotational basis. These procedural aspects create some doubt and it has to be clarified. It is vague.

Madam, the students get admission to Dentist Course after writing NEET Examination conducted as per the National Medical Commission Act. They give yearly exams while pursuing their UG course. The Bill provides for a National Exit Test. As per provisions of the concerned section, the students pursuing Common Under Graduate Dentistry course will have to clear the National Exit Test to get license for practice of dentistry. This Bill provides for multifarious procedures. As for the aims and objectives of this Bill, originally, an Expert Committee was constituted and, subsequently, the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee made recommendations with regard to the provisions. The Bill seeks to constitute a National Dental Commission and also three autonomous bodies, namely, the Under Graduate and Post Graduate Dental Education Board, the Dental Assessment and Rating Board and the Ethics and the Board of Registration in Dentistry to regulate professional conduct. But there is some ambiguity with regard to the qualifications and eligibility of the respective committees and provisions for nomination and selection by the Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Please conclude. You may take 30 seconds.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Some principles must be followed. Educational standards, training centres, creating infrastructure and faculty standards, increasing the number of institutions, qualifications and eligibility criteria -- all these have to be looked into while finalizing this Bill. The hon. Minister must look into and address all these issues.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Now, the hon. Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to reply to the discussion.

डा. मनसुख मांडविया: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023 and the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 के समर्थन में आज सदन में नौ सदस्यों ने अपनी बात रखी है। जो सदस्य अपनी बात रखने के लिए खड़े हुए, उन सभी ने इस बिल को समर्थन दिया है। मैं सभी माननीय सदस्यों का अभिनंदन करता हूँ। डा. सस्मित पात्रा जी, डा. सिकंदर कुमार जी, एस. निरंजन रेड्डी जी, डा. मु. तंबी दुरै जी, जी.के.वासन जी, भुबनेश्वर कालिता जी, ममता मोहंता जी, वि. विजयसाई रेड्डी जी और कनकमेदला रवींद्र कुमार जी, आप सभी ने यहाँ पर अपनी महत्वपूर्ण बातें रखी हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, विषय यह है कि हम जिस तरह से हेल्थ सैक्टर में बदलाव कर रहे हैं - मोदी जी हमेशा टोटल में सोचते हैं, वे कभी भी टोकन में नहीं सोचते हैं। देश की समय स्थिति के अनुरूप क्या करने की आवश्यकता है, उस पर मोदी जी ने अपने पंच प्रण बताते हुए रेड फोर्ट से कहा था कि हमें विरासत से प्रेरणा लेकर आगे बढ़ना है। हमारी क्या विरासत थी, हमारी क्या विरासत है? हम इस विरासत से प्रेरणा लेकर आगे बढ़ें, तो अपनी समस्या का समाधान ढूंढ सकते हैं। हम सभी लोगों ने कोविड क्राइसेस के दरम्यान देखा - मैं तो उस वक्त सारी दुनिया में मीटिंग कर रहा था, उनसे बात कर रहा था, मेरी विश्व के सभी हेल्थ मिनिस्टर्स के साथ दैनिक बात होती थी और वर्ल्ड हेल्थ ऑर्गेनाइजेशन के साथ भी दैनिक बात होती थी। दुनिया भर में आश्चर्य था कि हमारे यहाँ लॉकडाउन के दौरान एजिटेशन्स चल रहे हैं, हमारे डॉक्टर्स ड्यूटी पर नहीं जा रहे हैं, हमारी नर्सिंग ड्यूटी पर नहीं जा रही हैं, हमारा पैरामेडिकल स्टाफ ड्यूटी पर नहीं जा रहा है, परंतु ऐसी स्थिति में भी इंडिया में डॉक्टर्स अपनी सेवाएं दे रहे थे, नर्सिंग भी अपनी सेवाएं दे रही थीं। वे केवल सेवाएं ही नहीं दे रहे थे, बल्कि अपने प्राणों की परवाह किए बिना देश के प्रति अपना समर्पण भाव व्यक्त कर रहे थे।

5.00 P.M.

ऐसे हमारे सभी डॉक्टर्स, नर्सिंग और पैरामेडिक्स का - आज पार्लियामेंट के इस फ्लोर से मैं अभिनन्दन करना चाहता हूँ। उस वक्त मोदी जी ने अपनी विरासत से प्रेरणा ली थी। हमारी विरासत क्या थी - हमारे देश में हेल्थ कभी कॉमर्शियल प्रोफेशन नहीं हुआ करती थी। दुनिया की किसी

और कंट्री के लिए यह कॉमर्शियल प्रोफेशन हो सकती है, लेकिन भारत के लिए हेल्थ एक सेवा है। देश की जनता में सेवा भाव को प्रोत्साहित करने से हमारे देश की जनता को ही फायदा होगा, क्योंकि इससे हम उनके मन को भी टटोल सकते हैं। मोदी जी ने कोरोना के वक्त हमारी हेल्थ वर्कफोर्स के लिए ताली बजवाई थी, थाली बजवाई थी और आकाश में ट्राईकलर से उनका अभिनन्दन किया था। इसके प्रभाव से हमारे देश के सारे कोरोना वॉरियर्स अपने-अपने कार्यों में लग गए और उन्होंने देश को कोविड क्राइसिस से बचा लिया। यही हमारी विरासत है। अपनी विरासत से प्रेरणा लेकर ही हम होलिस्टिक एप्रोच के साथ बदलाव ला सकते हैं। मेडिकल एजुकेशन या हेल्थ सेक्टर में बदलाव लाने की आवश्यकता है और हमें जो भी बदलाव करना है, एक होलिस्टिक एप्रोच के साथ करना है।

हमने केवल डिस्पेंसरीज़ खोल देने की बात ही नहीं की। पहले की सरकारों के समय में यह होता था कि जब मांग आई, तो डिस्पेंसरी खोल दी, लेकिन हमने डिस्पेंसरीज़ तो खोली ही हैं, क्योंकि हमें हेल्थ एंड वेलनेस सेंटर्स के माध्यम से लास्ट माइल के व्यक्ति को भी हेल्थ सर्विस प्रोवाइड करनी है और एफोर्डेबल हेल्थ केयर उपलब्ध करानी है। इसके लिए सबसे पहले हमने 1,56,000 से अधिक हेल्थ एंड वेलनेस सेंटर्स बनाए। अब हेल्थ एंड वेलनेस सेंटर्स तो बन गए, लेकिन उनके लिए डॉक्टर्स भी चाहिए। जब डॉक्टर्स चाहिए, तो उसके लिए हमें मेडिकल स्टूडेंट्स की सीट्स भी बढ़ानी पड़ेंगी। मैं इस फ्लोर के माध्यम से आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि 2014 से पहले एमबीबीएस की 54,000 सीट्स थीं, जबकि आज एमबीबीएस की 1,07,000 सीट्स हैं। पहले मेडिकल कॉलेजेज़ की संख्या 350 थी, लेकिन आज हमारे देश में 704 मेडिकल कॉलेजेज़ हैं। हमने यह सब इसलिए किया, क्योंकि हम मानते हैं कि हमें हर क्षेत्र में डिस्पेंसरीज़ चालू करनी हैं और उसके लिए हमें मेडिकल कॉलेजेज़ की संख्या बढ़ानी ही होगी, डॉक्टर्स की संख्या बढ़ानी ही होगी। इसके साथ-साथ मेडिकल एजुकेशन को अच्छा और बेहतर बनाने की आवश्यकता थी, ताकि हम अपने देश के साथ पूरे विश्व के स्तर के अनुसार डॉक्टर्स का निर्माण कर सकें, उनको वैसी ही स्टैंडर्ड क्वालिटी एजुकेशन दे सकें। It is not only for MBBS. Nursing is also part of medical education; dentistry is also part of medical education; allied health services are also part of medical education. ये सब मेडिकल एजुकेशन के ही पार्ट्स हैं। हमें देश की रिक्वायरमेंट को ध्यान में रखना है, साथ ही दुनिया की आवश्यकताओं को भी पूरा करना है, जिसके लिए हमने एक होलिस्टिक एफर्ट की शुरुआत की। इसी के फलस्वरूप सबसे पहले हम 'National Medical Commission (Amendment) Bill' लेकर आए और उसको successfully implement किया। उसके बाद हम 'National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions Bill' लाए, जिसके अंतर्गत 56 प्रकार की हेल्थ सर्विसेज़ को रेगुलेट करने और quality education देकर skilled manpower तैयार करने का प्रावधान किया गया। इसी क्रम को आगे बढ़ाते-बढ़ाते आज हम 'The National Dental Commission Bill, 2023' and 'The National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023' लेकर आए हैं, जिसके लिए पहले भी कई बार recommendation की जा चुकी है। 2013 में इसके लिए एक Expert Committee बनी थी। PGI, Chandigarh की Expert Committee ने भी यह कहा था कि सभी प्रकार की एजुकेशन के लिए आपको एक स्वायत्त कमीशन बनाना होगा, साथ ही यह recommendation भी आई थी कि अभी जो Medical Council चल रही है, उसकी जगह आप एक नया कमीशन बनाएं। 2017 में

Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee ने अपनी 109वीं रिपोर्ट में यह कहा था इस विभाग के सभी सेक्टर्स के लिए और मेडिकल एजुकेशन के लिए अलग-अलग कमीशन होना चाहिए। 2017 में जब National Health Policy बनाई गई थी, उसमें भी यह बात रखी गई थी कि हेल्थ सेक्टर में सभी के लिए अलग-अलग कमीशन का प्रावधान हो। इसी को देखते हुए दो कमीशन हम पहले लेकर आए थे और आज तीसरा कमीशन लेकर आए हैं।

महोदया, हमें इसे लाने की अनुशंसा क्यों करनी पड़ी? इस फ्लोर के माध्यम से मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि समय के साथ बदलना बहुत आवश्यक होता है। अगर हम समय के साथ बदलाव नहीं करते, तो हमें पीछे रहना पड़ जाता है, इसलिए हमने विचार किया कि हम standard education दें। Standard education के कारण आज nursing का scenario ही बदल गया है। Dentistry पहले केवल tooth निकालने की बात करती थी, लेकिन अब उसमें बहुत बदलाव आ चुका है, अलग-अलग टाइप की expertise आ चुकी है। अब Dentistry के अलग-अलग विभाग के अलग-अलग एक्सपर्ट्स होने लगे हैं। उसके लिए एजुकेशन सिलेबस तैयार करना, उसके लिए कोर्सेज चालू करना, उसके लिए सीट्स का प्रावधान करना और बदलते समय के अनुसार उसकी जो आवश्यकता है, उसको कैसे हम फुलफिल करें, उसका भी विचार करना आवश्यक था। जो मेडिकल काउंसिल थी, उसकी स्थिति कैसी थी? सब लोगों ने मेडिकल काउंसिल की स्थिति देखी थी। उस वक्त की मेडिकल काउंसिल और आज के मेडिकल कमीशन में क्या फर्क पड़ गया? मेडिकल काउंसिल में जो लोग स्थापित थे, वे किसी भी तरह से इलेक्ट होकर आ जाते थे। 10-15 सालों से वे ही लोग वहाँ इलेक्ट होकर आ जाते थे। वे अपना गुप बना लेते थे और स्थापित ही हो जाते थे। उससे मेडिकल काउंसिल की स्थिति बहुत बिगड़ गई थी। आज मेडिकल कमीशन के रूप में उससे बेस्ट एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन हो रहा है। मेडिकल कमीशन के द्वारा नये-नये मेडिकल कॉलेजेज पारदर्शिता के साथ खोले जा रहे हैं। नेशनल मेडिकल कमीशन के द्वारा एक कमांड एंड कंट्रोल सेंटर बना कर सभी मेडिकल कॉलेजेज को आज कमीशन के साथ वर्चुअली जोड़ दिया गया है। अब 16 टाइप्स के कैमरों के द्वारा इंस्पेक्शन के कारण फिजिकल इंस्पेक्शन की भी कोई आवश्यकता नहीं रहेगी। हम इस बिल में भी यह प्रावधान लेकर आये हैं कि नर्सिंग कमीशन के द्वारा कोई फिजिकल इंस्पेक्शन की आवश्यकता नहीं हो। डेंटल कमीशन के द्वारा डेंटिस्ट्री के किसी कॉलेज के फिजिकल इंस्पेक्शन की आवश्यकता नहीं हो, यह व्यवस्था हमने ऑलरेडी नेशनल मेडिकल कमीशन में खड़ी कर दी है। मेडिकल कॉलेज में 16 कैमरे लगे हुए हैं। ओपीडी में कितने लोग आ रहे हैं, पेशेंट्स कितने आ रहे हैं, यह दिखाई दे रहा है। ओपीडी में रजिस्ट्री हो रही है, यह दिखाई दे रहा है। कितने पेशेंट्स हैं और कितनी इक्विपमेंट्स हैं, वे दिखाई दे रहे हैं। हमें वहाँ जाने की आवश्यकता ही नहीं है। आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलीजेंस के द्वारा मेडिकल कॉलेज की यह सूचना मिलने लगी है कि वहाँ ओपीडी कम हो रही है, जबकि इतनी ओपीडी होनी चाहिए। वहाँ पर पॉप-अप हो जाता है, उसको बढ़ाएँ, नहीं तो आपकी मान्यता रद्द होगी। इससे वे ऑटोमेटिक ही वहाँ पर तैयारी करने लगेंगे। यहाँ बैठे-बैठे हमें पता चलता है कि वहाँ ऑपरेशन नहीं हो रहा है। हमारी आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलीजेंस के द्वारा कमांड एंड कंट्रोल सेंटर बता देता है कि इस मेडिकल कॉलेज में इस टाइप की सुविधा का अभाव है, इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर कम है, इनडोर पेशेंट्स कम हैं, यह सारी इन्फॉर्मेशन मेडिकल कॉलेज से डायरेक्ट नेशनल मेडिकल कमीशन में मिल रही है।

दूसरा, जो लोग 10-15 सालों से वहाँ बैठे रहते थे, उनकी जगह पर कमीशन बनने से Nursing and Midwifery Commission में भी यह प्रावधान रखा गया है, डेंटल कमीशन में भी यह प्रावधान रखा गया है कि 4 साल से ज्यादा वे वहाँ नहीं रह पाएँगे। कमीशन की मुद्दत 4 साल होगी। उससे ज्यादा कोई वहाँ नहीं रह पाएगा, जिससे पारदर्शिता आयेगी। दूसरा, इंटरनेशनल स्टैंडर्ड के अनुरूप वहाँ एजुकेशन दी जाएगी। आज यह प्रावधान ही नहीं है, यह क्लैरिटी ही नहीं है कि कौन सा काम किसको करना है, इसके अन्दर कोई क्लैरिटी नहीं है। उसका नतीजा हमारे डेंटल कॉलेज को, हमारे नर्सिंग कॉलेज को भुगतना पड़ता है। ऑनरेबल वाइस चेयरपर्सन मैडम, नर्सिंग सेक्टर में भी दुनिया बदल गयी है, दुनिया की रिक्वायरमेंट बदल रही है। इस बदलती रिक्वायरमेंट को पूरा करने के लिए कोर्स, सिलेबस, सभी में बदलाव करने की आवश्यकता है और उसके साथ-साथ इंस्पेक्शन के सिस्टम को बदलना है। आज मैंने एक ऐसी स्थिति देखी है। एक बार मैं रिव्यू कर रहा था, तो मैंने देखा कि इंस्पेक्शन करने वाले, नीति निर्धारण करने वाले और बाँटने वाले एफिलिएटेड कॉलेज को अप्रूव करने वाले ही होते थे। इसलिए जो रूल्स, रेगुलेशंस और प्रावधान होते थे, मान लीजिए कि अगर मैं प्राइवेट कॉलेज को रिप्रेजेंट कर रहा हूँ, तो मैं इसके लिए प्रयास करूँगा कि वहाँ प्राइवेट कॉलेजेज के हित में ही नीतियाँ बनें। हम प्राइवेट कॉलेजेज के खिलाफ नहीं हैं, लेकिन उनका इन्फ्लुएंस वहाँ नहीं होना चाहिए। उसको बैलेंस करने वाला आज कोई नहीं था। I am the Health Minister, लेकिन मेरा कोई कंट्रोल उसके ऊपर नहीं है। काउंसिल जो तय करेगी, वह होगा। हम उसके ऊपर कंट्रोल नहीं करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन उसकी जवाबदेही तो होनी चाहिए, जवाबदेही तो सुनिश्चित होनी चाहिए। यह जवाबदेही सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कोई प्रावधान और कोई व्यवस्था, इन दोनों काउंसिल्स में नहीं थी कि उसको हम कैसे रेस्पॉसिबल बनाएँ, हम उसको कैसे स्टैंडर्डाइज्ड करें, हम उसको कैसे बेस्ट तरीके से रेगुलेट करें, हम उसको कैसे स्वायत्त बॉडी बनाएँ। यहाँ अभी मुझसे पहले धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान जी अपने बिल के विषय के संदर्भ में अपनी बात रख रहे थे, तब वे बोल रहे थे कि हम उसको वर्क करने के लिए स्वायत्तता देना चाहते हैं। हम उसके दैनन्दिन कामों में कोई इंटरफियर करना नहीं चाहते हैं। लेकिन आज जो काउंसिल है, उसने जो जजमेंट दे दिया, उसकी कोई अपील अथॉरिटी ही नहीं है और अगर कोई डिस्मिशन ऐसा हो गया, तो उसको बदलने की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। आज नेशनल मेडिकल कमीशन में हमारा Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB) कोई डिस्मिशन ले लेता है, वह अपने विज्ञान से कोई गलत डिस्मिशन ले लेता है, ऐसा कहने का मेरा आशय नहीं है, लेकिन उसने अगर कोई डिस्मिशन लिया और उसके सामने किसी को कुछ कहना है, मेडिकल कॉलेज को कुछ कहना है, तो आज वह मेडिकल कमीशन के चेयरमैन के सामने अपील करता है। अगर उसको मेडिकल कमीशन के चेयरमैन से भी satisfaction नहीं हुआ, तो वह मिनिस्ट्री में अपील करता है। वहाँ से उसको तीन स्टेप्स मिल जाते हैं। इसके बाद ही उसको कोर्ट जाने की स्थिति आती है। इस तरह से कोर्ट का केस भी नहीं बढ़ता है। पहले ऐसी स्थिति थी कि हर दिन कोई-न-कोई मेडिकल कॉलेज कोर्ट में चला जाता था।

माननीय वाइस चेयरमैन मैडम, मैं आज खुशी के साथ बताना चाहूँगा कि हमने इस साल 54 new medical colleges को परमिशन दी है। हमने यह परमिशन प्राइवेट कॉलेजेज को भी दी है और गवर्नमेंट कॉलेजेज को भी दी है, लेकिन आज कोई कोर्ट केस नहीं हुआ है। सब consensus से हुआ है। हमने उसको बता दिया है कि आपके यहाँ यह facility नहीं है, इसलिए

हम नहीं देंगे। सब कुछ पूरी पारदर्शिता के साथ किया गया है। किसी को कुछ मिलना नहीं है। पहले तो ऐसा था कि मेडिकल कॉलेज लेने का मतलब दूसरी, तीसरी बात होती थी। हमने इसको क्लीयर किया। मैंने स्वयं एक बार सभी मेडिकल कॉलेजेज़ की मीटिंग करके कहा कि कोई किंतु-परंतु की जगह नहीं है, किसी बिचौलिए को ढूंढने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। आपने requirement पूरी की, आपको परमिशन मिल जाएगी। हम चाहते हैं कि मेडिकल कॉलेज के पास infrastructure होना चाहिए, faculty होनी चाहिए और patient होना चाहिए। इन तीन प्रावधानों को पूरा करने वाला चाहे private medical college हो या Government medical college हो - आप खुशी से आइए, भारत सरकार आपको approval दे देगी। हमने इस साल 54 new medical colleges को approval दिया है। इसका कारण यह है कि हम यह नहीं चाहते हैं कि देश में medical education, nursing education और dental education को इस तरह से regulate करके रखें कि हमारे स्टूडेंट्स को विदेश जाने की नौबत आए। हम यह नहीं चाहते हैं कि प्रति वर्ष हजारों की संख्या में हमारे स्टूडेंट्स विदेश पढ़ने के लिए जाएं और वहाँ खर्च करें। वहाँ पर education quality कैसी है - हम उसकी मैपिंग यहाँ बैठ कर तो नहीं कर सकते हैं। हमने कोविड और यूक्रेन क्राइसिस के दरमियान यूक्रेन की स्थिति देखी। जब मुझे मेल आने लगे कि यूक्रेन और रूस का युद्ध शुरू हो गया है और हम यहाँ फंसे हुए हैं, हमें यहाँ से बाहर निकालिए, तो मैंने इस बात को माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के सामने रखा, तो माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा कि ये केवल यूक्रेन में ही नहीं होंगे, बल्कि दुनिया के अन्य देशों में भी होंगे, इसलिए यह पता कीजिए कि हमारे कितने स्टूडेंट्स दुनिया के देशों में मेडिकल एजुकेशन प्राप्त कर रहे हैं। तब यह पता चला कि 60 हजार स्टूडेंट्स विदेश में पढ़ रहे थे। कोविड और यूक्रेन क्राइसिस की स्थिति में मोदी जी ने उन स्टूडेंट्स को वापस लाने के लिए एक बहुत बड़ी मुहिम और ऑपरेशन चलाया। जब हम सारे स्टूडेंट्स को वापस लाए, तब यह पता चला कि इतनी बड़ी संख्या में हमारे स्टूडेंट्स विदेश में पढ़ते हैं। क्या हम अपने देश के युवाओं को इंडिया में opportunity नहीं दे सकते? हमारे स्टूडेंट्स यहाँ पर पढ़ें, हमारे ट्राइबल विस्तार के, हमारे Aspirational Districts के युवाओं को Aspirational Districts में एजुकेशन लेने का अवसर मिले, हमारे Aspirational Districts में रहने वाली युवतियों को नर्स बनने की opportunity मिले - इसके लिए क्या करना चाहिए? हमने ज्यादातर districts में medical college चालू कर दिए हैं और हम आगे और मेडिकल कॉलेज बढ़ाते जा रहे हैं। उसके साथ ही nursing college भी, नर्सिंग एक बहुत बड़ी opportunity है। यहाँ बात हो रही थी कि 1,000 population पर तीन नर्सिज़ होनी चाहिए और आज हमारे पास 1,000 population पर ढाई नर्सिज़ हैं, तीन नर्सिज़ नहीं हैं। देश में skilled nurses की आवश्यकता है, और दुनिया में भी nursing की बहुत बड़ी डिमांड है। हम अपने देश की requirement पूरी करें, यह देश की soft power भी है। Doctors, paramedic staff, dentists - ये हमारी soft power हैं। इससे हम दुनिया की सेवा भी कर सकते हैं और आजीविका भी कमा सकते हैं। हम यह भली-भाँति समझते हैं। आज केरल की नर्सिज़, भारत की नर्सिज़ दुनिया में अपनी सेवाएँ दे रही हैं। आप अमेरिका में जाइए, आप कल्पना ही नहीं कर सकते कि भारत के डॉक्टर और भारत के नर्सिग स्टाफ के बिना वहाँ का health sector पूरा हो सकता है - जी नहीं। आज अमेरिका की एक परसेंट नर्सिज़ इंडियन नर्सिज़ हैं। आप गल्फ कंट्रीज़ में चले जाइए, वहाँ पर ज्यादातर health workforce इंडियन है। आप केरल में चले जाइए, आपको वहाँ समृद्धि दिखाई दे रही है, जबकि वहाँ पर बहुत

ज्यादा इंडस्ट्रीज नहीं हैं, लेकिन वहाँ पर लोगों की purchasing power ज्यादा है, क्योंकि हमारे लोग वहाँ से नर्सिंग के रूप में, paramedic staff के रूप में दुनिया में जा रहे हैं और वहाँ अपनी सेवाएँ दे रहे हैं। वे Dirham और Dollar में पैसा कमाते हैं और अपने वतन में वह पैसा भेजते हैं, जिससे वहाँ पर समृद्धि दिखाई दे रही है। इस समृद्धि को encash करने के लिए देश में नर्सिंग कॉलेजेज की संख्या बढ़नी चाहिए, हमारी requirement पूरी होनी चाहिए। हम इंडिया के द्वारा दुनिया को स्वस्थ रखना चाहते हैं। 'Heal by India' initiative के तहत वे दुनिया में अपनी सेवाएँ दे सकें, इसके लिए आज नर्सिंग सेक्टर में भी सिलेबस बदल रहा है। दुनिया की क्या डिमांड है? विश्व के यूरोपियन देशों, जापान से डिमांड आती है कि हमें इंडियन नर्सिज चाहिए, because Indian people are polite and peace loving. इसलिए दुनिया चाहती है कि हमारे यहाँ इंडिया की वर्कफोर्स आए। जापान ने कहा कि हमारी नर्सिज जापानी लैंग्वेज में तैयार हो सकें, इसके लिए उन्हें हमें जापानी सिखानी है। उन्होंने आग्रह किया कि हमें नॉर्थ-ईस्ट से नर्सिंग वर्कफोर्स मिलेगी, तो अच्छा होगा। मैं इस सदन को बताना चाहूँगा कि हमने असम के तीन नर्सिंग कॉलेजों में जापानी लैंग्वेज पढ़ानी शुरू कर दी है। हमने डिसीजन लिया है कि हमारे सभी नर्सिंग कॉलेजेज में कोई सेकंड लैंग्वेज भी होगी। हमने इसके लिए पाँच-छः लैंग्वेजेज identify की हैं। उन पाँच-छः लैंग्वेजेज में French, German, Japanese, Arabic आदि हैं। वे इनमें से कोई-न-कोई लैंग्वेज सीखें, ताकि जब वे यहाँ से वहाँ जाँब के लिए जाएं, तब उन्हें सुविधा मिले, दुनिया की माँग पूरी हो और हमारे देश के लोगों को रोजगार के अवसर भी मिलें। इसके साथ ही, देश में भी रोजगार के अवसर मिलने चाहिए। हम देश में न केवल मेडिकल नर्सिंग कॉलेज खोल रहे हैं, बल्कि सरकार की ओर से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने बहुत महत्वपूर्ण डिसीजन लिया है कि हमने मेडिकल कॉलेजेज चालू किए हैं, तो हम सभी मेडिकल कॉलेजेज के साथ एक नर्सिंग कॉलेज की भी मंजूरी देते हैं। इसके लिए दस करोड़ रुपये एडिशनली दिये जाएंगे, ताकि मेडिकल कॉलेज के साथ-साथ वहाँ पर एक बीएससी कॉलेज भी स्टार्ट हो सके और बेहतर एजुकेशन मिल सके।

महोदया, यहाँ एक सम्माननीय सदस्य ने अपनी बात रखते हुए कहा कि मेडिकल कॉलेज में अलाइड हेल्थ सर्विसेज के लिए भी opportunity मिलनी चाहिए। भारत सरकार मानती है कि मेडिकल कॉलेज केवल एमबीबीएस की ही एजुकेशन दे, ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए। वहाँ पर एमबीबीएस के साथ-साथ नर्सिंग कॉलेज भी चलना चाहिए और पैरामेडिक्स and all types of अलाइड हेल्थ सर्विसेज के कोर्सज भी चलने चाहिए। हमारे तंबी दुरे जी ने कहा कि हम तो ओपन हैं, लेकिन अगर आपकी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट इसमें सपोर्ट नहीं करती होगी, तो मैं अवश्य लिखूँगा कि संसद में यह विषय उठा है, अगर आपके राज्य में कोई अलाइड हेल्थ सर्विसेज का कोर्स चालू करना चाहता है, तो उसे अवश्य opportunity मिलनी चाहिए, क्योंकि इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर तो एक ही मिल जाता है। इससे हमें न्यू स्किल्ड हेल्थ वर्कफोर्स भी मिल जाती है। इसलिए हमें opportunity को encash करना चाहिए। मैं अपेक्षा करता हूँ कि राज्य सरकार इसके ऊपर काम करेगी।

महोदया, यहाँ पर नेक्स्ट के बारे में भी बात हुई। हम एमबीबीएस के मेडिकल कॉलेज में भी नेक्स्ट एग्जाम लेना चाहते हैं, डेंटल कमीशन द्वारा dentistry के लिए भी लेना चाहते हैं और नर्सिंग के लिए भी लेना चाहते हैं। इसका उद्देश्य यह है कि आज उसका implementation लीगल विभाग में ऑलरेडी हो गया है। For example, कोई एलएलबी करता है, तो एलएलबी तो हो जाती है, लेकिन जब उसे एडवोकेट के रूप में प्रैक्टिस करनी होती है, तब उसे एग्जाम पास करना होता

है और एग्जाम पास करने के बाद ही वह प्रैक्टिस कर पाता है। मान लीजिए, आपने एमबीबीएस कर ली, आपने बीएससी (नर्सिंग) कर ली, आपको डिग्री मिल गई, लेकिन अगर आपको किसी जगह पर नर्सिंग के रूप में जॉब के लिए जाना है, मेडिकल प्रैक्टिस करनी है, नर्सिंग प्रैक्टिस करनी है, तब आपको नेक्स्ट एग्जाम देना होगा और नेक्स्ट एग्जाम से पास व्यक्ति ही वहाँ जा सकेगा। हालाँकि इसमें घबराने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। यह कोई कठिन एग्जाम है, ऐसा भी नहीं है। जिन्होंने जिस विषय की पढ़ाई की है, हमने उस विषय में उनका average assessment करने के लिए यह प्रावधान किया है। हमने इस साल नेक्स्ट एग्जाम नहीं लिया है। अगले साल एमबीबीएस के लिए नेक्स्ट एग्जाम हो, इसकी प्रिपरेशन हो रही है। हम इसे बाद में लेंगे। हमारा उद्देश्य यह है कि मेडिकल और पैरामेडिकल एजुकेशन एक सिस्टम में आ जाए, ताकि हम बेस्ट से बेस्ट नर्सिंग एजुकेशन दे पाएं, बेस्ट से बेस्ट डेंटिस्ट एजुकेशन दे पाएं। मैं अपेक्षा करता हूँ कि ये दोनों बिल मेडिकल एजुकेशन में आने वाले समय की माँग को पूरा करने के लिए हैं। हमें देश की वर्तमान रिक्वायरमेंट को भी पूरा करना है, देश के भविष्य की रिक्वायरमेंट को भी पूरा करना है, हमें हेल्थ सेक्टर में क्वालिटी एजुकेशन प्रोवाइड करनी है और देश को स्थापित हितों से मुक्ति भी दिलानी है। हेल्थ सेक्टर में एक पारदर्शी एजुकेशन हो, इसके लिए हमने जो बदलाव शुरू किया है, उसकी श्रेणी में यह तीसरा और चौथा बदलाव है। फार्मसी कमीशन भी पाँचवे बदलाव के रूप में आएगा, ताकि एजुकेशन की synergy बनी रहे। इस सेक्टर में पारदर्शिता से एजुकेशन मिलेगी और कोई बिचौलिया या किसी के recommendation की आवश्यकता नहीं होगी। एक बैलेंस्ड एजुकेशन, यानी अपील की एक बेस्ट अपॉर्चुनिटी दी जाएगी, ताकि अगर किसी को अपनी बात रखनी है तो वह उसे अवश्य रख पाए। इसके साथ-साथ, डिजिटल टेक्नोलॉजी का उपयोग करना है, आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस के साथ असेसमेंट करनी है। ह्यूमन इंटरफिरेंस को कम से कम करना है, ताकि हमारी एजुकेशन सचमुच एक इंटरनेशनल स्टैंडर्ड की बने और दुनिया में हमारी एक अच्छी छवि बने। आज हम सबको प्राउड है कि अगर कहीं कोई इंडियन डॉक्टर है तो उसको दुनिया रिगार्ड करती है। दुनिया को हेल्थ वर्कफोर्स चाहिए तो वह पहली एप्रोच इंडिया को करे। जब इंडिया से नर्सिंग मिल रही है, इंडिया से डेंटिस्ट्स मिल रहे हैं, इंडिया से डॉक्टर्स मिल रहे हैं, इंडिया से अलाइड हेल्थ सर्विस फोर्स मिल रही है, तो दुनिया के लिए पहली प्राइयोरिटी इंडिया होनी चाहिए। ऐसा एजुकेशन स्टैंडर्ड बनाने के लिए हम नर्सिंग कमीशन और डेंटिस्ट कमीशन बिल लेकर आए हैं। मैं आपके सामने एक के बाद दूसरा बिल रखूँगा। मैं विश्वास करता हूँ और मेरी श्रद्धा है कि हम यूनैनिमसली बिल्स को पास करेंगे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): I shall first put the motion regarding consideration of the National Dental Commission Bill, 2023 to vote. The question is:

“That the Bill to regulate the profession of dentistry in the country, to provide for quality and affordable dental education, to make accessible high quality oral healthcare and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 3, there is one Amendment (No.1) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 4, there is one Amendment (No.2) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 5 to 11 were added to the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 12, there is one Amendment (No.3) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

Clause 12 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 13 to 59 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

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

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to move that the Bill be passed.

डा. मनसुख मांडविया: महोदया, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ:
कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): I shall now put the motion regarding consideration of the National Nursing and Midwifery Commission Bill, 2023 to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for regulation and maintenance of standards of education and services by nursing and midwifery professionals, assessment of institutions, maintenance of a National Register and State Registers and creation of a system to improve access, research and development and adoption of latest scientific advancement and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 57 were added to the Bill.

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

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya to move that the Bill be passed.

डा. मनसुख मांडविया: महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ :

कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Now, Special Mentions. Shri Sushil Kumar Modi.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Rising cases of suicides among students

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI (Bihar): Madam, in 2021, there had been 10,732 suicide cases of students below the age of eighteen years.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO) *in the Chair.*]

It depicted an increase of 4.5 per cent from the previous year. In the last five years, 75 students have committed suicide in I.I.T., I.I.M., A.I.I.M.S. and other top premier institutions. These cases have been increasing at a concerning rate. In Kota, this year, police have reported more than 15 suicides. The high number of suicides reflects the severe mental and physical stress the students go through to secure college admissions in the premier universities. The students face severe academic stress and develop mental health issues because of the intensive competition in the medical and engineering examinations. Factors like low self esteem due to poor score in examinations at the coaching centres, pressure of parental expectations, financial constraints and the stigma around poor performance contribute to the student's constantly deteriorating mental health. The consequences of relentless academic pressure are extremely concerning. Thus, I request the Government to develop a comprehensive suicide prevention mechanism and implement the same in mission mode to harness the results at the earliest. The Government should take a proactive initiative to enhance mental health support within coaching institutes, schools and universities. The number of counsellors available should be increased and a mechanism should be developed to communicate openly between the students and the counsellors. There should be awareness campaigns targeting teachers, parents and students. Increased awareness among the public would help in early identification and treatment of suicidal tendencies. I urge the Government to look into the matter.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham, absent. Shrimati Mamata Mohanta.

Late running of train No. 12892 from Puri to Bangriposi

SHRIMATI MAMATA MOHANTA (Odisha): Madam, I would speak in Odia. *"Sir, regular trains ply between Bangriposi and Puri (Lord Jagannath Dham) in the Mayurbhanj district of Odisha. In the morning, a train departs to Puri from Bangriposi and in the evening another train comes from Puri to Bangriposi.

Train number 12891 departs from Bangriposi and train number 12892 arrives at Bangriposi from Puri. It is a super fast express. The people of the area are benefiting a lot from these two trains. Many people belonging to different categories like employees and labourers of not only Mayurbhanj district but also Balasore, Bhadrak,

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Odia.

Jajpur, Cuttack, and Bhubaneswar are getting benefited. This is the only train plying in this area.

However, the train from Puri to Bagriposi is always running late by 2 to 3 hours. Due to this, people are facing a lot of problems. It departs from Puri at 4:20 p.m. and reaches Bhubaneswar at 5:25 p.m.. It leaves Bhubaneswar at 5:30 p.m. But the train always runs late from Puri. People face a lot of problems due to the fact that this train runs late every day.

By the time the train reaches Bangiriposi, it is almost 2 a.m. Railway officials need to pay heed to this. Therefore, through this august House, I request the Railways to issue necessary directions to ensure that the train runs on time."

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Now, Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla.

#Demand for a National Centre of Excellence in Tamil Nadu for recognising and nurturing Sporting Talent

SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Government of India, through the Sports Authority of India, has implemented the National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) Scheme to discover and nurture talented athletes nationwide. Tamil Nadu, with its impressive sporting track record, does not have a single NCOE, despite consistently producing numerous athletes who have excelled at both the international and national levels.

In the last two National Games, Tamil Nadu secured a position in top five in the overall medal tally, showcasing the State's ability to produce outstanding athletes. Additionally, in every edition of the Khelo India Games, Tamil Nadu consistently ranked among the top ten States in the medal tally. These achievements underscore the State's sporting prowess and highlight the need for an NCOE to further develop and support Tamil Nadu's exceptional talent.

Given Tamil Nadu's consistent performance and its track record of producing exceptional athletes, it is imperative to establish an NCOE in the State. This would recognize and nurture the existing talent pool while providing opportunities to identify and develop future champions. By establishing an NCOE in Tamil Nadu, the State would have the opportunity to contribute significantly to India's overall sporting success, while also benefiting its athletes and promoting the growth of sports in the region. Hence, I call upon the Union government to take necessary steps to establish

Laid on the Table.

the National Centre of Excellence soon in the State of Tamil Nadu.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Shri A.D. Singh; not present. Shri Mohammed Nadimul Haque; not present. Shri A.A. Rahim; not present. Now, Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar.

Concern over spreading of diseases due to contaminated water in Delhi NCR

श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदया, मैं दिल्ली एवं दिल्ली एन.सी.आर. और उसके आसपास के क्षेत्रों के प्रदूषित जल पर ध्यान आकर्षित कराना चाहता हूँ। यमुना नदी, काली नदी, हिंडन नदी का जल स्लॉटर हाउस, चीनी मिल, पेपर मिल, केमिकल कारखाना के प्रदूषित जल से ज़हरीला हो गया है। यह अपने समीपवर्ती सैकड़ों गाँवों में कैंसर की बीमारी का कारण बना हुआ है।

काली नदी में जहाँ भी सैंपल लिया गया, वहाँ आक्सीजन की मात्रा शून्य पाई गई, जबकि टीसीओ 2,80,000 और वीओडी की मात्रा 40 पाई गई। केन्द्रीय भूजल बोर्ड की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार इस नदी के पानी में पारा, कॉपर, जिंक, आर्सेनिक, फ्लोराइड व नाइट्रेट की मात्रा भी बहुत अधिक है। स्पष्ट है कि काली नदी का पानी पीने लायक तो है ही नहीं और साथ ही यह सिंचाई या किसी अन्य काम में आने लायक भी नहीं है और ऑक्सीजन खत्म होने से जलीय जंतु भी गायब हो गए हैं।

राष्ट्रीय हरित अधिकरण के आदेश पर काली नदी के किनारे चिकित्सा कैंप्स लगाए गए थे, जिनमें पाया गया कि नदी के समीपवर्ती गाँवों में कैंसर तथा अन्य बीमारियों जैसे पीलिया, पेचिश, हैजा और चर्म रोग भी बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। कैंसर पीड़ितों की संख्या राष्ट्रीय मानकों से काफी अधिक है।

मैं आपके माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से अनुरोध करूँगा कि जन स्वास्थ्य को देखते हुए दिल्ली एवं दिल्ली एन.सी.आर. के आसपास जितनी भी औद्योगिक इकाइयाँ हैं, उनसे निपटने हेतु इस दिशा में प्रभावी कदम उठाए जाएं, ताकि इस क्षेत्र के लोगों के जीवन के साथ हो रहे स्वास्थ्य के खिलवाड़ को रोका जा सके।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Shri Sandosh Kumar P; not present. Now, Shri Sakaldeep Rajbhar.

Concern over closed sugar mills of Western Uttar Pradesh

श्री सकलदीप राजभर (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदया, आपने मुझे स्पेशल मेंशन पर बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ। महोदया, सदन के माध्यम से मैं स्पेशल मेंशन के तहत लोक महत्व के अति आवश्यक विषय को रखते हुए कहना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश के पूर्वांचल में स्थित जनपद बलिया में किसान सहकारी गन्ना मिल, रसड़ा, कताई मिल, रसड़ा और जनपद गाजीपुर में पूर्वांचल कताई मिल, बहादुरगंज; जनपद मऊ में स्पिनिंग कताई मिल, परदहा

में स्वदेशी कॉटन मिल, मऊ, उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य में सरकार द्वारा संचालित की जा रही थी, जिससे वहां के लोगों को रोजगार मिल रहा था। ये सभी उद्यम इन दिनों बंद हो चुके हैं। मिल बंदी के कारण सभी कर्मचारी बेरोजगार होकर भुखमरी के कगार पर पहुँच गये हैं।

महोदय, मैंने इस विषय को सदन में 15.03.2021 को शून्य काल के तहत उठाया था। यहाँ की गन्ना मिल बंद होने और आस-पास कोई दूसरी गन्ना मिल न होने के कारण यहाँ के किसान काफी परेशान हैं। किसानों के लिए गन्ने की खेती नकदी फसल के समान होती है, जिससे किसान अपने बच्चों की शिक्षा, शादी विवाह एवं अन्य प्रयोजन करते हैं, लेकिन गन्ना मिल बंद होने से यहाँ के किसानों ने गन्ने की खेती ही बन्द कर दी है। इन सभी मिलों को चालू करने के लिए राज्य सरकार द्वारा 873 करोड़ रुपये मंजूर हुए, लेकिन यह राशि अभी तक रिलीज़ नहीं हुई है। अतः मैं आपके और सदन के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से माँग करता हूँ कि वह उक्त सभी मिलों को चालू कराने में आर्थिक मदद करे और राज्य सरकार को भी स्वीकृत राशि निर्गत करने के लिए आदेशित करे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Shri Jayant Chaudhary; not present. Shri Brijlal.

**Demand for removal of restrictions on movement of four wheelers on
Indo-Nepal Aligarhwa Checkpost**

SHRI BRIJLAL (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, it has been ascertained that there is an Indian checkpost at Aligarhwa, Sidharth Nagar District (U.P), on the Indo-Nepal Border on the Indian side and, similarly, on the other side, there is Nepalese checkpost. It has also been noticed that only two wheelers can ply between these checkposts. In the absence of movement of commercial vehicles, trade does not take place due to these vehicular restrictions. These restrictions cause negative economic development of the area. It is also worthwhile to mention that earlier bullock carts used to ply on the route before these restrictions came into force and usual commercial activities were going on unhindered.

I urge, through you, the hon. External Affairs Minister to make efforts to remove restrictions on movement of commercial vehicles between these checkposts. This gesture will improve the economic life of the people of this area. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Shri Hishey Lachungpa; not present. Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita.

Need to adopt strong FOPL Regulations ensuring warning labels on HFSS foods

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam): Madam, India is facing a huge burden of diseases such as diabetes, heart diseases and cancers. One out of four adults in India is either a diabetic or prediabetic, according to the latest study. These diseases are responsible for more than 60 per cent of total deaths in the country and many are preventable. One of the major reasons for rising number of diabetes and other diseases is increasing consumption of junk food and High Fat Sugar and Salt (HFSS) foods and beverages, (WHO, Scientific Studies). In India, the sale of such unhealthy foods is growing by 19% annually. (Lancet, June 2023). Sales of food/beverages are shrinking in the West and companies are descending into emerging economies and targeting vulnerable populations and children. India needs to come up with a strong 'Front of Pack Labelling' (FOPL) policy on HFSS foods that can reduce their consumption. The WHO has recently called upon the governments to formulate strong policies that would decrease the consumption of such unhealthy foods. One such FOPL policy is to mandate warning labels as FOPL on HFSS foods that are already defined in the draft regulation. The WHO SEARO's thresholds can be used too. This is the only policy that works and is backed by global and national evidence. I urge upon the Government to urgently adopt strong FOPL regulation to ensure mandatory warning labels on the HFSS foods. India can demonstrate global leadership to protect its people from harmful HFSS marketing like effectively done in the case of marketing of 'Baby Foods' and 'Tobacco'.

SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA (Assam): Madam, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

Non-deposit of tax deducted from the income of the assesses by their employer

SHRI GULAM ALI (Nominated): Madam, this is to bring to your kind consideration that certain taxpayers are facing some income tax related hardships on account of non-deposit of tax deducted at source to Government account by tax deductors which does not come to the notice of Central Processing Centre (CPC) of the Income Tax Department and when the assessee approaches the Jurisdictional Income Tax Officer with such problems, the Jurisdictional Officer expresses his inability to take any action against the defaulters claiming that the Income Tax Officer cannot do unless the same comes from CPC. In one such instance, the TDS of a taxpayer was deducted by a Government Corporation/JMC but was not deposited during the

relevant year in Jammu and Kashmir. The assessee had offered his correct Income for tax to the Income Tax Department and calculated proper taxes. Credit of TDS was not received on account of non-deposit of the tax deducted by the deductor. As a result, the Department served the person demand notice of the amount of tax which was deducted out of the income of the person but was not deposited by the said Government Corporation during the relevant year. Same may have been done with the other assesseees by various departments/corporations across India. I, therefore, urge the Government to seek data on such complaints and redress them.

Need for ending dependence on coal during high electricity demands

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, based on government data, Reuters reported that India experienced its most substantial growth in power generation in over thirty years during the previous fiscal year, with coal-fired plants recording a 12.4 per cent surge in electricity production, leading to a notable rise in emissions. The surge in power demand, driven by intense summer heat-waves and other contributing factors, compelled India to boost its power output from both coal and solar facilities to avoid power shortages.

Indian power plants in the new fiscal year are expected to burn about 8 per cent more coal, according to the report. The rapid acceleration in India's coal-fired output to address increased power demand remains a significant hurdle as we have committed to reducing our carbon emissions. As climate change is likely to accelerate the impact of heat-waves, addressing increased electricity demands while also reducing the share of coal in the power mix will be a recurrent challenge and must be tackled effectively.

Therefore, I request the Government to take measures towards renewable energy diversification and increasing the renewable energy generation capacity to tackle the increased power demand. This would ensure that we stay on the right path regarding our sustainable development commitments and successfully end our coal dependence.

Need to establish a National Building and Construction Workers Fund by amending the relevant Acts

SHRI G.V.L. NARASIMHA RAO (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, as per the Building and Other Construction Workers Act, one per cent cess is collected by labour departments of State governments from builders of construction projects. The money

so collected is to be transferred to State Construction Workers Boards for the welfare of workers. As high as 5.06 crores building and other construction workers are registered with various State Construction Workers Boards. They are entitled to receive several welfare benefits like assistance for education, marriage, maternity benefits, medical, death in family, for differently-abled members and housing grants. Several lakhs of such claims are pending in State Construction Workers Boards, though the State Governments have thousands of crores of collected cess funds lying unutilised. The Central Government has asked the State Governments repeatedly to use these funds during the Covid period, but, in vain. I appeal to the Government to amend the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1996 and the Building and Construction Workers Act to establish a National Construction Workers Fund from the cess collected under these Acts and distribute the same to workers via DBT mode as in the case of other Central schemes like PMKSNY.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday, the 9th August, 2023.

The House then adjourned at forty-nine minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Wednesday, the 9th August, 2023.

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