

come in, people retire. We immediately find the alternative list and then fill it up. The numbers have come down today but there are still a lot of shortlisted numbers and names, with which we are moving ahead, and, sooner we will be filling up as many vacant positions. But even as I say this, and, since Dr. Amar Patnaik is somebody who has been in the administration and has done lot of work of looking at public accounts and so on, he knows that it is not easy to find people, especially technical people and also retired judicial officers. There are only a certain number. Even if you fill all of them in, you still have vacancies lying there. It is a real time hands-on problem that I am facing, and, I would certainly like to bring that to the notice of the hon. Member. We also had former Finance Minister of Bihar, Sushil Modi ji, talking. He highlighted many of the issues, and whilst agreeing with the Amendments that we have brought in this time, raised issues and also suggested that the risk profiles can be ascertained before giving input tax credits and also making sure that we can restrict the claims. These are the specific points I would like to assure the Member, on which the GST Council has had elaborate discussions. Risk profiling before input tax credit is given, are all issues on which the discussions have happened in the GST Council. Some steps have been taken to address them, and these are not the issues as if addressed once and never again this topic comes up for discussion. Some topics keep coming as we go along to realise if this can be an opportune time to do if we did not do it earlier. So, risk profiling before giving input tax credit or restricting claims are issues on which the GST Council has been talking. Sir, there was also this reference made by the hon. Member, Shri Sushil Modi, that if Rs. 60 lakh is the threshold limit for the small firms to get registered, beyond which they have to get registered, and if they are at Rs. 60 lakh and below, whether they can be kept outside, or it is Rs. 40 lakh. It has been a question which he did raise and conceded that at the current moment it is Rs. 40 lakhs, and suggested that even at the time of drafting this legislation, there was this question whether Rs. 60 lakh can be given and if it can be, therefore, given now, was his suggestion. I do hear him. Equally, I was very pleasantly surprised when one of the other Members speaking said that it is a desire, because once you come into the GST enrolment, small or big companies, all benefit because of the input tax credit and the attempt should be, and ideally should be, for more and more small firms also to come on board because they then become also people who can vend or sell things to larger companies and, therefore, get the benefit of input tax credit. So, whilst increasing the cap from Rs. 40 lakh to Rs. 60 lakh may be a good suggestion, I leave it to the Council to decide. But it is also equally important that more small firms ideally should come on board.

Sir, the other suggestion that hon. Member, Shri Sushil Modi, spoke about was regarding ease of doing business for small companies. I want to say that from registration to return filing and payments, all steps are now completely online. There is no need for anyone who wants to come and set up a unit and then register for GST to run after the offices. In fact, I had the happy occasion of visiting Gujarat and going over to the constituency of the Finance Minister of Gujarat where he has set up GST Sewa Kendra, which is an idea which many States are adopting, where in one visit to the GST Sewa Kendra, you can register all in a matter of five minutes. There are people sitting there, looking at your documents and also cross verifying there and then, and register within 15 days. But if there is more to be asked, they shall do it and only then will they go and visit these firms which want to get registration. So, I am taking this example of Gujarat GST Sewa Kendra because such measures are being taken by the GST Council and the Ministers who are in it to make sure that ease of doing business, particularly for the small firms, is brought in. Also, the GSTR-3B returns are now auto-populated. So, it does not matter if you have all the data or not. All that you have to see is those entries which have come in as a part of the auto-populated information, whether you agree or you don't. And if you don't, you can always say, you don't. So, these kinds of measures are already being taken up and, I think, because of that, the ease of doing business is genuinely an issue which the Council is servicing.

Sir, I had another Member talk about improvement in the GST system, Mr. Beedha Mastan Rao, if he is here. He is here; I can see him. He said that improvement in the GST system is important. The grievances will have to be addressed and, on that, he also wanted us to take a lot of steps to go ahead. But I want to bring some facts before the hon. Member. The number of grievance tickets, which were raised earlier in return filing, has fallen to four per 10,000 returns which are getting filed. In 2017, it used to be 67 tickets per 10,000 returns. There has been consistent growth in the monthly return filing which has now reached 90 per cent by the end of this month as against 71 per cent which was the case three years ago. In the current financial year, the revenue has grown to average Rs.1.66 lakh crore per month with a growth of about 11.9 per cent over the GST collection of Rs.1.49 lakh crore per month in the financial year 2022-23. The growth is steady. The growth is consistent. It has reached a stage where you can safely say that the collection will not be below that; it can only be above that. In GST, now pre-filled returns are provided to taxpayers. Just a minute ago, I spoke about it. Also, the Input Tax Credit Statement is provided to ensure error-free returns. Earlier, there used to be this worry that if I make one error, I am unable to correct it. Or I can't get the same

form back. Or if I get it, I am not sure if I am doing the right correction. Now we are providing the ITC Statement, so that error-free entries can happen. 'Nil returns' can be filed by sending just an SMS. You don't have to keep filling the form online every time. You can send an SMS saying, 'Nil returns; I don't have any returns to file'. Even that has been taken on board. For mismatches in the return, self-assessment and correction facility has been provided for the taxpayers. These are all the steps which have been taken to make the system better. I am sure more such steps will happen.

Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde spoke about the need to have more GST Appellate Tribunal Benches. He says that he needs more Benches in Pune, Mumbai, Aurangabad and Nagpur. I wish to say that the decision on the number of Benches in any State is as requested by the State itself. We don't decide how many Benches have to be given to State A as opposed to State B. It is as per the demand of the State itself. For instance, in Maharashtra, they have asked for three, and we have given them three. If the hon. Member feels that Maharashtra wants more, he is very welcome to talk to the State Government and see if the State Government wants to have more. As far as locations of these Benches are concerned, it is very much as per the recommendations of the States where these will be situated.

Sir, there are other Members who spoke about various other issues which are not so pertaining to GST itself. Even though they referred to issues which are beyond GST, there is one thing which I want to respond to. Dr. M. Thambidurai spoke about it. Extreme weather situation brought heavy rain and floods in the southern districts of Tamil Nadu as a result of which just yesterday or one day before that, there have been representations. But coincidentally, representations had also come to me because 10 or 15 days ago, there were huge floods in Chennai city and the industrial estate in Ambattur was completely affected. Every 20th people will have to file some returns. They thought that this 20th, which is today, they will not be in a position to file it. That request had already come in because of Chennai. And now because of four districts in southern Tamil Nadu, we have extended the deadline. That which has to be done on 20th can now be done till 27th. We have extended the date by one whole week. So, I wanted to respond to that. That is a relief because November GSTR 3B filing time is what I am referring to. So, that has now been postponed. But since the issue which for instance hon. Member, Dr. Thambidurai, referred to pertains to the flood situation, I want to just take this opportunity to put forward some points. Members will kindly pardon me for talking about non-GST and non-Bill related issue but there are just one or two things, because this might be some kind of a message also for those people who are in a desperate situation as they are cut-off completely.

Women and children are being airlifted with helicopters. So, I would take a few minutes for it.

Sir, on 18th December, a total of ten rescue teams of NDRF were mobilized for Southern Tamil Nadu in consultation with the State authorities. Eight teams are deployed just in Thoothukudi district; two teams in Tirunelveli district; one team is in the RRC Chennai even now; two teams are reserved at Battalion Headquarters; and a total of 13 teams are available in Tamil Nadu. Eight helicopters were provided; additional helicopters are also being sent. Then, one ship with ICG, with rescue and relief material, is waiting there and is also supplying materials to those affected districts. 19 rescue teams are in those four districts; Army has two, Coast Guard has seven and NDRF has ten. Other than that, the State Disaster Response Fund for 2023-24 is Rs.1,200 crore. Of which, an amount of Rs.900 crore is the Central share. Even that is there. As reported by the State Government, the balance available with SDRF account as of 1st April, 2023 is Rs.813.15 crore, which is with the State itself. The first installment of Rs.450 crore of Central share of SDRF for the current year of 2023-24 had already been released earlier. The second installment of Rs.450 crore has also been released on 12th December, 2023. So, the Central Government is not, in any way, delaying or forgetting to provide timely relief. I want to assure the hon. Member. From the point of view of the Ministry of Finance, I had ensured that the United India Insurance company, four public sector general insurance companies, are all sent to the ground for that Michaung cyclone. Surveyors are on the ground. They are sending us almost daily report on how much they have covered. The Secretary of Department of Financial Services is closely monitoring it so that the people who have to get insurance money for the loss that they have been put to are getting it in time and, therefore, insurance companies and their agencies are literally on the ground doing their job. For the four districts which have been affected, I thank the Home Minister for not only immediately responding with all the NDRF teams but he has also already sent survey teams to Tamil Nadu. So, I would like to very clearly highlight that fact. With due respect, although the Chief Minister had come here yesterday to see the Prime Minister, but because of his other preoccupations, the Prime Minister gave a late night time to meet him. Because hon. Chief Minister is asking for time, particularly a Chief Minister who is coming from a flood-hit State, he gave time even at night, after having spent the whole day in Parliament. He gave time in the night and met the Chief Minister. This is the response which has already gone, before the Chief Minister met the Prime Minister himself. So, I want to highlight the fact that Tamil Nadu, particularly because of the speedy response of the Home Minister, had got those relief and rescue helicopters, boats, medicines and other assistance in

time. So, we shall be closely monitoring and I assure the people of Tamil Nadu that the Prime Minister Modi will be there at every time you need him. So, largely, I think these were the issues. But I am indeed grateful that there are Members who spoke about a few features of the GST which I want to say, particularly, a lady Member, Shrimati Ramilaben Becharbhai Bara. She spoke in Gujarati, but I am immensely grateful for her. She clearly identified what is the blessing that GST brings. She spoke about the abolition of, in a way, the cascading effect of tax as a result of which all of us, before GST, used to pay such high prices for daily use commodities. This cascading effect was removed and as a result, today daily use commodities, whether it is toothpaste, hair oil, brush, anything of those kind, or daily cooking oil, everything has come down in its price. I am grateful that the hon. Member, Shrimati Ramilaben nicely spoke about it. She also said that because of GST, people have trust in Governments because otherwise, earlier, you were running from pillar to post and then saying, "I am paying so much. Why should I pay?" and so on. She brought it out very clearly. I also appreciate the anxiety which many Members mentioned and I take the name of Shri Ghanshyam Tiwari saying, "Please, will you get the petrol and diesel into GST?" A lot of other Members also mentioned that. I wish the State Governments see the point and, eventually, the customers will pay less tax if the GST is brought in, and overlapping, doubling of tax will not be there. So, those points were very interesting that very many of those Members raised. The last point which I want to put before you, Sir, is what Dr. Laxman was saying, "Advocates have got a chance to get into the Tribunal, then, why not the Chartered Accountants?" That was an interesting aside. With these responses, I submit that the House kindly take it upon itself to pass this Bill. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

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

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to move that the Bill be returned.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill be returned."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

- (1) **The Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita, 2023**
- (2) **The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha (Second) Sanhita, 2023**
- (3) **The Bharatiya Sakshya (Second) Bill, 2023**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Message from Lok Sabha; Secretary-General.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, with your kind permission, I rise to report that the Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on 20th December, 2023, passed:-

- (1) The Bharatiya Nyaya (Second) Sanhita, 2023;
- (2) The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha (Second) Sanhita, 2023; and
- (3) The Bharatiya Sakshya (Second) Bill, 2023.

I lay a copy each of the said Bills on the Table.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE- *Contd.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table. Shri V. Muraleedharan in place of his colleague, Shri A. Narayanaswamy.

Report and Accounts (2022-23) of NSCFDC, Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Shri A. Narayanaswamy, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013,

a copy (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (a) Thirty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSCFDC), Delhi, for the year 2022-23, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10986/17/23]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri V. Muraleedharan, in place of his colleague, Sushri Pratima Bhoumik.

- I. Reports and Accounts (2021-22 and 2022-23) of ALIMCO, Kanpur; Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre, New Delhi and Gurukul Computer Education, Bijnor and related papers**
- II. MoUs between Government of India and various corporations**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, on behalf of my colleague, Sushri Pratima Bhoumik, I lay on the table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-

- I. (i) (a) Fiftieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2022-23, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

[Placed in Library. For See No. L.T. 10642/17/23]

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

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2022-23 together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10646/17/23]

(iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of Gurukul Computer Education, Bijnor, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2021-22 together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Explanatory Memorandum on the above Report.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10645/17/23]

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

(a) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India [Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment] and the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh for the year 2022-23.

(b) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India [Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment] and the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh for the year 2023-24.

[Placed in Library. For (a) and (b) See No. L.T. 10643/17/23]

(c) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment) and National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) (erstwhile National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) for the year 2023-24.

(d) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment) and National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) (erstwhile National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) for the year 2024-25.

[Placed in Library. For (c) and (d) See No. L.T. 10644/17/23]

GOVERNMENT BILLS - Contd.**The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to move for consideration of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023.

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

"That the Bill to provide for the immediate effect for a limited period of provisions in Bills relating to the imposition or increase of duties of customs or excise, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration. "

The question was proposed.

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

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir. This Bill in effect replaces the 1931 Bill of a similar nature and if you look at the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, it gives immediate effect to something that happens every year when an announcement on increasing of either the customs duties or excise duties is done. There is a time lag before it is passed in the Parliament. Now, during the intervening period, to avoid any speculation to take place, what happens is that the tax increase starts kicking in right from that midnight of that particular day. Now, for the intervening period, there has to be a law which would actually ensure that during this period whatever is collected or whatever is refundable would be taken into account into the Consolidated Fund of the State and there is a Bill which sanctifies that particular process. So, this Bill actually sanctifies that particular process, enables the Government to collect those taxes right from the day the announcement is made till the formal Finance Bill is passed in the Parliament. So, I think, there is nothing to object on this particular Bill. However, since the hon. Minister is here, I would like certain clarifications from her who might consider clarifying Clause 3 of the Bill. This is relating to the power of the Central Government to make a declaration. It says in the third line, "The Central Government may cause to be inserted in the Bill a declaration that it is expedient in the public interest...". The point here which I want to make is

whether we can include this particular provision each time during the introduction of the Finance Bill itself and get it enabled every year instead of having this Act to be passed separately from time to time. That could probably be considered by the Law Ministry as well. The second is in Clause 4 (1) which says, "A declared provision shall have the force of law immediately on the expiry of the day on which the Bill containing it is introduced." Now, Sir, in the age of internet, speculation can take place in a time gap of even one hour, two hours, three hours. So, if you give six hours or seven hours time-frame and allow the speculators or all those elements who are involved in speculation, to trade in this particular time, I think it is unfair. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government would think of considering replacing the word 'expiry of the day' to say that it actually kicks in immediately and in the age of internet we can actually make it happen also because all our systems are IT-enabled. The last point, hon. Chairman, Sir, is on Clause 5(1) where there is a mention, "refunds shall be made of all duties collected which would not have been collected if the provision adopted in the enactment had been the declared provision." That is finally if the Bill does not accept this. The clarification that I would seek from the Ministry is whether these refunds would include with interest or without interest for that particular period. I support the Bill and my party supports the Bill because this is the only way to move forward. However, the hon. Minister might consider the suggestions.

6.00 P.M.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, now it is going to be 6.00 p.m. If the House agrees, we may extend the sitting beyond 6.00 p.m. to dispose of the listed Business.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir. We agree, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time is extended beyond 6.00 p.m. to dispose of the listed Business. Now, Shri Ghanshyam Tiwari.

श्री घनश्याम तिवाड़ी (राजस्थान) : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं द प्रोविजनल कलेक्शन ऑफ टैक्सेज़ बिल, 2023 के पक्ष में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, यह बिल 1931 में बने हुए बिल के स्थान पर लाया जा रहा है। इस बिल में तीन-चार बातें प्रमुख रूप से हैं। पहली बात तो यह है कि जब कोई बजट पेश होता है और बजट पेश होने के बाद जब तक फाइनेंस बिल नहीं आता है, उस पीरियड के बीच में जो पीरियड रहता है, उस पीरियड में जो

टैक्सेज होते हैं, उनके संबंध में किसी प्रकार का घालमेल हो सकता है, वायदा हो सकता है, तो उन सबसे बचने के लिए इस बिल में प्रावधान किया गया है कि जब तक फाइनेंस बिल पास नहीं होगा, तब तक के लिए तुरंत रूप से सरकार टैक्सेज को वसूल कर सकती है। इस बात के लिए इस कानून को लाया गया है। इसमें यह भी कहा गया है कि यह बिल केवल 75 दिन तक रहेगा और 75 दिन के बाद जो इन्फ्लेक्शन आएगा, उस इन्फ्लेक्शन में जो प्रावधान होंगे, उन प्रावधानों के अनुसार ये काम करेंगे और उनमें जो टैक्स वसूल कर लिए गए हैं, उस इन्फ्लेक्शन बिल में अगर उन टैक्सेज के बारे में प्रावधान नहीं है, तो यह बिल यह प्रावधान करता है कि जिनसे टैक्स वसूल किया गया है, उनको वह वापस रिटर्न कर दिया जाएगा। उपसभापति महोदय, वर्तमान में भी मध्य प्रदेश, राजस्थान और कर्णाटक में यह कानून लागू है। अब इसको केंद्रीय स्तर पर लागू किया गया है, लेकिन यह बिल न तो जीएसटी के टैक्सेज पर लागू होगा और न इनकम टैक्स पर लागू होगा, क्योंकि इनकम टैक्स के लिए अलग से कानून बना हुआ है, उसके हिसाब से काम होता है और जीएसटी का अलग से एक सिस्टम बना हुआ है, उसके हिसाब से वह लागू होगा। इन दोनों चीजों को छोड़ कर बाकी जो भी नए टैक्सेज लगाए गए हैं, उन टैक्सेज पर यह कानून लागू होगा और यह 1931 के कानून को रिप्लेस करेगा।

(उपसभापति महोदय पीठासीन हुए।)

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, कर निर्धारण में और करों का सरलीकरण करने में जिस प्रकार माननीय मोदी जी की सरकार ने काम किया है, वह काम अद्भुत है। महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि जब हम कर की चर्चा करते हैं, तो कौटिल्य के अर्थशास्त्र की चर्चा करना उसमें समाहित होता है। उन्होंने लिखा है - "सुखस्य मूलं राज्यं, राज्यस्य मूलं धनम्।" यह पहला वाक्य है। यानी सुख का मूल राज्य है और राज्य का मूल धन है। अब राज्य धन कहाँ से लेता है, तो उन्होंने उसकी भी व्याख्या की है कि राज्य धन इस प्रकार से ले, जैसे कोई मधुमक्खी है, वह किसी फूल पर जाकर बैठती है, उसका रस लेकर चली जाती है, लेकिन फूल का स्वरूप नहीं बदलता है, उसी प्रकार से राजा को या शासन करने वाले को टैक्स वसूल करने का काम करना चाहिए। उसी प्रकार का टैक्स वसूल करने का काम मोदी जी की सरकार ने किया है। जैसे अभी हम जीएसटी में संशोधन लेकर आए और जीएसटी के बिल पर उन्होंने काम किया। यह जो कर है, यह राज्य की आमदनी होता है। यह कर जनकल्याण के लिए होता है, जनकल्याणकारी कार्यों के लिए होता है। इसमें जितने प्रावधान किए गए हैं, उनमें प्रमुख रूप से चार-पाँच प्रावधान हैं। एक प्रावधान तो यह है कि अगर 75 दिन में इन्फ्लेक्शन नहीं हुआ है, तो उसे वापस करने का प्रावधान है। दूसरा यह है कि वह तुरंत प्रभाव से लागू हो जाएगा, जब तक फाइनेंस बिल नहीं आएगा, तब तक वह लागू रहेगा। इसलिए इन सब कानूनों का जो संशोधन हो रहा है, यह बदलते समय के हिसाब से हो रहा है। अब हम देख रहे हैं कि ये कानून जिनके लिए आ रहे हैं, वे 1860 में थे, 1861 में थे, 1862 में थे। ये 100-100 साल पुराने कानून, जो इस देश में चलते रहे थे, उन कानूनों के कारण लोगों में तकलीफ थी। जैसे अभी पहले मैं चर्चा कर रहा था कि पहले सेल्स टैक्स जैसे जो कानून थे, उन सारे कानूनों की वजह से इंस्पेक्टर राज कायम था। इससे भी इंस्पेक्टर राज के काम पर लगाम लगेगी, क्योंकि कानून बन गया है कि यह जिस दिन पेश होगा, रात को 12 बजे से लागू हो जाएगा। इससे

वसूली का काम हो जाएगा, वरना अगर यह गैप रहता, तो यह कुछ जगह वसूल होता और कुछ जगह वसूल नहीं होता। इसलिए टैक्स का सरलीकरण करने के लिए, टैक्स के सिस्टम को ठीक करने के लिए और इसमें किसी प्रकार की चूक नहीं रहे, इसके लिए यह कानून लाया गया है।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था में जो सुधार हुआ है, ...उसमें जो प्रगति हुई है, उसके कारण इन टैक्सेज के विधेयकों का सुधार, इनमें संशोधन और नये टैक्स से संबंधित बिल्स लाने का काम जो माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी के नेतृत्व में हुआ है, उसके कारण भारत की आर्थिक स्थिति पर फ़र्क पड़ा है।

माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आज हमारा विदेशी मुद्रा का कोष 606 अरब डॉलर का हो गया है, आज हमारी जीडीपी की 7.2 परसेंट से अधिक की ग्रोथ हो रही है। आज सारी दुनिया कह रही है कि हमने 11 अरब डॉलर के मोबाइल फोन्स एक्सपोर्ट किए हैं, हमारा एक्सपोर्ट दुगना हो गया है, हमारी टैक्स वसूली बढ़ गई है। भारत सरकार के टैक्सेज के वसूल करने के कारण से राज्यों की जो माली हालत खराब हो रही थी और नियमित समय से एक सिस्टम के माध्यम से उनके पास जाने के कारण से जो माली हालत खराब हो रही थी - आज कोई भी राज्य सरकार यह शिकायत करने नहीं आती कि भारत सरकार से हमारा पैसा नहीं मिला है, ऑटोमेटिक सिस्टम बना दिया है, यह कर व्यवस्था, कर प्रणाली और धन का जो सिस्टम मोदी सरकार ने लागू किया है, वह लागू करने का काम अपने आपमें आर्थिक सुधारों को और अर्थव्यवस्था को गति देने वाला काम है। उपसभापति महोदय, इसमें गति भी है और मति भी है। मति है, इस बिल को लाना और गति है, इसके माध्यम से कर वसूल करना। महोदय, गति और मति से युक्त सरकार सारा काम कर रही है। इसलिए यह जो बिल माननीय मंत्री महोदय लेकर आई हैं, मैं इस बिल का पूर्ण समर्थन करता हूँ, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill, the Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023. This Bill is very timely and it addresses the critical gap in our fiscal framework. This Bill safeguards the fair and efficient implementation of tax policies.

Sir, as we all know, adjustments to income tax and corporate tax rates are announced in the Budget and they take effect from the 1st of April every year. However, changes in customs and excise duties, often crucial for managing our imports and exports, occur swiftly. This temporary discrepancy, in the absence of this Bill, could create fertile ground for speculators to exploit and manipulate markets and jeopardize economic stability. The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill stands against such nefarious activities. It empowers the Government to implement provisions related to customs and excise duties with immediate, though temporary, effect.

Sir, let me be clear. We, on behalf of our Party, the YSR Congress Party, support this Bill. This Bill stems, not from a mere desire to plug a technical gap, but from a deep commitment to uphold the very principles of fair and honest taxation.

Sir, there are a few positives of this Bill. This curbs the speculative activities. The Bill addresses the gap between income tax, corporate taxes and the immediate midnight implementation of customs and excise duty changes. This prevents speculation and manipulation based on anticipated duty changes before the full Finance Bill is passed. This provides clarity and certainty on immediate implementation of duty changes and creates transparency for business and individuals, allowing them to adjust plans and operations without ambiguity. This upholds fairness. Speculative activities driven by duty changes can distort markets and disadvantage honest business people. This Bill helps create a level-playing field and ensures fair practices across the board. It also protects the economic stability. Uncontrolled speculation on anticipated duty changes can lead to market fluctuations and potentially destabilize the economy. This Bill acts as a safeguard against such economic disruptions. This also modernizes the existing framework, replacing the outdated 1931 Act with a contemporary legislative framework, which ensures efficient and effective management of interim duty changes. It maintains flexibility. This Bill allows for refunds or adjustments in case the declared provisions are amended or not enacted, protecting taxpayers from undue burden. This Bill streamlines the processes. This Bill clarifies that tariff classification changes are not required for temporary duty implementation, potentially simplifying the administrative procedures. So, overall, this Bill is a very important piece of legislation that has come at the right time. We from our YSR Congress Party support this Bill.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. The hon. Minister has brought this Bill which provides for the repeal of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Act, 1931. Recently, we have come across the hon. Law Minister bringing so many repealing Bills. We still have about 360 statutes which the British enacted and it is one of those Acts. It is high time the Ministry brought certain changes or amendments in this. As other Members said, there is a gap in between when the Budget is presented and when it is passed. At that time, imposing certain taxes and their collection may create some problem. That is why the Government has come forward to rectify the system and help the people who have already paid. The same thing happens with customs or excise duties, especially for export and import. The second thing is about Inspector *raj*. Hon. Member from Rajasthan has also talked about it. Inspector *raj* is still in existence in some States, especially in Tamil Nadu. These States are collecting taxes in some other form. For example, Sales Tax is a State-subject. It is still under the State's control. Under the Inspector *raj*, they are unnecessarily raiding people, imposing fine

and collecting money. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this collection is coming to the GST pool for sharing. I don't know about it. The Sales Tax Department of the State Government of Tamil Nadu is imposing fines and raiding certain companies at different places. I would like to know whether this money is coming to the GST pool. I don't know about it. I would like to know it from the hon. Minister. Thank you.

श्री रामभाई हरजीभाई मोकरिया (गुजरात) : उपसभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया, उसके लिए मैं आपका आभार मानता हूँ। * "Sir, I thank the hon. Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendrabhai Modi, for the extraordinary accomplishment of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) legislation. Sir, GST is India's greatest Tax reform. Prior to the implementation of the GST legislation, there existed more than 15 indirect taxes in India. The people of India were burdened with these multiple taxes and there was a lot of discontentment amongst the people of our country. But, after the implementation of the GST Legislation, the policy of One Nation-One Tax came into existence. Hence, I thank the hon. Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendrabhai Modi and the hon. Finance Minister of India, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman. Sir, just two days ago, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has released a report. In its report, the IMF has mentioned that India has secured first position in terms of development in the world. And hence, I congratulate the Government of India. It won't be an exaggeration to say that GST is the staircase to development of our nation. After the implementation of the GST Legislation, more than fifteen indirect taxes have been abolished. Thus, the system of taxation has been simplified. Another benefit of GST is the cascading effect. It means that the system of tax on tax has been done away with. Most of the problems of the people of India have been resolved. Not only this, there is also now a large-scale benefit of tax credit. Because of the higher tax credit, the commodities that come into the market are available at a lower price to the people of India. All this is because of the GST Legislation. Thus, the customers are now able to purchase various commodities at a much lower price.

Sir, I am proud of GST. The reason for this is that GST has developed a sense of trust in the hearts of the people of India and people themselves have come forward to pay their taxes. If we look at the yesteryears, we will see that the earlier Governments had to put in a lot of effort to lure people to pay their taxes. Several schemes were floated to attract people to pay their taxes. Even then, people refused to come forward to pay taxes. But, after the implementation of the GST Legislation,

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Gujarati.

people have developed trust in the Government, and they are coming forward to pay taxes. Sir, the GST was implemented in the year 2017. If we consider the figures for the financial years 2022-23 and 2023-24, it is evident that GST is competing with itself. There has been a substantial increase of around eleven percent in the GST collection. If we go through the figures for the GST collection, we will see that there has been a gradual and a notable increase in the GST collection. Except the States of Himachal Pradesh and Manipur, all other States of India have witnessed a significant increase in the tax collection. This shows, how much faith the people of India have in GST. Not only the common man, but entrepreneurs, industrialists, businessmen, everyone has accepted the GST Legislation. Sir, I would like to mention that, because of GST, the Government of India has been able to extend the benefits of its welfare schemes to the poor, needy and the downtrodden. The poor people have been given the benefits of cooking gas connection, own house, world-class infrastructure, and highways. Tap water is now available in every household in our country, even in the far-flung areas. The Modi Government has been able to accomplish these tasks just because of the successful implementation of the GST. Hence, on behalf of the women of this country, I offer my gratitude to hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendrabhai Modi. People are no longer hesitant to pay taxes. Sir, we can now see development in every sector. Since last month, vehicles are reaching far flung areas of our country to disseminate Modi guarantee Scheme-Developed India scheme. The Government is creating an awareness towards various schemes amongst the people of India so that the people of India can avail the benefits of these welfare schemes floated by the Government of India. Sir, while concluding, I would congratulate the hon. Finance Minister, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman, for bringing forward this Bill. This Bill is beneficial for all. I thus welcome this Bill. Thank you, Sir."

DR. K. LAXMAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I stand here in support of the Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023, introduced by our hon. Finance Minister, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman. This Bill may be very simple, but it has got a very significant role because it not only simplifies the procedure that helps the Government in getting the revenue, but it also helps in the overall development of the nation and uplifting the poor of this country.

The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023, has been introduced to give immediate effect to the increased or newly-imposed taxes and empower the Government to collect such taxes provisionally for the interim period, that is, the period between the introduction of the Bill and enactment of the Bill. The interim period is limited to 75 days only.

As far as Modi ji is concerned, he strongly believes in the philosophy of 'reform, perform and transform'. Whatever reforms are being made, those are truly and strictly implemented to perform and to finally see that the required transformation takes place. The Government is very active and swiftly takes action on its decisions and the Acts passed by the Parliament. It is a very transparent and accountable governance which we have been witnessing for the last nine-and-a-half years. There is no role of middlemen now. There is no scope for *dalali vyavastha* at all in this administration. We have been seeing all such tough laws now being enacted. This Bill replaces the erstwhile Provisional Collection of Taxes Act of 1931. So, you can see that within a span of these nine-and-a-half years, hundreds of laws have been enacted for the convenience of the administration.

Sir, we have seen as to how every rupee collected by this Government has been spent for the welfare of the poor as also for the development of the country. Prior to Prime Minister Modi coming to power, India was supposed to be the tenth-largest economy in the world. In spite of all odds like Covid and Ukraine-Russia war, under the visionary leadership of Modi ji, who hails from a poor family, now, India is supposed to be fifth largest economy in the world. The reserves which we had could be spent more on infrastructure and we have seen that almost 27 lakh crore of rupees were directly deposited in the bank accounts of the poor people of this country. For the last three years, we have been witnessing that Bharat is the fastest growing economy in the world with a growth rate of 7.6 per cent. Now, Bharat is being called as Growth Engine of the world.

The inflation rate, prior to Prime Minister Modi coming to power, was 10.8 per cent while it is 5 per cent only. It is visualised that by 2027, the consumer market will double. You can imagine how the country is marching fast towards development.

Sir, here, I represent the State of Uttar Pradesh. At one time, Uttar Pradesh was called as one of the BIMARU States in the country. Now, the State of Uttar Pradesh is second largest economy in the country. It is but for the double engine *sarkar* of Modi ji and Yogi ji, which has got double impact, and, it is being witnessed in the State of Uttar Pradesh. Our beloved Prime Minister always thinks of next generation while our critics, our Opposition Parties, our regional Parties only think of next elections. That is the difference between Modi ji and other parties. During elections in the recent past, we have seen how people auctioned or announced guarantees. Someone said, 2,000, someone said 4,000, someone said 5,000 but finally people believed in the *Modi ki Guarantee* because what Modi says he does that. We have seen the results of the last five elections. Everywhere, due to BJP and Modi ji's efforts, development and welfare of the poor has taken place. We have seen

that 13.5 crore people from below the poverty line have come up and are now in the middle class. It is the change we are seeing. Sir, this Bill is part of the economic reforms. I support the Bill, which has been brought by hon. Finance Minister, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman, and, I wish that many more reforms will be done in the larger interest of the country, and, by 2047, we will be able to see India as a developed country. During the third term of Modi ji as the Prime Minister, India is going to become third-largest economy in the world. Thank you very much, Sir.

MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA - *Contd.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Message from Lok Sabha. Secretary-General.

The Telecommunications Bill, 2023.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, with your kind permission, I rise to report that the Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on 20th December, 2023, passed the Telecommunications Bill, 2023.

I lay a copy of the said Bill on the Table.

GOVERNMENT BILLS - *Contd.*

The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Anil Bonde. Not speaking; okay! Now, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to reply to the discussion.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Thank you very much, Sir. I also thank all the seven Members who have spoken on this Bill. It is a small technical amendment but it is essentially the law which existed since 1931. The Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, 2023 is the form in which it is coming now. There are no major changes at all. As it existed since 1931, we carry it forward. But then, why are we bringing it here? It is a part of the larger relook at all the Bills and if any colonial past residues are there in the Acts, we want to remove them and make them reflective of the modern India, the new India that we are trying to build. And in this, this particular Bill is very essential.

It was essential even before. It will be essential even now. Why is it essential, Sir? That partly also answers the question raised by Dr. Amar Patnaik. When taxes are levied during the Budget and when it becomes a part of the Finance Bill, the Finance Bill, along with the Budget, gets introduced and read out to the House on 1st February every year. But post that, the Parliament Committees and the Parliament itself, both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, discuss it. Rajya Sabha returns it after being passed by the Lok Sabha. But there is a certainty about it. In that, every proposal, for instance, on the direct tax, which is income tax, when brought in through the Finance Bill, gets effective from 1st April, that is, the new financial year, whereas there are taxes which are also levied in the name of customs duties and excise which are taxes levied on goods and services. Now, having announced it along with the Finance Bill on 1st February, if we wait till the effective financial year, that is, 1st April, that period in between the gap can lead to a lot of speculation, can lead to a lot of exploitation in terms of goods which are kept in some place and so on. So, we start collection of tax from the midnight of that day itself. Otherwise, the speculation can hurt the market; speculation can lead to customers suffering from it and export-import at the port can be misused. So, to say in a very common language, that is the purpose of this Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill. As this is to levy taxes, Article 265 of the Constitution provides that no tax shall be imposed or levied or collected unless there is an authority of law. That authority of law, with a law that is passed by this august House, is the one which will empower the Government to collect the tax. It is this law, which is the Provisional Collection of Taxes Bill, which when passed as law, which existed as law, which exists till today, is the one which gives that authority to the Government. Now, why do we want it provisionally? The Finance Bill is anyway going to get passed in the House and once it is passed, it becomes a complete authority that you can collect taxes. But in the middle, in the interregnum, why do you want a provisional authorisation? As I said, it is only because we want to avoid speculation. And during the period between introduction and enactment of the Bill where customs or central excise duty rates, for instance, are increased beyond a statutory rate and then gets approved by the Parliament, when you go to collect it, there can also be a questioning of authority that you have increased it but the Parliament has not passed it. It will come into effect only from 1st April after its passing. How are you coming to collect it? So, I need that legislative backing for collecting the customs duty from that midnight itself of the Budget presentation. That is why, Sir, the reason which I would like to underline is to provide tariff protection to domestic industry. Sometimes you want to protect the Indian industry. You bring it with immediate effect. Then, they would say: How did you bring it with immediate effect unless there is a legislation which I can invoke? So, it is to protect the domestic

industry on an immediate basis and to moderate the prices, meaning when the prices are going up, I need to moderate them, I need some immediate action. So, I come up with taxation. Also, as I said earlier, to avoid speculation in the market. What happens is that if the announcement has been made today, it will come into effect only from 1st April. In the meanwhile, people can hoard goods. This should be avoided. That is why we have always relied on this provisional tax collection. But it also has one redeeming factor. Whatever is brought immediately, with a sense of urgency, will have to be approved by the Parliament within 75 days. So when that is approved within 75 days, I can go ahead collecting it further. I can collect it the way I have done during the interregnum. But if that approval does not come, it also tells you that you have to refund the money back. So this provisional collection has its own safeguards. At the same time, it gives legislative authority to the Government to collect tax, control prices, avoid illegal practices such as hoarding and speculation and so on. That is as simple as that. This is the purpose of this Bill. I would like to submit it for the consideration of the House so that it gets passed.

Sir, there is just one response that I would like to give. Besides whatever is contained in the Bill, Amar Patnaik *ji* seems to have asked why we are coming up with a separate Bill and that it can be made part of the Finance Bill itself. I want to make the very explanation that I have given here. That is the reason why it can't be made part of the Finance Bill. I can't wait for it to get cleared till 1st April. I can't wait for it to get cleared when the second half of the Budget Session happens, when after the Committee meetings and everything else, I come to the House to get it passed. Again, that interim period will go without any cover for the collection and that is why it can't be done through the Finance Bill. It has to be a separate Act. Also, he asked why we want to introduce it in the middle of the night and why it can't be the next day. The same thing; once the new sun rises, it will give more time for speculation. I hope that addresses the concern raised by the hon. Member. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the immediate effect for a limited period of provisions in Bills relating to the imposition or increase of duties of customs or excise, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration. "

The motion was adopted.

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

Clauses 2 to 6 were added to the Bill.

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to move that the Bill be returned.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I move:
That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today, there are 28 permitted Special Mentions. As all the Members concerned are not present, I suggest that the Special Mentions of those hon. Members who are present may be deemed to have been laid on the Table of the House. Do we have the consent of the House?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. The approved text of the permitted Special Mention of the hon. Members who are present now shall be treated as laid on the Table as per the consent of the House. I will just read out the names.

SPECIAL MENTIONS*

Concern over damage caused by Elephants

SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA (Assam): Sir, elephant depredation, referring to the damages caused by elephants, poses a significant challenge, especially in regions

* Laid on the Table.

inhabited by the endangered Asian Elephant species. As human populations expand and encroach upon traditional elephant habitats, conflicts arise, often leading to adverse consequences for both humans and elephants. The need to address this issue has prompted initiatives to explore the possibility of shifting elephants to more suitable living spaces. The encroachment of human settlements into elephant territories often results in crop raids, property damage, and occasionally, human casualties. To mitigate these conflicts, we can think of strategic relocation of elephants to areas where their natural behaviours can be arranged without detrimental effects on the local communities. Shifting elephants to more suitable habitats is not only about protecting human interests but also ensuring the conservation of this endangered species.

Creating protected reserves or corridors for elephants allows them to roam freely, engage in natural behaviours, and helps maintain a healthy population. These conservation efforts aim to strike a balance between the needs of both humans and elephants, fostering coexistence rather than conflict. It is crucial to approach the shifting of elephants with careful planning, considering factors such as food availability, water sources, and the overall health ecosystem. Collaborative efforts involving wildlife experts, conservationists, and local communities are essential to ensure the success of such initiatives. I urge the Government to address the issue of elephant depredation through strategic relocation. In this way, we can contribute to the preservation of the endangered Asian Elephant species while promoting harmonious coexistence between elephants and human communities.

Demand for conversion into National Highway and four-laning of the Road

DR. K. LAXMAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, at the very outset, I thank the Union Government for sanctioning highest number of National Highways including Hyderabad Regional Ring Road and for allocation of more than Rs.1.10 lakh crore funds for National Highways, construction of a number of flyovers and underpasses in Telangana. Hyderabad-Ibrahimpattanam-Nagarjunasagar-Dornala Road is an important road which connects historical Nagarjunasagar Project, Nagarjuna Konda Museum apart from Buddhavanam which is being developed. This road is also a link between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Buddhavanam project was sanctioned by the Government of India as part of Krishna Valley Buddhist Circuit with a view to attract a large number of domestic and foreign tourists, particularly from South-East Asian countries.

Nagarjuna Konda (hill) is a historical town, now an island, located in Sagar backwater. Due to submersion, a museum was built on hilltop which houses a collection of relics of Buddhist culture and art. It is one of India's richest Buddhist sites. As Nagarjunasagar has become a tourism hub for national and international tourists, vehicle movement has increased many times. Presently, the road is just two-lane without divider due to which accidents occur very frequently.

Keeping in view the traffic congestion and for making it accident-free, this road must be made National Highway and developed into four-lane for smooth and easy travelling not only from Hyderabad but also from Chennai, Tirupati, Nellore and other cities. Therefore, I request the Government to accord National Highway status and allocate funds for four-laning of the Hyderabad-Nagarjunasagar-Macharla Road.

Demand for establishment of Institute of Higher Study on infrastructure in Uttarakhand

श्री नरेश बंसल (उत्तराखण्ड): महोदय, उत्तराखण्ड के उत्तरकाशी जिले के सिलक्यारा में निर्माणाधीन सुरंग में मलबा आ जाने से सुरंग में 41 मजदूर फंस गए थे, जिन्हें 17 दिनों तक चले रेस्क्यू ऑपरेशन के बाद बाहर निकाला जा सका। आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की अगुवाई एवं मुख्य मंत्री, धामी जी के सफल कार्यान्वयन से भारतीय सेना, NDRF, SDRF, GSI, CBRI, रुड़की, वाडिया इन्स्टिट्यूट जैसी विभिन्न एजेंसियों ने मिलकर संयुक्त बचाव अभियान चलाया और वह सफल रहा। साथ ही, बाबा बौखनाथ की कृपा से यह अभियान सफल हुआ। आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के नेतृत्व को साधुवाद, जिनके मार्गदर्शन में सभी टीमों इस चुनौतीपूर्ण ऑपरेशन को पूरा करने में सफल रहीं। ऑस्ट्रेलियाई विशेषज्ञ, अर्नोल्ड डिक्स इसे अपने जीवन का 'सबसे कठिन' बचाव कार्य अभियान बताते हैं। यह घटना सुरंग निर्माण के विषय में चिंताएँ बढ़ाती है, साथ ही संभावित कारणों और निवारक उपायों की बारीकी से जाँच करने के लिए प्रेरित करती है। सिलक्यारा सुरंग में मलबा आने का सटीक कारण अभी तक पता नहीं चल पाया है। हिमालय के पहाड़ काफी नए हैं और यहां की बदलती संरचना के कारण पैदा होने वाली अस्थिरता चिंता का विषय है। भूवैज्ञानिकों का कहना है कि उत्तरी हिमालय क्षेत्र में, जहाँ उत्तराखण्ड बसा है, वहां की चट्टानें अवासादी हैं। सुरंग बनाने हेतु चट्टानों की नाजुकता और मजबूती आदि की गहन पड़ताल करना जरूरी है।

अतः मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि हिमालयी क्षेत्र, उत्तराखण्ड में इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के विकास हेतु उच्च अध्ययन केन्द्र स्थापित किया जाए, ताकि उत्तराखण्ड इस तरह की आपदाओं और मौसम की मार को झेल सके।

Demand for establishing clinics for sexual problems at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in the country

DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE (Maharashtra): Sir, sexual health is a fundamental aspect of overall well-being, yet sexual problems in males, including impotency and various sexual disorders, remain significantly prevalent in India. According to studies, approximately 52 per cent of men between 40 to 70 years old experience some form of erectile dysfunction, with the prevalence expected to rise due to lifestyle changes and increasing stress levels. Moreover, the incidence of other sexual disorders like premature ejaculation and low libido is also substantial, affecting the quality of life and mental health of a significant portion of the male population. Unfortunately, a substantial number of affected individuals seek treatment from unqualified practitioners, leading to inadequate and non-evidence-based management. Recognizing the urgency of addressing this issue, I demand from the Government for the establishment of specialized clinics for sexual problems at all All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) located across the country. These clinics will adopt a multidisciplinary approach involving urologists, endocrinologists, psychiatrists, and counsellors to provide comprehensive care to patients.

In conclusion, the establishment of specialized clinics for sexual problems in males at AIIMS hospitals is crucial to address the rising prevalence of sexual disorders in India. This initiative will not only improve the quality of care but also prevent the exploitation of affected individuals by unqualified practitioners. It aligns with the mission of AIIMS to provide state-of-the-art healthcare and contribute to advancements in medical science.

Demand for two-laning of road connecting Baba Balak Nath Mandir situated in Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh

डा. सिकंदर कुमार (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन का ध्यान हिमाचल प्रदेश के प्रसिद्ध सिद्धपीठ बाबा बालक नाथ मंदिर, जो कि हिमाचल प्रदेश के जिला हमीरपुर बड़सर विधानसभा क्षेत्र में स्थित है, यह मंदिर प्रदेश में ही नहीं पूरे विश्व में प्रसिद्ध है। यह मंदिर ऊना हमीरपुर रोड से सलोनी नामक जगह से लगभग 18 किलोमीटर की दूरी पर स्थित है, लेकिन सलोनी से दियोटसिद्ध की सड़क सिंगल लेन होने के कारण श्रद्धालुओं और स्थानीय जनता को बहुत परेशानी होती है। इस रोड पर गाड़ियों की आवाजाही बहुत संख्या में रहती है। पूरे देश व विदेश में बसे भारतीयों की भी इस मंदिर में बहुत आस्था है। मंदिर ट्रस्ट ने Covid-19 में भी तत्कालीन सरकार के साथ मिलकर बहुत काम किया था और सरकार को हर सम्भव सहायता की

थी। बाबा बालक नाथ ट्रस्ट की ओर से दो स्कूल व एक कॉलेज भी संचालित होता है, लेकिन पिछले लगभग 70 वर्षों से यह रोड सिंगल लेन ही है, जिससे लोगों, पर्यटकों और श्रद्धालुओं को बहुत परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ता है। जहां सड़क के डबल लेन होने पर टूरिज्म को बढ़ावा मिलेगा और लोग भी बाबा बालक नाथ जी के दर्शन आराम से कर पायेंगे। मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से आग्रह है कि सलोनी से बाबा बालक नाथ मंदिर की 18 किलोमीटर तक की रोड को डबल लेन किया जाये।

Urgent requirement of daily passenger train service from Vasco to Belagavi

SHRI SADANAND SHET TANAWDE (Goa): Sir, I beg to call your attention to a matter of great significance that directly concerns the residents of Goa and their connectivity with Belagavi. I request Government intervention to address the urgent need for a daily passenger train service on South Western Railways connecting Vasco, Goa to Belagavi, Karnataka. There is a continuous demand for a train route on South Western Railways connecting Vasco to Belagavi via Londa and Dudhsagar. Goa shares a close and essential economic relationship with Belagavi, making a reliable and efficient train service crucial for trade, commerce and personal travel. Numerous Goans frequently travel to Belagavi for various reasons, including business, education, medical purposes and shopping. Belagavi serves as a significant hub for trade, and the connection between these two locations is imperative. I earnestly request the Minister of Railways to introduce a regular and daily train service from Goa to Belagavi, with potential stopovers at Londa and Dudhsagar. This strategic stopover will facilitate seamless connectivity for passengers travelling from Londa, enhancing the overall efficiency of the route. Additionally, a stopover at Dudhsagar waterfalls holds the potential to boost tourism in the region. This picturesque location is a popular attraction and can serve as a valuable addition to the travel experience for both, residents and tourists. Sir, I request the Government for a daily train service from Vasco to Belagavi, benefitting the well-being and connectivity of residents in both regions.

Urgent action required to restore Bengaluru's Glory

SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA (KARNATAKA): Sir, I bring to attention the pressing need for revitalizing Bengaluru, the 'Silicon Valley of India.' As a Bengalurean and someone invested in the city's future, I am highlighting the challenges hindering its growth despite substantial Government investments.

Bengaluru, one of the seven cities chosen under the Smart Cities Mission in Karnataka, continues to grapple with severe traffic issues and infrastructural shortcomings. City's traffic woes still persist, exacerbated by seasonal factors such as rain, inadequate public transportation network, and persistent civic issues collectively impede Bengaluru's progression as a 'smart city.' Recent incidents such as the tragic death of a 23-year old woman and her infant due to an unattended live wire on a footpath underscore the urgent need for comprehensive action. Another distressing incident occurred in May, 2022, where a young professional lost her life as her car got trapped in the flooded underpass. Furthermore, residents in flood-prone areas have attributed waterlogging and flooding issues to the smart city projects. These unfortunate events serve as reminders of the pressing infrastructural challenges being faced by Bengaluru.

I earnestly urge the Government to collaborate closely with the local municipal body to address the concerns, ensure safety and well-being of the citizens, and take immediate steps to translate the Smart Cities Mission into tangible improvements that positively impact the lives of Bengaluru's residents. The focus should be on enhancing the quality of life, mitigating civic issues, and ultimately restoring Bengaluru's status as a global city of the future.

Demand for CGHS Wellness Centre in Kangara, Himachal Pradesh.

सुश्री इंदु बाला गोस्वामी (हिमाचल प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी का ध्यान जिला कांगड़ा, हिमाचल प्रदेश में CGHS वैलनेस केन्द्र की आवश्यकता की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहती हूँ।

जिला कांगड़ा, जिला हमीरपुर व जिला चंबा में CGHS के अंतर्गत इलाज कराने वाले लोगों को चंडीगढ़ व शिमला जाना पड़ता है। पहाड़ी क्षेत्र होने के कारण इन जिलों से आवागमन में बहुत समय लगता है। प्रायः बच्चों, महिलाओं और बुजुर्ग मरीजों को इलाज के लिए एक अटेंडेंट के साथ रुकने की व्यवस्था करनी पड़ती है। जिला कांगड़ा से हमीरपुर 90 किलोमीटर है तथा जिला चंबा 120 किलोमीटर है, इसलिए आम जन एक दिन में ही आना-जाना कर सकते हैं।

जिला कांगड़ा में लगभग 20 से ज्यादा केन्द्र सरकार के कार्यालय हैं, जिनमें लगभग दस हजार से अधिक CGHS का लाभ लेने वाले केन्द्रीय कर्मचारी कार्यरत हैं। इसके अलावा आर्मी व अन्य पैरा मिलिट्री फोर्स में सेवा दे रहे जवान व उनके परिवार के सदस्य भी रहते हैं, जिनमें बुजुर्गों, महिलाओं और बच्चों की संख्या अधिक है।

महोदय, इन जिलों में लगभग हर घर का एक सदस्य आर्मी या पैरा मिलिट्री फोर्स में कार्यरत है। पालमपुर और धर्मशाला कैंटोनमेंट क्षेत्र भी है, जहां काफी संख्या में सेना के जवान व उनके परिवार के सदस्य रहते हैं, उनके लिए भी CGHS की सुविधा लेना आसान हो जाएगा।

अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि वर्णित तथ्यों के मद्देनजर जिला कांगड़ा में CGHS वेलनेस सेंटर बनाने के लिए संबंधित विभाग को निर्देशित करने की कृपा करें।

Concern over production capability and high price of ethanol

श्री धनंजय भीमराव महादिक (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, सरकार के द्वारा 2025 तक 20 परसेंट ब्लेंडिंग लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करना देश की अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए एक बड़ी राहत होगी। इथेनॉल ब्लेंडिंग टारगेट को प्राप्त करने के प्रयास की सफलता में प्रमुख समस्या पर्याप्त इथेनॉल का प्रोडक्शन, राँ मैटेरियल की उपलब्धता, उपयुक्त तकनीक तथा निवेश एवं इथेनॉल के दामों को सभी स्टेकहोल्डर्स के हित में तय करना है। ब्लेंडिंग लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने के लिए कुल 1,350 करोड़ लीटर इथेनॉल की आवश्यकता होगी, जो कि वर्तमान दाम, इंसेंटिव और निवेश से संभव नहीं है। लगातार इथेनॉल प्रोडक्शन बढ़ाने के लिए इथेनॉल के लिए विभिन्न विकल्पों को लेकर चलना होगा। शुगर से प्राप्त इथेनॉल के लिए शुगर मिल्स को वित्तीय मजबूती देनी होगी एवं अधिक से अधिक शुगर को इथेनॉल के लिए डायवर्ट करने के लिए उन्हें अधिक से अधिक इंसेंटिव देने की जरूरत है। देश में इथेनॉल प्रोडक्शन प्रारंभिक अवस्था में है, जिसे सरकार की ओर से प्रोत्साहन की बहुत जरूरत है। सरकार को शुगर से प्राप्त इथेनॉल के दामों में कम से कम 7-9 रुपये प्रति लीटर की बढ़ोतरी अनिवार्य रूप से करनी चाहिए। साथ ही विभिन्न स्रोतों से प्राप्त इथेनॉल के दामों को आकर्षक बनाकर इथेनॉल इंडस्ट्री को प्रमोट करने से बहुउद्देशीय इथेनॉल नीति का समग्र रूप से देश को लाभ मिलेगा। एक अच्छी इथेनॉल पॉलिसी से धरातल पर एक मजबूत इथेनॉल इंडस्ट्री की स्थापना में इथेनॉल के दामों का सही निर्धारण बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। मुझे आशा एवं विश्वास है कि इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर सरकार उचित कदम उठाएगी।

Concern over Jangam Community in Northern India

श्री कृष्ण लाल पंवार (हरियाणा) : महोदय, उत्तर भारत के हरियाणा, राजस्थान, पंजाब, हिमाचल प्रदेश तथा जम्मू-कश्मीर राज्यों में जंगम जाति सदियों से घंटी-भिक्षा करके जीवनयापन कर रही है। इससे संबंधित महत्वपूर्ण आंकड़े हैं : -

1. उपरोक्त राज्यों में जंगम जाति की कुल जनसंख्या मात्र 58,000 है। शत-प्रतिशत भूमिहीन व अशिक्षित होने के कारण केवल मात्र 0.001% व्यक्ति ही सरकारी व गैर सरकारी नौकरी करते हैं।
2. उत्तर भारतीय राज्यों में जंगम जाति सदियों से घंटी-भिक्षा द्वारा शिव गायन करके जीवनयापन कर रही है।
3. माननीय प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी द्वारा स्थापित इदायते आयोग की रिपोर्ट में भी हरियाणा व राजस्थान की जंगम जाति को घूमंतु जाति (Nomadic Tribes) घोषित किया गया है।
4. विश्व संस्था यूनेस्को (UNESCO) द्वारा हरियाणा में जंगम जाति की बहुत कम जनसंख्या होने के कारण वर्ष 2011 में जंगम परम्परा को लुप्तप्रायः घोषित किया गया है।

5. बाबा साहेब डॉ. भीमराव अम्बेडकर द्वारा सन 1950 में ही महाराष्ट्र, कर्णाटक, आंध्र प्रदेश तथा तेलंगाना राज्य में परम्परागत रूप से घंटी-भिक्षा व्यवसाय करने वाली जंगम जाति को बेड़ा जंगम, बूड़गा जंगम व माला जंगम के नाम से आरक्षण दिया गया है।

महोदय, उपरोक्त तथ्यों को मद्देनजर रखते हुए मैं भारत सरकार से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि उत्तर भारतीय राज्यों विशेषकर हरियाणा, राजस्थान, पंजाब, हिमाचल प्रदेश तथा जम्मू-कश्मीर की जंगम जाति को राष्ट्रीय घुमन्तू जनजाति आयोग (इदायते आयोग) की सिफारिश को लागू करते हुए पिछड़े वर्ग (बीसी) की सूची से हटाकर अनुसूचित जनजाति (Scheduled Tribes) की सूची में आरक्षण प्रदान करने की कृपा करें, धन्यवाद।

Concern over non-availability of records for 1962, 1965 and 1971 wars with National Archives of India

SHRI BRIJLAL (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, it has been gathered that non-historical records — since 1960 — and records of 1962, 1965 and 1971 Wars, and also the records on Green Revolution, are not available with the National Archives of India, as most of the departments have not shared the information for these years with the NAI. Sir, nine departments, Commissions, institutions and attached bodies, including Agriculture, IT and Electronics, Social Justice, Panchayati Raj, Rural Development, Women, Child Development and Child Affairs are some of the prominent departments/organizations yet to share the records with the NAI.

There are 151 Ministries and Departments, but NAI has records of only 64 agencies, including 36 Ministries and Departments.

Situation seems to be alarming and immediate steps need to be taken so that historically important information is not lost in the name of weeding out records. Officers and staff need to be sensitized about the awareness of records of historical importance and transfer it to NAI in a time-bound manner. Necessary instructions should immediately be sent to all Government organizations to identify, preserve and transfer this historical treasure trove to NIA.

Demand for establishment of Vidhan Parishad in Odisha

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): In August 2018, the Odisha Cabinet approved a proposal to set up a Vidhan Parishad or Legislative Council as an Upper House to the Odisha Vidhan Sabha or Legislative Assembly. Its strength would not exceed one-third of that of the Assembly, which in Odisha's case would work out to a maximum of 49 Members. The setting up of an Upper House was preceded by the setting up of a

Committee of Legislators in 2015. As the idea gained momentum, the Committee that had travelled to Karnataka and Maharashtra in 2015, and Telangana and Bihar in 2018 and, thereafter, submitted its report in the same year. In September 2018, the Odisha Vidhan Sabha passed a resolution to set up the Legislative Council or Vidhan Parishad in Odisha. The Resolution now needs the approval of the Union Cabinet, after which it would be tabled in both the Houses of Parliament and thereafter Presidential assent is required to make it an Act. There is a need to have a Vidhan Parishad in Odisha for extensive discussion and wider consultation on crucial issues pertaining to the State. Also, Bills, which are passed in the State Assembly, can have elaborate discussions in the Upper House. I request the Government of India to take all necessary steps for the establishment of the Odisha Vidhan Parishad expeditiously.

Faulty design of underpass situated under National Highway and Railway Line

श्री रामचंद्र जांगड़ा (हरियाणा) : मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय को सदन के ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूँ।

मान्यवर, 2014 के बाद, जब से प्रधान मंत्री, नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में केन्द्र में सरकार बनी है, देश के आधारभूत ढांचे के विकास में नई क्रांति आई है। राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों का निर्माण हो, रेलवे नेटवर्क का विस्तार हो या हवाई यात्राओं व हवाई अड्डों की वृद्धि का विषय हो, हमारे देश ने मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में अभूतपूर्व प्रगति की है। मान्यवर, आवागमन के मामले में हर भारतवासी को 2014 के बाद से हर क्षेत्र में अपार सुविधाएं मिली हैं, लेकिन ग्रामीण क्षेत्र से गुजरने वाले राजमार्गों व रेलमार्गों के कारण ग्रामीणों को कुछ कठिनाइयाँ झेलनी पड़ रही हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से यह सरकार के संज्ञान में लाना चाहता हूँ।

मान्यवर, राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों व रेलवे लाइनों के नीचे से गुजरने के लिए बने अंडरपासों की डिजाइनिंग काफी जगहों पर सही नहीं है। वे या तो बहुत गहरे हैं, जहाँ बारिश के दिनों में पानी भर जाता है और कुछ में तो 12 महीने जमीन के नीचे का पानी भरा रहता है, जिससे ग्रामीणों को काफी लंबा चक्कर लगाकर आना-जाना पड़ता है। कुछ इतने संकरे हैं कि आज के समय किसानों द्वारा प्रयोग की जाने वाली ट्रैक्टर ट्रॉलियाँ उनमें से नहीं निकल सकतीं। इससे किसानों को बहुत कठिनाइयाँ होती हैं।

मान्यवर, मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से आग्रह है कि अंडरपासों की डिजाइनिंग के सुधारीकरण की ओर ध्यान दिया जाए तथा जो सही नहीं हैं, उनको सुधारा जाए।

Demand to develop Hapur as Spiritual city

श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, मैं आज इस सदन का ध्यान हापुड़ जिले में विकास की महत्वपूर्ण संभावनाओं की ओर आकर्षित करने के लिए खड़ी हुई हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश में स्थित हापुड़ में पवित्र स्थलों और आकर्षणों की एक विविध श्रृंखला है, जो इसे गहन सांस्कृतिक और

ऐतिहासिक महत्व का गंतव्य बनाती है। श्रद्धेय पवित्र स्थानों से लेकर मनोरम आकर्षणों तक, जिला आगंतुकों और निवासियों के लिए एक संपन्न केंद्र बनने का वादा करता है। महोदय, सरकार को अपने प्रयासों को हापुड़ जिले को सर्वांगीण विकास की ओर ले जाने की आवश्यकता है। यह जरूरी है कि हम गढ़मुक्तेश्वर को हरिद्वार और वाराणसी की तरह एक पवित्र शहर के रूप में विकसित करने जैसी पहल को प्राथमिकता दें। इस साल गढ़मुक्तेश्वर में कार्तिक पूर्णिमा मेले के दौरान 35 लाख से ज्यादा लोगों ने गंगा स्नान किया। एक नए तीर्थ स्थल के रूप में बृजघाट के उभरते महत्व को पहचानते हुए इसे एक जीवंत पर्यटन स्थल में बदलने की महत्वपूर्ण आवश्यकता है। वाराणसी में नियोजित एमवी गंगा विलास से प्रेरणा लेते हुए, बृजघाट में गंगा नदी पर कूज सेवाएं शुरू करने की आवश्यकता है। यह पहल न केवल आध्यात्मिक जरूरतों को पूरा करेगी, बल्कि क्षेत्र के सांस्कृतिक और आर्थिक विकास को भी बढ़ावा देगी।

महोदय, मैं सरकार से हापुड़ जिले को एक पवित्र शहर के रूप में विकसित करने को प्राथमिकता देने और इसमें तेजी लाने का आग्रह करती हूँ।

Infirmities in issuance of Ayushman Card

श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, भारत सरकार की आरोग्य योजना के तहत 12 करोड़ आयुष्मान कार्ड्स लाभार्थियों को दिए जा चुके हैं। इस योजना के अंतर्गत 5 लाख रुपए तक के मुफ्त इलाज की सुविधा मिलती है, जिससे वह देश के किसी भी हिस्से में अपना मुफ्त इलाज करवा सकता है। "विकसित भारत संकल्प यात्रा" के दौरान मुझे जानकारी मिली थी कि भारत सरकार की आयुष्मान योजना में 6 या 6 से अधिक सदस्य वाले राशन कार्डधारी परिवार अपने घर पर ही मोबाइल से आयुष्मान कार्ड बना सकते हैं, लेकिन 6 सदस्यों से कम संख्या वाले परिवारों के कार्ड्स नहीं बन पा रहे हैं। मेरे विचार से यह योजना उन परिवारों के लिए नुकसानदेह है, जिन्होंने सरकार की परिवार नियोजन नीति का पालन किया है, क्योंकि उनके परिवार में सदस्यों की संख्या 6 से कम है।

अतः मेरा आग्रह है कि इस योजना में अविलंब परिवर्तन करके 6 से कम सदस्यों वाले राशन कार्डधारी परिवारों को आयुष्मान योजना का लाभ प्राथमिकता के आधार पर मिलना चाहिए, ताकि केन्द्र की परिवार नियोजन नीति का पालन करने वालों को लाभ मिल सके तथा इस नीति का पालन करने वालों को हतोत्साहित न होना पड़े।

Demand for teaching of Sanskrit in Schools and Colleges in systematic manner

डा. कल्पना सैनी (उत्तराखंड): महोदय, संस्कृत भारत की प्राचीनतम भाषा है। विश्व साहित्य में संस्कृत भाषा में सृजित एवं समाहित साहित्य अपनी प्राचीनता, दिव्यता, महानता और अनुपमता के कारण विश्व-वन्दनीय एवं विश्व-विश्रुत हैं। सम्पूर्ण वैदिक साहित्य का दिव्यतम स्वरूप संस्कृत भाषा में संग्रहित, सन्निहित एवं समाश्रित हो रहा है। विश्व साहित्य और सृष्टि के सर्गकाल की सनातन वैदिक वाणी चतुर्वेदों में अपनी परम दिव्यता के साथ परिलक्षित हो रही है। ऋग्वेद, यजुर्वेद, सामवेद और अथर्ववेद की ईश्वरीय सनातन वैदिक दिव्य वाणी वैदिक संस्कृत में

दृष्टिगोचर होती है। भारत सरकार ने नई शिक्षा नीति में भारतीय भाषाओं के विकास के साथ संस्कृत के पठन-पाठन और सम्मान का स्वरूप प्रदान किया है।

मेरा सरकार से यह आग्रह है कि संस्कृत शिक्षण का स्वरूप दशम और द्वादश कक्षाओं, बी.ए. और एम.ए. की कक्षाओं में अधिकतम सुव्यवस्थित हो, ऐसा सामूहिक प्रयास हो। संस्कृत के पठन-पाठन से उत्तम संस्कार, उत्तम विचार, उत्तम आचरण और उत्तम जीवन धारण करने की महान कला निहित है।

Demand for stoppage of 12424 Rajdhani Express at Rangiya Junction

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam): Sir, the Rangiya Railway Division is one of the five railway divisions under the North-East Frontier Railway Zone of Indian Railways. I would like to draw your kind attention to a decade-long pending issue of an additional stoppage of 12424 Rajdhani Express at Rangiya Junction.

People are compelled to go to Guwahati station hiring cars, losing hard-earned money and wasting their precious time. Some elderly people are even being compelled to stay an extra night at the hotel. Assam is a frontier State and its people spend more time in reaching New Delhi by train. At present, there is only one daily service of Rajdhani, that is, 21423/12424. Rangiya Station is the junction point of rail connectivity of Dhemehi, Lakhimpur, Biswanath, Sonitpur, Udalguri, Baska, Kamrup, Nalbari districts of Assam and East Kameng, East Siang and West Siang districts of Arunachal Pradesh. In the absence of an additional stoppage at the Rangiya Junction, people of nearby areas are facing a huge problem in boarding the Rajdhani Express.

Sir, the North-East Frontier Railway had already sent a proposal to the Railway Board for sanction in 2009. A reminder was sent in 2017 and another reminder was sent in September, 2022. The matter is still pending with the Railway Board. I urge the Government to take immediate action for an additional stoppage at Rangiya for the Rajdhani Express.

Demand to utilize plastic/polyethylene waste in making petrol, CNG, liquid fuel and Hydrogen

डा. लक्ष्मीकान्त बाजपेयी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : महोदय, पेट्रोलियम शोधन की प्रक्रिया में पॉलीमर बाई प्रोडक्ट है, जिससे केवल प्लास्टिक बन सकता है। यदि प्लास्टिक/पॉलीथीन बनाना बन्द किया जाये तो पॉलीमर का क्या होगा, यह चिन्ता का विषय है। प्लास्टिक/पॉलीथीन के निस्तारण का प्रबन्धन बड़ा कठिन है, क्योंकि पॉलीथीन दिनचर्या का हिस्सा बन गया है। दुर्भाग्य यह है कि सूखे ज्वलनशील पॉलीथीन को बॉयलर में जलाया जा रहा है, जिससे वातावरण दूषित हो रहा है। सीमेंट संयंत्रों में प्लास्टिक जलाने की अनुमति है। चिप्स, बिस्कुट, नमकीन के पैकेट्स में इनका

प्रयोग होने के कारण नालियों में जल प्रवाह अवरुद्ध हो रहा है, जिससे जलीय चक्र प्रभावित हो रहे हैं तथा मिट्टी में दब जाने पर जल सोखने की क्षमता बन्द हो जाती है व भूजल रिचार्ज भी प्रभावित होता है। गैसीफायर से गैस (60 प्रतिशत मिथेन, 15 प्रतिशत हाइड्रोजन, 15 प्रतिशत कार्बन मोनोऑक्साइड) बनती है। नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्रालय (एमएनआरई) ने कूड़े के निस्तारण में गैसीफायर को अनुदान की श्रेणी से बाहर कर दिया है। एनजीटी की ओवरसाइट कमेटी से स्वीकृत प्रक्रिया है। एमएनआरई के शैक्षणिक शोध संस्थान सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह राष्ट्रीय जैव-ऊर्जा अनुसंधान संस्थान में हालिया प्रगति पर चौथे अंतरराष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन में इस पद्धति को सर्वोत्तम पुरस्कार मिला। अब इससे सीएनजी, पेट्रोल, तरल ईंधन, औद्योगिक गैस व हाइड्रोजन बन रही है।

अतः मेरा आग्रह है कि भारत सरकार का पर्यावरण मंत्रालय, एमएनआरई, एनजीटी और इस विधा पर काम करने वाले लोगों को मिलाकर एक समिति बनाये, ताकि इसकी व्यावहारिकता तथा भविष्य में इसको कार्यरूप में परिणत करने की दिशा पद्धति का निर्धारण हो सके।

Issue of beneficiary of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana

श्री ईरण कडाडी (कर्णाटक): महोदय, 'प्रधानमंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि योजना' के माध्यम से छोटे और सीमांत किसानों को, तीन समान किशतों में, प्रति वर्ष 6,000 रुपये की सहायता प्रदान की जा रही है। छोटे किसानों के लिए यह योजना अत्यंत उपयोगी है, क्योंकि बुवाई से ठीक पहले नगदी संकट से जूझने वाले किसानों को बीज, खाद और अन्य इनपुट की उपलब्धता में सुविधा हो रही है। इस योजना के माध्यम से 8.5 करोड़ से अधिक किसान लाभान्वित हुए हैं और पिछले 4 वर्षों में 2 लाख, 60 हजार करोड़ रुपये की राशि किसानों के खातों में जमा की गई है। यह योजना किसान की आय दोगुनी करने हेतु एक सकारात्मक कदम है, लेकिन इस योजना के लाभ से अभी भी कुछ छोटे किसान और उनके परिवार वंचित हैं, क्योंकि योजना के दिशानिर्देशों के अनुसार, लाभार्थियों की पात्रता निर्धारण की अंतिम तिथि 1 फरवरी, 2019 है। इस योजना के अंतर्गत उन किसान परिवारों के लिए कोई प्रावधान नहीं है, जहाँ 1 फरवरी 2019 के बाद भूमिधारक की मृत्यु या किसी अन्य कारणों से भूमि का बँटवारा करना पड़ता है और भूमि का मालिकाना हक स्थानांतरित किया गया है। भूमि के नए मालिकों का नाम राजस्व विभाग द्वारा निर्धारित किये जाने के बाद भी भूमिधारक योजना का लाभ नहीं ले पाते।

मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है कि इस त्रुटि को सुधारा जाए और दिशानिर्देशों का संशोधन करके वंचित किसानों को इसके अंतर्गत लाने की अनुमति दी जाए, जो बँटवारे के पश्चात् भूमि स्वामित्व में बदलाव के कारण पंजीकृत नहीं हुए और 1 फरवरी, 2019 की अंतिम तिथि को समाप्त करके इसका लाभ हर लाभार्थी को मिले, इसका प्रावधान किया जाए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, the House stands adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. on Thursday, that is, the 21st December, 2023.

The House then adjourned at thirty-seven minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Thursday, the 21st December, 2023.

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