

**RAJYA SABHA**

---

**\*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE**

---

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

---

Wednesday, March 9, 2011/ Phalgun 18, 1932 (Saka)

---

**MATTERS RAISED WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE  
CHAIR**

**I. Problems of the people associated with production of  
documentary films due to non-compliance of directions of the  
Supreme Court of India**

**SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI:** The producers of short-films, technicians and the people engaged in this field are encouraged in all the countries of the world. In our country, a conspiracy is being hatched to render thousands of short-film makers and lakhs of technicians, photographers and artists unemployed due to vested interests of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the bureaucracy. The Government, in order to pressurise the owners of multiplexes, has asked them to show films produced by Films Divisions only and not produced by the private producers. The Supreme Court has given a clear direction to the Government in this regard . Hence, the private producers should also be allowed to make films and the directions of the Supreme Court should be complied with.

---

**\*This Synopsis is not an authoritative record of the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha.**

*(Miss Anusuiya Uikey, Dr. Bharatkumar Raut, Shri Nand Kumar Sai, Shri V.P. Singh Badnore and Shri Sanjay Raut associated.)*

## **II. Killing of a social activist in Jharkhand and corruption in implementation of the scheme under MNREGA**

**MS. MABEL REBELLO:** On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, one Niyamat Ali was murdered in Jerua village of Manika block of Latehar district. He was an activist and he was doing social audit for MNREGA. Some 7-8 persons dragged him out and hit him on his chest and beat him very badly. They had no intention of killing him. That shows that it is the contractors, officers and others who were involved. The benefits of MNREGA are going to the officers, to the contractors and their henchmen. If MNREGA continues like this, it is of no use to the people for whom it is meant. In Gumbra district in the year 2008, officers and NGOs have taken away 12 crores of rupees and I have complained twice on this count. In spite of that, nothing has happened to the senior officers. The Government should direct the Government of Jharkhand to take strict action against the DC, DDC and Director MNREGA.

## **III. Killing of one person hailing from Punjab and causing injury to the other in U.S.A.**

**SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:** People from almost all the States including Punjab go abroad to work there. In USA, two elder persons of Punjab were attacked in which one of them was killed and another was injured. If these incidents will continue to happen, there will not be any feeling of security among the people working abroad. They were wearing Kurta-Pyjama, Pagri and keeping small Kripan, a religious symbol of Sikhs. The Police has advised that if an elder person wants to go for a walk, he should not wear such clothes. If we will not maintain our religious identity, whether we will be able to survive abroad in this kind of insecurity? In order to remove the feeling of insecurity among the people, the Government should, at least, talk to the Government of USA and ensure that these kind of incidents are not repeated.

**SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER:** People of all the countries of the world go to the other countries. If the Government of that country will not protect them, they will get scared and come back. The culprits have not been nabbed till now. The Government should give a statement as to what kind of pressure is being put on them or what action is being taken in this regard, so that this kind of incident is not repeated.

*(Shri Ramdas Agarwal, Shri Shreegopal Vyas, Shri Mangala Kisan and Shrimti Viplove Thakur associated.)*

*(Some Hon'ble Members also associated.)*

#### **IV. Proposed takeover of Mangala oil field of Rajasthan by M/s Vedanta**

**SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:** The Government is allowing the Vedanta Company to take over the absolute control of the most precious oilfield in the country, the Mangala Oilfield of Rajasthan, by way to taking over 60 per cent shares of the Cairn India Limited in lieu of 9.6 billion dollars. A multinational company which has been barred in bauxite mining exploration in Orissa, is being allowed to take over the total control of the oilfield in the Mangala Oilfield in Rajasthan and the process is being facilitated by the Government of India. The whole matter of valuation of the Rajasthan Oilfield, the Mangala Oilfield, resources and the Cairn India Limited share be examined by the CAG. Unless that is examined, no action should be taken on these and Vedanta must not be allowed to take over the Cairn India Limited.

*(Shri Mohammed Amim and Shri M.P. Achuthan associated.)*

#### **V. Effect on farming community due to reduction of customs duty on raw silk**

**SHRI K.B. SHANAPPA:** The Government in its Budget for the year 2011-12 has reduced the customs duty on import of raw silk from the existing thirty per cent to a bare minimum of five per cent. This has affected the entire sericulture industry mainly the farming community. Around six million people depend for their livelihood on

silk production and processing in India. It is necessary to keep up the momentum of growth in the coming years for the overall development of silk industry. Silk import over and above the quantity required will be misused by some vested interest groups by trading this imported silk in local marketing affecting the cocoon and raw silk prices. Hence, concessions given in the Budget may be taken back and the old rate of 30 percent duty should be maintained.

*(Shri Rudra Narayan Pany associated.)*

#### **VI. Killing of two women in Delhi on International Women' s Day**

**SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:** The capital of the country, Delhi is not safe now for women. Yesterday, on International Women's Day, a student named Radhika was shod dead in Dhaula Kuan area in Delhi. Yesterday itself, some miscreants entered the house of a woman advocate and brutally killed her mother. Who is accountable for these incidents? As per the Annual Report of Delhi, daily eight women are becoming victims of various crimes in the capital. What action has been taken in respect of the two incidents which occurred yesterday? Today, the women have lost faith in the police. I want to ask the Home Minister whether he will streamline the police force?

**THE LEADER OF OPPOSITION (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):** All the Members of the House are in agreement with her. It would be better if the Home Minister or any other Minister from the Government give a statement in the matter as to what is the status of the crimes against women in Delhi and what steps Government is going to take in this regard.

*(Dr. Bharatkumar Raut associated.)*

---

## **SPECIAL MENTIONS**

### **I. Concern over the high mortality rate of children in the country**

**DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:** A study by the Registrar General of India published recently in British medical journal “The Lancet”, has revealed an alarming scenario of neonatal deaths in India. The irony is that each of the major diseases which are the causes of neonatal death can be prevented or treated with known, highly effective and widely practicable interventions. The study makes another vital observation—social preference for boys probably affects survival for girls. In view of the above horrendous scenario, I urge the Indian childhood should be saved from untimely Neonatal deaths.

### **II. Concern over mining monopolies in Mining Sector and Government’s inaction thereon**

**SHRI D. RAJA:** For the last 3 years, media has been highlighting diverse mining scandals. It is shocking that various people acquired iron ore and other mining licenses and then broke all rules and made huge fortunes. Government has been blaming state Governments for this State of affairs, but if Central Government wants, it could have intervened at many stages and rectified errors and stopped illegal acquisitions of iron ore and other mining licenses. It is also empowered to review such permits and licenses. But it has never done so. It is urgently required that Central Government take note of diverse illegal actions. Government should use its review powers to cancel licenses and penalize parties who perpetrated these illegal acts.

### **III. Malpractices in Rajasthan State flying school, Jaipur**

**SHRI M. RAMA JOIS:** Rajasthan State Flying School, Jaipur has been indulging in grave malpractice by admitting students assuring to give them pilot’s training collecting heavy fees, but making false entries in log books regarding the flying timings and securing pilot’s licenses to them from Director General of Civil Aviation. On coming to know of this D.G.C.A. has suspended the licenses of several such persons causing irreparable loss and hardship to them, apart from serious risk to the passengers which calls for

immediate attention of the Government to stop such malpractices and to take action against the guilty.

**IV. Need to resolve the problems of employees of Prasar Bharati by making appropriate amendments in Prasar Bharati Act**

**SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA :** The attempt of the Government for amendment to Section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990 has created public outcry and resentment among the employees of Akashvani and Doordarshan across the country. The Prasar Bharati came into existence for granting autonomy to erstwhile Government-owned media. But, it has failed to achieve its objectives as envisaged in the Act even after 14 years. The existing Government employees of Akashvani and Doordarshan were placed on "Deemed Deputation" as an interim arrangement *w.e.f.* 01-04-2000 under the control of Prasar Bharati. But without finalization of Recruitment Rules and Service Conditions of the Corporation, the DoPTs norms have been disregarded. It has resulted into inordinate delay to exercise option under Section 11 by the existing employees for either absorption in Prasar Bharati or to remain with the government in accordance with the DoPT norms.

The arrangement of such type of perennial "Deemed Deputation" till retirement is contrary to the statutory provisions of Rules of Law. It is also a gross violation of DoPT norms. Hence, I demand not to make any amendment to Section 11 of the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990. Instead, Section 17 of the said Act should be amended to restore the confidence of the public in general and employees in particular.

*(Shri Prakash Javadkar associated.)*

**V. Demand to take measures to check the increasing number of cancer patients in certain regions of Punjab**

**SHRI H. K. DUA :** Train No. 339 leaves every night from Abohar, to reach Bikaner next morning. Over a period of time it has come to be known as "Cancer Train". It has acquired this dubious reputation simply because nearly 100 cancer patients travel by it from

Punjab to Bikaner for treatment at the Acharya Tulsi Regional Cancer Treatment and Research Institute, Bikaner.

The patients and their families travel as long as 350 kilometres every day from Abohar to Bikaner coming from other stations in the southern Punjab districts. After treatment, they return to their villages and small towns of the entire Malwa tract. As per some preliminary researches, pesticides and fertilizers which are being widely used, are responsible for cancer in the districts of Ferozepur, Faridkot, Moga, Mansa, Barnala and Bhatinda of southern Punjab. I request the Minister of Health to take steps for setting up a big cancer hospital in southern Punjab and conducting detailed researches in this respect for the patients who have to travel to Bikaner.

*(Shri Avinash Rai Khanna, Shri Tarun Vijay, Shrimati Bimla Kashyap Sood, Miss Anusuiya Uikey and Shri Balwinder Singh Bhunder associated.)*

**VI. Demand to address the problems being faced by the family of Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar', the National Poet**

**SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :** I want to draw the attention of the Government towards the injustices being committed against the family of the National Poet, Shri Ramdhari Singh 'Dinkar' whose birth centenary is being celebrated all over the country. He was an immortal writer whose creative writing has inspired people. Some influential persons have forcefully occupied his residence in Patna. As a result, the condition of the members of his family has become pitiable. The Chief Minister of the State has been intimated in this regard. But, his family has not been provided with justice.

I request the Government to take proper action in the interest of the family of the great writer and provide justice to them.

*(Shri Rudra Narayan Pany, Shri Rajniti Prasad, Shri Ashk Ali Tak and Dr. Ram Prakash associated.)*

## **VII. Demand to set the guidelines for appointment of Vice-Chancellors in the State Universities**

**SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD :** The Government has carried out reforms in respect of higher education. Efforts have also been made to carry out reforms in the Universities established by the Centre. In this respect, the contribution of UGC is appreciable. But, I am sorry to say that no clear guidelines have been fixed for the selection of Vice-Chancellors of the Universities run by the States. As a result, the candidates of dubious and criminal background are being appointed to the posts of Vice-Chancellors. For example, the State Government has recommended to remove the person appointed to the post of Vice-Chancellor in Jai Prakash University. But, he is still occupying the post as a Vice-Chancellor. Resentment is prevalent throughout the State and students are inclined to resort to mass agitation. Therefore, I, urge upon the Government to formulate clear guidelines for the appointment of Vice-Chancellors.

*(Shri Mangala Kisan associated.)*

## **VIII. Demand to include the caste-based census in the General-Census, 2011**

**SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI :** A consensus was reached between the Government and the Opposition to conduct the Census, 2011 on the basis of caste. In this respect, all the parties had agreed to include caste in the census. The Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh also honoured the feelings of the Members, and his assurance in this respect was welcomed as a big step in the direction of social justice. But, now the Government has decided to conduct the Census, 2011 from June to September, 2011, irrespective of the Census Act, 1948. I urge upon the Government to apprise the House of the actual position in respect of entire process of caste-based Census. The Census must be conducted as per the Census Act, 1948 so that, social and economic statistics of various castes can be collected.

*(Shri Syed Azeez Pasha, Shri Shashi Bhusan Behera, Prof. Anil Kumar Sahani, Shri Kishore Kumar Mohanty and Shri Mangala Kisan associated.)*

#### **IX. Need to control the Current Account Deficit**

**SHRI N. K. SINGH :** I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the need of evolving a medium term policy to control Current Account Deficit. The deficit in current account is likely to cross 3% of India's GDP. The declining export/import ratio of India's merchandise trade is a worrying factor as it has declined from 86% in 2001 to 64% in 2010. The Trade deficit can jump nearly 2.5 times in 3 years and it may cause unsustainable Current Account Deficit. Though service earnings will most likely grow yet their growth cannot sustain the ballooning of trade deficit to the size of 13% of GDP. The Central Bank has also pointed out that although recent data shows improvement of exports vis-à-vis imports, the sharp increase in global commodity prices can have an adverse effect on CAD going forward.

I urge upon the Government to take concerted action on multiple fronts like – exchange rate management, improving competitiveness of export sector, seeking market diversification and encouraging faster onward remittances. Coherent strategy is very important as CAD may widen further with the recovery of global economy.

*(Shri Mahendra Mohan and Shri Sitaram Yechury associated.)*

#### **X. Concern over the low quality of rice and pulses being served in the Mid-Day-Meal Scheme in school and other schemes**

**SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA :** It is alleged that lowest quality rice and dal is being served in many States in Mid-Day-Meal for school children, Aganbadi and Nutrition programme for Pregnant mothers. In spite of the observation of Hon'ble Supreme Court and High Court to various States in this regard, the quality of food material has not been improved. This is 100 per cent Central

Government fund which is being utilized for the care of children and mother. It may create health hazards for millions of children and mothers who are the future of the country. Although these are the Central Government schemes, the State Governments are in charge of their implementation. In Odisha too, the lowest quality rice and dal are being served for years. When the issue came to media, the concerned Minister resigned and vigilance inquiry is going on in Balasore, Mayurbhanj, Jaipur, Deoarih, Bhadraka and Ganjam districts. Such incident can also take place in other States. I urge upon the Government to constitute a Special Task Force to coordinate and monitor the said programmes. Stringent action should be taken against those who are involved in such malpractices in the country.

*(Shri Rudra Narayan Pany and Ms. Mabel Rebello associated.)*

**XI. Demand to remove the problems being faced by people living in Zanskar region of Ladakh**

**SHRI TARUN VIJAY :** A serious matter in respect of the existence of the people of Zanskar (Ladakh) bordering China has come up and people representing various political parties including Congress and BJP, have come to Delhi to demand basic infrastructure. Zanskar remains isolated from rest of the world for more than six months in a year. The connectivity even within the Sub-division has been paralysed. A Committee formed in the regime of the Vajpayee Government following the Kargil war in 1999. The Committee recommended that the Government should have a alternative road, which links Ladakh with the rest of the country via Zanskar to Manali. As such, Nimoo-Padum-Darcha road was sanctioned. But, the pace of work on this project is very slow. The Border Road Organization has hardly constructed a stretch of 122 km. of the 168 km. long Nimoo-Padum road in 10 years.

I demand the Government to construct an all weather road along the gorges of Zanskar River, and separate district status be granted to Zanskar sub-division.

*(Shri Ramdas Agarwal, Smt. Maya Singh, Shri Shreegopal Vyas and Miss Anusuiya Uikey associated.)*

**XII. Demand to start functioning of Pack House and Spice Park in Tansaral of Chindwara region of Madhya Pradesh**

**MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY:** A Spice Park and a Pack House in Tansaral of Chindwara region of Madhya Pradesh were constructed with the intention to protect the vegetables, so that, the farmers of the district could get remunerative price of their crops and unemployed youths could get employment as well. The Spice Park started functioning by installing only 2 machines against 6 machines, as earlier planned. But its functioning discontinued after some days and it was given on contract to a businessman. He also closed it after four months. The Pack House also did not start functioning. A huge sum of money is being spent on the security and maintenance of these factories without any gain. The Government is requested to install the requisite machines in the Spice Park and make the Pack House operational.

**XIII. Demand to grant a special industrial package to Punjab to prevent the migration of Industries from the State**

**SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:** Industries from Punjab are migrating to neighbouring States in the absence of incentives from the Union Government whereas special concessions and incentives are given by the Union Government to the neighbouring States. The State Government of Punjab has taken up this issue with the Union Government from time to time, but no concrete action has been taken in the matter till date.

The Union Government should announce and release a special industrial package for Punjab to ensure level playing field vis-a-vis other States and to check migration of industries from Punjab.

*(Shri Avinash Rai Khanna and Shri Balwinder Singh Bhunder associated.)*

**XIV. Demand to exempt the inservice University and College teachers from qualifying NET/SET examinations in Maharashtra**

**SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE PATIL:**

There are about 10,000 teachers who are rendering their services to the Universities and colleges in Maharashtra. In the year 1991, the University Grants Commission (UGC) had issued an order making qualifying NET/SET exams compulsory for all those seeking appointment in the Universities. The UGC, in the year 2000, again issued a revised order exempting the teachers from qualifying NET/SET exams with some conditions. It was the State Government of Maharashtra and local Universities that did not adopt the 1991 and 2000 orders of the UGC. The HRD Ministry has stayed the UGC's orders for grant of exemption from qualifying NET/SET exams. The HRD Ministry may be asked to call back its order so that all those teachers may get the benefit of exemption from qualifying NET/SET exams and may get all service benefits.

*(Shri Thomas Sangma associated.)*

**XV. Demand for early completion of repair works on the Kanpur-Lucknow Highway**

**SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:** I want to draw attention of the House towards the deteriorating condition of Kanpur-Lucknow Highway. It takes about 4 to 5 hours to travel this 90 km length of highway while earlier travel time was only two and half hours. Heavy truck also use this road as it connects with highway no. 2. Work on this highway was started in 2002 and was scheduled to be completed by 2007. BRM and TRG, the companies which were assigned the work of constructing the said road had abandoned the work.

Construction of bridge over the Ganga is going on since decade of 1970 and yet not complete. Due to non payment of contribution by Railways and National Highway Authority of India, construction of bridge over Raebareli crossing has not completed yet. I request that work on Kanpur-Lucknow Highway should be

completed as early as possible so that users of Kanpur-Lucknow Highway get relief.

*(Shri Naresh Chandra Agrawal associated.)*

**XVI. Demand to prevent the misuse of educational institutions by the banned organizations and the people involved in maoist activities**

**SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:** Recently, a programme was organized in the presence of a renowned women writer by a banned organization in Jawahar Lal Nehru University. This women writer, on whom some legal cases are being pursued, has justified the killing of security forces in Kashmir and Chhatisgarh States. If such banned organizations and so called intellectuals keep on polluting psyche of our future generations, then it will have disastrous results. Government should stop such organizations and persons, involved in such activities, from misusing educational institutions in future and Government should take disciplinary action for act done until now.

*(Shri Vikram Verma, Shri Tarun Vijay and Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad associated.)*

*(Some Hon'ble Members also associated.)*

**XVII. Demand to take strict measures to check the exploitation of missing children by anti-social elements in the country**

**SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA :** As per figures available with National Commission for Human Rights, 45,000 children get missing every year and out of this, the largest percentage of 6.7 is from Delhi. The figures may be more than that because a number of people do not report the cases in fear of police or due to their illiteracy or some other compulsions. These missing children get into the hands of some organized gang of anti-social elements who exploit them by indulging them in the act of child prostitution, begging, criminal activities, domestic help and hazardous industrial work. Their blue films are made and their body parts are used in human trafficking.

There are more than 6 thousand railway stations in the country where these children live in the groups and they are treated as thieves and addicts by the people. A number of laws have been made to check the theft and sale-purchase of children but the laxity on the part of our system is the main factor responsible for this. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to take necessary steps for stringent action against such criminal elements in order to curb the exploitation of missing children.

*(Shrimati Maya Singh, Miss Anusuiya Uikey and Shri Shreegopal Vyas associated.)*

*(Some Hon'ble Members also associated.)*

### **XVIII. Demand to start evening flights of the Air India for Srinagar Airport**

**PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ :** The Airport at Srinagar has all the facilities available and the calibration of instrumental landing system recently has resolved the problem relating to visibility. Therefore, flights can be operationalised in the evening also. It is then that other airlines will follow suit. This facility will bring lot of relief to the passengers. I urge the Minister of Civil Aviation to accede to my demand, at the earliest.

*(Shrimati Brinda Karat associated.)*

---

## **BUDGET GENERAL, 2011-12**

### **General Discussion**

**SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:** The Budget is not only a routine exercise of accounting and expenditure in the Indian context, but this yearly instrument is also viewed with great hope by the people, the poor people, the businessmen and all other people. But this time, even one of the members of the NAC has said that Budget has nothing for the poor. The rate of inflation is an area of concern. Price rise is not only creating problems for the poor, extremely poor,

but also middle class. Common people are suffering, and there are only assurance and assurances. The Economic Survey itself acknowledges that the prices were high for the last 76 weeks, beginning from June, 2009. Rice, vegetables, potato, onion, fruits, milk, meat, fish, tea and spices, etc. all are costly. As per Economic Survey, an Indian household spends 40 per cent of its expenditure on food articles only. In developing countries, it is 7 to 8 per cent. The most interesting part is that these statistics relate to the Wholesale Price Index. The Consumer Price Index is not mentioned at all. The logic for price-rise is being given that people are eating more, and, therefore, the prices are rising. It is not only unfortunate, but deeply regrettable. India has the largest population of adolescents in the world, and out of it, 47 per cent are underweight and 56 per cent are anemic. As per the World Bank report, 80 per cent of children, 70 per cent of pregnant women and 24 per cent of men suffer from malnutrition. This is the state of country's health, health of the poor people. Yet when it is being stated that people are eating more, and, therefore, prices are going up, this I would say, is very, very painful.

The other argument is that faster economic growth would lead to price rise. If the statistics in this regard are compared with those of other countries, we find that it is not a correct, factual position. This whole argument that the price rise is integral to growth is not acceptable. In fact, between 2005 and 2010, the prices of all commodities have risen by 38 per cent, while the prices of food items have jumped over by 77 per cent. During the NDA regime, India became the highest producer of milk in the world. Now, we are being confronted with a situation that we have to import milk. Why is there this gross mismanagement? As per Budget speech, the food stock in the Central Pool reached 470 lakh metric tonnes. But the total food storage capacity in India is roughly in the region of 200 lakh metric tonnes. This means that more than half the stock of foodgrains in the Central pool was lying outside the storage capacity and they were rotting. It is not being released to the public and is allowed to rot. This is a gross case of food mismanagement which, I think, requires a very clear answer.

Now, I come to the agricultural sector. More than 65 per cent of India's population exist upon agriculture and it has the potential to provide 58 per cent of employment in the country. Yet, the GDP component is only 14.6 per cent. This is a serious imbalance in the entire economic architecture of the country. Now, if you see the Central allocation for irrigation, it is only Rs.565 crores which is a pittance. Unless agriculture is seen as an important component of the Indian GDP, agriculture would never be given the priority which it deserves. And I regret to say that I do not see any big picture in this Budget. Under Second Green Revolution, you have 60000 villages in six areas which have been given Rs.300 crores each. It means one village will get just Rs.50,000 which is not sufficient. We know that agriculture is a State-subject, but, the Central Government's initiative also is required. We have decided to transfer subsidy in cash to the people below poverty line. We want to know as to how many poor or below poverty-line are there in the country because different figures have been given by various bodies. The growth story of the UPA is that the poor are becoming poorer and rich are becoming richer.

We support the role of private sector in growth because both the Government and the private sector have to play a crucial role. And we appreciate the entrepreneurship. But, if you give a regime which only leads to wealth creation for those few and the larger public below the poverty line is suffering and their number is rising, this kind of regime is not acceptable to us. You need to address this issue. It is not an inclusive growth.

Now I come to the health issue. The worst component of this Budget is the slapping of a five per cent Service Tax on healthcare. We are spending just one per cent of the GDP on healthcare. The public infrastructure is quite unsatisfactory. 80 per cent of expenditure on health comes from the own resources of the people of this country. It is high time healthcare must be taken as a part of infrastructure. In the entire Budget there is not even a whisper about unemployment and how you are going to remove unemployment in the country. Manufacturing sector is a big component for giving a push to employment but it is down. I would like to know how much

employment has been generated in the UPA-I and UPA-II in this country? Unemployment rate in India went up to 9.4 in 2009-10 from 8.3 in 2004-05.

I now come to infrastructure sector. In the Economic Survey you have acknowledged it as a sad story. Take the case of National Highways. We were proud of that. It was a great success story of the NDA regime, the golden period of National Highways programme, and more than 71 per cent Golden Quadrilateral was completed, the East-West Corridor was going very high. Now we hear that the NHAI is having raids by the CBI, the GMs, the Deputy GMs, the Under Secretaries, etc. are going to jail. What is happening? Unless we have good infrastructure, can India grow as you have projected? The Housing sector is another area of growth for employment generation. But there is resource crunch. There is no roadmap for housing for poor.

You have to take the fiscal deficit to 4.6 per cent. In the last year fiscal deficit came to 5.1 per cent against the Budget Estimate of 5.5. Why? It is primarily because of the bonanza you got from 3G auction. How are you going to take it down now? What is troubling me more is your vision that subsidy must come down. Yes, it has come down provided the needs of the poor are met. Now, what is the scenario today? We see a lot of corporate write off in terms of income tax foregone, various central duties foregone. The subsidy meant for the poor is coming down and the corporate write off are rising.

The question of black money abroad in your speech caused the biggest disappointment to us. Is it only a tax liability or is it a crime? It is the fruit of crime, various money laundering and a whole range of other criminal activities. Why I am saying that is because you have raised two issues, double taxation and tax exchange information agreement.

Why do you need a strong observation from the Supreme Court to take action against a person who stashed billions of India's money illegally abroad? What is the total amount, approximately, of Indian nationals, as per the Government of India's understanding,

deposited in foreign banks?. This money relates to how many individuals and how many companies? And, against how many of these some form of criminal prosecution has been initiated. We would like to know how much information has been given to foreign banks. We would like to know that out of 1200 cases, information on how many of them have been given to foreign banks. Secondly, why has India not ratified the UN Convention Against Corruption? Why this is not being done is a question I would like to know, because this will enable you to seek cooperation from different countries, including Switzerland.

The middleclass has been ignored in this Budget. When the Direct Tax Code is going to be implemented from next year, you could have increased the limit to Rs. 2 lakhs this year itself. The poor saving of Rs. 2,000 is going to be written off by the continuing inflation. The GST is good for the country, but we must ensure that it is operated in a manner that fiscal interests of States are not lost. The country also needs reform programmes. Many areas are still lying for intervention. We would expect the Government to reach out to the Opposition.

**DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:** The first object of a Budget, necessarily, has to reflect the philosophy of the Government of the day. The second is to deal with the macro-economic essentials of the country. The third is to initiate the process of translating that vision for the future on to a firm and prosperous foundation.

The revenue receipts have increased considerably from the Budget Estimates to the Revised Estimates for 2010-11 from about Rs. 6.82 lakh crores to Rs. 7.83 lakh crores. The revenue deficit has decreased in both, absolute terms and percentage terms and if you take just the percentage terms, it has decreased from 4 per cent to 3.4 per cent. The effective revenue Budget has also, similarly, decreased in percentage terms from 3.5 per cent to 2.3 per cent. The most important, the fiscal deficit, has again decreased in percentage terms from 5.5 per cent to 5.1 per cent. He has also made significant announcement of direct transfer of cash subsidy to BPL families in a

phased manner. He has successfully calibrated the spending phase of this Government, the 2008-09 recessionary phase, and the more disciplined less-spending phase, which must now follow.

The programmes of social welfare have been successfully implemented by UPA-I and UPA-II and one of the biggest ones in that is about to roll out the food security programme. Our social sector total allocations have reached just behind our Defence Budget. There is a small gap, Rs. 1,60,000 crores for social sector spending and Rs. 1,64,000 for Defence. This, is a revolutionary change in thinking.

Inclusion is the gift of the UPA. The Finance Minister had very rightly devoted a whole section to inclusion. We already know about MNREGA, the world's second largest social welfare scheme and now we have launched Food Security Scheme. MNREGA provided 46 million employments. Although, NDA did add employment, the rate of additional employment was much below the rate of addition to the labour force and therefore, unemployment increased from 1999-2000 to 2004-05 by 7.31 per cent. Whereas, we created additional 5 million jobs from 2004-05 to 2007-08, apart from employment provided under MNREGA. Two most important infrastructure sectors, namely Education and Health has witnessed a hoping increase over the previous years. Our social sector allocations come a very close second behind our Defence Budget. UPA has altered the trajectory of India's growth. The 'UID Adhar Scheme' will be not merely transformative but will also be revolutionary for our State mechanisms. For far too long, a lip service has been done on this score. But this time, the Finance Minister has realized the urgent need and has given a handsome, concrete bonanza which will be quickly utilized for building infrastructure. In near future, more funds will be given to increase the ratio of judges in this country. We were less affected from recession as we had inclusive welfare programmes under operation. We will be bringing legislations for financial sector reforms as mentioned in para 34 of Budget. DTC (Direct Tax Code) is one among them.

Having new Direct Tax Code, it will now not require any fiscal legislation unless each year the Parliament wants to change the rates. There will be stability in all the tax rates. The GST will reduce the taxations, make it uniform and, for the first time, create a common market in India, especially, for sales tax. The BJP did nothing for the VAT for five years but in 2005, our Government, for the first time, introduced VAT. The BJP States had refused to implement it.

Another part of the reform picture is the disinvestment. Fifty-one per cent would be retained at all times by the Government of India. The 3G auction is a bonanza which will not recur every year. Therefore, the disinvestment will provide cushion for our resources. The Companies Bill has not seen a real change for almost 50 to 60 years. Other seven Bills like the Insurance Bill, the LIC Bill, etc., are amendment Bills. Important Expert Committees have made specific recommendations. These Bills are extremely important for our third generation reforms in the financial sector.

This reduction in expenditure growth is quite remarkable about this Budget. This leads to fiscal and revenue deficit being controlled. It has a direct impact on controlling inflation and other aspects. Expenditure on infrastructure and education has increased. Taxes have not been increased and there is a commitment and planning for further disinvestment. It is likely that this budget is a major turning point in India's fiscal history.

The annual growth rate of the UPA for the coming year is projected to be 9 per cent. Figures cannot lie. Our lowest rate between 7.2 and 7.3 per cent in these seven years is higher than NDA's highest of 6.5 per cent in 1999. This growth rate of UPA has elevated 225 million Indians out of poverty in 25 years. Regarding health allocation, ours increased by 186 per cent from 2004-09 as against 45 per cent of NDA. On education, they increased the outlay by about 41 per cent and we increased it by over 125 per cent.

The investment focus is back. The FII investment limit in corporate bonds has been raised by five times from five billion to 25 billion USD. Government ownership with regard to banks has been

increased in this Budget. The Finance Minister has allocated Rs. 100 crores to a special equity fund for SHGs and a separate Rs. 500 crores for women in a separate SHG fund.

Small and Medium Enterprises is one of the largest and fastest growing sectors. The budgetary allocations to this sector sees an additional five thousand crores this year. The handloom weavers have got Rs. 3000 crore support scheme and the handicraft business will have a special handicraft mega-cluster in Jodhpur.

There is 5.2 or 5.4 per cent increase in the Budget for the agricultural sector. Credit flows have been further increased by over 25 per cent. Those farmers who repay in time, effectively get a reduction in rate to 4 per cent. Banks are under guidelines to extend 4 per cent loans to small and marginal farmers. Storage and preservation has got special recognition. 24 lakh MT of additional storage under rural godowns scheme would be created. The procurement is at the highest ever level by this Government. Green revolution has a special focus on the east, in Jharkhand, West Bengal, Bihar and the North-East. Additional Rs. 400 crores has been given for rice cropping patterns. The agricultural foodgrain production during the NDA rule was 212 MT. We have this year 5.2 per cent growth in agriculture.

Infrastructure gets a huge boost along with the manufacturing and industry. Each of the six schemes of Bharat Nirman gets additional allocation. NDA Government did not say anything about the black money during its regime. There was international consensus in the year 2009 with regard to international accords and treaties. There cannot be any progress in the matter of black money without them. Mis-pricing is almost 80 per cent of all illicit flows of money. The strength of the Enforcement Directorate has been increased.

A large number of policies go towards reducing inflation. Fiscal deficit is the best antidote to inflation. FMRB roadmap will be fine-tuned. Expenditure growth reduction is precisely for inflation. The single biggest focus in these four paras of this Budget is on distribution, storage, cold chains and preservations. The highest inflation in your time, was 7.2 per cent in 2000-01. The highest in our

time was 8 per cent. Let us not try to have double standards. Inflation is down from 13.5 to 8.3 per cent from 2009 to 2010. Food inflation is down from 2009 to 2010 from 17.6 per cent to 5.4 per cent. There are, of course, areas of concern. Perhaps, irrigation needed a greater focus. Air-conditioned hospitals need a more sensitive treatment. We require your cooperation for all the seven legislations. In a crisis, it is important to be aware of the danger but to also recognize the opportunity. The budget does not fail any of the three tests with which I started to address you.

**SHRI NARESH CHANDRA AGRAWAL :** All the sections of society have been hurt from this budget. The most of Chief Ministers of the country have expressed such a reaction about this budget. At the time of presenting budget no tax is levied, but after passing it taxes are levied on articles. This is insult of the House. Oil companies have no control over oil. This should be stopped. New concept of monthly budget should not prevail. Maximum slab of Income Tax is 30%. Many types of taxes have been imposed. There is a new concept of hidden tax. There is a need of tax reform. Budget deficit is met through borrowing, but deficit is increasing every year. Interest on loan has gone up to 13 per cent. 10.9 per cent budget is related to non plan expenditure. Last year earnings of only Rs.22,144 crore was shown through disinvestment. It may be explained whether equity of Navratna companies are being disinvested?

Deficit should be reduced by raising income and reducing expenditure. What is the mechanism for giving subsidy to the beneficiaries? It is being mentioned that 7 percent interest will be charged from farmers. This loan should be interest free. Today, holdings are getting smaller. There is no mention of land reforms in this budget. We have entered into Free Trade Agreement with those countries which are posing challenge to us. Our economy is in bad state. This should be mentioned how price rise will be controlled. The States are held accountable for price-rise. Due to ban on the export of sugar, the problem of sugarcane payment to farmers arose. A uniform policy should be formulated in this regard. Black Law of 3/7 should be abolished. Why is employment of 365 days not being

provided under MNREGA? Large amount is being spent but no asset is being created. Why was the implementation of policy of food for all delayed? Today, the poor in the country cannot get foodgrains of two times. The most of the farmers have committed suicides in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. Today, we have no storage for storing foodgrains.

Four agencies have carried out survey regarding BPLs. Planning Commission is having all the four reports and no action has been taken till date. Present Government has constituted about 80 Group of Ministers. This is the best way to delay any issue. We have requested the Prime Minister to accord sanction to the airport at Zevar near Bareilly. It will reduce the burden on Delhi Airport but matter is pending with Group of Ministers concerned since last three years. Group of Ministers has no time limit to take decision. The Central Government has forwarded a proposal of 'education to all' to all the state governments. By opposing the financial expenditure of the proposal, Uttar Pradesh government has requested the Central Government to share financial burden of the scheme on the basis of 50-50. Today various types of education is provided under the basic education. We should appreciate the role of private sector in education. Private sector has revolutionarised the education sector.

The Government is not paying attention towards the infrastructure sector. If we will not develop infrastructure then we will not be able to develop our country. Country is facing shortage of power. Power sector may be put under central control and centre may produce too much power that there may be no shortage of power in the country. Nowadays Bharat Nirman is a subject of discussion but I am not able to understand that where this Bharat Nirman is going on. It is a matter of concern that my state, Uttar Pradesh is being ignored. Power projects of Uttar Pradesh are not being sanctioned. Coal linkage has not been provided. You are not providing power to Uttar Pradesh as per the requirement. UP has lowest ratio of national highways. In this areas UP is most backward. UP should also be provided funds for rural electrification as there are number of villages

which even after 64 years of independence have no access to power, roads, potable water and other basic amenities. You help in this field.

Law and order is a state subject. Now time has changed. Today crimes like cyber crime, terrorism and naxalism are inter-state crimes. Centre has asked the State to modernise police force. We have submitted a proposal of Rs.4000 crores to the Centre so that we may modernise our police force. Till date Centre has not been able to take a firm decision regarding naxal attacks and government view is not clear in this regard. We have taken stern action. We have been criticized that we are taking strict action only against opposition. We have not even allowed our own party MLAs to make the mockery of law. Today most of fake currency in India is being routed through Nepal. Nepal is centre of fake currency. Every body knows that China is issuing stapled visa to some of Indian states. You should adopt the same policy for some Chinese States but I think this government is weak.

Central Government has announced the number of mega power projects but UP has not given even a single project. You should make a national power policy. Today, India has lowest per capita power consumption. You have not mentioned any thing about industrial growth. You have not covered the negative sector in budget. In the present budget, you have increased the allocation for agricultural loan. But I want to know the status of last year's agricultural loan disbursement. You are charging 7 per cent interest from farmers. Today there is no marketing system for agricultural produce. This area need urgent attention. Land reforms are also need to be noted. Land holdings are getting smaller day by day. Acres of waste land need to be used. No policy has been made regarding waste land.

I also want to mention about unemployment. MNREGA is being promoted as largest employment scheme. But you have not mentioned about permanent employment, skilled employment and unskilled employment. People are taking loan for education but after completing the education, they are not getting the job and are

compelled to choose the way of crime. You should think in this regard seriously and a policy is also to be evolved in this regard. You have provided tax holiday to Uttaranchal. It is making impact on the industrial sector of UP. Industry is migrating from UP to Uttaranchal as they are getting tax relief there.

**DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM:** I am very proud to speak on effective Budget. The Finance Minister proves as one of the effective tools for a good fiscal management. The American President Obama has already given a compliment that India is economically fast growing country.

This Budget, given by our Finance Minister, Pranab Dada, is the backbone of our nation's economy. Our country is based on agriculture which gives food and employment opportunities to more than 70 per cent of our population. The Government must give priority to agricultural growth. The Government should have announced, more research and development schemes for enhancing the agricultural productivity in this Budget. Even though our country produces 68 million tones of fruits and 129 million tones of vegetables as the second largest producer in the world, about 40 per cent of our fruit and vegetables go waste due to the lack of adequate infrastructure. The announcement of sanctioning 24 cold storage projects with a capacity of 1.4 lakh metric tones under National Horticulture Mission, and 107 cold storage projects, with a capacity of 5 lakh metric tones, as well as 30 Mega Food Parks under Eleventh Five Year Plan is appreciable, but these are not enough comparing to the potential wastage of fruit and vegetables in India. The Government should open the door to the farmers to sell their products in the market directly, without any middle men. Such a move would definitely curtail the loss of wastage of agricultural production in the country.

Indian agriculture is facing shortage of agricultural labourers and to manage the shortage the Indian agriculture sector should be equipped with modern technologies and machines as Israel has done. The country needs to develop modern irrigation systems like drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation. To encourage the farmers to go in

for drip irrigation the Government of India has already given 40 per cent subsidy. I urge upon the Government to announce full subsidy for drip irrigation all over the country. I sincerely thank our Hon'ble Minister of Fertilizers for his continuous efforts for introducing such a cash-based subsidy for fertilizers. In the present circumstances, along with certain increase in the GDP of agriculture, animal husbandry activities are helpful to agricultural activities in the country. The modernization in animal husbandry is more essential like other department. We have already got research institutions like ICMR for medical and ICAR for agriculture. After agriculture, what I am very much concerned about is the present situation of the health sector in the country. The allocation for health sector has been continuously increasing from Rs. 19,534 crores in 2009-10 to Rs. 22,300 crores in 2010-11 and to Rs. 26,760 crores now.

It is a good move made by the Finance Minister to improve the public health system in the country. There should be a constant review of concentration given on the maternal health in the country. The public health centres network is well established in Tamil Nadu. There are 1,700 public health centres serving a population of 30,000 to 40,000 in rural areas. This is true that the maternal mortality rate is generally high in the country with 80,000 mothers dying every year; whereas, the number is considerably low in the State of Tamil Nadu. This Budget also has got a lot of fruitful features. This Government has achieved all its budget targets in all these years to make India a developed country. The people of this country feel proud to have such an experienced leader, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, as the Finance Minister.

Now, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaignar, has praised the Central Budget for 2011-12, as the Budget has been prepared to various sections of the society.

**SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:** Big population depend on agriculture sector. It has been mentioned in the Budget that some food parks will be made. Direct subsidy on fertilizer has been announced but how that subsidy will be given, how corruption will be stopped

because whatever schemes are implemented, money does not reach the farmers but goes in corruption. Whatever our farmers produce, they do not get fair price. Government is indifferent towards agricultural and village development. Like last years limited budget of about 40 thousand crore has been given. Allocation has not been increased for this. Corruption in 'MNREGA' is a well known fact. Government should pay it attention, how it should be implemented and how its allocation should be increased. After this second most important thing is health for life. No tax was levied on health until now. By levying 5 percent service tax now patients have to face lot of difficulties.

Homeopathic, Yunani, Sidha, Ayurvedic all medicines will be costly. Finance Minister should pay attention on this that at least service tax or Excise tax should not be levied on health services so that people can keep themselves fit. In Public Health System, during 2009-10 to 2011-12, there was 37 percent increase in GDP. During this time Budget of Health Ministry has increased by 37 percent but it is very sorrowful that fund has been decreased in many national disease control programme in the country. Amount of money given for national rural water scheme, Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana and Indira Awas Yojana last year has not been increased. Regarding food security, Finance Minister has made declaration and it is welcome but how he will implement food security. We want that under recommendation made by National Advisory Committee every person should get food and house. In IT sector employment opportunity are provided and new opportunities are also provided but since last few years this sector was marching ahead, after this budget there is a great disappointment in this sector.

As far as growth of GDP is concerned, certainly there is good growth rate of GDP. I hope that we can achieve growth rate of 9 percent. Alongwith this we will have to see how we come stop inflations. Even today if laws and rule of income tax are followed huge money can be collected in tax. We should pay special attention on this fact what action is taken on corrupt employees involved in tax collection. Biggest reason of black money is election system of the

country. We should pay attention of the special concerned have not been given to minorities, poor people and people of backward casts. (*Speech finished.*)

*Discussion not concluded.*

---

**CALLING ATTENTION TO THE MATTER OF URGENT  
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**The situation arising out of unprecedented and untimely heavy  
rains in Andhra Pradesh**

**SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU:** I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the situation arising out of unprecedented and untimely heavy rains in Andhra Pradesh

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):** The existing Scheme of Relief Expenditure arising out of natural calamities/disasters including floods provides for assistance to the affected victims from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) constituted in each State, as per the approved items and norms of assistance. In the event of a calamity of a severe nature, additional Central assistance is provided from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) after following the laid down procedure. The assistance to farmers from these funds, *inter alia*, includes assistance for desilting of agriculture land, removal of debris, input subsidy for agriculture crop loss, sericulture, horticulture, replacement of animals, etc.

During the second half of 2010-11, Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted three memoranda for additional financial assistance out of the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for damages caused due to floods, cyclone and heavy rains which also included damage to the agriculture sector. The Government of India had responded immediately and provided logistic and financial assistance to the State Government.

Based on the first memorandum submitted by the State Government for damages caused in June to September, 2010 due to floods caused by South West monsoon 2010 and the report of the Inter Ministerial Central Team which visited the affected areas from 1st to 4th November, 2010, the Government of India has approved Rs.264.54 crores from NDRF on 26th February, 2011.

The State Government submitted a second memorandum for the damages caused by the cyclone 'JAL'/floods during October-November 2010. Based on the memorandum submitted by the State Government and the report of the Inter Ministerial Central Team which visited the affected areas from 17th to 19th December, 2010, the Government of India has approved Rs.172.23 from NDRF on 26th February, 2011.

For the third memorandum received for damages caused due to heavy rains in the month of December 2010, the Central Team visited the State from 7-10th February, 2011 and has submitted its report. As per the prescribed procedure, the report is under examination for its consideration by the Inter Ministerial Group and its subsequent submission to the High Level Committee for approval of assistance as per the existing norms and guidelines.

In pursuance of the Prime Minister's announcement, an amount of Rs. 400 crore (Rs. 300 crore on "on account" basis from NDRF and Rs. 100 crore as central share of SDRF for the year 2011-12, in advance) was released on 29<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 towards relief.

In addition, the Central share of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) amounting to Rs. 381.63 crore was released in two instalments on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2010 and 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 respectively.

Rs. 207.33 crore has been additionally released on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2011 from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for additional employment beyond 100 days under MGNREGS for the drought of 2009.

On the issue of lifting restrictions on foodgrains movement, including export of BPT-5204 variety of rice, the Ministry of

Commerce has allowed the export of 100,000 MT of Sona Masuri (BPT-5204) *w.e.f.* 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2011. The State Government has also informed that there is no ban on the inter-State movement of BPT rice from Andhra Pradesh to other States.

**The Minister, replying to the points raised by Hon'ble Members, said:** Cyclones, floods, are indeed a tragedy and they affect a large number of people. Both the Central and the State Government must rush to the aid of those who have been affected. We follow certain norms, certain scales of assistance and provide relief to the State Government which, in turns, provides relief to the farmers and other affected persons. These norms are revised from time to time and have been revised it more than once. What is now being said is, revise the norms. We will certainly keep all suggestions in mind and revise the norms. Government has not acted in violation of the norms. No enhanced scale of relief has been given to any State. We have granted relief only in accordance with the norms.

We must understand how NDRF and SDRF work. SDRF is a fund from which State draws fund. We have to spend the money and then draw it from the SDRF. This has been the practice, every successive Government and we are following. Regarding assistance under MNREGA, State Government has to provide the certification from the State Accountant General but in the case of Andhra Pradesh, the share of Centre was released without receiving certification from the State Government.

As far as the waiver of loans is concerned, Government of India has provided a production subsidy of Rs. 20 per kilogram and distribution subsidy of Rs. 25/- per kilogram to the implementing agencies. There is also a provision of financial assistance for organizing training for farmers and seed growers who have been affected by the floods and draughts. A number of relaxations are given to the farmers of the affected areas of the state. The Government has accepted the proposal of Tobacco Board for providing compensation for damaged crop of tobacco in the state. The State Government also took a number of steps, including introduction of 'Pavala Vaddi

Scheme', to mitigate the hardships of the farmers. Now, the farmers have to pay only 3 per cent interest on the crop loan. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has also provided relief to weavers affected by natural calamities in 2010. Central Government has done everything that was obliged to do under norms. We sympathies with the people of Andhra Pradesh and we share their grief.

**V. K. AGNIHOTRI,**  
*Secretary-General.*

[rssynop@sansad.nic.in](mailto:rssynop@sansad.nic.in)

**ERRATA TO SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE, DATED 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2011**

- Page 163 Line 2-3, delete words 'Immediate ..... Bill'
- Page 177 Line 6-7, read 'railway employees.' for 'Andhra Pradesh.'
- Page 181 Line 13-14 from bottom, read the name of Hon'ble Minister as '**KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE**'
- Page 183 Line 12 from bottom, delete words 'You ... employees'
- Page 184 Line 5, add 'the following resolution' after 'move'
- Line 12, read 'Resolution' for 'Motion'