

Vol. 260  
No. 15



Wednesday,  
9<sup>th</sup> August, 2023  
18 Sravana, 1945 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

# RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT (FLOOR VERSION)

(PART-II)

CONTENTS

Birthday Greetings (page 1)

Reference by the Chair (pages 1 - 2)

Felicitations by the Chair (page 3)

Papers Laid on the Table (pages 3 - 11)

Report of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, Rajya Sabha - *Presented*  
(page 11)

Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture,  
Animal Husbandry and Food Processing - *Laid on the Table* (page 11)

Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Consumer  
Affairs, Food and Public Distribution - *Laid on the Table* (pages 11 - 12)

[P.T.O.]

©  
RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

Statements of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution - *Laid on the Table* (page 12)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers - *Laid on the Table* (page 13)

Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources - *Laid on the Table* (page 13)

Statement of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources - *Laid on the Table* (page 13)

Statements by Ministers -

Statement outlining the reasons for not framing Assam Rifles Regulations, 2016 - *Laid on the Table* (page 14)

Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the 54<sup>th</sup> Report of Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance (page 14)

Regarding Discussion under Rule 267 and other issues (pages 14 - 23 and pages 25 - 33)

Government Bills - *Passed*

The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (pages 23 - 25 and 34 - 45)

The Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023 (pages 45 - 58)

The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023 (pages 58 - 80)

The Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (pages 80 - 98)

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

<http://parliamentofindia.nic.in>

E-mail : [rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in](mailto:rsedit-e@sansad.nic.in)

Special Mentions -

Need to rescue Agarbathi Industry in the country (page 99)

Need to develop Agroha as a heritage city and tourist destination  
(pages 99 - 100)

*[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>]*

## RAJYA SABHA

*Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2023/18 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 hon. Member of Parliament, Shri Mahesh Jethmalani, an esteemed legal luminary, a Member of this House since June, 2021. I give him credit of being very polite in corridors of courts, but that does not take him inside the same behaviour; very tough.

He is the son of distinguished jurist, former Member of Parliament, former Minister and legal legend, late Shri Ram Jethmalani.

I had the privilege and honour to be in Parliament along with Shri Ram Jethmalani.

Mahesh Jethmalaniji is an alumnus of St. Xavier's College, Mumbai and University of Oxford. He hails from an illustrious family with rich contributions in legal, political and freedom field.

He has been a Member of Committee for Reforms in Criminal Laws, of which he is an acknowledged expert. He is married to Smt. Haseena Jethmalani and the couple is blessed with two sons--Amartya & Agastya, and daughter Serena.

Shri Sandosh Kumar P. is a Member of this House since April, 2022. He belongs to freedom fighter's family from northern Malabar region. He is a practising lawyer. He has risen through the ranks of youth politics in his home State of Kerala.

He is married to Smt. Lalitha M. and the couple is blessed with a son, Ritvik, and a daughter, Hridya.

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

---

### REFERENCE BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today, the 9th of August, 2023, marks the 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the historic day on which the 'Quit India Movement' was launched by Mahatma Gandhi, in the year 1942.

The clarion call of 'Do or Die' given by the Father of the Nation infused the masses with a new-found energy which culminated in our nation achieving Independence from the yoke of colonial rule.

The Quit India Movement is an epitome of what people are capable of achieving if they work in togetherness for a cause with determination and dedication.

The call of 'Quit India', though is almost eight decades old, has never been more relevant than in our Amrit Kaal.

It is gratifying to note that since Independence, efforts had been made to contain poverty, enhancing literacy, neutralizing discrimination and bringing about social inclusivity.

On all of these fronts, the nation is proud of its achievements in Amrit Kaal and undoubtedly we are on our way to centennial celebration in 2047. The progress on all these aspects will be incremental.

Hon. Members, on this solemn occasion, we pay our humble and respectful homage to all those martyrs who laid down their lives for the cause of our freedom. We also re-affirm our commitment to uphold the sovereignty, integrity and rededicate ourselves for the service of *Bharat*. As Member of Parliament, it is an occasion for us to introspect, reflect on our moral contributions and rededicate with greater vigour to be in service of the nation, to realize the aspirations of the people at large and to secure place of pride for *Bharat* in comity of nations.

I request the Members to rise in their places and observe silence as a mark of respect to the sacred memory of the martyrs.

*(Hon. Members then stood in silence for one minute)*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, Shri Tushar Gandhi has been arrested. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, Mahatma Gandhi's great grandson, Shri Tushar Gandhi has been arrested. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

**सुश्री सुष्मिता देव** (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to make another announcement. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down.

---

### FELICITATIONS BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, this is a moment of immense pride for us. Our athletes have scripted history by their spectacular performance at the World University Games, 2023 held at Chengdu, the People's Republic of China from July 28<sup>th</sup> to August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, Shri Tushar Gandhi has been arrested. Kindly give a statement on that. The Leader of the House should give a statement. ...*(Interruptions)*... He must react to that. ...*(Interruptions)*... He was arrested on the way to commemorate the Quit India Movement. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me first read out. I am inviting the attention of the hon. Members to great achievements by our athletes. They scripted history by their spectacular performance at the World University Games, 2023, held at Chengdu, the People's Republic of China, from July 28<sup>th</sup> to August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023. At the 31<sup>st</sup> World University Games, the Indian athletes returned with a record-breaking haul of 26 medals. Hon. Members, it was our best performance ever at World University Games where our athletes bagged 11 gold medals, five silver medals and ten bronze medals. Their achievements reflect our rapid stride forward in the arena of sports and are testimony to the unwavering focus, tremendous hard work and wholehearted dedication of our sportspersons. This is also on account of affirmative Government initiatives and policies. Their exemplary performance is bound to inspire and motivate the nation. On behalf of the House and my own, I extend our felicitations to the athletes and wish them all the success in their future endeavours.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, the hon. LoP wants to say something. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All of you, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

---

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH): Sir, I lay on the Table, under Section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways:-

- (1) S.O. 3177, dated the 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, levying user fee for the project of two lane with paved shoulders of Pandharpur-Mangalwedha-Marwade-Umadi Section of NH-561A in the State of Maharashtra.
- (2) S.O. 3178, dated the 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, levying user fee for the project of two lane with paved shoulders of Kusumba to Malegaon Section of NH-160H in the State of Maharashtra.
- (3) S.O. 3183, dated the 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, levying user fee for the project of two lane with paved shoulders of Sarad-Vani-Pimpalgaon Section of NH-953 in the State of Maharashtra.
- (4) S.O. 3270, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, levying user fee for the project of two lane with paved shoulders of Mangalore-Thiruvannamalai Section of NH-75 (Old NH-234) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.
- (5) S.O. 3271, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, levying user fee for the project of two lane with paved shoulders of Talegaon-Gonapur Section of NH-347A in the State of Maharashtra.
- (6) S.O. 3272, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, levying user fee for the project of four and more lane of Kandla-Mundra Section of NH-41 in the State of Gujarat.
- (7) S.O. 3273, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, levying user fee for the project of four lane of Lalitpur-Sagar-Lakhnadon Section of NH-44 (Old NH-26) in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.
- (8) S.O. 3275, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, levying user fee for the project of section from Km 228.748 to Km 291.000 of NH-No. NE-4 in the State of Rajasthan.
- (9) S.O. 3276, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, levying user fee for the project of four and more lane of Meerut- Haryana/UP Border Section of NH-709A in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

[Placed in Library. For (1) to (9) See No. L.T. 9959/17/23]

### **I. Notifications of the Ministry of Home Affairs**

### **II. Report (2020-21) of NHRC, New Delhi and related papers**

**गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नित्यानन्द राय):** महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification No. G.S.R. 26 (E), publishing the Ministry of Home Affairs, Sashastra Seema Bal, Combatised, Group 'B' (Non-Gazetted) Para-Veterinary Recruitment Rules, 2023, in the Weekly Gazette, dated the March 19 - March 25, 2023, under sub-section (3) of Section 155 of the Sashastra Seema Bal Act, 2007.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9682/17/23]

(ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification No. G.S.R. 404 (E), dated the 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2023, publishing the Ministry of Home Affairs, Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force, Armourer Cadre (Group 'B' and 'C' posts), Recruitment Rules, 2023, under sub-section (3) of Section 156 of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force Act, 1992.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9924/17/23]

(iii) (a) A copy of the Chandigarh Administration Notification No. 282305 HIII(3)-2020/13037, dated the 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 (in English) and dated the 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 (in Hindi), publishing the Chandigarh Private Security Agencies (Private Security to Cash Transportation Activities) Rules, 2020, under sub-section (4) of Section 25 of the Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005.

(b) A Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the Notification.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9981/17/23]

II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of Section 20 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993:—

(a) Annual Report of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), New Delhi, for the year 2020-21.

(b) Memorandum of Action Taken on the recommendations contained in the above Report.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9923/17/23]



**Reports (2020-21 and 2021-22) of Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan of various states and related papers**

**शिक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अन्नपूर्णा देवी):** महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ:-

- (i) (a) Annual Report of the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Telangana, for the year 2021-22.  
 (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Programme.  
 (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.  
 [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9988/17/23]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report of the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Uttarakhand, for the year 2020-21.  
 (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Programme.  
 (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.  
 [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9987/17/23]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report of the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Bihar, for the year 2021-22.  
 (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Programme.  
 (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.  
 [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10052/17/23]
- (iv) (a) Annual Report of the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Madhya Pradesh, for the year 2021-22.  
 (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Programme.  
 (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.  
 [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9989/17/23]
- (v) (a) Annual Report of the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Uttarakhand, for the year 2021-22.  
 (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Programme.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9987/17/23]

- (vi) (a) Annual Report of the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Jharkhand Education Project Council, Ranchi, Jharkhand, for the year 2021-22.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Programme.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9985/17/23]

### Notification of the Ministry of Cooperation

**सहकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बी. एल. वर्मा):** महोदय, मैं बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी अधिनियम, 2002 की धारा 124 की उप धारा (3) के अधीन बहुराज्य सहकारी सोसाइटी (संशोधन) नियमावली, 2023 को प्रकाशित करने वाली सहकारिता मंत्रालय की अधिसूचना सं. सा.का.नि. 591 (अ), दिनांक 4 अगस्त, 2023 की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9956/17/23]

### Notification of the Ministry of Home Affairs

**गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजय कुमार):** महोदय, मैं राष्ट्रीय न्यायालयिक विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय अधिनियम, 2020 की धारा 53 की उप-धारा (2) के अधीन दिनांक 22 जुलाई - 28 जुलाई, 2023 के साप्ताहिक राजपत्र में, और तीन वर्षों के लिए राष्ट्रीय न्यायालयिक विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति के रूप में डा. जयंतकुमार मगनलाल व्यास की नियुक्ति को प्रकाशित करने वाली गृह मंत्रालय की अधिसूचना सं. 23011/11/2023-डब्ल्यूएस-III की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9937/17/23]

### I. Notifications of the Ministry of Education

### II. Reports and Accounts (2020-21 and 2021-22) of various Universities, Institutes and Foundation and related papers

**शिक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. सुभाष सरकार):** महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल

पर रखता हूँ :-

I. (i) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) Notification No.1-1/2021 (CPP-I/DU), dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2023, publishing the University Grants Commission (Institutions deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2023, under Section 28 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10053/17/23]

(ii) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education), under sub-section (3) of Section 45 of the Architects Act, 1972:—

- (1) No. CA/498/2023/MSAE (Regulations), dated the 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, publishing the Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023, amending Regulation 4 (1) of the Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education) Regulations, 2020.
- (2) No. CA/498/2023/MSAE (Regulations), dated the 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, publishing the Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023, amending Regulation 4 (2) of the Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education) Regulations, 2020.

[Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) See No. L.T. 9908/17/23]

II. (i) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under Section 38 of the Delhi University Act, 1922:—

- (a) Ninety-ninth Annual Reports (Part I and II) of the University of Delhi, for the year 2021-22.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9909/17/23]

(ii) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 31 and sub-section (4) of Section 32 of the University of Allahabad Act, 2005:—

- (a) Seventeenth Annual Report of the University of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh,

for the year 2021-22.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the University of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2021-22, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9911/17/23]

(iii) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 29 and sub-section (4) of Section 30 of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University Act, 1994:-

- (a) Annual Report of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2020-21.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2020-21, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9907/17/23]

(iv) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 22 of the National Institute of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER) Act, 2007:-

- (a) Sixty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur, West Bengal, for the year 2021-22, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9910/17/23]

(v) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 28 and sub-section (5) of Section 23 of the Indian Institute of Management Act, 2017:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Sambalpur, Odisha, for the year 2021-22, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 9913/17/23]

(vi) (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 24 and sub-section (4) of Section 26 of the Auroville Foundation Act, 1988:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Auroville Foundation, Auroville, Tamil Nadu, for the year 2020-21, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Foundation.

(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. 9912/17/23]

### **Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Toll Operations of National Highways Authority of India in Southern India**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH): Sir, I lay on the Table, under clause (2) of Section 19A of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Toll Operations of National Highways Authority of India in Southern India - Union Government (Commercial) - Ministry of Road Transport and Highways - Report No.7 of 2023 (Compliance Audit).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10053A /17/23]

## 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 (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 — Union Government — Finance and Communication — Report No. 16 of 2023 (Compliance Audit); and
- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Swadesh Darshan Scheme — Union Government — Ministry of Tourism — Report No. 17 of 2023 (Performance Audit).

[Placed in Library. For (i) and (ii) See No. L.T. 10053B /17/23]

---

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE, RAJYA SABHA

**DR. SUDHANSHU TRIVEDI (Uttar Pradesh):** Sir, I present the 170th Report (in English and Hindi) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, Rajya Sabha on 'Laying of the Annual Reports & Audited Accounts of Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA)'.  


---

## REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FOOD PROCESSING

**श्री कैलाश सोनी (मध्य प्रदेश):** महोदय, मैं कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय (कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण विभाग) से संबंधित 'बागवानी समेकित विकास मिशन (एम.आई.डी.एच.) - एक मूल्यांकन' विषय पर उनसठवें प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।  


---

## REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

**श्री सकलदीप राजभर (उत्तर प्रदेश):** महोदय, मैं उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक

वितरण मंत्रालय (खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग) से संबंधित 'भारत में चीनी उद्योग एक समीक्षा' विषय के संबंध में विभाग संबंधित उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2022-23) के बत्तीसवें प्रतिवेदन की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

---

**STATEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING  
COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION**

**श्री सकलदीप राजभर** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2022-23) के निम्नलिखित की गई कार्रवाई संबंधी प्रतिवेदनों के अध्याय-1 में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों और अध्याय-V के संबंध में अंतिम उत्तरों पर सरकार द्वारा की गई कार्रवाई को दर्शाने वाले अंतिम की गई कार्रवाई संबंधी विवरणों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (i) Twenty-first Report on action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Thirteenth Report of the Committee on 'Procurement, Storage and Distribution of Foodgrains by Food Corporation of India' pertaining to Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution);
  - (ii) Twenty-second Report on action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Eighteenth Report of the Committee on 'Demands for Grants (2022-23)' pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution);
  - (iii) Twenty-third Report on action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Nineteenth Report of the Committee on 'Demands for Grants (2022-23)' pertaining to the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs); and
  - (iv) Twenty-sixth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twentieth Report of the Committee on 'Quality Control Cells (QCCs)' pertaining to Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution).
-

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

**डा. अनिल जैन** (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित रसायन और उर्वरक संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति (2022-23) के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ :-

- (i) Forty-third Report on 'Planning for Fertilizers production and Import Policy on fertilizers including GST and import duty thereon' pertaining to the Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers; and
- (ii) Forty-fourth Report on 'Fertilizer Subsidy Policy and Pricing matters including need to continue Urea Subsidy Scheme' pertaining to the Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

---

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING  
COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES**

**SHRI ANEEL PRASAD HEDGE** (Bihar): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Twenty-fourth Report on action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Twentieth Report of the Committee on 'Demands for Grants (2023-24)' of the Ministry of Jal Shakti -Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.

---

**STATEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING  
COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES**

**SHRI ANEEL PRASAD HEGDE** (Bihar): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Statement showing further action taken by Government on the Nineteenth Report of the Committee on action taken on observations/recommendations contained in its Sixteenth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) on 'Demands for Grants (2022-23)' of the Ministry of Jal Shakti — Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

---



## STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

### Statement outlining the reasons for not framing Assam Rifles Regulations, 2016

**गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नित्यानन्द राय):** महोदय, मैं असम राइफ़ल्स विनियम, 2016 को सभा पटल पर रखे जाने के लिए संविधि के रूप में तैयार नहीं किए जाने के कारणों की रूपरेखा विवरण (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

### Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the 54<sup>th</sup> Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. BHAGWAT KARAD):  
Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the 54<sup>th</sup> Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2023-24) pertaining to the Ministry of Finance.

### REGARDING DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 267 AND OTHER ISSUES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Leader of the Opposition, do I give you the floor after I take up notices under Rule 267 or earlier? I need your guidance.

**विपक्ष के नेता (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे):** महोदय, आज आपने यहाँ पर क्विट इंडिया मूवमेंट का जिक्र किया और हमें दो मिनट साइलेंट रहने के लिए कहा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... तुषार गाँधी जी को आज सुबह अरेस्ट कर लिया गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर तुषार गाँधी जी को अरेस्ट करते हैं, तो मैं समझता हूँ... ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. ...**(Interruptions)**... Nothing will go on record. ...**(Interruptions)**... Nothing will go on record. ...**(Interruptions)**... Both sides, please take your seats. ...**(Interruptions)**... Take your seats. ...**(Interruptions)**... Hon. Members, there is a limit to which we can dip in our conduct. As the Chairman of Rajya Sabha, I am extremely pained to see an hon. Member, Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta... ...**(Interruptions)**... I will discuss this matter with the Leader of the Opposition. ...**(Interruptions)**... The House is adjourned to meet at 2.00 p.m.

*The House then adjourned at seventeen minutes past eleven of the clock.*

*The House reassembled at two of the clock,*

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN (Karnataka): Sir, Rule 267. ...*(Interruptions)*..

**श्री जयराम रमेश** (कर्नाटक): सर, एलओपी ने अपना हाथ उठाया है, इस तरफ देखिए।  
...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Did you raise your hand?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Yes, Sir....*(Interruptions)*..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Do you have a point of order?

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे**: नहीं, सर। मैं नियम 267 के अंतर्गत विषय उठा रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not a doctor; I am a lawyer. आपका गला खराब हो गया है।  
...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे**: हाँ, गला खराब है। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति**: आप मिश्री का उपयोग कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे**: मैं बहुत आहिस्ता बोलूँगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sir, let me tell you, by virtue of your position, your health is important for all of us.

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे**: सर, मैंने अपनी हेल्थ देश की डेमोक्रेसी को बचाने के लिए, Constitution को बचाने के लिए \* रख दी है, इसलिए मरा, तो भी परवाह नहीं, मैं बात करता रहूँगा।

---

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

**श्री सभापति:** सर, \* रखने की नौबत क्यों आई? हम सभी कटिबद्ध हैं कि हम संविधान की रक्षा करें।...(व्यवधान)... हम कटिबद्ध हैं कि देश और दुनिया को एक संदेश दें।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** सर, मैं यही तो चाहता हूँ कि आप रूल 267 के तहत परमिशन दें।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** \* शब्द is expunged.

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** आप प्रधान मंत्री को यहाँ आने दें, प्रधान मंत्री को यहाँ आकर मणिपुर के इश्यू पर बोलने दीजिए।...(व्यवधान)... मैं उसी वक्त बोल सकता हूँ।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** एक सेकंड। माननीय सदस्यगण, ...(व्यवधान)... इनकी कविता सुन लेते हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

**सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामदास अठावले) :** सर, माननीय खरगे जी के प्रति हमें आदर है।...(व्यवधान)... वे हमारे समाज से आते हैं।...(व्यवधान)... कांग्रेस पार्टी ने उनको दलित समाज का अध्यक्ष बनाया, यह बहुत अच्छी बात है, लेकिन उनको हम मरने नहीं देंगे।...(व्यवधान)... उनको जिन्दा रहना है और उनको अपोज़िशन लीडर के पद पर रहना है, इसलिए हम उनको मरने नहीं देंगे।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only the Leader of the Opposition. ...(*Interruptions*)..

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** मैंने यह बहुत ही इम्पोर्टेंट इश्यू उठाया है और केवल पूरे I.N.D.I.A. के ही नहीं, बल्कि उधर के भी बहुत लोग चाहते हैं कि रूल 267 पर डिस्कशन होना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)... इसलिए मेरी एक ही माँग है कि प्रधान मंत्री जी यहाँ आँ, एक स्टेटमेंट दें, चर्चा शुरू हो, हम सब लोग उसमें हिस्सा लें, उसके बाद अगर होम मिनिस्टर रिप्लाय देते हैं तो ठीक है, लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री का एक स्टेटमेंट होना चाहिए, यही मेरा निवेदन है। इसलिए मैं आपसे माँग करता हूँ कि जल्द से जल्द प्राइम मिनिस्टर को बुलाइए।

**श्री सभापति:** प्रधान मंत्री जी के लिए आपका प्रेम भाव बहुत पराकाष्ठा पर है, पर इस विषय पर मैं अपना निर्णय दे चुका हूँ।...(व्यवधान)... मैंने नीतिगत निर्णय दिया है, विधिसम्मत निर्णय दिया है।...(व्यवधान)... Leader of the House.

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

**सभा के नेता (श्री पीयूष गोयल):** सभापति जी, जब आपने लिस्ट कर दिया, ...(व्यवधान)...आपने ऑलरेडी परमिशन दे दी है। ...(व्यवधान)... अच्छी सार्थक चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... अब अगर इनकी मंशा चर्चा की है, ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** मैं चर्चा के लिए ही आया हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री पीयूष गोयल:** सर, जब चाहे तब एक ही बात ...(व्यवधान)... सर, यह सदन का अपमान है। ...(व्यवधान)... यह सदन के प्रिविलेज का अपमान है। ...(व्यवधान)... हम सब यह चाहते हैं कि देश के सामने जो ज्वलंत विषय हैं, उनके ऊपर चर्चा हो।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** मुझे मजबूरन यह कहना पड़ रहा है कि ये लोग चर्चा नहीं चाहते हैं।...(व्यवधान)... मेरी जुबान बंद कर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री पीयूष गोयल:** सभी मेम्बर्स की इच्छा है कि जो विषय इन्होंने उठाए हैं, मंत्री उनका जवाब कैसे दें।...(व्यवधान)... जो बिल्लिस पास हुए हैं, उन पर डिबेट चाहते हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** ये लीडर ऑफ दि हाउस जब भी कुछ बात करते हैं...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री पीयूष गोयल:** सर, जब इनकी इच्छा होती है, तो ये चर्चा में भाग लेते हैं और जब भी इच्छा नहीं होती है, तो सब कुछ खराब कर देते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...ऐसे नहीं चलेगा...(व्यवधान)... या तो ये पूरा हाउस चलाएं, दिल से हाउस चलाएं ...(व्यवधान)... हाउस अच्छे तरीके से चलने दें।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, Leader of the Opposition. ...*(Interruptions)*... Take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** सर, कम से कम 200...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have declined. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have declined Rule 267. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** मैं रूल 267 पर बोल रहा हूँ। कम से कम 200 लोग मर चुके हैं।...(व्यवधान)...500 लोग injured हो चुके हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... 5,000 से भी ज्यादा घर जल चुके हैं।...(व्यवधान)... 70,000 से ज्यादा लोगों का rehabilitation किया गया है।...(व्यवधान)... काफी लोग कैम्प में भेजे गए हैं।...(व्यवधान)... मेरा तीसरा प्वाइंट यह है कि recently 5 अगस्त को एक incident और हुआ है। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री पीयूष गोयल:** ये सदन के सभी मेम्बर्स के प्रिविलेज को खत्म करते हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**... इन लोगों की चर्चा करने की इच्छा ही नहीं है।...**(व्यवधान)**... इनकी इच्छा यह है कि किसी न किसी तरीके से मणिपुर की चर्चा से भागें। हम सबके प्रिविलेज का क्या होगा? ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं मांग करता हूँ कि इनके ऊपर प्रिविलेज किया जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम सबके प्रिविलेजेस का अपमान कर रहे हैं, संसदीय कार्रवाई का अपमान कर रहे हैं।...**(व्यवधान)**... ये चाहते ही नहीं हैं कि...**(व्यवधान)**... सभापति महोदय, इन्होंने आपका अपमान किया है।...**(व्यवधान)**... आपने लिस्ट किया, उसके बावजूद इन्होंने डिबेट नहीं की।...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं समझता हूँ कि इनके ऊपर प्रिविलेज होना चाहिए।...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Point of order, Sir. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Leader of the Opposition. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** सर, 24 घंटे में बिष्णुपुर में छह लोगों को मार दिया...**(व्यवधान)**... सोलापुर डिस्ट्रिक्ट में बहुत गड़बड़ी हुई है।...**(व्यवधान)**... मणिपुर को बरबाद कर दिया।...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I have got a point of order. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** \*उनका कर्तव्य है, जब पूरा अपोजिशन यह मांग कर रहा है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Derek, you don't have to direct. ...**(Interruptions)**... You are constantly directing him to speak. ...**(Interruptions)**...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** रूल 267 के तहत चर्चा की मांग कर रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री पीयूष गोयल:** सर, बार-बार इनका जो व्यवहार है, जिस प्रकार से इन्होंने आपका अपमान किया है, जिस प्रकार से ये पूरे सदन का अपमान कर रहे हैं, उसी प्रकार से पूरे देश का अपमान कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये बातचीत से डरते हैं, चर्चा से भागते हैं और फिर आकर रोज सदन के प्रिविलेज का मिसयूज करते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये रोज वही मोशन लेकर आते हैं। जब आपने लिस्ट कर दिया है, मणिपुर के ऊपर चर्चा लिस्ट हुई, तब इन्होंने सदन का अपमान क्यों किया? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Leader of the House.. ...**(Interruptions)**...

\* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** हम डरते नहीं हैं...(व्यवधान)... हम बहस करेंगे, आप बुलाइए, हम बहस करेंगे ...(व्यवधान)... बुलाइए, प्रधान मंत्री जी को ...(व्यवधान)... हम रेडी हैं, आप बुलाइए ...(व्यवधान)... प्रधान मंत्री जी को बुलाइए ...(व्यवधान)... हम बहस करने के लिए तैयार हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. Hon. Members, I gave the floor to the Leader of the Opposition. I thought there would be some way forward- approach. I do not know how many times I will have to decline the same request day after day. I had taken a considered view, considering the rules. ...*(Interruptions)*... This kind of a stance towards the Chair is unprecedented. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have declined. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have declined. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not in your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... Go to your seat. I would listen to you.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I am in my seat. I have been raising my hand for quite some time. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have got a point of order.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I wish to make a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. I must look at the Doctor. Yes, Dr. Santanu Sen. What is your point of order?

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, I have been trying to speak for so long. There is no point being... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Jha, I think he is as much a respectable Member as you are.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: But, Sir, I raised my hand first.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, but he may not be jumping on his seat as you do athletically. Yes, Dr. Sen.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, this is under Rule 258. First of all, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity at last, as I have been trying to raise a point of order for the last few days. My point is, whenever there is any speaker from the Treasury Benches, the full focus of the camera is on him. On the contrary, whenever there is any speaker from the Opposition Benches, even up to the level of the Leader of the Opposition, hardly a small section is being shown on the television.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Rajasthan): Yes, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order? Your point of order is that the camera should focus only on the Chair! I think that is a good point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, this is my point, that the camera and the television should be neutral. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Bhupender Yadav ...*(Interruptions)*... What is your point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; AND THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV): It is on Rules 228, 238(2) and 240.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All three rules at the same time? Move one at a time.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: They are on the same line. सर, सबसे पहले, यह हाउस पिछले 15 दिनों से डिस्टरबेंस को देख रहा है। सर, रूल 228 में प्रोविज़न है कि अगर आइडेंटिकल इश्यू पर कोई मोशन accept हो जाता है, तो दोबारा से नया रेज़ नहीं कर सकते, आप ऑलरेडी मोशन के लिए रूल दे चुके हैं।

सर, रूल 238 (2) में है कि अगर सदस्य कोई न कोई ऐसा एक्सप्रेसन देते हैं, आपने ऑर्डर दिया है, आपके ऑर्डर पर हम चलते हैं, जो रूल 258 में है। उसके बाद भी अगर उनका एक्सप्रेसन, उसको डिनाई करने का आता है, तो रूल 238 (2) है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... और सर, रूल 240 है...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: He is misquoting the rule. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Prof. Jha, you have a book in your hand which you are disregarding. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: He is misquoting the rule. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't interrupt another Member when he is speaking. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव:** सर, तीसरा ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, मनोज झा जी हमारे मित्र हैं, वे बार-बार इंटरप्ट करते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, अगर कोई मेम्बर जान-बूझकर किसी विषय को बार-बार रिपीट करता है और irrelevant बोलता है, तो उसको रोकने का भी आपको अधिकार है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

**श्री सभापति:** भूपेन्द्र जी, आपने एक गंभीर बात कही है। भूपेन्द्र जी, आपने एक बहुत गंभीर बात कही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपने कहा है कि मनोज जी मेरे मित्र हैं। You don't need enemies now. He will do it hundred percent. You have taken a great risk. Do you still stand by it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I have a point order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under which rule? Then I will give the floor to the Leader of the Opposition. This is the last point of order. Then I will give the floor to the Leader of the Opposition. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, my point of order is on Rule 238 (7) read with Rule 261. I am invoking both the rules at the same time. I request you to kindly permit me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Go ahead.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, these parties collectively call themselves 'INDIA', who are constantly and continuously disrupting the proceedings of the House, and they have hijacked the word 'INDIA'. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is highly objectionable and undemocratic. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... When I am speaking, why are you so active? Sit down. Hon. Members, sitting in this Chair, having taken Oath of the Constitution, I recognise only those political configurations



that are sanctified by the Election Commission. Therefore, you are focussing on something of which I can't take any notice. If the Election Commission will declare that there is a political outfit by a particular name, we make changes. We have made a change. So, that is not the point. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, the Leader of the Opposition ...*(Interruptions)*... Only the Leader of the Opposition ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't you want to listen to the Leader of the Opposition also? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Sir ...*(Interruptions)*...

**प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा:** सर, एक मिनट। ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक मिनट के लिए बोलने दीजिए, फिर शुरू हो जाइएगा। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Sir, my point of order is on Rule 238 (4). ...*(Interruptions)*... \*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. You are not raising a point of order. It is absolutely wrong. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am so sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI (Rajasthan): Sir, Article 1 in Part-I of the Constitution states, "India, that is, Bharat." I am reading from Part-I ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

**श्री प्रमोद तिवारी:** इन्हें भारत से नफरत क्यों है? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the House...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): Sir, I have a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under which rule?

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: It is under Rule 235, which is about rules to be observed in the Council by the Members. With your kind permission, the hon. Leader of the Opposition was making certain submissions. At that point of time, a few hon.

---

\* Not recorded.

Members from the Treasury Benches interrupted, shouted slogans, started clapping and made certain wild allegations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: That is my point of order under Rule 235(ii). ...*(Interruptions)*... It states, "shall not interrupt..."*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The norm in the House is that disorder has become a new order. Disorder has become a new norm, which is not expected of any Member, either from this side or that side. All have to maintain decorum. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: What is your ruling about my point of order? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order. It is declined. ...*(Interruptions)*... Take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** सभापति जी, ये जो मोदी-शाह, मोदी-शाह कर रहे हैं, ...*(व्यवधान)*... में आपके सामने नौ इम्पोर्टेंट प्वाइंट्स रखना चाहता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, this is misuse of parliamentary privilege. ...*(Interruptions)*... जब भी माइक ऑन होता है, ये हाउस में वही विषय शुरू करते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हाउस में बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट बिज़नेस है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... बिल्स लिस्टेड हैं, लेकिन सुबह, दोपहर, शाम इनका डिस्टर्बेन्स चलता है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Virendra Kumar, go ahead. ...*(Interruptions)*...

---

## GOVERNMENT BILLS

### The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023

**सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री (डा. वीरेंद्र कुमार):** महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ -

"कि छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य में अनुसूचित जातियों की सूची को उपांतरित करने हेतु संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश 1950 का और संशोधन करने वाले विधेयक पर, लोक सभा द्वारा पारित रूप में, विचार किया जाए।"

*The question was proposed.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved. I now call upon the Members whose names have been received for participation in the discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shrimati Sulata Deo ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्रीमती सुलता देव** (ओडिशा): ऑनरेबल चेयरमैन सर, 'दि कंस्टिट्यूशन (शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स) ऑर्डर (अमेंडमेंट) बिल, 2023' पर बोलने का मौका देने के लिए मैं आपकी आभारी हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं अपनी पार्टी, बीजू जनता दल की ओर से इस बिल का समर्थन करती हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आज 'विश्व आदिवासी दिवस' है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से हमारे भारतवर्ष और विश्व में जितनी प्रजातियों के आदिवासी हैं, उन सबका अभिनंदन करती हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... छत्तीसगढ़ के लिए यह जो बिल लाया गया है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह 'महरा' और 'महारा' कम्प्युनिटीज को शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स लिस्ट में शामिल करने के लिए लाया गया है, यह बहुत अच्छी बात है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर देखा जाए, तो जुलाई में छत्तीसगढ़ के लिए एक बिल लाया गया था, ...*(व्यवधान)*... जो कुछ प्रजातियों को एसटी कम्प्युनिटी में लिए जाने के लिए लाया गया था। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर आज देखें, तो इस बिल में एससी कम्प्युनिटीज, 'महरा' और 'महारा' को इन्क्लूड किया गया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इससे छत्तीसगढ़ में कम से कम दो लाख लोग एससी कम्प्युनिटी में बिलाँग करेंगे, ऐड हो जाएँगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसके चलते छत्तीसगढ़ में ...*(व्यवधान)*... छत्तीसगढ़ में 36 लाख एससी पीपल ऐड हो रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर हम देखें, तो भारतवर्ष में शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स पीपल की आबादी 20 करोड़ है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... और इस बिल के पारित होते ही 20 करोड़ पॉपुलेशन में केवल छत्तीसगढ़ में 36 लाख पॉपुलेशन ऐड हो जाएगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस बिल से जिन लोगों को एससी कैटेगरी में लिया गया है, कहीं न कहीं उनको इससे बहुत सारी सुविधाएँ मिलेंगी, जैसे उनकी पढ़ाई हो, उनके लिए नौकरी में रिजर्वेशन हो, उनके लिए सब्सिडी हो या लोन हो। ...*(व्यवधान)*... उनको सरकार की तरफ से दी गई ये सारी सुविधाएँ मिलेंगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... मगर एक और बात है कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट ऑफ ओडिशा, ...*(व्यवधान)*... माननीय मुख्य मंत्री, श्री नवीन पटनायक जी ने भी चार जातियों को एससी कैटेगरी में लेने के लिए डिमांड की थी, रिकमेंडेशन की थी, ...*(व्यवधान)*... जैसे सियाल है, महारा है, चिक बड़ाइक है, मेहर है, ...*(व्यवधान)*... जो खास कर वेस्टर्न ओडिशा, कोरापुट और नबरंगपुर में देखे जाते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इससे उन सबको सुविधा होगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... भारतवर्ष में टोटल पॉपुलेशन का 16.6 परसेंट एससी है और खास कर इस बिल के पास होने के बाद छत्तीसगढ़ में 12 प्रतिशत एससी पॉपुलेशन हो जाएगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please go back to your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)...  
I direct every Member to go to his seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

**श्रीमती सुलता देव:** अगर यह बिल पारित हो जाता है, ...(**व्यवधान**)... तो उससे सारी एससी कैटेगरी को बहुत सारी सुविधाएँ मिलेंगी। ...(**व्यवधान**)... मगर फिर भी मैं यह बोलना चाहूँगी कि एससी कैटेगरी में ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are getting very aggressive. ...(*Interruptions*)... Ms. Dola Sen... ...(*Interruptions*)... You too are named. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am naming... ...(*Interruptions*)... I am naming... ...(*Interruptions*)... I am naming... ...(*Interruptions*)... Venugopal ji, please take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Hon. Members, one second. ...(*Interruptions*)... One second, Professor Jha. That is not the way. ...(*Interruptions*)... Hon. Members... ...(*Interruptions*)... Hon. Members... ...(*Interruptions*)... I will be constrained to name hon. Members. ...(*Interruptions*)... Don't force me. ...(*Interruptions*)... Don't think I can't handle it. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Vivek Tankha, a senior advocate... ...(*Interruptions*)... Look at the party...(*Interruptions*)... Look at Mr. Venugopal. ...(*Interruptions*)... You don't believe in democracy. ...(*Interruptions*)... The House is adjourned to meet at 2.45 p.m. today.

*The House then adjourned at thirty-one minutes past two of the clock.*

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

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

#### **REGARDING DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 267 AND OTHER ISSUES- *Contd.***

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Derek O'Brien, take your seat. You are not on your seat. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, you are not on your seat. Go to your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please take your seats. Mr. Shaktisinh Gohil, you are not on your seat. Go to your seat first. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (Rajasthan): Sir, your observation on Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha was unfortunate. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute! ...(*Interruptions*)... What are you saying? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, your observation on Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha, when the Minister was speaking, was very unfortunate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What was unfortunate about it? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: The Minister called Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha as his friend but the Chair said, "If you call Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha a friend, then, there is no need of an enemy." What does that mean, Sir? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I said so. ...(*Interruptions*)... I mean it. ...(*Interruptions*)... Take your seats. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Venugopal, take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Hon. Members, in my position, as the Chairman of this august House, I have to take all steps, pleasant or unpleasant, to restore and secure continuity of its prestige. I am in the process of reflecting on what happened earlier. I am adjourning the House till 3.15 p.m. today.

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

*The House reassembled at fifteen minutes past three of the clock,*

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

**विपक्ष के नेता (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे):** चेयरमैन साहब, मैं जो विषय ले रहा हूँ, वह पब्लिक इंटरैस्ट में बहुत ही इम्पोर्टेंट है, इसीलिए मैंने बार-बार रूल 267 में ही नोटिस दिया है। मैं अकेला नहीं, बल्कि हमारे जितने भी अपोजिशन लीडर्स हैं, सभी ने मिलकर यह नोटिस दिया है। हमने नोटिस में नौ मुद्दे एक्सप्लेन किए हैं और यह नोटिस इम्पोर्टेंट है, यह एडमिट होना चाहिए। हमें इन्हें डिस्कस करने का मौका दिया जाए और प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब को भी सदन में आना चाहिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... हम आपको नहीं बोल रहे हैं कि आप डायरेक्शन दीजिए। आपने कहा कि you can't direct. I agree, you can't direct, लेकिन आपके इशारे पर वे आ सकते हैं। डायरेक्शन तो दिया नहीं जा सकता है।

**श्री सभापति:** माननीय सदस्य, मेरे इशारे पर न आप काम कर रहे हैं, न ये काम कर रहे हैं, मैं तो ऐसा ही आदमी हूँ। मेरे पास तो मेरी शपथ की ताकत है, आप उसमें मार्गदर्शन दीजिए। जो विषय आप रेज़ कर रहे हैं, उस पर मैंने दस बार से ज्यादा निर्णय दे दिया है।

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** साहब, वे हमें रोज-रोज़ मार रहे हैं और हम सहन कर रहे हैं।

**श्री सभापति:** आप मुझे एक बात बताएंगे कि आप इसे कब तक उठाते रहेंगे?

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** जब तक मैं आपका दिल जीत नहीं लेता, तब तक इसे उठाता रहूँगा।  
...(व्यवधान)... जब तक प्राइम मिनिस्टर यह महसूस नहीं कर लेते कि मैं डेमोक्रेसी में इलेक्टेड प्राइम मिनिस्टर हूँ, सदन में जाना मेरा कर्तव्य है, मुझे जाकर रिप्लाइ देना है, तब तक मैं यह बोलता रहूँगा।

**श्री सभापति:** मैंने एक चीज़ देखी है कि आपका अनुभव इतना ज्यादा है कि आप उठते हैं और एक मिनट के बाद आप उसी लाइन पर आ जाते हैं, जिसका निर्णय मैं अपने विवेक से कर चुका हूँ। आपको अच्छी तरह से याद होगा कि मैंने पहली स्टेज पर ही एडमिट किया, फिर टाइम एग्री किया, फिर ढाई घंटे को असीमित कर दिया। असीमित करने के बाद एक दिन सप्लीमेंटरी लिस्ट में इसके लिए दो बजे का समय रखा और यह कहा कि जितना भी समय है, वह मिलेगा। यदि मूल मुद्दा मणिपुर पर डिस्कशन का है, तो यह हाउस के अंदर लिस्ट किया जा चुका है। मैं अब भी उसे करने के लिए तैयार हूँ।

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** रूल 267 के अंतर्गत?

**श्री सभापति:** रूल 267 का मुद्दा क्यों उठाना, जबकि मैं निर्णय कर चुका हूँ!

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** साहब, पार्लियामेंटरी डेमोक्रेसी में आपको इतने इख्तियार हैं, इतनी अथॉरिटी है कि मर्द को औरत बना सकते हैं और औरत को मर्द बना सकते हैं, रूल्स के मुताबिक।  
...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, नहीं ... यह हुआ है।

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: You permit it. ...(Interruptions)... यह मैं नहीं कर रहा हूँ, बल्कि मदर ऑफ पार्लियामेंट, जो यूके में है, उनके पार्लियामेंट ने जो कहा है, मैं वही कह रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** यह हुआ है। ...(व्यवधान)... You are right. ...(Interruptions)... अपने कुछ मित्र ऐसे होते हैं, जो नाराज़ हो जाते हैं। मैंने रूटीन में, spontaneously, कह दिया, "If anyone is a friend of Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha, he, perhaps, does not need a particular kind of people to support him." ...(Interruptions)... अब मनोज जी नाराज़ हो गए हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: No, no. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I expected that Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha would take it in his stride. ऐसे भाषण देते टाइम मुझे नहीं लगता कि धरती पर कोई भी ऐसा आदमी होगा, जिससे कुछ ऐसा स्लिप नहीं हुआ होगा। मुझे आश्चर्य हुआ कि यह मनोज झा जी और मेरे बीच की बात थी and माननीय LoP took very strong exception to it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, the quote was different. The quote was that if Bhupender *bhai* has a friend like me, he doesn't need enemies. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: But I said that he does need a friend like Shri Manoj Jha. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Indeed, yes. ...*(Interruptions)*... I need friends like them who are not enemies. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री सभापति:** मैं आपसे एक अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** अब क्लोज़ कीजिए। आपने express किया, यह ठीक है। झा साहब, आप माफ़ कर दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Even Shri Venugopal was heavily agitated. ...*(Interruptions)*... Venugopal became twenty years younger. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** सर, हमारा बार-बार यह मुद्दा उठाना...

**श्री सभापति:** ठीक नहीं है।

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** यह इसलिए है कि मणिपुर के इश्यू पर सारा सदन चर्चा करना चाहता है।

**श्री सभापति:** मैंने लिस्ट किया था। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** सुनिए, सर। ...**(व्यवधान)**... रूल 267 की डिमांड सिर्फ आपके ज़माने में नहीं हुई। इससे पहले भी यहाँ पर रूल 267 की सहमति दी गई है। इसके बहुत से उदाहरण हैं।

**श्री सभापति:** वे दिए हुए हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** उन उदाहरणों की कॉपी डेट वाइज़ है। मैं डेट वाइज़ उदाहरण दे सकता हूँ कि कौन से प्राइम मिनिस्टर के वक्त कैसा हुआ, क्या हुआ। मैं यह डेट वाइज़ आपके सामने पेश कर सकता हूँ। लेकिन, प्राइम मिनिस्टर ध्यान क्यों नहीं दे रहे हैं, प्राइम मिनिस्टर क्यों नहीं आ रहे हैं, क्यों चुप्पी साधे हैं, ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** माननीय एलओपी ने अपनी बात कही है, इस पर सरकार का क्या पक्ष है? ...(व्यवधान)... एक सेकंड।

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** साहब, आप ज़रा उनको बोलिए।

**श्री सभापति:** नहीं, मैंने कहा था। अगर आपको थोड़ा और समय चाहिए तो ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे :** यह क्या सर, आप हर बार मुझे स्टिकर लगा देते हैं कि मैं बैठ जाऊँ। ...(व्यवधान)... वे बगैर स्टिकर के हैं, उठते ही रहते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

**श्री सभापति:** देखिए, मैंने अपनी वेदना आपको व्यक्त की है और गंभीर रूप से व्यक्त की है। इस सदन के अंदर हमारा कोई भी आचरण ऐसा हो, जिससे किसी के मन में यह बात आ जाए कि आखिर कौन क्या कर सकता है, तो आपकी शक्तियाँ हैं, आपकी भी शक्तियाँ हैं, लेकिन थोड़ा-बहुत अधिकार मेरा भी है, तो मैंने आपसे यही मार्गदर्शन माँगा है।

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** आपका बड़ा अधिकार है, साहब। यहाँ हम equal हैं, आप ऊपर हैं, इसीलिए आपके सामने हम झुककर पेश करते हैं और आप ऊपर से बेल दबा देते हैं और कहते हैं - बैठो, बैठो। हम ऐसा नहीं कर सकते। हम तो आपसे अपील करते हैं। चलिए, इसको छोड़िए।

**श्री सभापति:** आप कन्क्लूड करें ताकि मैं इनसे पूछूँ।

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** इसलिए मैं आपसे विनती करता हूँ कि आप इसकी परमिशन दीजिए। अब तक तो 10-11, जितने भी दिन हो गए, हम इसको एक दिन में खत्म कर देते। जो चीज़ हम एक दिन में चर्चा करके खत्म कर देते, उस पर सरकार अड़ी रही और रोज उधर से ही हमारे ऊपर हमला होता है। इसलिए आप कृपा करके कल के लिए इसकी परमिशन दीजिए, कल इसे एजेंडा में रखिए। आप रूल 267 को अपने उदार हृदय से स्वीकार कीजिए। हम आपको जरूर नई चीज़ें बताएँगे और चर्चा करेंगे, मैं यह विनती करता हूँ।

**सभा के नेता (श्री पीयूष गोयल):** माननीय सभापति जी, सदन शुरू होने के पहले दिन, जब आपने लीडर्स की मीटिंग बुलाई थी, उस दिन और जब सदन शुरू हुआ, उसकी पहली सिटिंग में सरकार ने agree किया कि यह एक गंभीर विषय है, इस गंभीर विषय पर राजनीति नहीं होनी चाहिए और हम सबको एक आवाज में देश को संदेश देना चाहिए। आपने तब निर्णय लिया कि



इसको रूल 176 में लिया जाएगा, क्योंकि आपके पास दोनों मोशंस थे। वास्तव में यह 11 बजे शुरू हो या 2 बजे शुरू हो, हमने कहा था कि इसको शुरू किया जाए, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से इस विषय को बार-बार मोड़ दिया जाता है कि यह इसी रूल में होगा, क्योंकि हमने तय कर लिया कि इसी रूल में होगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह सदन का भी और माननीय आसन का भी अपमान है। जब आसन ने अपने विवेक से यह तय किया है कि यह डिस्कस होना चाहिए और जैसे ही आपने तय किया, सरकार ने agree किया कि हम इसके लिए तैयार हैं, होम मिनिस्टर ने अपनी convenience भी दी। हाउस में इसे लिस्ट भी किया गया, इस तरह हमने अपनी तरफ से हर संभव प्रयास किया कि इस पर सार्थक चर्चा हो, अच्छे तरीके से सब लोग चर्चा करें और अपनी-अपनी बात रखें। एक अच्छी चर्चा से इस देश को भी संदेश जाता है, बजाय इसके कि इसमें लोग राजनीति करें या कुछ एक्शन दिखाने की कोशिश करें कि एक ज्यादा तीव्र है, दूसरा कम तीव्र है। इसके ऊपर ऐसे किसी व्यवहार की आवश्यकता नहीं है, इस पर मलहम लगाने की खास तौर से जरूरत है। मणिपुर का विषय पहले से ही गंभीरता से चला आ रहा है, यह दशकों का विषय है। पहले भी इसमें गंभीर समस्याएं आई थीं। उनके समय में भी वहां पर बहुत violent incidents, बहुत खराब incidents हुए हैं, उन पर भी चर्चाएं हुई हैं। उस समय भी किसने चर्चा में रिप्लाई किया या क्या हुआ, वह सब भी रिकॉर्ड में है।...(व्यवधान)...

सभापति महोदय, मेरा आपसे पुनः आग्रह है कि आपने जो निर्णय लिया, अभी भूपेन्द्र जी ने रूल के बारे में भी बताया कि अगर एक बार किसी विषय के ऊपर मोशन ऑलरेडी एडमिटेड होता है, तो फिर अलग रूल में वही मोशन नहीं लाया जाता है।...(व्यवधान)... सर, मैं समझता हूँ कि पार्लियामेंटरी प्रिविलेज का मिसयूज...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: How do we move forward? ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री पीयूष गोयल:** सर, पार्लियामेंटरी प्रिविलेज का मिसयूज भी तो नहीं होना चाहिए। पार्लियामेंटरी प्रिविलेज सभी का है। पार्लियामेंटरी प्रिविलेज हमारा भी है और उनका भी है। हमारा भी प्रिविलेज है कि हम सदन में जो बिल्स लाते हैं, उन पर चर्चा हो और वे पास हों।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Leader of the House, one second. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री पीयूष गोयल:** मेम्बर्स को प्रिविलेज है कि क्वेश्चन ऑवर हो।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One second...*(Interruptions)*... What is your ...*(Interruptions)*...

**श्री पीयूष गोयल:** इन सबको मद्देनजर रखते हुए, I think, यह तय हुआ था। आपने ऑलरेडी इसे लिस्ट किया था। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हमारी तरफ से हम मणिपुर पर चर्चा से कभी भागे नहीं हैं। ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Leader of the House ...(*Interruptions*)... One second. ...(*Interruptions*)...

**श्री पीयूष गोयल:** मैं समझता हूँ कि रूल की आड़ में विपक्ष ने बार-बार इस चर्चा को रोकने का काम किया है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One second. ...(*Interruptions*)...The purpose here is that I had taken a decision considering all facets ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we feel that there are only two sides in this House. ...(*Interruptions*)...Our views are not at all taken up...(*Interruptions*)... Even yesterday, when the issue came up, you were eliciting the views of the Members only from these two sides. ...(*Interruptions*)... We were raising our hands, but nobody took our views. Even now, ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Tiruchi Sivaji ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: We feel awkward to ...(*Interruptions*)... Why should we...(*Interruptions*)... Even now when you call, you should have called all ...(*Interruptions*)...the floor leaders to resolve the issue...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Take your seat. ...(*Interruptions*)... One second. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have got your point. ...(*Interruptions*)... One second. ...(*Interruptions*)... Hon. Members, ...(*Interruptions*)... I always call the floor Leaders, but if I interact...(*Interruptions*)... No across...(*Interruptions*)... But, if I interact only with LoP, I think no one should be hurt, very frankly. ...(*Interruptions*)...

AN HON. MEMBER: Some time you are taking...(*Interruptions*)... We are hurt. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I quite appreciate. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Telangana): At this time, when you are taking...(*Interruptions*)... Take a view...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can believe in my modest wisdom that if there is an issue on which I am required to get an input from everyone, I would hear. I got in touch with LoP on a very specific issue because he had been raising it, as others have also been doing, and the Leader of the Opposition carries a different kind of position. Therefore, I called him alone. I did not call any other floor Leader, number one. Number two, right now. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am in the centre. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: But you are not looking...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: But right now, Leader of the Opposition has taken one stand, the Leader of the House has taken another stand; I am not on that. What is the way forward? ...*(Interruptions)*... One second. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Sir, this is the duty of the Government to have a way forward. But, unfortunately, what is happening here is, they are bulldozing us. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is what has been happening...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you sure? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: We had experience. What is the role of the Leader of the House? ...*(Interruptions)*... It is to maintain peace in the House, to act like an agent for making peace in the House. Now what is happening? The Leader of the House himself is ... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members ...*(Interruptions)*... One second. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL; AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, all the Opposition parties, including all the parties of the then UPA or the so called that they have changed...*(Interruptions)*... UPA के सभी सदस्यों ने मिलकर 176 का नोटिस दिया है। They have given the notice under Rule 176. We have accepted this. I would also like to put it on record that ethnic violence has taken place many times previously also. For the first time, the Home Minister was there for three days and MoS (Home) was there for 23 days and... ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, what are they saying? They say that they are not allowed to speak. Even Parliamentary Affairs Minister is not allowed to speak.

What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... I am saying that from day one, when you called for floor meeting, and when there was an all-party meeting with the floor leaders, with the Leader of the Opposition and the leaders of all the parties, then also, we said that there will be a discussion on the first day itself on Manipur. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are they insisting on Rule 267 when they have given under Rule 176? And on Rule 176, the Home Minister will reply and it is the collective responsibility. ...*(Interruptions)*... And who had given the reply previously? Let them explain. ...*(Interruptions)*... They do not want discussion on Manipur because whatever had happened in their regime will be revealed. We are very, very sensitive about Manipur. ...*(Interruptions)*... नॉर्थ ईस्ट में जो कुछ भी काम मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में हुआ है, यह 60 सालों में नहीं हुआ है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... नॉर्थ ईस्ट में बहुत काम हुए हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस तरह से बात करना बिल्कुल ठीक नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... अगर सदन चलाना चाहते हैं, चर्चा में भाग लेना चाहते हैं, तो हम अभी भी तैयार हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हम तुरंत चर्चा करने के लिए तैयार हैं, लेकिन ये चर्चा से भागना चाहते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I am reiterating the same thing. Why should we not find a solution to it? While we insist on Rule 267 and they want on Rule 176, there is a way out. Why don't you rely upon that? If it is only on one rule, we are not prepared. We are always insisting on Rule 267 and the Prime Minister also should be here. But they say that only the Home Minister will be here. We should find a way out. Otherwise, what is the meaning of this?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Discuss it amongst yourselves. Find a way out. I will continue with the Business. Before I take up the Legislative Business, I will listen to the hon. LoP. Then I will take up the Legislative Business.

**श्री मल्लिकार्जुन खरगे:** ऑनरेबल सर, हमारी इन्टेंशन यही थी कि डिटेल्ड डिस्कशन होगा और यह सब बाहर आएगा। कहा गया कि होम मिनिस्टर तीन बार गए, तो तीन बार जाकर उन्होंने क्या किया? ...*(व्यवधान)*... ये हमें बात नहीं करने दे रहे हैं और प्राइम मिनिस्टर आने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं, गवर्नमेंट हमारी बात सुनने के लिए तैयार नहीं है। यहां पर ह्युमिलिएशन कर रहे हैं, इसीलिए हम प्रोटेस्ट करके वॉक आउट कर रहे हैं।

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

---

## GOVERNMENT BILLS

**The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023 - Contd.**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats. Shrimati Sulata Deo. ..(Interruptions)...  
You were making good contribution and you were really giving important inputs also.

**श्रीमती सुलता देव (ओडिशा):** सर, मेरी आपसे एक दरखास्त है। मैं अपनी बात शुरू से रखना चाहती हूँ, क्योंकि मैंने क्या बोला था, यह मुझे याद नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may start from the beginning. Your time will start now.

SHRIMATI SULATA DEO: Thank you, Sir. ऑनरेबल चेयरमैन सर, The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2023 पर बोलने के लिए मुझे मौका दिया गया, इसके लिए मैं आपकी आभारी हूँ। मैं अपनी पार्टी बीजू जनता दल की तरफ से इस बिल का समर्थन करती हूँ।

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

आज 'विश्व आदिवासी दिवस' है, मैं इस सदन के जरिए सारे आदिवासियों का अभिनंदन करती हूँ। यह जो बिल आ रहा है, यह महार, माहरा, महरा, मेहर और मेहरा समुदाय के लिए आ रहा है। जब यह बिल पास होगा, तो इसमें छत्तीसगढ़ के कम से कम दो लाख अनुसूचित जाति के लोग जुड़ जायेंगे। मैं एक बात बोलूंगी कि जब यह बिल पारित हो जायेगा, तो छत्तीसगढ़ में छत्तीस लाख अनुसूचित जाति के लोग शामिल हो जायेंगे। भारत में टोटल 20 करोड़ अनुसूचित जाति की पॉपुलेशन है और देखा जाय तो बिल पास होने के बाद सिर्फ छत्तीसगढ़ में 36 लाख अनुसूचित जाति के लोग हो जायेंगे। भारतवर्ष में टोटल 16.6 परसेंट अनुसूचित जाति की पॉपुलेशन है और छत्तीसगढ़ में ये 12 परसेंट हो जायेंगे।

मैडम, मैं यह बोलना चाहूंगी कि बहुत सारी योजनाएं होती हैं - जब ये जातियां अनुसूचित जाति की लिस्ट में जुड़ जायेंगी, तो इनको भी योजनाओं का पूरा लाभ मिलेगा, जैसे शिक्षा का हो, स्वास्थ्य का हो, कहीं पर इलेक्शन में खड़े होने का हो, कहीं पर सबसिडी मिलने का हो, लोन मिलने का हो, इन सबका उन लोगों को लाभ मिल जायेगा।

मैडम, ओडिशा के मुख्य मंत्री, श्री नवीन पटनायक जी ने भी रिकमंडेशन की थी कि इन जातियों को भी एस.सी. की लिस्ट में डाला जाए, जिसमें सियाल, मेहरा, मेहर, चिकवा, चिक बड़ाइक और चम्भर शामिल हैं। सारे भारतवर्ष में एस.सी. 17 परसेंट हैं, मगर शिक्षा, employment और निर्वाचन के लिए सिर्फ 15 परसेंट रिज़र्वेशन मिल रहा है। जब उनकी आबादी 17 परसेंट है, तो उनको 17 परसेंट का रिज़र्वेशन मिलना चाहिए। मैं यह भी बताना चाहती हूँ कि कुछ दिन पहले, 7 अगस्त को जन्म और मृत्यु के पंजीकरण के संबंध में बिल पारित हुआ था, वह इन लोगों के लिए

भी बहुत कारगर साबित होगा। चूंकि ये लोग जन्म का रजिस्ट्रेशन नहीं करवा पाते थे, जिसके कारण आगे चलकर उनको पढ़ाई में तकलीफ होती थी, इसलिए वह उनके बच्चों के लिए भी बहुत अच्छा है। मैडम, मुझे एक बात अचंभित करती है, आंदोलित करती है कि हम लोग अनुसूचित जाति के ऊपर इतना ध्यान दे रहे हैं - जब से सुप्रीम कोर्ट की व्यवस्था हुई है, तब से आज तक सुप्रीम कोर्ट में सिर्फ पांच विचारपति हैं, जो अनुसूचित जाति के हैं। अगर देखा जाए, तो सारे भारतवर्ष में 850 विचारपति हाई कोर्ट्स में हैं, उनमें से केवल 24 अनुसूचित जाति के हैं। हमें यह देखना चाहिए कि इनको प्रमोट कैसे किया जाए, इसके लिए भी प्रावधान होना चाहिए।...**(समय की घंटी)**... मैडम, मैं एक बार फिर से इस बिल का समर्थन करती हूँ, धन्यवाद, वंदे उत्कल जननी!

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती पी.टी. उषा):** डा. सुमेर सिंह सोलंकी।

**डा. सुमेर सिंह सोलंकी** (मध्य प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2023 के समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। इस अधिनियम को छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य में अनुसूचित जातियों की सूची को संशोधित करने के लिए संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश, 1950 का संशोधन लाया गया है। अनुसूचित जाति की सूची में महार, माहरा, महारा, मेहर और मेहरा जाति को शामिल करने का प्रस्ताव है। इन जातियों को 'संविधान (अनुसूचित जातियां) आदेश, 1950' के भाग में, 23 छत्तीसगढ़ में प्रविष्टि 33 के स्थान पर प्रतिस्थापित किया जाएगा।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब भी सदन में कोई महत्वपूर्ण विषय आता है, जब भी सदन में कोई महत्वपूर्ण बिल आता है, तो जो आदिवासियों के तथा अनुसूचित जाति के भाइयों के हितैषी होने का ढोंग करते थे, वे आज सदन से बाहर चले गये हैं। जब भी आदिवासियों के हित की बात आती है, तो वे सदन में हो रही चर्चा से भाग जाते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह बिल लोक सभा में 2023 में पेश किया गया था। यह बिल इसी मानसून सत्र में लोक सभा द्वारा पारित भी किया गया है। मैं माननीय प्रधान मंत्री, श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी एवं सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री, माननीय डा. वीरेंद्र कुमार जी को हृदय की गहराइयों से धन्यवाद देता हूँ और आभार भी व्यक्त करता हूँ कि देश के कोने-कोने में इस प्रकार की पिछड़ी और छोटी जातियाँ, जो अभी तक मुख्यधारा से वंचित थी, उन्हें मुख्यधारा में लाने का काम किया जा रहा है। मैं एक बार फिर से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी का आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ कि आपके माध्यम से सरकार हमारे छत्तीसगढ़ के गरीब भाइयों और बहनों की जिंदगी बदलने का काम कर रही है। लेकिन ऐसे समय में विपक्ष के लोग, जो साठ सालों तक आदिवासियों, अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित जनजातियों की भलाई का ढोंग करते आए हैं, इन्होंने साठ सालों तक सिर्फ राजनीतिक रोटियाँ सेंकने का काम किया है। सदन के लोग और देश की 140 करोड़ जनता यह देख रही है कि वे आज फिर से सदन से भाग गए हैं। पिछले लंबे समय से हमारा विपक्ष सदन में उपस्थित नहीं है।

महोदया, सदन में जब-जब आदिवासियों और अनुसूचित जातियों के भाई-बहनों के कल्याण की बात आती है, तब-तब अपने क्षेत्र के होते हुए भी छत्तीसगढ़ के सांसद यहाँ सदन में उपस्थित नहीं रहते हैं। कांग्रेस पार्टी को छत्तीसगढ़ के भाई-बहनों के हित की चिंता नहीं है, हमारे विपक्ष को उनकी चिंता नहीं है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से विपक्ष को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि आपकी सरकारों ने पिछले साठ सालों से अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति समाज को केवल वोट बैंक समझ रखा है, आपने कभी इस समाज के विकास की चिंता नहीं की। ये हमेशा मगरमच्छ के आँसू बहाने का काम करते हैं, ढोंग करते हैं। विपक्ष को तो बोलने का भी हक नहीं है, क्योंकि उन्हें जो कुछ भी दिया है, वह माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की सरकार ने दिया है। उन्होंने हमारे अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के भाइयों का कल्याण करने का काम किया है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**.. महोदया, कश्मीर में धारा 370 समाप्त कर हमारे अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के भाइयों को आरक्षण देने का काम किया गया है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को अवगत कराना चाहता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश के सागर जिले में संत रविदास महाराज का 100 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से देश का सबसे बड़ा, भव्य और दिव्य मंदिर बनाने का काम किया जा रहा है। यह काम मध्य प्रदेश सरकार और माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में किया जा रहा है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मैं इस अवसर पर इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि विपक्ष के लोग बाबा साहेब की बात तो करते हैं, लेकिन जब सदन में अनुसूचित जाति के भाइयों का बिल आता है, तब आप सदन से क्यों भाग जाते हैं - ऐसा मैं उनसे पूछना चाहता हूँ? हमारे देश की सरकार अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के भाइयों और बहनों के कल्याण के लिए निरंतर काम कर रही है। महोदया, मैं अंत में अपनी बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि,

*"रेत पर हम नाम लिखते नहीं,  
क्योंकि रेत पर नाम टिकते नहीं!"...**(समय की घंटी)**..*

पुनः सुन लो विपक्ष वालो,

*"पत्थर दिल हैं हम,  
जो नाम सीने पर लिखते हैं,  
वे कभी मिटते नहीं।"*

महोदया ,मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ ,जो हमारे छत्तीसगढ़ के अनुसूचित जाति के भाइयों और बहनों की जिंदगी बदलने का काम करता है। मैं माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ,माननीय मंत्री जी और हमारी सरकार को उन लाखों भाइयों और बहनों की तरफ से एक बार फिर धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद ,जय हिंद ,नर्मदे हर!

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Madam, Vice-Chairman, for giving me this opportunity. This Bill includes a particular group in the SC category. But the point is, without there being any infrastructure; merely giving

SC status is of little use, because they are living in a very pathetic condition in the society. Without creating any infrastructure, merely giving SC status is of no use. They are facing many troubles and the Government is not providing them any infrastructure and medical facilities. They have to be provided by the respective State Governments since it is a State subject.

Another major issue is, we have to protect the lands of the STs. We have to also provide adequate safeguards and provide them with adequate standard of living. Some of the lands belonging to SCs are being occupied. By amending the existing Acts, lands of SCs are being taken away in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Employment comes after that...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): SCs' lands have been taken away not during our time. ..*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: I will give an example of the State of Andhra Pradesh. My senior colleague has already mentioned about the schemes being implemented by the present Government. But, unfortunately, their condition is very pathetic. ..*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: SC/ST atrocities...*(Interruptions)*.. during their time. ...*(Interruptions)*.. It is not in our time...*(Interruptions)*..

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Another major issue is, there is an Act to protect the SCs' lands, but the State Government chose not to implement that. The reason behind is the officers are hand in glove with the authority. With regard to the State of Andhra Pradesh, another important aspect is that the Central Government has allocated certain funds to the SC/ST Sub-Plan. The State Government has given it to another scheme. Those funds have totally been diverted by the Andhra Pradesh Government, utilising it for some other purposes. ...*(Interruptions)*... They are diverting the funds. In order to substantiate this contention, the member of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, Mr. K. Ramulu, said that there were diversion of funds by the State Government from the SC Plan. Sir, there are some other important issues. Under the ST Sub-Plan, the Government allocated certain funds. From 2019-21, social welfare funds to the extent of Rs.8,400 crores were diverted by the State Government for other purposes by issuing G.Os, Memos, contradicting the rules made by the Central Government. Likewise, it was done in case of Tribal Welfare Fund also. *(Time-bell rings.)* Funds to



the extent of Rs.1,000 crores were diverted by the Government. Please give me half a minute. Now, the State Government has brought an amendment with regard to the SCs' lands. ...*(Interruptions)*... They wanted to take away their lands. The ruling party authorities are occupying the lands under the respective amendments. Apart from that, there is no law and order. Day in and day out, atrocities and attacks on SC women are being committed. Some false cases are also being filed against the SCs. This has to be prevented. They need to be protected. Merely giving ST status is not sufficient. The Central Government has to take care of and protect the interests of the SCs, particularly in Andhra Pradesh. Thank you, Madam.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Madam, by April, even that lone Member is going away. There will not be any representation in the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): Shri Subhas Chandra Bose Pilli.

SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI (Andhra Pradesh): Respected Madam, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak on this Bill. The objective of this Bill is to modify the existing list of Scheduled Castes in Chhattisgarh by including certain communities, the 'Mahar', 'Mahara', 'Mahra', 'Mehtar' and 'Mehra'. These are all being included. The proposal has received unanimous concurrence from the Registrar General of India and also the National Commission for Scheduled Castes.

The 'Mahar' are the original inhabitants of Maharashtra and the State is believed to be named after them. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the father of the Indian Constitution, also belonged to the Mahar community.

Since time immemorial, the Mahar community has faced harsh discrimination from the upper castes. After 1949, when the Constitution outlawed caste discrimination, they began to fight for their rights under the leadership of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. One, the inclusion of these communities in the Scheduled Castes list will unlock a multitude of opportunities for them across various domains. The second is education. By granting them reservation in educational institutions, the Bill can pave the way for increased literacy and access to better educational facilities, empowering the younger generation with brighter prospects. The third is employment. Reservation in Government jobs and public sector enterprises will enhance their employability.

Madam, the Annual Budget showed its commitment to economic empowerment of weaker sections of society by allocating Rs. 38,605 crore for the BC

component; Rs. 20,005 crore for the SC component; and Rs. 6,929 crore for the ST component in the current year.

I urge the Government to fulfill its commitment for the well-being of these sections to ensure that the allocated funds are effectively utilized to create opportunities for their socio-economic growth and development.

The Andhra Pradesh Government Sub-Plan approach has had a tremendous impact on the upliftment of marginalized communities. In its Budget, Andhra Pradesh has allocated Rs. 4,360 crore towards Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Corporations. ...(*Time-bell rings.*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): Please conclude.

SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI: Besides education and economic empowerment, there is a need to promote diversity and representation in the Judiciary. It is shocking that since the establishment of the Supreme Court, there have been only five Judges from Scheduled Castes. There are only five Judges from Scheduled Castes. Currently, only 24 out of 850 High Court Judges hail from Scheduled Caste community.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): Please conclude.

SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI: Fourteen of these courts have no SC Judge at all. This is very pitiable. The Government must implement policies to increase the inclusion of qualified and deserving candidates from SC backgrounds in the judicial system. Scholarships and training programmes are needed to enhance access and opportunities, ensuring a fair and inclusive Judiciary that reflects the rich diversity of our nation.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): Please conclude.

SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE PILLI: I am concluding, Madam.

This Amendment further strengthens the 'unity in diversity' where every citizen is treated with dignity and respect irrespective of his or her background.

With these suggestions, on behalf of YSR Congress Party, I support this Bill. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): Thank you. Dr. M. Thambiduarai.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Madam Vice-Chairman, for giving me this opportunity. On behalf of AIADMK Party, I am supporting the Bill brought forward to make the Amendment in the Constitution to include certain communities as Scheduled Castes in the State of Chhattisgarh.

Madam, our AIADMK Party has always championed the cause of reservation for the SC, ST, MBC and BC communities. Our Dravidian Party is based on this concept, and we have always been fighting for the social justice for the poor people. Casteism must be abolished. That is our main goal. In Tamil Nadu, our hon. former Chief Minister, MGR, the founder of the AIADMK Party, made the reservation for SC, ST, MBC and BC. He made the provision of 69 per cent reservation for them. Then, afterwards, our former Chief Minister, Madam Jayalalithaa, made that 69 per cent reservation as a constitutional provision, including that in the 9<sup>th</sup> Schedule. She succeeded in that.

Madam, I have got a request to make, which is about the Boyar community. In Karnataka, the Boyar community belongs to the Scheduled Castes, but not so in the neighbouring State of my State, Tamil Nadu. My place, Hosur, in the Krishnagiri region, is just three kilometers away from Bengaluru. There, the Boyar community belongs to the OBC category. Now, the Boyar community is a community of very poor people who work very hard and are involved in stone cutting, construction activities, and so on. Therefore, the AIADMK Party demands that the Boyar community be included in the list of Scheduled Castes. Madam, this is important because in India, social justice can be given on the basis of castes. Unfortunately, in India, in the Hindu system, the caste system is prevalent. People from different castes are treated differently. Therefore, social justice cannot be ensured unless we give reservation to poor people and uplift them economically and socially by providing reservation in employment, etc. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to ensure social justice to these poor people. Our leader, Shri Edappadi Palanisamy, has always fought for the cause of social justice, based on the principles of the Dravidian Movement. Hence, on behalf of the AIADMK Party and Shri Edappadi Palanisamy, I would request the hon. Minister to include the Boyar community, the poor people involved in stone cutting, labour and similar work to be included in the list of Scheduled Castes. When they are being treated as Scheduled Castes in Karnataka, they must be treated as Scheduled Castes in Tamil Nadu as well. This is my humble request.

Madam, I hope that the hon. Minister would consider my request and include the Boyar Community in the Scheduled Castes list.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): Hon. Member, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Madam, on behalf of my Party, the YSR Congress Party -- it is not Congress Party, it is YSR Congress Party; it is not part of the so-called I.N.D.I.A either -- and also my leader, Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy *garu*, who is considered to be a savior of SC, ST and BC communities, I support this Bill wholeheartedly.

Now, instead of talking on the Bill, I have no other option but to counter the allegations that have been made by my opponent and hon. Member, Shri Ravindra Kumar.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): You have got three minutes.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Madam, I will take just two minutes. Recognizing the need for the holistic upliftment of the SC and ST communities in the State, Andhra Pradesh Government, under the stewardship of Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy *garu*, has taken a wide range of initiatives. There are many welfare schemes that have been introduced for the upliftment of Scheduled Castes. The first such scheme is the *YSR Pension Kanuka*, under which Rs. 2,600 crore were released to 12 lakh SC/ST pensioners. The second one is *YSR Cheyutha*, under which Rs. 1,200 crore were released to 6.4 lakh SC women to help them develop entrepreneurship skills. The third is *Jagananna Vidya Deevena Scheme*, under which Rs. 340 crore were incurred towards reimbursement of fee for 2.3 lakh SC students. Then, the Andhra Pradesh Government has introduced a new scheme, *Jaganna Videshi Vidya Deevena* to provide financial assistance to eligible students belonging to SC/ST/BC, Minority, EBC to pursue higher studies in top 200 universities, ranked as per the QS World University rankings. Lastly, free power up to 200 units is being provided to 17 lakh SC households every month. But the State's efforts must be supplemented by the hon. Union Minister.

I would request the hon. Minister to supplement all the schemes and support the State in the upliftment of the SC, ST, BC and minority communities. Thank you for the opportunity, Madam. We support the Bill wholeheartedly.

4.00 P.M.

**डा. वीरेंद्र कुमार:** उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य की अनुसूचित जातियों में 'महरा' और 'माहरा' समुदाय को शामिल करने के संबंध में इस चर्चा भाग लेने वाले हमारे सभी माननीय

सदस्यगण, श्रीमती सुलता देव जी, डा. सुमेर सिंह सोलंकी जी, श्री कनकमेदला रवींद्र कुमार जी, श्री सुभाष चन्द्र बोस जी, मु. तंबी दुरै जी और श्री वि. विजयसाई रेड्डी जी, मैं इन सभी का हृदय की गहराइयों से धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ। हमारे छत्तीसगढ़ के महारा और माहरा समुदाय के बंधु समाज की सबसे अंतिम पंक्ति के अंतिम छोर पर रहने वाले लोग हैं। जिस अवधि में यह बिल लोक सभा से पारित होकर यहाँ पर आया, उस अवधि में छत्तीसगढ़ के इस समुदाय के बंधुओं के द्वारा लगातार संपर्क स्थापित किया जा रहा था। उनके द्वारा यह अपेक्षा की जा रही थी कि इसे राज्य सभा में भी शीघ्र ही सर्वानुमति से पास कराया जाए। जितने भी माननीय सदस्यों ने इस चर्चा में भाग लिया, उनकी जो अभिव्यक्ति निकलकर आई, जो प्रतिध्वनि निकलकर आई, वह इस बिल के समर्थन में निकलकर आई है, हमारे छत्तीसगढ़ के अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग के बंधुओं के समर्थन में निकलकर आई है, इसके लिए मैं फिर से उनका धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ।

डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी की समता, समानता और समरसता की सोच है और पंडित दीनदयाल उपाध्याय जी की अंत्योदय की अवधारणा की सोच है। हमारे समाज के जो ऐसे बंधु हैं, उन बंधुओं के सामाजिक, आर्थिक और शैक्षिक उत्थान के लिए, उनकी शिक्षा के लिए, उनके स्वास्थ्य के लिए, उनके आवास के लिए देश के प्रधान मंत्री, आदरणीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के द्वारा पिछले नौ वर्षों में योजनाएं बनाई गईं, उन्हें जमीनी धरातल पर उतारा गया, जिसके परिणाम आज समाज में प्रत्यक्ष रूप से दिखाई दे रहे हैं। इससे अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग के मन में एक विश्वास का भाव पैदा हुआ है। अभी हमारे डा. सुमेर सिंह सोलंकी जी बोल रहे थे कि 60 साल तक पंचायत से लेकर पार्लियामेंट तक जिन लोगों ने राज किया, उन्होंने केवल दिवास्वपन दिखाने का काम किया, लेकिन उनके विकास के लिए सही मायने में जो योजनाएं बननी चाहिए थीं, उन्हें जीवन में आगे बढ़ने के लिए जो अवसर प्रदान किए जाने चाहिए थे, उस काम को आगे नहीं बढ़ाया गया। हमारे देश के प्रधान मंत्री, आदरणीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के द्वारा चाहे 'नमस्ते स्कीम' की बात हो, चाहे वेंचर कैपिटल फंड की बात हो, चाहे प्रधान मंत्री कौशल विकास योजना की बात हो, जहाँ इन सभी के माध्यम से उनके जीवन में सुगमता और स्वावलंबन लाने के लिए इन योजनाओं को आगे बढ़ाया गया, वहीं डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी के जीवन से जुड़े हुए पंचतीर्थों का भी निर्माण कराया गया। पहली बार किसी देश के पंत प्रधान ने हमारे डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी के जीवन से जुड़े हुए महत्वपूर्ण स्थानों, चाहे वह महु, इंदौर में उनकी जन्मस्थली हो, डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर इंटरनेशनल सेंटर हो, डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर राष्ट्रीय संग्रहालय हो, नागपुर की दीक्षाभूमि हो, मुंबई की चैत्यभूमि हो और लंदन की शिक्षा भूमि हो - जब इन पाँचों स्थानों पर पंच तीर्थों के दर्शन करने के लिए अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग के बंधु जाते हैं, जब वे बाबा साहेब के जीवन का प्रत्यक्ष रूप से दर्शन करते हैं, तब उन्हें एहसास होता है कि 60 वर्ष तक डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी ने पूरे देश में जो समता, समानता, समरसता के संदेश को आगे बढ़ाने का काम किया, सरकारों द्वारा डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी को समाज के सामने जिस रूप में लाया जाना चाहिए था, उसके लिए प्रयास नहीं किये गए। यदि सही मायने में किसी के द्वारा उन प्रयासों को समाज के सामने लाने का काम किया गया है, तो देश के प्रधान मंत्री, आदरणीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के द्वारा किया गया है। प्रधान मंत्री जी की सोच में जहाँ डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी के दर्शन होते हैं, वहीं पंडित दीनदयाल उपाध्याय के अंत्योदय के भी दर्शन भी होते हैं - 'सबका साथ, सबका विकास, सबका विश्वास' और भारत को आत्मनिर्भर बनाने में सभी का सामूहिक प्रयास है।

अगर हम भारत के विकास की बात करें, तो चाहे राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों की बात हो, प्रधान मंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना की सड़कों की बात हो, देश में बनने वाले विश्वविद्यालयों की बात हो, आईआईटी की बात हो, उद्योग धंधे और कारखाने बनाने की बात हो, अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग का व्यक्ति, अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग का बंधु हर स्थान पर नज़र आता है। गगनचुंबी इमारतों को बनाने में हमारे अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग के बंधुओं का बहुत बड़ा योगदान होता है। जब राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग बनाए जाते हैं, तब वे स्वयं सड़क के किनारे टीन की छोटी सी झुग्गी बनाकर रहते हैं। लेकिन हमारे और आपके जाने के लिए सनसनाती हुई सड़कें बननी चाहिए, चमचमाती हुई सड़कें बननी चाहिए, दमदमाती हुई गगनचुंबी इमारतें बननी चाहिए और अगर इनको बनाने का काम कोई करता है तो वह अनुसूचित जाति समाज का हमारा मजदूर करता है।

हमारे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था जो 10 में से 5वें स्थान पर पहुँची, इसमें हमारे अनुसूचित जाति समाज का बहुत बड़ा योगदान है। सड़क और सफाई से लेकर सुरक्षा जैसे सामाजिक जीवन के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग के व्यक्ति का प्रतिनिधित्व दिखाई देता है। उन्होंने अपने परिश्रम और विश्वास से समाज में एक स्थान अर्जित किया। आज देश के प्रधान मंत्री द्वारा जब इन प्रयासों को आगे बढ़ाया गया तो अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग में एक विश्वास का भाव पैदा हुआ कि मोदी जी हैं तो मुमकिन है। अनुसूचित जाति की सूची में संशोधन करने के लिए हमारे सभी माननीय सदस्यों ने समर्थन किया। ओडिशा की हमारी बहन श्रीमती सुलता देव जी ने कहा कि ओडिशा की राज्य सरकार द्वारा वहाँ की कुछ जातियों को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल करने के लिए अनुशंसा की गई थी, लेकिन आरजीआई के द्वारा उस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन नहीं किया गया और इस कारण उसको निर्धारित प्रक्रियाओं के अंतर्गत निरस्त कर दिया गया।

हमारे वरिष्ठ सांसद डा. मु. तंबी दुरै, जो लोक सभा में भी वर्षों तक हमारे साथ रहे हैं, ने 'बोयर' जाति के बारे में बताया कि कर्णाटक में उसकी अलग स्थिति है और तमिलनाडु में अलग स्थिति है। मैं माननीय सदस्य से कहना चाहता हूँ कि तमिलनाडु राज्य सरकार से इस संबंध में कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं आया है। हमारे माननीय सांसद बहुत वरिष्ठ हैं।

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: It is 'Boya' community.

**डा. वीरेंद्र कुमार:** ठीक है, यह 'Boya' community है। आप बहुत वरिष्ठ सदस्य हैं। भारत सरकार ने किसी भी जाति को अनुसूचित जाति में शामिल करने के लिए एक प्रक्रिया बनाई है। उसमें राज्य और संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों से प्रस्ताव आता है, प्रस्ताव आने के बाद वह आरजीआई के पास जाता है। जब आरजीआई सहमत होता है, तब वह कमीशन को जाता है, उसके बाद वह मंत्रिमंडल के पास अनुमोदन के लिए जाता है। वहाँ से आने के बाद, उसे सदन में बिल के रूप में लाया जाता है। तमिलनाडु से अगर इस तरह का कोई प्रस्ताव आएगा तो इन सारी प्रक्रियाओं से गुजरने के बाद उसको आगे बढ़ाया जाएगा।

वर्ष 1989 में जब मध्य प्रदेश से छत्तीसगढ़ का विभाजन नहीं हुआ था, तब अविभाजित मध्य प्रदेश के द्वारा वहाँ पर 'माहरा' को 'महार', 'मेहरा' और 'मेहर' के पर्याय के रूप में समावेश करने का प्रस्ताव भेजा गया था। 1992 में आरजीआई ने अविभाजित मध्य प्रदेश में 'माहरा' जाति को शामिल करने के लिए सहमति भी दी। जब वर्ष 2000 में मध्य प्रदेश का विभाजन हुआ, तो वर्ष 2002

में 'माहरा' को मध्य प्रदेश के अनुसूचित जातियों की श्रेणी में संविधान (अनुसूचित जाति) आदेश (दूसरा संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2002 के अंतर्गत 'महार', 'मेहरा' और 'मेहर' के पर्याय के रूप में शामिल किया गया, लेकिन कुछ कारणों से छत्तीसगढ़ में वहाँ की अनुसूचित जातियों की सूची में तदनुसार संशोधन नहीं किया गया, क्योंकि उनके द्वारा उस समय प्रस्ताव नहीं भेजा गया था। जब वर्ष 2000 में छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य का गठन हुआ तो उसके बाद छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य सरकार ने अनुसूचित जाति के 'महार', 'मेहरा' और 'मेहर' के पर्याय के रूप में 'माहरा' और 'मेहरा' को शामिल करने का प्रस्ताव किया। मध्य प्रदेश में 'माहरा' को अनुसूचित जाति की श्रेणी में पहले ही शामिल कर लिया गया था तथा 'माहरा' एवं 'मेहरा', जिसमें वर्तनी की मामूली भिन्नता है, छोटी सी मात्रा की भिन्नता है, इसी कारण छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य सरकार ने अपने दिनांक 3.6.2021 और 28.1.2022 के पत्रों के द्वारा अनुशंसा करके राज्य की 'महार', 'मेहरा' और 'मेहर' के साथ क्रमांक 33 पर 'मेहरा' और 'माहरा' को पर्याय के रूप में शामिल करने के लिए जो प्रस्ताव भेजा, उसका आरजीआई तथा राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति एवं जनजाति आयोग ने समर्थन किया। इस पर संबंधित मंत्रालयों के द्वारा भी अनापत्ति दी गई और उसके उपरांत केन्द्रीय मंत्रिमंडल के अनुमोदन से इसको पहले लोक सभा में लाया गया। वहाँ पर यह सर्वसम्मति से पारित हुआ और आज भी सभी माननीय सदस्यों के द्वारा इसको यहाँ समर्थन दिया गया है। छत्तीसगढ़ में 'मेहरा' और 'माहरा' की लगभग दो लाख की आबादी है, जो बुनाई और कोटवारी का काम करते हैं। वहाँ उनकी एक बहुत बड़ी संख्या है, जिनको अनुसूचित जाति की श्रेणी में शामिल होने पर राज्य सरकार और केन्द्र सरकार की नौकरियों में आरक्षण मिलेगा, उनको शिक्षा में अधिकार मिलेंगे, वे Venture Capital Funds से कम ब्याज पर लोन लेकर अपने उद्यम भी लगा सकेंगे, उनको केन्द्र सरकार और राज्य सरकार की सारी सुविधाओं का लाभ मिल सकेगा। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि इसको सर्वसम्मति से पारित कराने में अपना सहयोग दें, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 to modify the list of Scheduled Castes in the State of Chhattisgarh, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

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

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): Now, hon. Minister, Dr. Virendra Kumar to move that the Bill be passed.

**डा. वीरेंद्र कुमार:** महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ :-  
कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): Hon. Members, under proviso to Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, the Chairman has permitted the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023, listed in today's Revised List of Business at Serial No. 6(d), for consideration and passing.

The Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023; hon. Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh to move the motion for consideration of Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023.

### **The Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023**

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):  
Madam, with your kind permission, I rise to move:

"That the Bill to establish the Anusandhan National Research Foundation to provide high level strategic direction for research, innovation and entrepreneurship in the fields of natural sciences including mathematical sciences, engineering and technology, environmental and earth sciences, health and agriculture, and scientific and technological interfaces of humanities and social sciences, to promote, monitor and provide support as required for such research and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The question was proposed.*



THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI P.T. USHA): There is one amendment by Dr. V. Sivadasan for reference of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023 (as passed by Lok Sabha) to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha. Hon. Member is absent. Amendment not moved.

The motion for consideration of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023 is now open for discussion. Now, I call upon Members whose names have been received for participation in the discussion. Shri Sujeet Kumar.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Madam, I am fortunate -- I draw a lot of inspiration from you -- as most of the times, when I rise to speak, you are in the Chair. On behalf of my party, Biju Janata Dal, I support the Bill because it is a very forward looking Bill. In fact, it is a subject which is close to my heart and, in this august House, I have often spoken on this issue during Zero Hour and Question Hour. Now, let me explain the rationale behind this Bill being brought up.

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

The National Research Foundation Bill, 2023 will replace the Science and Engineering Research Board Act of 2008 and subsume the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) into the National Research Foundation (NRF). The SERB Act of 2008 did a great job in laying the foundation of science and engineering in our country. Because of the limited mandate of the Act, the SERB would not suffice, and it did not bring about a decisive change in the research and innovation ecosystem of our country. The hope is that this Bill will bring about an integrated and holistic change in the research and innovation ecosystem of our country. It will bring about a perceptible change in the innovation landscape of our country by tapping into universities, higher educational institutions and private sector.

Research is a very capital intensive business. Unless you bring in private sector to support research activities and research ecosystem, I think you cannot have a world-class research. This is why it is a very forward-looking Bill. Let me provide some context. Today, we spend less than .7 per cent of our GDP on research. Look at the comparable figures. Israel spends 4.8 per cent; South Korea spends 4.5 per cent; US spends 3.2-odd per cent; and China spends 2.5-odd per cent. We are really pathetic when it comes to spending on our research. On top of it, private sector's spend on research is almost less than half, which is close to 40 per cent in our country, whereas for most of the OECD countries or for most of the top

economies, it is anywhere between 70 per cent and 80 per cent. I think this Bill, hopefully, will correct this situation.

Hon. Prime Minister has articulated his vision by saying that by 2047, that is, by the end of the Amrit kaal -- we are now celebrating *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav* -- when we will celebrate 100 years of our independence, we will become a developed nation. We cannot become a developed nation unless we spend on research, unless we focus on technology. Technology will be the key driver of this transformation from being a developing nation to a developed nation. Secondly, hon. Prime Minister has also shared his vision of making India a \$1 trillion digital economy which will be roughly 20 per cent of our GDP when we become a \$5 trillion economy.

Without innovation, without R&D, can we become a \$1 trillion digital economy? I am so happy that the hon. Minister of Electronics and I.T., Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, is also here. (*Time-bell rings.*) Madam, just give me two more minutes. R&D which is the bedrock of scientific discoveries or technological innovation is essential if we are to tackle the challenges of our country whether it is climate change or food insecurity or other things.

Madam, there are a couple of issues which I would like to quickly highlight. One is the independence of the Governing Board. The Bill itself talks of independence or autonomy of the Board. I hope the Government will follow it in letter and spirit.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Please conclude. Your time is over.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Madam, just one more minute. Clear and transparent criteria are laid out for the selection of scientists who will be part of the Board. Secondly, there will be more focus on allocating sufficient funds for the State Universities also, and not just the IITs and Central Universities. Hope, State Universities will also get funds.

Social sciences or humanities are as essential as pure science. This is why the Governing Board should consist of eminent social scientists as well. Technology will decide the geopolitics of our time. It will decide the destiny of nations. Technology is the new wealth of nations. This is why the choice we make today as a nation as to the direction of our research and technology will decide whether we will become a great power.

I will end by just saying one of my favourite quotes. "The single most factor which decides intellectual or social or economic progress of a nation or the well-being

of its citizens is dependent on the creation and acquisition of knowledge." This is why it is a great Bill. I support it. Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan, Jai Vigyan, Jai Anusandhan!

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Madam, for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Anusandhan Research Foundation Bill, 2023. This Bill is a very transformative one. It holds immense promise for India's future. The establishment of NRF is going to give a new direction to reshape our nation's research, innovation and entrepreneurial landscape.

Madam, we have to understand the current status of research and development, innovation and entrepreneurial landscape in our country. If you see the current status, I think, we need to do a lot. Even though this Bill is delayed but I am very happy that it has come at the right time. For India to be a developed nation, research and innovation in line with our needs, certainly, have to be looked at. Today, when you see all the four sectors like infrastructure, manufacturing, agriculture and services, I think, we have not innovated. We just borrowed certain things and we are trying to move with that. The time has come certainly on innovation. India, with its own geo-political situations, needs to innovate solutions for itself. A lot of focus needs to go into that. Same is with research. We have our *sanatan* value system. Taking that into consideration, we have to move on, improving our research initiatives, which I am sure, the world will look forward to. We have that important responsibility. On the agriculture side also, there are so many innovative thoughts which are there at the ground level. Also, entrepreneurial skills are available. I think that under the chairmanship of hon. Prime Minister, NRF is really going to give a direction. If you look at the status, India has just 255 researchers per million people. Developed countries have more than 4,000 to 5,000 researchers per million people. We have to look at the entire machinery around research. I think from the village level to the university level, we don't have adequate machinery. That needs to be looked at. All that must come as a strategic planning from NRF. Then comes money. We are spending very, very little money. Just 0.6 per cent of the GDP is spent by India against the global average of 1.8 per cent. For developed countries, it is two or three or even five per cent. So, I only want to say that this particular Bill is handy in identifying our requirements for this nation in respect of research and development, innovation, and entrepreneurial landscape, and identifying a master plan and putting up right teams in place starting from the highest level of research to the ground realities of agriculture. We need to have the right kind of Budget allocation in place and that sort of a roadmap. I think it is going to give a direction to this country. This

Bill is very apt and we support this Bill from YSR Congress Party. I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. The Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill proposes to establish National Research Foundation. This body aims to direct research in strategic areas ranging from science to humanities. It plans to involve the private sector, which currently contributes around 36 per cent to research and development, to have expenditure in a bigger way. This Bill not only provides that but also undertakes annual survey of outcomes of scientific research in India with a view to create a Central repository for collection, interpretation and analysis of information and data surrounding such research; aims of repository would include providing information for policy formulation and advising the Central Government and State Governments as well as private sector.

The Bill proposes to create a conducive atmosphere to promote research in every field. Coming to the Bill, Clause 4, Objectives of Foundation, states that "the Foundation shall serve as the apex body to provide high level strategic direction for research, innovation and entrepreneurship in the fields of natural sciences including mathematical sciences, engineering and technology...". The establishment with regard to Governing Board has been constituted under the *ex officio* chairpersonship of hon. Prime Minister, definitely, to serve the purposes. But the Act provides another provision to create an Executive Council to implement the provisions of the Act. There is a vague ambiguity with regard to qualifications. Eligibility criteria for the members, experience and the tenure has to be clarified. Coming to the other aspect, the constitution of committees, the Executive Council is empowered to constitute committees necessary for the efficient discharge of its duties and performance. The functions of the Executive Council and respective committees also have to be clarified as there is no specific provision in this Act. In the light of the above proposed clauses, the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill seeks to establish the Anusandhan National Research Foundation to provide high level strategic direction for research, innovation and entrepreneurship in the fields of natural sciences. The salient features of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill seek to create a very vibrant globally competent scientific ecosystem. In view of the present Bill, a lot of changes would be brought into existence. I, wholeheartedly, support this Bill on behalf of the Telugu Desam Party. Thank you.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill is a significant step forward in the direction of revamping the entire R&D ecosystem. Therefore, we, the Y.S.R. Congress Party, under the leadership of Jagan Mohan Reddy Garu support this Bill. There are only three points. You have given only two minutes and I would complete it. Given the fact that the Bill allows the private funding, I request the hon. Minister to make stringent accountability checks to prevent the possible misuse of funding. As for the research institutions, which are funded by the corporates and the private players, we have the past experience that they try to push their certain agenda which can easily be used for ulterior motives. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to take care of this particular issue.

Madam, the second point is this. India's spending on R&D is almost the lowest in the world. R&D investment in India stands at 0.7 per cent of our GDP well below global average of 1.8 per cent. I request the hon. Minister to kindly look into this issue.

The third and final point, Madam, which is your point, is related to women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. There has been a historic absence of women in scientific disciplines in India. Only 20 per cent of the seats in 23 IITs in the country are held by women. Average female faculty in IITs amounts to only 11 per cent. While 52 per cent of the women were enrolled for S.T.E.M. courses for graduation, only 29 per cent actually joined the S.T.E.M. workforce. Of course, here, our hon. Chairman is completely justifying where it is all women-managed Rajya Sabha, Madam. Thank you very much. We, wholeheartedly, support this Bill.

SHRI G.K. VASAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I congratulate the Minister for bringing this Bill. This Bill, I feel, is the need of the hour for the scientific community of our country which is winning lot of laurels in various subjects for the interest of our country. I would like to give some statistics to substantiate this for the interest of the scientific community. According to the Press Information Bureau, the filing of patents in India has increased from 46,763 in 2014-15 to 66,440 in 2021-22 which is exactly more than 50 per cent increase in a span of seven years.

Madam, additionally, startups, I would say, have registered over more than 5,000 trademarks in the last five years. These numbers show that India is making significant progress in the field of innovation and intellectual property rights. According to the World Intellectual Property Organization, India today ranks 8<sup>th</sup> in patents field by resident scientists and innovators. In 2020-21, Indian resident scientists filed 40 per cent of the total patent applications, which is more than the

double the number filed in 2010-11. India has also climbed 35 ranks in the Global Innovation Index, holding its ranking at 35, as compared to 81<sup>st</sup> rank in 2015-16 to 46<sup>th</sup> rank in 2021. These statistics prove that the Government, today, under the hon. Minister is making a mark in this important Ministry.

The National Research Foundation (NRF) is established to foster research not only in science and technology but also research in various fields like humanities, social sciences, and arts. NRF is also expected to meet research requirements in new and emerging areas like climate change, clean energy, and sustainable infrastructure. There is also a provision for tie-ups between educational institutions and industries so that our institutions encourage research in areas which are in demand from industries.

To conclude, Madam, India ranks third among the most attractive investment destinations for technology transaction in the world. India's public and private R&D put together comes to 68 billion dollars which is the sixth in the world. So, NRF's emphasis on increasing funding from both Government and private sources is a step in the right direction that this Bill has given today. The Bill aims to provide the right environment for promoting research to meet our national priorities and make India a world leader in various fields. (*Time-bell rings.*) Therefore, I, on behalf of my party, extend my wholehearted support to this important Bill. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Now, Dr. M. Thambidurai.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Madam Vice-Chairman, thank you very much for giving the opportunity to speak on the Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023. On behalf of my leader, Shri Edappadi Palaniswami and my AIADMK Party, we support this Bill. I want to make it very clear that research is very, very fundamental and important thing. But, you are asking me to speak within three to four minutes but this is a very vast subject and cannot be done like that. To get a doctorate degree, Dr. Jitendra Singh spent five years and I spent four years to get my Ph.D. Therefore, to speak in four-five minutes, as we had spent four years for this, is very difficult.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): I spent seven years; so, take seven minutes.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: It is because if you ring the bell in three-four minutes, I will not be, in a position, to express because in research, we have to concentrate and give some kind of new impetus for the development of this country. Just put it simply, if you ring the bell, it can't be simply a bell but a bell on the research also.

Research and development are the foundation for scientific discoveries, new technologies, and innovative applications. That is the base as to what the objectives of it are. Development of a robust ecosystem is required in all fields of sciences. This includes mathematical sciences, engineering and technology, environmental and earth sciences, health and agriculture, as well as scientific and technological interfaces of humanities and social sciences. Dr. Jitendra Singh is a doctor from the medical side. I studied and got my PhD. in Economics, that is, Social Sciences side. You are telling about Mathematics, Engineering and everything, now, but what we are facing in India is that students are not opting for Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering as well as Electrical Engineering. These are the basic things on the engineering side.

The IT Minister is here. They want to go for Computer Science. Engineering college is based on three things. Everybody wants to go for computer science, IT. That means even arts colleges are giving courses on computer science with BCA and everything like that. Therefore, the importance of civil engineering or mechanical engineering is going down. It is high time that this research foundation should give some kind of funding and new syllabus. It is basic for the development. Our friend mentioned about developing countries. We are already a developing country and for becoming a developed country, research is very important. Without that, we cannot develop. That is more important. This Ministry gives some funds for the colleges and some kind of universities. In the same way, AICTE is also giving some funds here and there. They are giving Rs. 5 lakh, Rs. 10 lakh for the institutions. I do not know what research can be done with that. (*Time-bell rings.*) That is why I told you not to press the bell, Madam. I know that. Research is the very basic thing. I am an academician. Research is very important. Without research, we cannot develop. Mr. Vijayasai Reddy mentioned one point, that is, "Encouraging the public sector enterprises as well as private sector entities to invest in the activities of the foundation." Madam, this is very important. The Government has to take care as to how the corporate sector is allocating funds for research and development.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Please conclude.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: The hon. Prime Minister heading this Governing Board is a very phenomenal thing. That shows the vision of the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, who wants to give importance to research. He is always giving importance to development in the sectors of education and health. Therefore, on research also, his vision is there.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Please conclude. Your time is over. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: For the mission which we have to achieve, there should be more funds. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to allocate more funds for this sector. Thank you very much. That is why research cannot be done like this.

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती सुलता देव):** माननीय डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह जी।

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Madam, at the outset, I have to thank the hon. Members, namely, Shri Sujeet Kumar, Shri Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla, Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy, Shri G.K. Vasan and our very learned friend, Dr. M. Thambidurai, who have given very useful inputs. I think those who are not present in the House, today, have actually deprived themselves of a very important discussion. This is a Bill which is going to have a long-term effect, long-term outcomes, and all of us, each citizen of India, including those sitting on the other side, are going to be the stakeholders. To that extent, this is possibly the history in making. When history happens, we do not realise. When it is written, we realise that we were part of it. Now, ironically, destiny leaves the choice to us whether to make ourselves a part of the history or not. Those who have not, I hope, will one day repent that they were not here in this House because the Government was actually looking forward to have more constructive inputs from them as well. Most of the points, saliently, have been raised. The House is not in a mood for a very long discussion. As has been rightly mentioned, ever since Prime Minister Modiji took over in 2014, he has, one after the other, taken a number of path-breaking decisions, broken several taboos of the past in order to liberate India of those self-made barriers so that we could have a global role. And if we envisage for ourselves the *Amrit Kaal*, for the next 25 years, obviously, we have to live up to global parameters and that is possible only if we have the same level of competitiveness as other countries. Just to cite a few, it was the Prime Minister Modi who unlocked the Space Department.

Today, you have Chandrayaan; you have 150 Start-ups from the private sector which was hardly imaginable till about five-seven years ago. And, that has also increased our resource pool both knowledge-wise as well as finance funding. Similarly, regarding our atomic energy, we were constrained of funds. It was Prime Minister Modi, who in a decision in 2014, amended the Atomic Energy Act and



allowed it for joint funding and joint ventures. Today, we have an atomic energy plant coming up nearby in Haryana and Gorakhpur, which was already confined to only three-four States. Similarly, from the Ramparts of Red Fort, he spoke about Start-up India and Stand-up India and made us realise that *rozgaar* does not necessarily mean *sarkari naukri* and helped us come out of that mindset. From just 350 Start-ups, today, we have more than one lakh. It was Prime Minister Modi who made us realise the importance of biotechnology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century world. And, just imagine India which hardly had the aptitude and culture of preventive healthcare, gave world the first ever vaccine for Covid. And, today, from just 50 Start-ups in biotechnology in 2014, we are up to 6,000. So, there are new avenues of livelihood, and, therefore, to that extent, in a single sentence, I can say, this Anusandhan Act which is coming into being from today, will pave the way, and will define the face and stature of India at 2047 because this will place us in that select league of developed nations. I will not go much into detail but wish to just respond to a few points. I am also glad that so much is the requirement of this new provision and so much of unanimity that it was heartening to see Mr. Kanakamedala and Mr. Vijayasai Reddy on the same page. So, I think, one of the biggest contributions of this Bill today is that it has brought two warring horses from Andhra on the same page. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI G.K. VASAN: That too, without any controversy on your Bill.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I am sure, for a research scholar like Dr. Thambidurai, it will take another five years to conduct the research on this. But, nevertheless, as was being said by Mr. Ravindra Kumar, there is no ambiguity. Actually, the rules are yet to be framed. When the rules are framed, everything will be in order. In fact, the Act has envisaged every good thing which is possible even with the other role models. We have a research society in America; we have research societies in some of the European countries. We are among the first few. And, in fact, when it is put into place, I am sure, it is going to be better than most of them because we have thoroughly studied for about two-three years, repeated representations, repeated presentations and repeated brainstorming on this. Mr. Vijayasai Reddy rightly mentioned the accountability check. If you go through the details of the Bill, you will find that the Executive Council will also be mandated not only to monitor the progress of the different projects but also to analyse the accountability of the funding at different stages. To begin with, when the funding is decided for a project as to whether it is required, how much is it justified and then, from stage to stage, how best it is being put to use for which it was meant. And, as he rightly mentioned that

the R&D spending was very low in this country. This is one of the important issues which is going to be addressed by this Bill. We are going to have a Budget of Rs.50,000 crores for five years, out of which Rs.36,000 crores; almost 80 per cent is going to come from the non-Government sources - from industry, from philanthropists, even from domestic as well as outside sources which is not difficult because it comes to about Rs. 7,200 crores per year. And even if we have our 14,000 shares, we can enter into some kind of an equity or PPP model. I, personally, also believe that in case we have to grow beyond this where we have today arrived with the patronage offered by Prime Minister Modi in the last nine years, we have then to do away with the demarcation between the private and the public sector. We have to have a very holistic approach. We have to give up silos. We have to have an integrated supplementation of the best avenues that each one of us have, and in order to achieve that, we have also to make industry the stakeholder right from the beginning.

At the same time, keeping in mind the ethos and our ancient heritage, the Executive Council also has room for representation from social sciences, from humanities, so that we do not miss our *Bharat*, while, we move in the world arena. So, I think, this is a Bill which is going to be a turning point. Another point was very relevantly raised by Dr. Thambidurai. You rightly mentioned about colleges and universities. This is another issue which is being addressed. It has been done very consciously. As I said, we studied about three years to work on this Bill. You are right, the earlier Board which is now going to be non-existent after this Bill comes, the Science and Engineering Research Board, (SERB). That was a Board which was offering funds or giving financial support on the basis of competitiveness, which was a very open and fair objective. As a result of which, almost 65 per cent of the funding went to IITs and the most technically-developed institutions, whereas the State Universities hardly got a share of 10 to 15 per cent of the entire funds. I agree with you that most of the researchers and most of the scholars are there in the universities. Therefore, at the time of introduction, when somebody said that this Bill may not be compatible with the spirit of cooperative federalism, I had to correct them and tell them that in fact we are supplementing the State universities' resources. That is one issue which is being taken care of because the Bill envisages that we will have a separate competition within the State universities. There will be separate allocation exclusively for them so that they will not be expected to compete with the higher institutions and thereby suffer a disadvantage. I would like to sum up now because today it is not the right mood for a long discussion. So, one should stop before one is asked to stop. We have a Governing body headed by the Prime Minister and we have

an Executive Council which will be headed by Principal Scientific Advisor. But, we have a huge lot of conglomeration of representation from industry, from academics. I think, it will be so evenly balanced that we will not deprive ourselves from the best of everything else. Therefore, when I humbly request for unanimous passage of this Anusandhan National Research Foundation Bill, 2023, I would also take pride in saying that this is happening at a time when we are the Members. This should have happened several years ago. I rightly agree with Members; maybe destiny wanted that Shri Narendra Modi should be the Prime Minister and we should be the Members of the House when this historic, destined thing happens. Thank you very much, Madam.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Thank you, Mr. Minister. Now, the question is:

"That the Bill to establish the Anusandhan National Research Foundation to provide high level strategic direction for research, innovation and entrepreneurship in the fields of natural sciences including mathematical sciences, engineering and technology, environmental and earth sciences, health and agriculture, and scientific and technological interfaces of humanities and social sciences, to promote, monitor and provide support as required for such research and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

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

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): In Clause 4, there are six Amendments; Amendments (Nos. 1 to 4) by Shri Binoy Viswam; not present. Amendments not moved. Amendments (Nos. 11 and 12) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. The hon. Member is not present. Amendments not moved.

*Clause 4 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): In Clause 5, there are four Amendments; Amendments (Nos. 5 to 7) by Shri Binoy Viswam; not present. Amendments not moved. Amendment (No.13) by Dr. V. Sivadasan. The hon. Member is not present. Amendment not moved.

*Clause 5 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): In Clause 6, there is one Amendment (No.8) by Shri Binoy Viswam. The hon. Member is not present. The Amendment is not moved.

*Clause 6 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 7 and 8 were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): In Clause 9, there is one Amendment (No.9) by Shri Binoy Viswam. The hon. Member is not present. The Amendment is not moved.

*Clause 9 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 10 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): In Clause 11, there is one Amendment (No.10) by Shri Binoy Viswam. The hon. Member is not present. The Amendment is not moved.

*Clause 11 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 12 to 27 were added to the Bill.*

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

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Now Dr. Jitendra Singh to move that the Bill be passed.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Madam, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

### The Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): Now we shall take up the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023. Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS; THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW): Madam, I move:

That the Bill to provide for the processing of digital personal data in a manner that recognises both the right of individuals to protect their personal data and the need to process such personal data for lawful purposes and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI SULATA DEO): There are two motions by Dr. John Brittas and Dr. V. Sivadasan for reference of the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2023 as passed by Lok Sabha to a Select Committee of Rajya Sabha.

The hon. Members may move the motions at this stage without any speech. The Members are absent and the motions are not moved.

The motion for consideration of the Bill is now open for discussion. I now call upon the Members whose names have been received for participation in the discussion.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Madam, the Minister should make opening remarks.

**श्री अश्वनी वैष्णव:** ऑनरेबल चेयरपर्सन मैडम, पिछले 9 वर्षों में जिस तरह से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने 'डिजिटल इंडिया' के माध्यम से देश भर में सेवाओं को गरीब से गरीब के घर तक पहुँचाने का एक नया आयाम रचा है, आज उसकी सारी दुनिया में चर्चा है। आज अगर हम देखें, तो हिन्दुस्तान में करीब 90 करोड़ हमारे ऐसे देशवासी हैं जो इंटरनेट से जुड़े हैं और प्रैक्टिकली जिन्दगी के हर पहलू में डिजिटल ट्रांजैक्शंस की मदद से जीवन की सेवाएँ ले रहे हैं। इसके पीछे माननीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की एक बहुत ही दूरदर्शी सोच है। ऐसी परिस्थितियों में, जहाँ डिजिटल टेक्नोलॉजी हमारी जिन्दगी का एक बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट हिस्सा बन चुकी है, उसमें पर्सनल डेटा और विशेषकर डिजिटल पर्सनल डेटा को सुरक्षित रखने के लिए आज हम यह बिल लेकर आए हैं। आज बहुत अच्छा होता कि हमारे विपक्ष के साथी भी, 140 करोड़ देशवासियों को जो एक अधिकार दिया जा रहा है, उस अधिकार को देने के सहभागी बनते। आज तक विपक्ष में कभी भी हमारे देशवासियों के अधिकारों के प्रति कोई सजगता नहीं थी, वह आज इन खाली बेंचों से क्लीयर दिखाई देता है। मैं धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा, जो आज यहां sincerely

present हैं और देश के 140 करोड़ देशवासियों को यह अधिकार देने में इस सदन के माध्यम से एक उपयोगी काम कर रहे हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं बहुत शॉर्ट में इस बिल के बारे में सदन के समक्ष तथ्य रखूंगा। मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल के लिए बहुत consultation हुआ है। पिछले करीब 6 वर्षों से इस बिल के ऊपर काम चल रहा था। इस पर Joint Parliamentary Committee बैठी, कमेटी ने 100 से अधिक मीटिंग्स कीं, 48 organisations के साथ consultation हुआ, 39 Ministries के साथ consultation हुआ, करीब 24 हजार कमेंट्स आए और detailed consultation के बाद यह बिल सदन के समक्ष लाया गया।

महोदया, इस बिल के द्वारा जितने भी साधारण नागरिक हैं, जो डिजिटल सेवाएं उपयोग करते हैं, उन सबको नए अधिकार दिए गए हैं। जो भी संस्था किसी भी व्यक्ति के data को लेती है, उसका उपयोग करती है, तो उसके ऊपर बहुत सारे obligations डाले गए हैं।

### [उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती एस. फान्गानॉन कोन्याक) पीठासीन हुईं]

मैं उन obligations के बारे में डिटेल्स आपके समक्ष रखूंगा। अगर कोई संस्था किसी भी नागरिक का डेटा लेती है, चाहे वह social media platform हो, चाहे सरकार हो, चाहे कोई भी हो, सबसे पहले Principle of Legality चलेगा कि जो भी डेटा लेगा, उसका उपयोग केवल कानून के अनुसार हो सकता है। दूसरा, Principle of Purpose Limitation है-यानी जिस उद्देश्य के लिए डेटा लिया जाए, उसी उद्देश्य के लिए उपयोग में लाया जा सकता है। तीसरा, Principle of Data Minimization है-यानी जितना डेटा चाहिए, उतना ही डेटा लें। चौथा, Principle of Accuracy है-यानी अगर डेटा में कोई करेक्शन करना है, कोई चेंज करना है, तो नागरिक को उसका अधिकार है। पांचवां, Principle of Storage Limitation है-जब तक उद्देश्य की पूर्ति हो, जब तक requirement हो, तब तक डेटा स्टोर करे, उसके बाद उसको delete करे। छठा, Principle of Reasonable Safeguards है-यानी पर्सनल डेटा को सिक्योर रखने के लिए जितने reasonable safeguards लेने चाहिए, वे सब लिए जाएं। सातवां, Principle of Accountability है-यानी जिस भी संस्था ने या जिस entity ने डेटा लिया है, उसकी जिम्मेदारी है कि इस कानून के तहत जो अधिकार दिए गए हैं, उन अधिकारों के साथ में नागरिकों के डेटा की सुरक्षा करे। महोदया, नागरिकों को चार अधिकार दिए गए हैं। पहला, Right to Access Information है, जो पर्सनल डेटा के बारे में है कि क्या डेटा लिया गया है, उसके बारे में Information दे सके। दूसरा, Right to Correction of Personal Data and Right to Eraser है। यदि कोई व्यक्ति चाहे कि उसका डेटा सोशल मीडिया पर नहीं होना चाहिए, तो उसके लिए यह एक्ट है। कई geographies में उसको Right to Forgotten भी बोलते हैं। Right to Grievance Redressal बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट है। यदि किसी को कोई शिकायत हो, तो बहुत अच्छे तरीके से उसका एक माध्यम बनाया गया है। आखिरी Right to Nominate, in case of death and incapacity है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, implementation के लिए एक अच्छा सिस्टम बनाया गया है, जो इस बिल में प्रस्तावित है। एक Independent Data Protection Board बनेगा, जिसकी digital by design, यानी दिल्ली में, बेंगलुरु में और मुंबई में रहने वाले समर्थ नागरिकों को जो सुविधाएं हैं,

देश के उन क्षेत्रों में रहने वाले नागरिकों को भी वही सुविधाएं, वही access to justice मिले, जिनके पास सामर्थ्य नहीं है, जिनके पास facilities नहीं हैं। यह प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की 'सबका साथ, सबका विकास' की सोच को दर्शाता है। महोदया, इस बोर्ड में experts रहेंगे, जो इस डेटा की field को समझते हैं। बोर्ड कानून के द्वारा independent है।

5.00 P.M.

सारे प्रोविजन्स जिनसे इंडिपेंडेंस गारंटी हो सके, वे कानून में रखे गए हैं। इस बोर्ड के ऊपर टेलिकॉम डिसप्यूट्स की ट्रिब्यूनल, TDSAT है, उसमें अपील की जा सकती है और उसके ऊपर सुप्रीम कोर्ट में जा सकते हैं। इस डिजिटल इकोनॉमी को और प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए दो बड़े अच्छे लीगल इनोवेशन्स रखे गए हैं। पहला है - voluntary undertaking. मान लीजिए अनजाने में किसी से कोई भूल हो गई, तो वह डेटा प्रोटेक्शन बोर्ड के पास आ जाए और कहे कि हमसे भूल हो गई, यह पैनल्टी है और इसमें हमने यह सुधार किया है। इस केस में व्यक्ति आगे बढ़े। दूसरा, alternative dispute resolution की एक बहुत अच्छी व्यवस्था रखी गई है, जिससे कोर्ट्स के ऊपर बहुत ज्यादा बोझ न बढ़े।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, जैसे आज चेयर और टेबल पर दोनों जगह हमारी बहनें हैं, माफ कीजिएगा, मैं बहन कहने का दुस्साहस कर रहा हूँ - आदरणीय बहन है, उसी भावना से माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने हमेशा मातृशक्ति और मातृवंदना पर बहुत जोर दिया है। यह पहला बिल है, जिसमें 'He' की जगह 'She' का इस्तेमाल किया गया है और 'His' की जगह 'Her' का इस्तेमाल किया गया है। आज इसकी विश्व भर में चर्चा है और नारी शक्ति को सम्मान देने का जो यह तरीका है, इसका दुनिया भर में प्रचलन किया गया है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, इस बिल को बहुत ही सरल भाषा में ड्राफ्ट किया गया है। प्रधान मंत्री जी का हमेशा यह मार्गदर्शन रहा है कि कानून ऐसी भाषा में लिखा जाए कि अगर हमारा सामान्य मानवी भी उसको पढ़े, तो वह उसको पढ़कर समझ सके, उसका इंटरप्रेटेशन कर सके और उसका उपयोग कर सके। बहुत सारे विषय कई फोरम्स में उठे और शायद आज भी उठेंगे। मैं दो-तीन प्वाइंट्स को एकदम क्लियर करना चाहता हूँ। पहला आरटीआई के विषय में एक मुद्दा उठा है। Puttaswamy judgment आने के बाद Right to Privacy एक फंडामेंटल राइट बन गया है। जब फंडामेंटल राइट बना है, तो उसमें कानून द्वारा प्रदत्त प्रोविजन्स के तहत ही किसी के पर्सनल डेटा का पब्लिकेशन हो सकता है। उसके अलावा और किसी तरीके से पर्सनल इन्फॉर्मेशन को किसी भी पब्लिक फोरम में नहीं रखा जा सकता है। इसलिए Right to Information में जो contradiction था, उस contradiction को इस बिल के माध्यम से दूर किया गया है, लेकिन कानून में जैसे Representation of the People Act है, जितने हमारे माननीय सांसद महोदय हैं, जितने हमारे पब्लिक रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स हैं, उनका जितना पर्सनल डेटा है, date of birth, address आदि सभी चीजें, जिसे कानून कहता है कि रखना चाहिए, disclose करना चाहिए, वह अब भी disclose होगा।

दूसरा विषय आया कि क्या Puttaswamy judgment के सारे टैस्ट्स को यह बिल फॉलो करता है? यह Puttaswamy judgment है। बहुत भारी-भरकम, अच्छा और बड़ा जजमेंट है,

इसकी बड़ी वैल्यू है। इसमें जो तीनों टैस्ट्स हैं - legality, legitimacy and proportionality, इन तीनों टैस्ट्स को इस बिल में बहुत ही क्लियर तरीके से रखा गया है।

तीसरा, सरकार को जो exemptions दिए गए हैं, मैं उनके बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं आपके समक्ष रखना चाहूंगा कि दुनिया का जो सबसे stringent बिल है, GDPR जिसका यूरोप में पालन होता है, उसमें सरकारी कामकाज के लिए, कानून की व्यवस्था के लिए और कोर्ट्स की व्यवस्था के लिए 16 exemptions हैं। There are 16 exemptions in GDPR. We have given only four exemptions in this Bill. So, this Bill is pro-citizens. This Bill is very much pro-privacy. This Bill is very much in the spirit of the Government where we would like to make sure that every citizen's data is fully protected.

I request all the hon. Members to participate in the debate and pass this Bill with unanimous vote. Thank you.

*The question was proposed.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Now, Dr. Amar Patnaik.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Thank you, Madam Vice-Chairperson and thank you, hon. Minister. I think, what you forgot to mention, probably, is that this is one of the landmark legislations of our country ever after Independence, because, as you said correctly, this is protecting the data of 141.4 billion Indians — male, female, children and everyone. So, this is, actually, a Bill which should have been discussed. I would have been very happy if Members from the other side had been there to contribute and, probably, you could have taken some suggestions. Madam, as he has said, the most important thing is that this Right to Privacy has come into the Constitution through Puttaswamy judgment as a fundamental right. So, this right is now given to citizens by the Constitution.

What the Bill merely does is that it expands this right how to exercise it; otherwise, everyone will have to go to the Supreme Court for implementation of that right.

While remaining within the four corners of this judgement, which the hon. Minister was referring to, the purpose limitation, collection limitation, storage limitation, accountability, and quality, I will evaluate it from this point of view and within this framework.

There are several good things about the Bill. The most important thing is that after six years, after a lot of deliberations, we have finally got a law. And, mind you,



this is a law of the largest democracy in the world; a law for one of the largest countries in the world. The other most populous country, I do not know whether they are more than us, does not have a privacy law at all. No citizen enjoys privacy in China. So, this Bill should be welcomed. I wholeheartedly congratulate the Government, the hon. Prime Minister, and the hon. Minister for this entire thing.

Second, as he pointed out, this is a gender-neutral law. For the first time, the word 'her' has been used. And, this is in line with our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik's entire model of governance, that is, to empower women more and more. And, this will go on to actually empower our women. This falls in line with our ideology.

The third point is that the Supreme Court judgement of Puttaswamy, while saying that this is a fundamental right and personal data has to be protected, also says that we have to take advantage of this data for growth of digital economy, for growth of our country. So, balance has to be right there. There should be no regulatory overload. So, in this point, I support the Minister, the Government, and the Bill for no compliance overload at the threshold itself, at the beginning. The earlier versions had a compliance overload at the beginning.

The fourth point is that it is very simple and principle-based because rules should actually take care of the procedures, which is probably not there in the earlier versions of the Bill, or, even in the EU GDPR, to that extent.

The fifth point, which I want to point out, is about illustrations. I have not seen any Bill in the Government that writes illustrations.

The sixth point is that it has created a strong deterrence against data breach. While making the threshold easy — it is not timing innovation -- it has made the punishments harsh so that people will try to build their own mechanisms to protect the data of citizens. It has removed the concept of anonymised data. I will explain this in one line that they were using the previous versions or even the EU GDPR uses the fact that if you can encrypt your data, then, others can use it. But this Bill, to that extent, treats personal data *per se*, whether anonymised or non-anonymised, if it can be related to that particular person, then, I think it falls under the regulations of this particular Bill. It is a very positive thing.

The seventh point is about the alternate dispute redressal in Clause 31, which the hon. Minister referred to. It is very nice. I would like to say that the hon. Minister mentioned about voluntary compliance. So, now I will refer to that particular provision straight away. That particular provision is in Clause 32. I will refer to Clause 32(4). The Clause 32 (4) says, "The acceptance of the voluntary undertaking by the Board shall constitute a bar on proceedings under the provisions of this Act, as regards the

contents of the voluntary undertaking, except in cases covered by sub-section (5).” This is something like a commitment under the Competition Law, which we brought in. But, the point is, how can it be a bar if the data principal himself or herself is not satisfied? This is something that, I think, you have to examine.

Now, I come to some of the suggestions, which I hope the hon. Minister will take his strides and would probably incorporate some of these in the rules. While we are most eloquent about data protection, I did not find certain words in the Bill. The Supreme Court judgement was full of ‘informational privacy’ all over. This ‘privacy’ word is missing in the Bill. The word ‘compensation’ is missing in the Bill. The word ‘harm’ is missing in the Bill. Why harm is important? I know it has been excluded because of a purpose. But, I will make my argument why it is probably necessary.

In Clause 2, which has the definitions, the sub-clause 2(o) outlines “gain” means and “loss” means. It basically interprets the entire data breach in financial terms. What happens if there is a reputational loss because of a data breach? What happens if there is a bodily injury? Now, you might say that you can use the I.P.C. and the Cr.P.C. to try that person. But it has to be read with this particular Act in order to make the provision stronger and stringent for such kind of breaches because reputational breach for a woman is much stronger than that of a man. And, reputational breach might even lead to suicides. So, this is the point which I wish the hon. Minister would clarify.

The next point, Clause 3, is relating to processing. It covers only Indians. It gives the description. So, my clarification from the hon. Minister would be this. In our Fundamental Rights, the word is ‘person’ and not ‘citizen’. So, any person enjoys the Fundamental Rights in our country. If it is ‘Indians’ or ‘anyone’, what about other country’s data processed in India? If there is a breach, what happens to that?

The hon. Minister spoke about data minimisation as one of the guiding principles. But, unfortunately, in Clause 4(2), there is no such provision; it is only limited to purpose limitation. Data minimisation is as a preventive measure against future data breaches. I think this is something which probably has been missed out somewhere which was there in the earlier version of the Bill.

I will now come to Clause 7, which is relating to certain legitimate uses. The Clause 7 at page no. 6, says, “A Data Fiduciary may process personal data of a Data Principal for any of the following uses, namely...” — they have given the things. And one of these Clauses, that is, sub-clause (b) says, “for the State and any of its instrumentalities to provide or issue to the Data Principal such subsidy, benefit, service, certificate, licence or permit as may be prescribed, where..” And, then, sub-clause 7(b)(ii) says, “such personal data is available in digital form in, or in non-

digital form and digitised subsequently from..” -- I am not reading the whole thing to say—“..which is maintained by the State or any of its instrumentalities and is notified by the Central Government.” I fail to understand why it is to be notified by the Central Government. There are State laws. States give benefits; States give the same things. (*Time-bell rings.*) States give subsidy, benefits, service, certificate, licence, permits, a lot of these things. Everything is given by the State, and they are governed by the State laws, State schemes. Why should it to be notified by the Central Government? Therefore, my plea is that, here, somewhere, appropriate Government, whether Central or State, has to be brought into the Bill. And, number two, the adjudication mechanism or the grievance redressal mechanism has to be, therefore, linked to that particular thing, that the State Level Data Protection Boards have to be set up. The hon. Minister said, ‘digital by design’. I think, ‘by design’ is more important because even 25 per cent of people in rural areas do not have access to a device or internet. In rural Odisha, let us say, the total internet intensity is, I think, 36 per cent. So, this is something one has to think about. And, my argument, once again, is that in one of the conditions, for selection of Chairman, you have said that he may be proficient in consumer protection. So, you admit that consumer protection law is similar, in which case, the consumer protection authorities are available at the district level itself. And, they do deal with cases in which e-commerce platforms are supplying and fail to give the right kind of food, the right kind of services or goods.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Hon. Member, please conclude.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Then, I come to the point relating to the power of the Government. I think the power of the Government, that is Section 10, has come in the rules. ‘The Central Government or the Board should have the power to conduct audits and inspections at any time. This is a provision which has been probably missed out.’

Another point again at Clause 9(5) says, “The Central Government may, if satisfied that a Data Fiduciary has ensured that its processing of personal data of children is done in a manner...” Now the State Governments have equal right. Why should it not be the State Government? If a child's privacy has been affected in Malkangiri, or, let us say, in Kashmir or Ladakh, why should the Central Government be all the time the one who has to run to get it notified or satisfied that the Data Fiduciary has made a mistake?

The next point is relating to Clause 17. The Minister talked about 'exemptions.' But, I think, the 'proportionality' aspect which is one of the foundations of the Puttaswamy Judgement is not mentioned in this. I would suggest this has to come somewhere here if it will be tested against the Puttaswamy judgement later in the constitutional courts.

'Reasonableness', 'fairness', 'necessity' and 'proportionality', these four have come in. We may have the least number of exemptions. But we need to have it. While imposing these particular exemptions, it should not be blanket but as narrow as possible. And the restrictions at 17(2)(a) which have been mentioned, I think, should be restricted to Article 19(2), that is, 'Reasonable Restrictions', which has been given. I carry Article 19(2) in which one of the provisions where 'reasonable restrictions' shall apply is 'decency' or 'morality'. 'Decency or morality' cannot be done in terms of gain or less. So, this should actually feature somewhere in terms of breach of data leading to indecency or immoral activities leading to or reputational laws leading to bodily injuries or anything more.

Another point which I would like to say, hon. Vice-Chairman Madam, is the fact that there is at page 12, Clause 17(3), which has been a carve-out on 'exemptions' which has been given for start-ups and the carve-out has been given for maintaining the confidentiality, integrity of the data. ...*(Time-bell rings.)*... I think, for any start-up, even 'confidentiality and integrity' should be a feature. They have to do this much basic minimum. Carve-out could be given to them to reduce their compliance cost. But carve-out may not be given to them for maintaining the confidentiality, integrity and completeness of the data because this data, if it is incomplete, using Generative AI, it can give you completely different relations and discrimination may continue. So, the hon. Minister may kindly consider it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Hon. Member, please conclude.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Madam, I will just take one more minute, with the Minister's permission.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Thirty seconds. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: With the Chair's permission.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: The Chair's permission, Madam. ...*(Interruptions)*... I was referring to the BJP side. ...*(Interruptions)*... Madam, by the way, the Minister is also representing Odisha. So, he is with us.

The point here is relating to the powers, functions and procedures to be followed by the Board. It is Clause 27. Now this particular Board will be sitting in judgement over possible data breaches by organizations like the Central Government, State Government, Chief Minister's Office, Supreme Court, High Court, Chief Election Commissioner, CAG, all the constitutional bodies. So, do you think the current structure which has been prescribed would be sufficient to handle data breach by these organizations which are themselves constitutional bodies and impose penalty on them in case such a breach has happened?

The appellate tribunal, I think, is an innovation that they have done instead of building another tribunal.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Now I call upon the next speaker.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Madam, I will finish. I support this particular thing because the hon. Minister has already clarified the RTI aspect but in RTI aspect, I think, there is also a necessity of clarifying one thing. It says, 'Information which relates to personal information.' But personal information has not been defined in the Bill. It is personal data. So, I think, that particular clarity also has to be brought in; and the penalties have to be ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Thank you. Shri S Niranjana Reddy.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Madam, just last 30 seconds. It is about penalties; the penalties in the Schedule, Clause 33(1). The penalty for breach in observance of additional obligations in relation to children under Clause 9 has been made Rs. 200 crores.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Hon. Member, your time is up.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: You know penalty against children has to be much more stringent. It should be Rs. 250 crores. Thank you, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Shri S Niranjan Reddy.

SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, I have one serious objection in relation to the Bill, which I want to ventilate to the hon. Minister personally. This seems to be like a conspiracy against lawyers because the language is so simple. Normally, we lawyers use the expression 'a lawyer's thicket'. If the language is complex, then the lawyers tend to make hay. Now, I think the hon. Minister wants to keep the lawyers out of business.

Madam, my friend, hon. Member, Dr. Amar Patnaik, had mentioned another very interesting feature of this Act, which is that they have used illustrations. Now, when I am referring to laws very regularly, I go back to the Contract Act of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and a few of the very old laws where illustrations have been used. After a very long time, this Act too uses illustrations for explaining the point, which, as a senior counsel, I found very useful, because some of these terms are very new to most of us. So, when I saw the illustrations, I could immediately understand what the Section meant. So, this is a very significant feature of the new legislative policy that the Central Government has undertaken. I compliment the Prime Minister, the hon. Minister and the Government.

Madam, I think, the Bill starts off on a very interesting and important point where it treats the person receiving the information as a fiduciary. So, this is in the nature of a trust. I think, that itself sets out the context as to the responsibility that the person who is getting the information ought to discharge when information is shared by an individual. So, the use of the expression 'fiduciary', just one expression, quickly sets out the whole context of the responsibilities that are placed on them. So, this is, again very laconic and very quickly explaining the entire responsibility of the person.

Now, Madam, as I mentioned, the Act is simple, it is principle-based, it does not offer too much of complexity, but I think a few areas can be improved without deviating from the architecture of the Act. One, I too have a concern. As hon. Member, Dr. Amar Patnaik mentioned, notwithstanding the hon. Minister's statement that privacy would be fully protected and the *Puttaswamy* judgement of the hon. Supreme Court judgement would be fully covered, I would, as a lawyer, still be little worried that the power which has been granted, of exempting the Government, is a little sweeping. It is, possibly, capable of a misuse at some point of time in future, but I also find that Clause 37 of the Bill enables the Government to issue further directions giving effect to the provisions of the Act itself. Now, I welcome the hon. Minister's statement that no part of the *Puttaswamy* judgement or the right to privacy as a

fundamental right is intended to be breached. So, if this power of Clause 37 is used, if certain directions can be given, in the nature of guidelines or any other manner that the hon. Minister may deem fit, then, we put at rest any worries or qualms on this front. It may possibly set at rest a lot of these misguided apprehensions.

Then, Madam, the second feature that I find is the cross-border processing that has been restricted. In certain sense, Clause 10(2) states that this Act would be applicable for the cross-border processing of any information only if goods and services are provided in India. Now, this may take outside the fold of processing of information for any potential harms that may eventually be inflicted on India. So, apart from the Act being made applicable when goods and services are rendered in India, I would suggest that the Government may consider whether they also need to include the mischief of any harm being visited upon any citizens or persons in India by processing of the Indian citizen's private data outside India.

Then, Madam, the fourth point that I wanted to mention is with regard to the provisions relating to children. Clause 9(5) provides that the Central Government may, if it is satisfied that a particular data fiduciary has maintained a particular safety threshold, then, specific to that data fiduciary, the Central Government may lower the age from 18. Just to give the reference of other countries very quickly, UK and US have an age-limit of 13 years, which has been looked as the threshold age for children to give consent. EU has 18, but Member States can reduce it to 13. Possibly India has taken 18 as the age because that is the contractual age, for the purpose of a person giving consent to enter into a contract.

But, while that may be, I am suggesting that the Central Government power, instead of it being Data Fiduciary specific, it could be sector specific. For instance, it could be an education sector because a lot of children are now using data for the purpose of educating themselves; it could be a particular gaming sector which is not taking money. If sector-specific power is exercised by the Central Government, a lot of Central Government responsibility can be given to the Data Protection Board with regard to Data Fiduciary specific exemption for reducing the age. So, the Central Government sets out the areas where the age can be reduced and the Data Protection Board will grant permission to the Data Fiduciaries which maintain that safety threshold. One other important thing that, I thought, I must bring the Government's attention to, is the exemption provision for Data Fiduciaries, class of Data Fiduciaries or start-ups. This should not be misused because a potential big data aggregator could set up, what we call, data mining start-up. The only purpose of the start-up will be that it will call itself start-up. It will mine data if there is an exemption granted to all categories of start-ups and use the data for the purpose of

channelling it for some other purposes. So, some of the exemptions that are likely to be granted may have to be conditioned by specific conditions that may be mentioned. Lastly, the concept of Consent Manager is a very welcome step.

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

SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY: Yes, I will finish it within one minute. The concept of Consent Manager is a very welcome feature because what may happen is that a lot of people could then grant that right to a Consent Manager. But some of these provisions relating to how a Consent Manager would then operate need to be fleshed out a little more. This is an enabling feature in the Act. It is welcome. But, as I mentioned, it may have to be fleshed out a little more. So, I would compliment the Government for coming up with a progressive light-touch regulation. I know that the Government is testing the waters. It is reposing trust on a wide variety of factors. I am sure the Government would come in and make more stringent provisions if this trust is going to be breached by any of the persons. So, for a starting step, I think, we have a first-rate legislation and I compliment the Government. My party fully supports it. Thank you.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. The Bill was brought earlier also. Now, the Government has come with a new Bill. With regard to this Bill, we go to the definition straightaway. Clause 7 deals with certain legitimate uses. Clause 2(d) says, "'certain legitimate uses' means the uses referred to in Section 7". But Section 7 does not indicate any definition with regard to certain legitimate uses. This Section 7, 'Certain legitimate uses', empowers the State to process the personal data to Data Principal under 9 situations referred here in (a) to (i). Except sub-clause (a), "For the specified purpose for which the Data Principal has voluntarily provided her personal data...", the rest of eight situations give the Government complete power to process the personal data on one pretext or the other. In view of this, there is a serious concern among the public-spirited people that the Bill promotes State surveillance. It is an important aspect to be looked into. There is a clear-cut ambiguity in the definition and also its implementation. Clause 6 says, "The consent given by the Data Principal shall be free, specific, informed, unconditional and unambiguous..." This is also important with regard to the consent.



Now, certain things have to be clarified, like how to obtain consent and the procedure for obtaining consent. If it is consent under contract act, there are specific issues, like undue influence and coercion. Certain apprehensions are there in this regard. On technical ground, if consent has already been obtained under Clause 6, they can't proceed on its own.

Now, I come to Clause 16. It states, "The Central Government may, by notification, restrict the transfer of personal data..." This Clause is about processing of personal data outside India. Clause 16(2) states, "Nothing contained in this section shall restrict the applicability of any law for the time being in force in India that provides for a higher degree of protection for or restriction on transfer of personal data by a Data Fiduciary outside India in relation to any personal data or Data Fiduciary or class thereof."

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): You have one more minute to conclude.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: It is an important subject, Madam. Then, I come to Clause 18 which provides for establishment of Data Protection Board of India. Plain reading of Clause 18 reveals that the Government has too much influence over the proposed Data Protection Board. This clause does not stipulate as to how many members will be there on the Board. This has given more power to the Central Government to have members of their choice. On the one hand, the Government talks about not having a surveillance State, and, on the other hand, it has given vast powers to the Executive arm of the State to prescribe composition of the Data Protection Board of India. This is not a good symptom and this has to be reconsidered.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Now, Shri G.K. Vasan.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: This is my last point. I wanted to talk about Clause 44, but before that, I come to Clause 29. There is no specific provision with regard to the appellate authority. It has to be read with Clause 44. Clause 44 deals with three enactments, that is, Information Technology Act, the Right to Information Act, and the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act. All these three

Acts will be amended. \*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Thank you. It is not going on record. Your time is over. Now, Shri G.K. Vasam, your time has started.

SHRI G.K. VASAM (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I stand here to support this Bill on behalf of my Party. We all know that there has been unprecedented growth in the digital sector in India. There is no doubt about that. At the same time, when the amount of data we produce increases, some of the dangers also increase in the country. Cyber criminals, hackers and even hostile countries might use lapses in our system to compromise on our database, thereby seriously affecting citizens' security and the national security. I would like the hon. Minister to throw light on this subject.

Then, one more important issue is that almost one-third of Internet users are under 18 years of age. The new Bill ensures that no organisation or individual would be able to process the data of a minor person without the approval of the parents or the guardian, thereby ensuring a safe digital space where there is no danger about any form of harm. We see in televisions and newspapers that small children are subjected to tests by many people using this data. I am sure this will protect them. At the same time, when it comes to the question of national security and maintaining law and order, what is accountability and responsibility? I am sure the hon. Minister will throw light on this aspect.

The last point, which I would like to make, is that for medical research, we need data about medical profile of patients. Will this Bill be detrimental to medical research which is based on statistics? This particular Bill will play a large role in fulfilling Prime Minister's vision of transforming India into a developed country with digitisation drive as one of the key pillars in a manner that would protect and never compromise our citizens' privacy and security. With these words, I support the Bill.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, on behalf of my Party and my leader, I support the Bill. There is only one issue, which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister, through you. I will take only two minutes. The issue is how to prevent the telephone tapping. Madam, telephone tapping, mobile telephone tapping can be done by taking control of the speaker which we have in the telephone or even the camera we have on the reverse of the telephone. We need not necessarily use the service provide or what is called telephone tower. I have physically seen the

---

\* Not recorded.

demonstration given by a foreign company that through any app, whether it is WhatsApp or FaceTime or Telegram or Signal, anything can be tapped. They gave a demonstration also and I have physically seen it with my own eyes. The only condition what is imposed by these companies which are selling this software abroad is that they will sell the software only to the Government or Government institutions but in the guise of buying it for the Government department, there are so many private players who are buying and using such software for their own personal purposes with ulterior motives. For an academic purpose, when I negotiated and enquired, I came to know that there are about 15 to 20 software and the cost of each ranges from fifty crore to hundred crore of rupees. Those who could afford to spend an amount of fifty crore to hundred crore of rupees with an annual maintenance contract of perhaps 20 per cent amount can tap anybody's telephone. I can send a bug to my political opponent, Ravindra Kumar ji or he can send a bug to my telephone, which they have done in their regime during 2014-19. When Telugu Desam Party ruled the State, they sent bugs and tapped our telephones.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Please speak on the Bill.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: There is a possibility that the telephone can be tapped and the data can be procured.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Please conclude. You have one minute left.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: I am concluding, Madam. I request the hon. Minister to find out a solution. The sellers who are selling such software to the Government or the Government department, it is fine -- I do not know whether the law prevents it or permits it -- but what about those who are buying it in the name of the Government departments and are using such software for their personal purposes, particularly, for tapping personal data. People like Ravindra Kumar will target my personal data, and, that has to be protected. Finally, I want to know from the hon. Minister how he will protect my personal data from these institutions or companies who are trying to secure the personal data through illegal means. Thank you. We support this Bill.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Madam, on behalf of my party, I support the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill brought by Ashwini ji. I am very happy that the

Minister has not introduced it irrationally. He introduced it and also referred it to a parliamentary committee. It has gone through the Joint Parliamentary Committee. It has given many recommendations. That is the procedure. And the procedure has been followed. Other Members have given so many suggestions. I think he would have taken note of that.

But in this, one worry is regarding the health data. If any person collects the data on health condition from hospital, how are you going to protect that? When you go to a hospital, even that may be revealed. When any Minister goes to a hospital, immediately the media is there. It says that the Minister has got some health problem or heart attack. It is publicised. From hospital itself it is going. Even if you confidentially go to a hospital in your car, before even you reach there, the media is publishing it. It will tell that the Minister or the MP is facing this problem. This kind of personal thing is revealed. How are you going to protect that? I don't know that. But this is very important. Whatever personal problems we are having, that should not be revealed. Doctors can analyse it because they have every right to see that. They have given the treatment. It is a confidential thing. Lawyers discuss certain confidential points with their clients because they argue for them in the matter. Now digital systems have come. Most of the people are using digital systems. As the hon. Member, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy, said, even telephones are tapped when we speak. The Government says that tapping takes place in certain cases. You would have heard how many scams have been unearthed because of telephone tapping of politicians by the Government. It is this ruling party now. Afterwards, they will be the opposition party. That kind of data or information is going. That is why we have the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill which frames the rights and duties of a citizen on the one hand. On the other hand, there are obligations to collect the data lawfully in fiduciary capacity. The Bill is based on certain principles.

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

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: Madam, we don't know what this is. I can't speak anything. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): The hon. Minister, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, to reply to the discussion.

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Madam, very important points have been raised by the

hon. Members. I would like to respond to them in brief. Very erudite explanations came in the discussion about the Bill. I thank all the hon. Members who participated in the discussion. I have special thanks for Dr. Patnaik and Mr. Reddy. Both of you are big lawyers. You have noted some points which are very important. As the hon. Member, Mr. Reddy, said, this is a law in which the language has been very simple. Thank you very much for noting this point. Dr. Patnaik mentioned that data minimization principle has not been included. It has been included. If you read Clause 6 (1), you will find that the data minimization principle has been included. Second is regarding voluntary undertaking of Clause 32 (4). Clause 32 (4) is applicable when the Data Protection Board has heard both the sides. That is why we have written 'may'. We have not written 'shall'. That will, basically, cover this point. Third is the question about the applicability. It was raised both by Mr. Reddy and Dr. Patnaik. Mr. Reddy mentioned it in the context of cross-border data transfer. The world of data does not follow the physical boundaries of nations. That is why when we legislate anything related to data, some of the concepts, which are evolving in the entire world today, have been included. There are many more things which are still evolving. This is a field where so many things are happening. Practically every quarter, something new happens like generative AI has come. So, we wanted the Bill to be drafted in a way which is technology agnostic and which should be able to stand the progress of technology without requiring amendment again and again as and when new technology comes in. That is why some of these provisions have been kept and many of the things will evolve as the Data Protection Board gives its rulings and people understand what is happening and what further needs to be done. That flexibility is there. We have kept this Bill primarily on principles. We have not kept it prescriptive. So, that gives the flexibility of evolving as the sector evolves. There are many points about startups. The carve-out is only on the compliance; carve-out is not on the violation of the basic principles. It is carve-out on the compliance and when a startup proves a product, then, it becomes a regular. So, if you read Clause 17 related to carve-out, it does not mention startups. It, basically, mentions certain classes of data fiduciaries which give us the flexibility to create a regulatory sandbox. And once the regulatory sandbox is used for proving the product, then, the entire law can apply. There were other things about Clause 37. That is about repetitive violations. If any data fiduciary does not respect the law, then, obviously, some stricter force has to be included in the law. Mr. V. Vijayasai Reddy mentioned about surveillance. This entire Bill, the concept of data protection and the legislation has been brought in primarily for the purpose of bringing in protection of personal data. As far as surveillance and other things are concerned, they are always considered as per law and as per the very well

established procedures framed by the hon. Supreme Court of India. Another hon. Member mentioned about research of medical data. The research part is exempted from the Bill, basically, by Clause 17. You may kindly read that clause. It will give you the details. There was a point of protecting medical health data. Health data is also personal data. So, that will also be protected. I thank hon. Members for excellent discussion.

In the end, I would like to mention one more very important point. Our country is a very diverse country. We have a very rich culture. A large number of languages are spoken. In this Bill, we have attempted that all the languages mentioned in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution should be given due importance. That is why any consent form or any notice will have to be offered in any of the 22 languages of the Eighth Schedule. So, this will give a lot of accessibility to the common citizens. Thank you very much, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): The question is:

That the Bill to provide for the processing of digital personal data in a manner that recognises both the right of individuals to protect their personal data and the need to process such personal data for lawful purposes 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. In Clause 2, there are two Amendments; Amendment (No.2) by Shri Binoy Viswam and Amendment (No.22) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Members are absent; Amendments not moved.

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 3, there are two Amendments; Amendments (Nos.23 and 24) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 3 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 4 and 5 were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 6, there are two Amendments; Amendments (Nos.3 and 4) by Shri Binoy Viswam. Hon. Member is absent; Amendments not moved.

*Clause 6 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 7, there are eight Amendments; Amendments (Nos. 5 to 8) by Shri Binoy Viswam and Amendments (Nos. 25 to 28) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Members are absent; Amendments not moved.

*Clause 7 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 8, there are six Amendments; Amendments (Nos. 29 to 34) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Member is absent; Amendments not moved.

*Clause 8 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 9, there are four Amendments; Amendments (Nos. 35 to 38) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Member is absent; Amendments not moved.

*Clause 9 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 10 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 11, there is one Amendment (No.39) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 11 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 12 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 13, there is one Amendment (No.9) by Shri Binoy Viswam. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 13 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 14 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 15, there are two Amendments (Nos. 10 to 11) by Shri Binoy Viswam. Hon. Member is absent; Amendments not moved.

*Clause 15 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 16 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 17, there are six Amendments; Amendment (No.12) by Shri Binoy Viswam, Amendments (Nos. 18 to 19) by Shri A.D. Singh and Amendments (Nos. 40 to 42) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Members are absent; Amendments not moved.

*Clause 17 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 18 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 19, there are three Amendments; Amendment (No.13) by Shri Binoy Viswam, Amendment (No.20) by Shri A.D. Singh and Amendment (No.43) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Members are absent; Amendments not moved.

*Clause 19 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 20 and 21 were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 22, there is one Amendment (No.44) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 22 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 23 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 24, there is one Amendment (No.45) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 24 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 25 and 26 were added to the Bill.*



THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 27, there is one Amendment (No.46) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 27 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 28, there is one Amendment (No.14) by Shri Binoy Viswam. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 28 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 29 to 31 were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 32, there is one Amendment (No.47) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 32 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 33 to 35 were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 36, there is one Amendment (No.15) by Shri Binoy Viswam. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 36 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 37, there is one Amendment (No.16) by Shri Binoy Viswam. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 37 was added to the Bill.*

*Clause 38 was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 39, there is one Amendment (No.48) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Member is absent; Amendment not moved.

*Clause 39 was added to the Bill.  
Clauses 40 to 43 were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Clause 44, there are three Amendments; Amendment (No.17) by Shri Binoy Viswam; Amendment (No.21) by Shri A.D. Singh and Amendment (No.49) by Dr. John Brittas. Hon. Members are absent; Amendments not moved.

*Clause 44 was added to the Bill.*

**6.00 P.M.**

*Clause 1 and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): In Long Title, there is one Amendment (No.1) by Shri Binoy Viswam. Hon. Member absent; Amendment not moved.

*The Long Title was added to the Bill.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): Now Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw to move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Madam, I move:  
That the Bill be passed.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): Madam, in today's Legislative Business List, there are a couple of more Bills that are listed. But I would propose that we take up the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023, as passed by the Lok Sabha for consideration and dispose it of. Till then, we may extend the sitting of the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): So we agree that we extend the time beyond 6 o'clock. It is the sense of the House.

### **The Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): The Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023; Shri Parshottam Rupala to move a motion for consideration of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

THE MINISTER OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): Madam, I move:

"That the Bill to amend the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration".

*The question was proposed.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI S. PHANGNON KONYAK): There is one Amendment by Dr. V. Sivadasan for reference of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) 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. Hon. Member absent; Amendment not moved. I now call upon the Members whose names have been received for participation in the discussion. Dr. Sasmit Patra.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Thank you, Madam. It is a Bill which is extremely crucial and important to the State of Odisha. Since it is important to the State of Odisha, I come from the State of Odisha; we have 480 kilometres of coastline. At the outset, I would like to thank the hon. Minister for bringing such a wonderful Bill and I, my party, the Biju Janata Dal, and our leader, hon. Chief Minister, Naveen Patnaikji, we support this Bill. It is a good Bill and needs to have come. Madam, there are two or three issues that I would like to raise at this point of time, rather two or three matters. We have talked about the Green Revolution that has taken place in our country. We have talked about the White Revolution that has taken place in our country. Today, we are at the cusp of the Blue Revolution, because of the Blue economy that has been brought in by the hon. Minister and this Government, and I, equivocally, support this move that has been brought about. There are two specific areas. One is, the State of Odisha has a 480 kilometres of coastline. There are immense opportunities. Rupalaji is a very sensitive, very considerate and a compassionate Minister, I am sure that he will consider this request to set up a research facility in the State of Odisha, which would primarily research not only on the species, but also those specific features, that have been brought in in research and

development, how to ensure that pathogens and other such diseases are kept away and how to ensure through research and development that proper protocols are set in terms of ensuring that aquaculture can be taken place, will be there.

I can tell you, on behalf of our Government in Odisha, we will provide you all support. But, considering that Odisha today is doing so well in aquaculture, it would be a wonderful approach to have a research centre there which would work on these areas. Second, the Chilika Lake, we all know is the largest brakish lake, and Chilika Lake has a huge biodiversity and is a prime area for aquaculture, especially, shrimp farming is something that has been done over a period of time. It needs to be more strengthened, it needs to be more structured. The hon. Minister who is so kind, and recently, he was in Bhubaneswar, he held meetings, and I am sure that he will take it forward along with hon. Minister, MoS. I know my hon. colleagues are quite impatient to actually get it ended, I will just talk about two or three points. One, a wonderful thing that the Bill is talking about is the aquaculture input. Now, in the aquaculture input, they are talking about specifying growth supplements, environment remediators and disinfectants. Usually, Madam, aquaculture inputs are the cause for poisoning in aquaculture and, therefore, it is critical and most important that the protocol should be set by the Ministry and taken down to the farmers on the ground so that appropriate growth supplement, remediators and disinfectants can be taken care of. Second, a wonderful thing has been done in terms of aqua mapping. I think aqua mapping is a wonderful thing where geospatial coastal area distribution and maps providing potential and coastal aquaculture is coming up. I think, this is the first time in the country and will be a landmark where specific areas would be identified. I would request the hon. Minister to share it with the States like Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu so that we can also share with the entrepreneurs and the Start-ups in the coastal areas, to look at how they can do maximum potential in doing so.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI) *in the Chair.*]

Sir, there has been a biosecure facility that has been actually introduced now in this specific Bill, which talks about adopting such biosecurity measures for ensuring freedom from disease causing pathogens. Many times, this stays within the confines of research and development. I would urge the hon. Minister to integrate this entire research and development with the agricultural universities. Many agricultural universities like in Odisha, viz., the Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, it does a lot of extension work among the farmers in the aquaculture area as well. So, I would urge that if they could also integrate it and do extension activities, it would be

really nice. I would come to biosecurity, and in biosecurity, I would say that they have talked about a very good initiative which is to manage and prevent the risk of introduction of spread of harmful organisms including viruses and bacterias within coastal aquaculture unit.

This would be my last point, Sir, and I will close with this. I have seen personally on the coastline of Odisha, many entrepreneurs who are doing extremely well and they have got a good harvest and suddenly, such bacterias and viruses come in. It not only destroys the harvest, it destroys the entire business. And, they can never recoup from that business that they have. Therefore, some kind of a remedial measure whether it is a credit linked facility, whether it is a reinsurance or reinsurance model; some form has to be provided because today, when we are talking about Make-in-India and Start-up India, we have to realise innovation and Start-ups need some support. So, if in the harvest season, suddenly, there is a poisoning or some kind of a pathogen walks in, it destroys the entire flock and, thereby, the entire industry goes into a collapse. It is not only limited to animal husbandry and fisheries, it is a larger perspective. But, I am sure, hon. Minister with his wisdom, with his wide experience, will be able to find a measure by which he will be able to undertake this. With these words, on behalf of Biju Janata Dal and our Leader, hon. Chief Minister, we wholeheartedly support the Bill. Thank you.

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Vice-Chairman, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on the very important Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023. For your kind information, Sir, this is my maiden speech. Kindly allow me to speak for fifteen minutes.

Hon. Vice Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill on behalf of our YSR Congress Party and our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Andhra Pradesh is a very important State as 60 per cent of the aqua produce of India comes from the State of Andhra Pradesh. The remaining 40 per cent comes from the rest of the country. It is having thousand kilometres long coastline also. I feel proud to be a Member of this august House as first generation entrepreneur of aqua industry practising in all the segments of this industry. I have been seeing the rise, the fall and the rise of aqua industry over the past thirty-two years. Aquaculture in general and shrimp industry in particular has grown to this stage mostly due to the enterprise and hard work of the farmers and the small-time entrepreneurs. This sector had to wade through several regulatory and procedural hurdles and litigation by environmental activists. In spite of all these advances in technology, this sector is still going through the challenges of reaching sustainability due to the internal and external factors.

Despite all these obstacles, today, aqua industry has been growing consistently with an average 8 per cent annual growth over the past one decade, mainly under the able leadership of our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi and hon. Minister, Shri Parshottam Rupala and particularly in Andhra Pradesh, under the leadership of our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy because 60 per cent of the produce is coming from Andhra Pradesh alone. If the regulatory roadblocks are removed and procedures simplified, India can become the world leader in aquaculture with the kind of natural resources in the coastal areas and fresh water bodies we have.

With your permission and for the appreciation of the learned Members of this House, I would like to trace the history of aquaculture development in our country very quickly. India has a coastline of 8,129 kilometres and an estimated potential brackish water area of 1.24 million hectares. India is one of the top fish producers and ranks second in aquaculture production in the world. It is estimated that India has 11,86,442 hectares of land area that has potential for brackish water aquaculture. However, an area of about 1,84,263 hectares, i.e., only 15.5 per cent is only used for brackish water aquaculture at present in India. The above-stated brackish water resources have huge potential for both fish and shellfish culture; shrimps, crabs, lobsters, etc. Apart from that, India reportedly has 2,33,900 hectares of saline and alkaline soils. Out of which, only 147 hectares, i.e., 0.63 per cent is being utilised. The estimated cumulative brackish water area available in India now stands at 14.2 lakh hectares. Out of which, only 1.84 lakh hectares, i.e., 12.98 per cent are under aquaculture. ...*(Time-Bell rings.)*... Sir, this is my maiden speech.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): It is not your maiden speech. I have listened to you three times.

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: No, Sir.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Please speak.

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: Thank you, Sir. This is a very, very important Bill. For your kind information, there was no separate Minister of Fisheries earlier. After our hon. Prime Minister has come to power, in 2019 itself, this came into existence with huge budget allocation of Rs. 20,000 crores for the years 2019-2024. That is why the production has doubled. We are really thankful to our hon. Prime Minister and our hon. Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and our hon. Chief Minister

of Andhra Pradesh and Chief Ministers of the Coastal States because it is mainly concentrating on the coastal areas.

Apart from that, for ten years now, the fisheries sector has exhibited strong growth, 8 per cent per year on an average, with aquaculture growing at an annual average of 18 percentage. India also has a thriving seafood export market, valued at US\$ 7 billion per annum, and fish and shrimp are the largest agriculture export commodities of India. Expanding from US\$ 8 billion in 2006, the exports from this sector is likely to surpass US\$ 70 billion by 2030 under our Prime Minister's able leadership. India has shown continuous and sustained increments in shrimp production from the level of 75,000 MT during 2008-09 to a record 11.84 lakh tons in 2022-23.

India's seafood exports doubled from Rs. 30,213 crore in 2013-14 to Rs. 63,969 crore in 2022-23 with shrimp contributing the lion's share of exports, that is, Rs. 43,135 crore under the able leadership of our hon. Prime Minister and Andhra Pradesh's Chief Minister. In fact, the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have contributed substantially to the growth of aquaculture shrimp production and export.

Sir, on the historical development of shrimp culture in India, shrimp farming in India started with the Government of India scheme of all India coordinated research project on brackish water fish farming in 1976-78 at Polekoru farm, near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh. The Tiger Shrimp culture in the country, which is your native species, developed very rapidly during early 1990s. However, with the outbreak of white spot disease syndrome in later half of 1994, the industry was on the edge of near collapse. To combat the challenges of P. Monodon farming, L. vannamei, that is the black tiger farming, widely cultivated in the U.S. and the Western Hemisphere was considered as an alternative species owing to its specific pathogen free status. The Government of India subsequently permitted the commercial production of L. vannamei in the country in 2009 with the strict regulatory guidelines.

With the introduction of white shrimp, that is, P. vannamei into the country, there has been a boom in coastal aquaculture. As a result, India has emerged as one of the largest shrimp producers and exporters in the world. Today, coastal aquaculture is one of the major success stories crafted by thousands of hardworking small aqua farmers and educated youth of two to four hectares landholdings around the fulcrum of vibrant policy support of Government. Coastal aquaculture facilitated creation of millions of jobs and self-employment opportunities, enhanced incomes of aqua farmers, catalyzed growth of aquaculture businesses and entrepreneurship and enabled development of vibrant aqua culture support industry.

Presently, a total of 428 shrimp production, hatcheries spread all over the coastal lands with the production of 125 billion shrimp seeds per annum to cater to the needs of aqua farmers. India has the installed feed production capacity of 2.8 million tons per annum as against the current requirement for around 1.2 million MT of shrimp feed per annum. Indian seafood processing industry has 613 registered seafood processing facilities with the processing capacity of 33,653 MT per day.

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

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: Yes, Sir, this is a very important Bill. I am speaking for the first time. It is with a great pain, our hon. Minister of Fisheries, after visiting Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Tamil Nadu and coastal States, personally got an idea to protect this industry. We are thankful to our hon. Minister.

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी):** मछली पकड़ने के मास्टर हैं।

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: The Indian coastal aquaculture sector had witnessed the nightmare during the 1990s with the perception that coastal aquaculture is polluting, leading to enforcement of Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification-1991, which triggered the hon. apex court's landmark ruling in S. Jagannath vs. Union of India and others, coupled with the devastation caused by the White Spot Syndrome Virus (WSSV).

This has brought the Indian coastal aquaculture sector to the verge of its collapse. Constitution of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority under the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005, on the direction of the hon. Supreme Court of India saved the sector from collapse. Eighteen years have gone after the enactment of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005.

The coastal aquaculture sector bounced back during the last one decade with an annual average growth rate of eleven per cent. Though the Principal Act has specifically excluded coastal aquaculture from the purview of CRZ notification, the legal entities and courts have passed orders in contrary to it. Further, Section 13 (8) of the Principal Act which prohibits coastal aquaculture within the "No Development Zone" of the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) has been interpreted by the legal entities and courts to be applicable to the hatcheries due to the lack of clarity in the provisions of the Principal Act.

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी):** माननीय सदस्य, अब आपका भाषण समाप्त हुआ।



SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: Sir, the House is also not in full strength. Kindly allow me to speak.

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी):** बहुत ज्यादा हो गया। आपने इतनी ज्यादा मछलियाँ इकट्ठी कर लीं, अब आप विराज जाएँ तो ठीक है।

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: Sir, this is very important. I will read out two points and then I will complete.

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी):** अब आप कृपया बैठ जाइए।

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: This has triggered a crisis in this sunrise sector, and the coastal aquaculture farmers, entrepreneurs and the entire coastal aquaculture sector are facing the same threat and nightmare of demolition as was faced during the 1990s. Thus, the purpose of enacting the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act 2005 has been defeated by the inbuilt ambiguities and hence the amendment to the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005 is extremely urgent and necessary to save this vibrant and most promising sector from collapse. (*Time-bell rings.*)

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी):** अब आप बैठ जाइए।...(व्यवधान)... अब आप समाप्त करें। आपका भाषण समाप्त हुआ।

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: Based on the experience gained in implementation of the CAA Act, 2005, over the last several years,...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी):** माननीय सदस्य, अब आपका भाषण समाप्त हुआ, आप बैठें।

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: Sir, give me just one minute.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Please sit down. आप लिखकर लाए हैं, तो यह जरूरी नहीं कि उसे पूरा पढ़ें। Please sit down. Now, Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar.

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: Finally, I will just read out the objectives of this amendment in two lines.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Please sit down.

SHRI MASTHAN RAO BEEDA: Okay, Sir, thank you.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, my friend has already taken six minutes more. However, I am here to participate in the consideration and passing of the Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

Sir, in the Statement of Objects and Reasons to the Bill, it has been, *inter-alia*, stated that the Bill seeks to decriminalise the offences under the Act for promoting ease of doing business and to finetune the operational procedures of Coastal Aquaculture Authority to make it more responsive to the needs of the stakeholders. Sir, I would like to give one instance which would cause serious impact on the environment, if strict measures are not taken to control and regulate the aquaculture.

Effluent Treatment System (ETS) is mandatory for farms above 5 hectares. At least 10 per cent of the total pond area should be earmarked for the Effluent Treatment System which may be used for secondary aquaculture projects, particularly for culture of seaweed, other fin fishes, etc. Such integrated projects would help improving the wastewater quality, reducing the organic and nutrient loads and producing an additional cash crop. But to everybody's dismay and surprise, most of the shrimp farms operating in the coastal areas do not have Effluent Treatment System which severely affected the ecosystem along the coastal areas.

Sir, in the year 2020, the National Green Tribunal, South Zone at Chennai while considering one of the matters by it has *inter-alia*, observed that- "there are shrimp farms (Aqua farms) being conducted along the beach (Bay of Bengal Coast) without getting any necessary permissions or clearances from the respective departments." Since the State Government and the ruling party Members are cultivating unauthorisedly and the State Government is also permitting them in the State of Andhra Pradesh, that is why the ecosystem has totally been disturbed. The entire aquaculture in Andhra Pradesh, under the present Government, is totally diverted.

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA (Andhra Pradesh): No, no; Sir,...  
..(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Sir, whatever activities that are permitted through the Principal Act, must be analysed with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Then only the feasibility of any coast based/marine based activity can be permitted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Your time is over. Please sit down.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Not even a single activity should be permitted without undertaking/studying the Environment Impact Assessment. Sir, it is very unfortunate that the Bill neither speaks about effluent treatment system nor environmental impact assessment. In the pursuit to Ease of Doing Business, the Government should not be permitting measures that are harming environment as well as our ecosystem, particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Hence, I urge the hon. Minister to take into consideration the facts pointed out during the course of my speech and take strict measures.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Okay. Thank you. Please, sit down.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Finally, Sir, the Government of Andhra Pradesh has totally neglected all the sectors. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Please, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...Speak on Bill, not on the Government of Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...Please, sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: And, that is why I request the hon. Minister to understand that the learned Member has already misled the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Aquaculture in the State of Andhra Pradesh is totally destroyed under the leadership of Shri Jagan Mohan Reddy Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Please, sit down. Now, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. I, on behalf of my party and my leader Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy Garu and also on my own behalf, rise to support this Bill.

At the outset, I would like to say the damage that had taken place to aquaculture industry during 2014-2019 had to be undone and is being undone by our

Government after we came to power in 2019. This is the response to my political opponent colleague, Mr. Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी):** आप मेरी तरफ देखकर बोलिए। उनकी तरफ मत देखिए।

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, it has been noticed that foreign importers like Japan and other countries have some serious objection on our shrimp exports due to inputs, particularly antibiotics, being used by some of our shrimp farmers and are rejecting consignments from India after the same reach there. This problem is to be addressed. I request the hon. Minister to kindly address the problems of shrimp exporters from India, since importers are rejecting our consignments. This is point number one. There are two more points.

Sir, there is a comprehensive insurance scheme even for agriculture farmers. We have Prime Minister Fasal Bima Yojana for agricultural farmers. Whereas, there is no such scheme for aquaculture farmers. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to introduce an insurance scheme to cover aquaculture farmers.

Third and the last point is this. Sir, 1.38 lakh farmers are employed in aquaculture operating with power subsidy being given by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Sir, about 26,000 power connections are currently receiving the benefit. I request the hon. Union Minister to help the Government of Andhra Pradesh in setting up of an aquaculture university. The State Government has provided 200 acres of land for university, extension and research activities near Narasapuram in West Godavari District. We need support and resources from the Union Government in setting up incubation centres, skill development centres, aqua parks to skill more people and eventually double aquaculture production as well as exports.

With these submissions, I support the Bill. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Now, Dr. M. Thambidurai.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Vice-Chairman, Sir. I am very happy that you are here to protect and provide me additional time, because aquaculture and fisheries is a very important subject. Also, our party founder, Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. MGR, had so much of concern towards fishermen.

First of all, I am happy that the hon. Minister, under the leadership of Modiji, has introduced this Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, 2023. Our hon. Minister is very humble. He always supports good ideas and also encourages me

whenever I speak. He is also going to appreciate me when I am going to place my points before him.

Sir, under the leadership of Modiji, there is a revolution in the fishing industry. For example, Indian marine products exports also doubled during these nine years from Rs. 30,000 crores in 2013-14 to Rs. 63,000 crores. The export growth has more than doubled in terms of value. Not only this, the shrimp exports have also been doubled under the leadership of Modiji, with an increase of 123 per cent, from Rs. 19,368 crores to Rs. 43,135 crores. This is Modiji's achievement. That is the thing that we have to highlight. That is the importance that the Modi Government is giving to the fishing industry.

I would also like to mention here how it is going to help the people, especially the fishermen community. It will create livelihood opportunities for the fisherfolks by providing access and sustainable use of common resources, which will be facilitated through aqua mapping and zonation; providing legal validation of seaweed culture and cage culture in coastal waters of rivers, creeks, and backwaters, which will empower the fisherwomen and fisher families to take up these alternative livelihood activities as their major source of income in lieu of fishing and coastal aquaculture. It will become major rural economic activity for fisherfolk. This is Modiji's dream that he wanted to achieve.

Sir, whenever I speak about fishermen, I always mention that their livelihood is affected because they are using certain old systems. That is why the Bill has provision to protect them. Another thing which I always mention while speaking about fishermen is this. Dr. M.G.R had given a lot of support to the fishermen. In the same way, Madam Jayalalithaa, our former Chief Minister, so as to protect the fishermen, had sent a resolution to the Centre to include our fishermen community in the Scheduled Tribe category. This is a very important matter because fishermen are hunters. They hunt fish and endanger their life in the sea. They go to sea, leaving behind their family, and take a lot of risks. But, still, their economic condition is very poor. That is why, the fisher community should be treated as a tribal community. Our former Chief Minister, Madam Jayalalithaa, had passed this proposal in the State Assembly also and had sent it to the Central Government for consideration. When we are bringing this kind of novel Coastal Aquaculture Authority (Amendment) Bill, I would like to request that the fishermen community of Tamil Nadu — if you want to consider the fishermen of whole of India, it will be very good — be included in the Scheduled Tribe category. It has been recommended by the Government of Tamil Nadu. The other day, when the Scheduled Tribes Bill had come, the hon. Minister had said that if the State Governments recommend, the proposals would be duly

considered. Our AIADMK Government, headed by *Amma*, and also Edappadi Palaniswami, who had given a good Government to Tamil Nadu for four years, had recommended in the interest of fishermen community that they should be included in the Scheduled Tribe category. Therefore, I am sure, the hon. Minister would recommend to the concerned Ministry to declare the fishermen as Scheduled Tribe community.

With these words, I support this Bill. Very valuable suggestions have come. I hope the Bill will benefit the fishermen community and would portray a good image of the Modi Government because, like Dr. M.G.R., *Modiji* is also a leader of the fishermen.

Thank you very much.

SHRI G.K. VASAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the creation of new Ministry for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying recognizes the immense potential of this sector. Our hon. Prime Minister, well knowing about the importance of this, has created a new Ministry. And, I am sure, both the Ministers here — senior Minister, Mr. Rupala, and our leader from Tamil Nadu, MoS, Dr. Murugan — have done justice to this Ministry because the sector offers high returns.

India is the third largest fish producing country with around eight per cent share of global fish production. Globally, India stands second in aquaculture production and is one of the top shrimp producing and exploring nations. Sir, I would only want to make two important points. One is regarding Tamil Nadu. The Tamil Nadu fishermen are subjected to threat by Sri Lankan Navy and they are scared to go to sea because of the fear of harassment. Fortunately, Sir, we have Ministers who understand the plight of the fishermen. The senior Minister knows the plight of the fishermen in Gujarat. The MoS knows the plight of fishermen, directly, in Tamil Nadu. So, they have taken a very important initiative, National Roll-out of Vessel Communication and Support System for marine fishing vessels for the safety of fishermen at sea. This, definitely, gives safety to our fishermen from external forces. Especially, the Government of India, under the *Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana* has approved Rs.364 crores for installing satellite-based vessel communication and support system on one lakh fishing vessels through the Department of Space, Government of India. I am sure, this device will ensure the safety and security of our fishermen throughout the country, especially in Tamil Nadu.

I come to the last two or three points which are very important for the Government.

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी):** कृपया आप समाप्त करें।

SHRI G.K. VASAN: As regards Tamil Nadu, I am thankful to the Minister that a special concern has been given to Tamil Nadu on fishing. There are some significant achievements which have been made, which I would like to tell. They have sanctioned upgradation of Fishing Harbour at Pazhayar for Rs.26.26 crores. They have also sanctioned construction of four integrated Fish Landing Centres for Rs.26.43 crores. They have sanctioned construction of 10 new fresh water finfish hatcheries. Then, expansion of 235 hectare area for brackish water aquaculture has also been sanctioned. Also, 40 hectare area for biofloc ponds in fresh and brackish water has also been sanctioned. This is very important. They have sanctioned acquisition of 50 new deep sea fishing vessels for traditional fishermen. Then, stocking of fingerlings in 6,434 hectare area of reservoirs has been done. Then, establishment of 13,000 seaweed culture rafts...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Thank you, Mr. Vasan.

SHRI G.K. VASAN: I can go on telling, Sir.

My last important point is, there are a lot of pending issues from the Tamil Nadu Government, which the Central Government seeks. The State has a high unspent balance of Rs.57.83 crores with Rs.135.21 crores in SNA account, which has hampered release of funds under PMMSY during the last two financial years. I am sure, with respect to the proposal of Seaweed Park, approved in 2022-23, the Government of Tamil Nadu has already requested the Government of India to render necessary assistance in the import of quality seaweed seeds to enhance seaweed production and to support the seaweed farmers.

To conclude, Sir, the Government of Tamil Nadu is yet to submit the Annual Action Plan for 2023-24 under PMMSY. The State Government has informed that SLAMC has not yet approved the Action Plan. So, I request them, the Central Government and the Ministry to do the needful so that more and more help can be given by the Ministry to Tamil Nadu, especially, the fishermen community. With this, I support this Bill, Sir. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Shri Parshottam Rupala to reply to the discussion.

**श्री परशोत्तम रुपाला:** उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बहुत ही विनम्रता से हमारे माननीय चेयरमैन साहब का धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने अपने अधिकार का प्रयोग करते हुए आज हमारे बिल को सदन में प्रस्तुत करने का अवसर दिया है। इसके लिए मैं अपने विभाग की ओर से भी चेयरमैन साहब का धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी):** सर, आपकी चलती है।

**श्री परशोत्तम रुपाला:** सर, हम वैसे भी आपकी बात का पालन करेंगे। मैं कुछ बातें कहूँ, उससे पहले सम्माननीय डा. सस्मित पात्रा जी, मस्थान राव बीडा जी, रवींद्र कुमार कनकमेदला जी, वि. विजयसाई रेड्डी जी, तंबी दुरै जी और जी.के. वासन जी का धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ और उनके प्रति आभार भी व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस बात का प्रारंभ करने से पहले मुझे हमारे लाड़ले नेता, वाजपेयी जी का एक कथन स्मरण हो आता है। उन्होंने कहा था,

*"चलो जलाएं दीप वहाँ,  
जहाँ अभी भी अंधेरा है।"*

ये वाजपेयी जी की कविता की बहुत ही प्रसिद्ध पंक्तियाँ हैं। ये पंक्तियाँ बहुत ही उपयुक्त हैं। मैं एक छोटी-सी फिगर दूंगा, जिससे इस सभागृह के सभी माननीय सांसदों और आपके माध्यम से समस्त देशवासियों को भी पता चले कि आजादी के बाद 2014 तक, लगभग 67 साल का हिसाब बनता है। उसी काल में हमारे विभाग के लिए भारत सरकार की ओर से 3,861 करोड़ रुपये खर्च हुए हैं। 3,861 करोड़ रुपये का टोटल खर्च है। महोदय, 67 साल! कोई भी विभाग इतना उपेक्षित नहीं हुआ है। हमारी 8 हजार किलोमीटर की कोस्टल लाइन है और 3 करोड़ से ज्यादा फिशरमेन के परिवार हैं। हमारा 2 लाख वर्ग किलोमीटर ईईजैड है और अंडमान एवं लक्षद्वीप का समुद्री एरिया है। इतना बड़ा विस्तार हमारी इकोनॉमी और हमारे fishermen की आजीविका का आधार है। समुद्री खेती हमारी परंपरा है। इतनी सारी चीजें होने के बावजूद उसे दुर्लक्ष किया जाता है। मैं देश के मछुआरे समाज की ओर से प्रधान मंत्री माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी का धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने ऐसा एक विभाग बनाया और विभाग बनाने के बाद उसे दिशा भी दी। प्रधानमंत्री मत्स्य संपदा योजना ' अकेली 20 हजार करोड़ की योजना है। यह इतने हजार करोड़ की अकेली एक योजना है। 'ब्लू रेवोल्यूशन ' के तहत 5 हजार करोड़ रुपये का एलोकेशन किया गया है।

महोदय, यहाँ पर इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर डेवलपमेंट की चर्चा इस दृष्टिकोण से कम हुई है कि इस सैक्टर को इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर फैसिलिटीज में फिश लैंडिंग सेंटर्स चाहिए, हार्बर्स चाहिए, लॉजिस्टिक्स चाहिए, स्टोरेज चाहिए, ट्रांसपोर्टेशन फैसिलिटीज चाहिए, रेफ्रिजरेटेड वाहन चाहिए। इन सारी चीजों को डेवलप करने के लिए, ऐसी सुविधाएं देने के लिए 8 हजार करोड़ रुपये के अतिरिक्त फंड के प्रावधान की व्यवस्था की गई है। इन सारी डेवलपमेंट्स के बाद हमारे मस्थान राव जी, वि. विजयसाई रेड्डी जी और आंध्र प्रदेश के अन्य माननीय सदस्य ज़रा जोर से कहते हैं, क्योंकि वे इस



क्षेत्र में आगे हैं, इस क्षेत्र में देश का नेतृत्व कर रहे हैं। मैं इसके लिए वहाँ के fishermen को और एंटरप्रेन्योर्स को भी धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि यह बहुत ही अच्छी चीज़ है, जो आपने की है।

महोदय, उन्होंने ऐसी स्थिति में इस विभाग को बनाया। मैं इस बिल की थोड़ी हिस्ट्री बता दूँ, ताकि वह बात सभी के संज्ञान में रहे कि हमने यह बिल अप्रैल में लोक सभा में प्रस्तुत किया था और वहीं से स्टैंडिंग कमेटी को भेज दिया गया था। महोदय, मैं स्टैंडिंग कमेटी के चेयरमैन का भी धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने समय से उसका काम पूर्ण किया और अपनी रिकमंडेशन देकर बिल को वापस भी लौटाया। मुझे सदन को यह बताते हुए बहुत खुशी हो रही है कि स्टैंडिंग कमेटी ने 56 रिकमंडेशन दी थीं। हमने उनमें से 45 रिकमंडेशन डायरेक्ट एक्सेप्ट कर ली थीं। महोदय, ऐसा बहुत कम होता है कि स्टैंडिंग कमेटी जो सुझाव देती है, उसके सुझावों को मान लिया जाए। उसके सुझावों को मानने का उपक्रम बहुत कम होता है।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी) :** आपका उदार दिल है।

**श्री परशोत्तम रुपाला:** सर, जो ग्यारह सुझाव बच गए थे, उनमें से नौ सुझाव इस प्रकार के थे, जिनके लिए लेजिस्लेशन की जरूरत नहीं थी, उन्हें संसद में लाने की आवश्यकता नहीं थी, उन्हें रूल्स के हिसाब से प्रयोग कर सकते हैं, तो इन नौ सुझावों का समावेश भी उसी हिसाब से कर लिया गया है। हमने एक प्रकार से उनको स्वीकृति दी। उनमें से दो ही ऐसे थे, जिनके लिए हमें सुधार करने की आवश्यकता थी। हमने लोक सभा में ऑफिशियल सुधार करके वे सुधार भी कर दिए। उनमें एक बात यह थी कि पहले हमारा 2005 का जो कानून था, उसमें यह प्रावधान था कि हम इसमें चार कोस्टल स्टेट्स के प्रतिनिधियों को रखते थे। इसका नियम ऐसा बनाया गया था कि एक टर्म में चार प्रतिनिधि इस-इस राज्य के होंगे, तो दूसरी बार किसी और चार राज्य के प्रतिनिधि होंगे। ऐसे ही यह कंटिन्यूटी में चलता रहता था। मगर कमिटी ने ऐसा आग्रह किया कि इस कमिटी में सारी कोस्टल स्टेट्स के प्रतिनिधि होने चाहिए। हमने यह बात मान ली और प्रस्ताव करके अब कोस्टल स्टेट्स के सभी प्रतिनिधियों को इस कमिटी में रहने की स्वीकृति दे दी। यह इनका मेन सजेशन था।

सर, इनका दूसरा सजेशन था, जिन लोगों को अनुभव है, उनको पता है कि इसमें जो अथॉरिटी बनी थी, वास्तव में हुआ यह था कि कोर्ट की एक जजमेंट से ये सारी इंडस्ट्रीज़ सकते में आ गई थीं। इनको इंडस्ट्री का दर्जा देकर कहा गया कि नो ज़ोन एरिया में कोई इंडस्ट्री नहीं चल सकती है और ऐसा कह कर उन सबको हटा देने की बात थी। सर, यह फिशरीज़ का कामकाज समुद्र के तट पर नहीं होगा, तो कहाँ होगा! वह वहीं हो सकता है, उसी जगह पर यह इंडस्ट्री पल-बढ़ सकती है। यह काम और जगह पर हो ही नहीं सकता है, इसीलिए कोर्ट ने इनके लिए अथॉरिटी बनाने के लिए भी सजेस्ट किया था। इस तरह से यह एक्वाकल्चर अथॉरिटी बनी थी, मगर इसके अंदर थोड़े-बहुत लचीलेपन की वजह से और एनजीटी के नियमों के कारण फिर से ये सकते में आ गई थीं। मैं तमिलनाडु के प्रवास पर था, मुझे यह बताते हुए कोई संकोच नहीं है, बाजीराव जी वहाँ नहीं थे, मगर मैं उनके बीएमसी पर गया था। किसी ने मुझे रास्ते में बताया, तो मैंने कहा कि मैं इधर टूर पर हूँ, अगर कोई बीएमसी हो, तो हम उसे देखें। वे मुझे ऐसे ही वहाँ ले गए, तब मुझे पता चला कि वह इनका है। मैंने देखा कि वह एक बहुत ही अच्छा सेंटर था, मगर

उसी समय पता चला कि इन सारी इंडस्ट्रीज़ पर एक बड़ी तलवार लटकी हुई है। वहाँ इंडस्ट्रीज़ के लोगों ने मिल कर मुझे यह बताया था और आग्रह किया था कि इसके लिए कुछ प्रयास किया जाए। प्रधान मंत्री जी के सामने यह विषय रखने के बाद उन्होंने हमें इस बिल को लाकर इस एक्टिविटी को, इस मछुआरा समाज को, इस उद्योग को बचा लेने का निर्देश दिया और आज आप इसमें मदद करने का काम कर रहे हैं। आज हमारे कोस्टल एरिया के वे बँधु, जो समुद्र से जुड़ते हैं, वहाँ जाकर आजीविका के लिए अपनी जान को जोखिम में डालते हैं, अपना व्यवसाय करते हैं, इसके उपरांत मुझे इस August House के सामने यह भी बताना चाहिए कि वे हमारी सीमा के पहले पहरेदार भी हैं। वे सारे मछुआरे हमारे चौकीदार हैं। वे हमारी सुरक्षा के पहली रोल के रखवाले हैं। अगर उनके संज्ञान में कुछ भी आता है, तो वे सारी इन्फॉर्मेशन हमारे सुरक्षा दलों के साथ शेयर करते हैं। इसके लिए मैं देश के सारे मछुआरा समाज को यहाँ से बधाई देना चाहता हूँ। सर, वहाँ ऐसे लोग हैं, जहाँ हमारी योजनाएँ अभी तक नहीं पहुँची थीं।

सर, मैं 'सागर परिक्रमा कार्यक्रम' के नाते इसके विस्तार में, बाय बोट घूमने के लिए गया। हमारे विभाग ने एक योजना बनाई कि मैं बाय बोट पूरे कोस्टल बेल्ट का प्रवास करूँ, इसलिए जब मैं मांडवी, कच्छ से निकला, तो श्यामजी कृष्ण वर्मा जी की भूमि की मिट्टी को सिर पर लगाते हुए मैं समुद्र में पहली बार निकला। उस समय मुझे पता लगा, कितनी जगह पर मुझे यह सुनने को मिला कि हम पहले मंत्री हैं, जो उनसे मिलने के लिए फिशरमेन के बीच में आए। यह मेरे लिए गौरव की बात नहीं है, मगर यह हमारे देश के लिए सोचने का विषय है। इसके चलते हमारे संज्ञान में कई चीजें आईं, कई जगहें हमें देखने को मिलीं। मैं अपने प्रवास की बात कर रहा हूँ, क्योंकि यह इसके साथ रिलेटेड है कि इस प्रवास का अंदाज़ कैसा था। जैसे पुराने कार्यक्रमों में लिखा होता है कि हमें दो बजे यहाँ पहुँचना है, तीन बजे वहाँ पहुँचना है - बाय रोड, लेकिन इसमें बाय बोट लिखा हुआ था। इसमें किसी पोर्ट से बड़े सी में जाने के लिए आधे घंटे का रूट लिखा हुआ था। मैं वहाँ 3 घंटे में पहुँचा, तो मैंने पूछा कि इसमें आधा घंटा लगना था, लेकिन तीन घंटे लग गए। प्लानिंग में इतना डिफरेंस थोड़े ही होता है। आधे घंटे की जगह एक घंटा लग जाए, तो समझ में आता है। तब उन्होंने मुझे बताया कि जब सी रफ हो जाता है और इसका करंट उल्टा हो जाता है, तो वह इतनी स्पीड से नहीं चल सकता है। इसलिए समुद्री ट्रेवेलिंग के लिए प्लानिंग करने में हमें उसके करंट को भी गिनती में लेना पड़ता है। हमें तो एक दिन के प्रवास में ही इस करंट से इतनी टेंशन हो जाती है, लेकिन हर दिन करंट के सामने मौत से बाजी लगाते हुए हमारे मछुआरा समाज का समर्थन करने के अवसर पर विपक्ष यहाँ उपस्थित नहीं है, इसका मुझे अफसोस है। वे भी शायद इसका समर्थन करते, मगर उन्होंने यह मौका तक गँवा दिया है, इसका मुझे अफसोस है।

सर, इतने संशोधनों के बाद, स्टैंडिंग कमिटी के इतने डेलिबरेशंस के बाद, हम इस बिल को यहाँ लाये हैं। इसके बारे में मुझे बहुत लम्बी बातें नहीं करनी हैं, मगर हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी के दिशा-निर्देश में हमारे इस सेक्टर के लिए बहुत सारे काम किये गये हैं। जैसे, PMMSY की चर्चा हुई तथा अन्य कई चीजों की चर्चा हुई। मैं इसमें यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि फिशरमेन को आज़ादी के बाद प्रधान मंत्री श्री मोदी जी के कारण 'किसान क्रेडिट कार्ड' का अधिकार दिया गया। पहले यह कार्ड सिर्फ किसानों के लिए था। यहाँ जो किसान लोग हैं, उन सबको पता है। यह ऋण किसानों को मिलता है, जो 7 प्रतिशत के इंटरेस्ट पर उनको उपलब्ध कराया जाता है और समय पर उसका भुगतान करने पर भारत सरकार इसके इंटरेस्ट में 3 प्रतिशत की सब्सिडी देती है। यह

प्रावधान मछुआरा समाज को भी देने का निर्णय प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी ने किया है। हम तथा राज्य सरकारें मिल कर सारे मछुआरा परिवारों को यह ऋण उपलब्ध कराने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। मेरा सभी सांसद बंधुओं से नम्र निवेदन है कि आप अपनी-अपनी कांस्टीट्यूएंसीज़ में वहाँ के डिस्ट्रिक्ट के अधिकारियों के साथ, डिस्ट्रिक्ट लीड बैंकों के साथ बैठ कर यह केसीसी अपने मछुआरा समाज को उपलब्ध कराने का प्रयास कीजिए, क्योंकि बैंकों को इसमें रुचि कम है। आप सब लोग इसका नेतृत्व करके हमारे मछुआरा समाज को काम करने में मदद करने का प्रयास करें।

सर, अभी एक बड़ा चक्रवात 'बिपरजॉय' आया था, जो बड़ा तूफानी चक्रवात था। मगर मुझे सबको यह बताते हुए बड़ी खुशी हो रही है कि भारत सरकार के इनिशिएटिव्स के कारण, राज्य सरकारों की सक्रियता के कारण, हमारे लोकल गवर्नमेंट के डिस्ट्रिक्ट लेवल का जो एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन होता है, उन सबकी सक्रियता के कारण, पहली बार इतना बड़ा चक्रवात ज़ीरो कैजुअल्टी के साथ पास करने का भी हमारे देश को एक गौरव मिला है। सर, उस समय कैसी-कैसी सुन्दर प्रणालियाँ हमारे देश में चलती हैं! मैं सरकार की योजना के तहत द्वारका में था। जब यह चक्रवात चल रहा था, तब मैं वहाँ तट पर ही था। मुझे द्वारकाधीश मन्दिर में बुलाया गया, वहाँ के सारे लोगों और पुजारियों ने मिल कर उसी रात, जब वह चक्रवात वहाँ सुबह किनारे पर टच होने वाला था, समुद्र बड़े उफान पर था और हमारे सिर के ऊपर से गोमती के पानी की फुहारें भी उड़ रही थीं, ऐसी भयानक परिस्थिति थी, उसके बीच में मुझसे एक श्रीफल और एक चुनरी उनको अर्पित करने का, पूजा करने का काम करवाया। मुझे पता लगा कि सागर को 'सागर देवता' मान कर हमारे तट के लोग उनकी पूजा कर रहे हैं और वे उन्हीं से अपनी रक्षा की माँग कर रहे हैं। ऐसे सुखद अनुभव हमें देखने को मिलते हैं।

सर, हमारे जो ट्रेडिशनल फिशरमेन हैं, वे जिस बोट से फिशिंग का काम कर रहे हैं, वे उससे दूर समुद्र में नहीं जा सकते हैं। हमारी सरकार ने मेरे विभाग की ओर से डीप सी फिशिंग की नयी टेक्नोलॉजी वाले जहाज उनको उपलब्ध कराने का प्रयास किया है। हम 1.2 करोड़ की लागत से बनी ये डीप सी फिशिंग बोट्स उनको उपलब्ध करा रहे हैं। मगर आपके जरिए मुझे यह बताना है कि यह बेनिफिट सिर्फ और सिर्फ ट्रेडिशनल फिशरमेन के परिवारों को ही देने का निर्णय भारत सरकार की ओर से हम कर रहे हैं। हम इसमें 60 परसेंट सब्सिडी एससी-एसटी के बंधुओं को देते हैं और अदर्स के लिए 40 परसेंट सब्सिडी का प्रावधान है।

सर, अभी हमारे बाजीराव जी बोल रहे थे। उन्होंने Vannamei और Black Tiger के बारे में बताया। मेरा इन सब नामों से अभी-अभी परिचय हो रहा है। हमारे यहाँ Vannamei के 4 BMCs हैं। ये चारों के चारों आन्ध्र प्रदेश में ही हैं और उन्हीं के चलते वहाँ उनके डेवलपमेंट का अच्छा कारोबार भी चल रहा है। हमारी सरकार के आने के बाद Black Tiger का भी एक BMC हमने मंजूर किया है। अभी गुजरात के भरूच डिस्ट्रिक्ट में वैष्णवी एक्वाटेक बीएमसी काम कर रहा है। हमारे यहाँ ब्लैक टाइगर का यह एकमात्र बीएमसी है। मैं अभी अंडमान गया था। हमारे देश में एक भी एनबीसी नहीं है। अभी एक एनबीसी तैयार हो गया है। अंडमान में APEDA के माध्यम से इसको तैयार किया गया है और दो-तीन महीने में इसका कमर्शियल यूज़ शुरू करने की तैयारी हमने कर ली है। टेक्नोलॉजी के संबंध में मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि एक RFD (Report Fish Disease) ऐप डेवलप किया गया है। किसी ने ICR का जिक्र किया था, उसके संबंध में मैं यह बता रहा हूँ। यह एक ऐसा ऐप डेवलप किया गया है, जिसको फिश फार्मर डाउनलोड कर सकता है। अगर उसके

फिश फार्म पर फिश में किसी भी प्रकार की बीमारी आई है, तो उसका फोटो उस पर अपलोड कर देने से उसको तुरंत respond किया जाता है और उसको दूर करने के लिए इस संबंध में advise भी दी जाती है। इस प्रकार एरिया को सुरक्षित करने के लिए कार्यक्रम को आगे बढ़ाने का प्रयास करने का एक प्रावधान हमने कर लिया है। इसके माध्यम से इस तरह की बीमारियों का प्रबंधन भी होगा और बीमारियों पर नियंत्रण करने से फिश फार्मर्स की आय बढ़ने की भी संभावना है।

विजयसाई जी ने जो बताया है कि इतने बड़े क्रॉप में थोड़ा-बहुत नुकसान हो जाने से उसकी सारी क्रॉप का नुकसान हो जाता है। इसके कारण उसको इतना बड़ा नुकसान हो जाता है कि वह फिर उठ नहीं सकता है, इसीलिए उसमें इंश्योरेंस का प्रावधान करने की दिशा में भारत सरकार बहुत ही गंभीरता से प्रयास कर रही है। अभी इसके इंश्योरेंस में कंपनियों की रुचि नहीं है, इसलिए हम इनकी बैठक करके इसमें क्या किया जाए - उस दिशा में आगे बढ़ने का काम कर रहे हैं।

सर, इन सारी चीजों के बावजूद, फिशरीज़ विभाग के माध्यम से देश के फिशरमेन के लिए हम जो काम कर रहे हैं - मैं इन फिगर्स में नहीं जा रहा हूँ, क्योंकि अभी किसी सेक्टर में सबसे ज्यादा ग्रोथ रेट है, तो वह फिशरीज़ सेक्टर है, जिसमें सबसे ज्यादा ग्रोथ रेट है। फूड सिक्योरिटी के मामले में देश तथा दुनिया की माँग को पूरा करने के स्कोप के लिए हमारा यह विशाल समुद्री तट प्रयास कर रहा है। हरियाणा, पंजाब जैसे एरियाज़, जहाँ जमीन बंजर हो रही है, क्षारयुक्त हो गई है, वहाँ भी यह काम बहुत ही अच्छी तरह से डेवलप हो रहा है और उन एरियाज़ में भी aquaculture के प्रोजेक्ट्स बहुत ताकत के साथ आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। इसी के चलते इस सेक्टर को संरक्षित करने हेतु, इस पर जो कानूनी तलवार लटक रही थी, उससे मुक्ति दिलाने हेतु और इसकी ग्रोथ को आगे बढ़ाने हेतु यह बिल लाया गया है। Aquaculture का मतलब सिर्फ shrimp नहीं है, सिर्फ jhinga नहीं है, अब इसमें cage culture भी है, seaweed भी है, pearls भी हैं - ये सारे काम हम कानूनी तरीके से अच्छी तरह से कैसे कर सकें - इसके लिए तथा इसको संरक्षित करने हेतु इस बिल में सारे प्रावधान किए गए हैं।

कनकमेदला रवींद्र कुमार जी को भय लग रहा है कि इससे पर्यावरण को नुकसान होगा। सर, इस संबंध में मैं यहाँ से आपके माध्यम से पर्यावरण के नाम पर इस देश के विकास को रोकने वालों को भी बहुत विनम्रतापूर्वक बोलना चाहता हूँ कि कुछ ऐसे लोग हैं, जो किसी एजेंसी के जरिए ऐसी चीजों को आगे लाकर हमारे देश की इंडस्ट्रीज़ को खत्म करने का काम कर रहे हैं।

सर, हमने इसमें एक बहुत ही अच्छा प्रावधान किया है। पुराने कानून में एक ऐसा प्रावधान था कि यदि कोई किसान बिना रजिस्टर किए खेती करता है, झींगा पालन करता है, तो उसको तीन साल की सजा हो सकती है। अगर वहाँ कोई मछुआरा अपना तालाब बना कर झींगा पालन करने में लग जाता, तो उसको किसी आदमी के कारण तीन साल की सजा हो सकती थी। माननीय प्रधान मंत्री, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने पूरे देश के कानूनों में de-criminalisation का एक बड़ा काम किया है। उसी तरह से हमने इस कानून में से भी उस धारा को हटा दिया है। अब इसमें किसानों को कोई सजा देने का प्रावधान नहीं रहेगा। हम उसके लिए कुछ दंड का प्रावधान करके उसको regularize करने का प्रयास करेंगे। हम उसको दंडित जरूर करेंगे, उसका लाइसेंस भी सस्पेंड करने की कोशिश करेंगे - वहाँ कोई ऐसी विधि करेंगे। मैं आपको बता दूँ कि पहले इसमें bio-safety के नाम पर 24 घंटे के नोटिस के पहले कोई प्रवेश नहीं कर सकता था।

7.00 P.M.

इससे यह होता था कि जब भी कोई नोटिस दे, तो एंटीबायोटिक्स को यूज करने वाले लोग साफ-सफाई करने के बाद एंट्री देते थे। अब हमने इस कानून में ऐसा सुधार कर दिया है कि यदि हमें भारत सरकार की ओर से चेकिंग करनी होगी, तो हम कभी-भी बिना नोटिस के इसका प्रावधान करके इसके अंदर जा सकेंगे। सर, ये जो इनपुट्स थे, इन्हें कंट्रोल करने की पुराने कानून में कोई व्यवस्था नहीं थी। अब हम इन इनपुट्स को भी इस कानून के अंतर्गत ला रहे हैं, इसलिए वे इनमें जो भी प्रयोग करे रहे हैं, हम उनकी भी जाँच करेंगे और जो पैरामीटर्स होंगे, उनका अनुपालन कराने की भी व्यवस्था करेंगे। एक माननीय सदस्य ने बहुत सही कहा कि इस देश ने ग्रीन रिवॉल्यूशन देखा, व्हाइट रिवॉल्यूशन देखा, मैं बड़ी विनम्रता से कह रहा हूँ कि प्रधान मंत्री, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में हमारा मछुआरा समाज ब्लू रिवॉल्यूशन की ओर आगे बढ़ रहा है। मैं आप सबसे अपील करता हूँ कि इसके अनुमोदन में आप सब हमारा सहयोग करें, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): The question is:

That the Bill to amend the Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

*The motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 to 17 were added to the Bill.*

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

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Now, hon. Minister, Shri Parshottam Rupala to move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Now, Special Mentions. Shri Lahar Singh Siroya.

## SPECIAL MENTIONS

### Need to rescue Agarbathi Industry in the country

SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA (Karnataka): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the difficulties faced by the Agarbathi industry, which has a market size of around Rs. 10,000 crore in India. Crucially, the incense sticks industry, which has a huge export market share, employs close to four lakh people in my state Karnataka alone, of which 80 per cent are women.

India has emerged as the international hub for incense industry and my state Karnataka is the incense capital of the world. The consumption of incense sticks has transcended traditional, ritualistic usages into modern areas of wellness, mental health and meditation. This industry is labour intensive and is vastly helping the underprivileged and marginalized sections of our society to earn their livelihood and financially empowers lakhs of women through employment. The incense sticks manufacturers face problem of raw material and issues of procuring bamboo sticks from the North-East to a southern State like Karnataka. Despite growing competition from countries like Vietnam and Sri Lanka, Indian incense sticks industry is registering consistent growth due to high quality of their products. However, the industry needs help from Commerce, Finance, Forest and other Ministries. If we do not address the industry's concerns and ward off issues at an early stage, the Indian incense sticks industry risks losing its market share to other South-East Asian and African countries.

Our incense sticks industry is striving towards *Atma Nirbhar Bharat*. It employs a large number of rural and underprivileged *Nari Shakti*. The Agarbathi industry and these workers need the support and rescue by the Union Government across Ministries. I urge the Government to take steps in this regard.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Dr. John Brittas. Not present.  
Shri K.R.N. Rajeshkumar. Not present.

### Need to develop Agroha as a heritage city and tourist destination

ले. जनरल (डा.) डी.पी. वत्स (रिटा.) (हरियाणा): महोदय, मैं आज अग्रोहा शहर को एक विरासत स्थल और पर्यटक शहर के रूप में विकसित करने की अनिवार्य आवश्यकता पर जोर देने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। अग्रोहा, अपनी शानदार सांस्कृतिक समृद्धि और ऐतिहासिक महत्व के साथ, राष्ट्रीय खज़ाने का दर्जा पाने और प्रतिष्ठित "हृदय" योजना में शामिल होने का हकदार है। अग्रोहा हमारे राष्ट्र के गौरवशाली अतीत के प्रमाण के रूप में खड़ा है। ऐसा माना जाता है कि यह

अग्रवाल समुदाय के पुरोधा राजा, महाराजा अग्रसेन की राजधानी थी। यह प्राचीन शहर तक्षशिला और मथुरा को जोड़ने वाले ऐतिहासिक व्यापार मार्ग पर एक रणनीतिक स्थान पर स्थित था। अग्रोहा में पुरातात्विक उत्खनन से एक गढ़वाली बस्ती का पता चला है, जिसमें चौथी शताब्दी ईसा पूर्व से 14वीं शताब्दी ईस्वी तक निरंतर निवास देखा गया था। अग्रोहा में उत्खनन से वास्तुशिल्प चमत्कारों की प्रचुरता का पता चला है। आवासीय और सामुदायिक घरों के निर्माण में पकी हुई ईंटों का उपयोग उस युग के उन्नत शिल्प कौशल को दर्शाता है। इसके अतिरिक्त, एक बौद्ध स्तूप और एक हिंदू मंदिर का सह-अस्तित्व, अग्रोहा में प्रचलित सांप्रदायिक सद्भाव और सहिष्णुता की भावना का उदाहरण देता है। ये असाधारण खोजें एक सांस्कृतिक और ऐतिहासिक विरासत स्थल के रूप में अग्रोहा के महत्व को मजबूती से स्थापित करती हैं। अग्रोहा को एक विरासत शहर और पर्यटक स्थल के रूप में विकसित करके हम भारत के सभी कोनों से आगंतुकों को आकर्षित करने की इसकी विशाल क्षमता का उपयोग करेंगे।

अतः मैं आवास और शहरी मामलों के मंत्री से विनम्रतापूर्वक यह अनुरोध करता हूँ कि अग्रोहा शहर को एक पर्यटक शहर के रूप में विकसित किया जाए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI GHANSHYAM TIWARI): Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha. Not present. Shri Jaggesh. Not present. Shri Binoy Viswam. Not present. Shri Jawhar Sircar. Not present. Shri Niranjana Bishi. Not present. Shri Aneel Prasad Hegde. Not present.

The House stands adjourned to meet at 11.00 a.m. on Thursday, the 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2023.

*The House then adjourned at nine minutes past seven of the clock till eleven of the clock on Thursday, the 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2023.*

---

PUBLISHED UNDER RULE 260 OF RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF  
BUSINESS IN THE COUNCIL OF STATES (RAJYA SABHA)