

RAJYA SABHA

***SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE**

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Tuesday, December 09, 2014/ Agrahayana 18, 1936 (Saka)

**REFERENCE TO TERRORIST ATTACKS IN THE
JAMMU AND KASHMIR**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as you are aware, eight Army personnel, three policemen and two civilians were reportedly killed in four serial attacks by terrorists in Uri and Tral sectors of Jammu and Kashmir on the 5th of December, 2014.

The dastardly attack is deplorable and the loss of precious lives in these incidents is indeed tragic and unfortunate.

I am sure, the whole House will join me in expressing our deepest condolences to the bereaved families and pray for the speedy recovery of the injured. This House strongly condemns these terrorist attacks and reiterates its firm resolve to confront such acts with determination and firmness.

(One minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the memory of those who lost their lives in this tragedy.)

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION OF CHAIR

I. Need to Make Public all Files Relating to Subhash Chandra Bose

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: I would request the hon. Home Minister and the Leader of the House to convey the decision of the Government regarding de-classification of all files relating to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. All documents related to other leaders are kept in National Achieves. We demand that all files related to Netaji Subhash Chandra be Sent to National Archieves.

(Dr. K. P. Ramalingam, Shri Tarun Vijay, Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu, Shri Jesudasu Seelam, Shri V. Hanumanta Rao, Shri Anwar Ansari, Shri Narendra Budania, Shri K.N. Balagopal and some hon'ble Members associated.)

II. Problems Faced by Cotton Growers of Odisha

SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH: The maximum difficulty is faced by the farmers by Hudhud in many states. You mentioned that textile export would be good. So, State Governments focused on it and the farmers abandoned everything and concentrated on cotton by changed pattern of agriculture. Because of Hudhud a heavy rain occurred in Odisha which caused a heavy loss to farmers. The production is very less in Odisha. The quality of cotton in Odisha is very fine. Cotton Corporation of India is remembered only when rates of cotton are not increasing in the market. I request the Minister of Finance to provide some subsidy. Whatever input subsidy you are providing for Hudhud, cotton should also be included in that.

(Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu, Shri Jesudasu Seelam, Shri Alok Tiwari, Shri Balwinder Singh Bhunder and Shri Arvind Kumar Singh associated.)

III. Crisis in Jute Industry due to Dilution of Jute Packaging Materials Act

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Because of the crisis faced by the jute industry in West Bengal jute mills are seriously cutting down their production capacity utilization directly leading to loss of

employment. The situation is also affecting the jute growers. A meeting is going to be held today with the stakeholders to decide the roadmap of implementation of the decision of completely phasing out Jute Packaging Materials Act. In the meeting of stakeholders, neither the workers, nor the jute growers, are being called. Even those reduced norms are not being following by the jute barons. The import of jute must be stopped. The concession given on import duty must be stopped.

(Shri P. Rajeeve, Dr. T. N. Seema, Shri Ali Anwar Ansari, Shri Derek O' Brien, Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Roy, Shri Mukul Roy, Shri Baishnab Parida, Shri A.U. Singh Deo and some hon'ble Members associated.)

IV. Increase in Rape Cases in the Country, including Recent Incident in Delhi

SHRIMATI RAJNI PATIL: A website should be made for all the convicts of rape. The present accused was also arrested in the same allegation of the rape in year 2011 and was ordered an imprisonment for seven years by the court. If such accused are roaming freely and taking the women at 9 O'clock in the night in Delhi, we are exposing the women to insecurity. The Government must create a safe atmosphere for the women.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: The certificate was issued to the taxi driver who was already a convict. Women are not safe. We are talking about the Hindu religion and culture but Delhi women are being raped.

DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: This person has already been in Tihar Jail from seven months in a rape case. Delhi is not safe even today. We all are ashamed of the tragic incidents which is going on. It is a matter for the shame for the Government also.

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Safety of women is the concern of the whole House. The accountability of police should also be ensured in this regard and culprit must be punished. I admit that working hours of the police are more but the Government should pay the more attention

to such incidents and accountability of responsible police must be ensured.

(*Shrimati Wansuk Syiem, Shri D. Raja, Shri Digvijay Singh, Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda, Shri Arvind Kumar Singh, Shri Parvez Hashmi and some hon'ble Members associated.*)

V. Unsafe Food Being Served in Many Reputed Restaurants of Delhi

SHRI K.C. TYAGI: I have received report that reputed restaurants in Delhi are serving sub-standard food which can cause serious diseases. Food Safety Department of Government of Delhi has also admitted that. This food is not unfit for human consumption. I request the Government that all these should be banned and the health of the people should be taken care of

VI. Controversy Created by Proposing *Gita* as 'National Scripture' by a Senior Minister

SHRI D. RAJA: India is a multi religious and multi lingual country. In a multi religious country each religion has many scriptures as Holy Scriptures. You can't impose one scripture (Bhagwad Gita) as the book of national scripture. Giving special treatment to Sanskrit undermines other languages. The External Affairs Minister's statement is a very objectionable one. The House should disapprove that statement.

(*Shri C.P. Narayan, Shri Derek O'Brien, Shri Baishnab Parida, Dr. K.P. Ramalingam associated.*)

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: If there is any holy book for India, it is the Constitution of India.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: It is in a way narrowing down India. We condemn this.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI) responding to the matter,

said: Bhagwad Gita is not a religious book, it is a 'karma' book. The whole country is proud of Bhagwad Gita.

VII. Closing Down of News Channels Affecting Thousands of Media Personnel

SHRI ALI ANWAR ANSARI: In the past few months, many news channels have closed down due to which thousands of media personnel have become jobless. There is too much risk and uncertainty involved in this profession. There is no guarantee of service for journalists. They are lathicharged by the police. There should be some system of the Government to regulate this profession.

(Shri K.C. Tyagi and Dr. Anil Kumar Sahani associated.)

VIII. Scrapping of One-Stop Crisis Centres Under Nirbhaya Project

DR. T.N. SEEMA : It was reported in the media that the Prime Minister's Office has shut down One-Stop Crisis Centres under the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The project was conceived in the aftermath of the Nirbhaya case on the recommendation of Justice Verma Committee. How many women police stations are linked with helpline? This is an irresponsible attitude of the Government at a time when there is an alarming increase in the violence against women! How does the PMO cancel a project which has already started functioning? I urge upon the Government that the hon. Prime Minister should assure this House that this anti-women move will be taken back.

(Shri Sitaram Yechury, Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu, Shri Jesudasu Seelam, Shri Ali Anwar Ansari, Shrimati Naznin Faruque, Dr. Vijaylaxmi Sadho, Shri Tapan Kumar Sen and Shri Husain Dalwai associated.)

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: We have been demanding for the last three weeks that the Minister should give a reply on this.

IX. Attack on Churches in East Delhi and in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN : There is a SIT which has been set up. The attack at the St. Sebastian Church of Dilshad Garden was a case of malicious intent. This is not an isolated incident, because a similar thing happened in Madhya Pradesh and Chhatisgarh, and the minority of the minority communities, the Christian community, is being targeted. I hope the Home Minister would make a statement on this attack act in this Church in Delhi.

(Shri Sitaram Yechury, Shri P. Rajeeve, Shri Ali Anwar Ansari, Shri M.P. Achuthan, Shri C.P. Narayanan, Shri D. Raja, Shri Jesudasu Seelam, Shri Tapan Kumar Sen, Shri Anand Sharma, Shri Shantaram Naik and Shri K.N. Balagopal associated.)

SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Such incidents are creating fear in minorities. I demand from the Government that this incident should be judicially inquired and guilty should be punished.

X. Non-Implementation of Decontrol of Petroleum Prices

SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL : I am demanding for the total de-control of petroleum prices. Earlier, in the House, we objected to the de-control policy. But now the Government is not totally implementing de-control policies. Instead of decreasing the price, they have increased the taxes.

SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Despite our opposition, the Government went ahead with de-control of petroleum prices. We want you to increase the subsidy.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY) responding to the matter, said: Whether all subsidies in the petroleum sector should be withdrawn as a result of this total de-control? What will be its consequences?

XI. Affidavit Filed by Government Regarding Sanskrit as Third Language in Kendriya Vidyalayas

SHRI P. RAJEEVE: The unilateral move by the Government is totally condemnable. Replacing a subject, that too in the middle of the academic session, is totally against the interest of children. The regional language is the Third Language as per the Policy. So, the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanghatan should take a decision that the third language must be a regional language of the concerned State.

(Dr. M.S.Gill, Shri Sitaram Yechury, Shrimati Kanimozhi, Shri K.N. Balagopal, Shri K.C. Tyagi, Shri Jesudasu Seelam and Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu associated.)

XII. Death of Infants in A Hospital in Chhattisgarh

SHRI MOTILAL VORA: In Chhattisgarh, the health services have come to a halt completely. There, many persons have lost their eyesight, many women died during tubectomy surgery and new born babies have also died due to lack of care. I request the Health Minister to kindly pay attention towards this.

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: What is the Government of Chhattisgarh doing. We want a reply in this regard.

(Shri Narendra Budania associated.)

XIII. Presence of Uranium and Other Radioactive Material in Drinking Water as Confirmed in Planning Commission Report

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Drinking water is not available to the farmers of Punjab. The cause of Cancer in Punjab is water contamination. Due to water logging and depletion of water levels, the land has lost its fertility. There is a need to rationalise the agricultural policies so that the water level does not go further down.

(Dr.M.S. Gill and Shri Palvai Govardhan Reddy associated.)

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER

Incident of Sexual Assault on a Woman by a Cab Driver in Delhi

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH): I rise to report an extremely unfortunate incident of sexual assault on a young woman in the night intervening 5/6.12.2014.

The Government of India strongly condemns this dastardly act and as Union Minister of Home affairs I assure you that all necessary steps would be taken to ensure that the offender is punished for this heinous offence.

On 5.12.14 during late night hours, a 26 year old woman (name withheld for privacy and legal reasons) had hired online a taxi through the cab service 'UBER' at around 10.30 PM for going from Vasant Vihar area to Inder Lok in the jurisdiction of PS Sarai Rohilla, North District. The woman works in Gurgaon and after her office hours she had come to Vasant Vihar with some friends.

The woman reported that while sitting in the taxi, she dozed off for a while and she woke up suddenly to realize that the taxi was parked at an isolated place and the driver was trying to molest her on the back seat. She tried to raise an alarm but the driver threatened her of physical injury and then she was sexually assaulted in the car. After committing the crime the driver dropped her at her home at around 1 AM and threatened her again not to share this incident with anyone.

As soon as information was received by the police, a case was registered vide FIR No. 1291/14 dated 6.12.14, U/S 376/323/506 of IPC at PS Sarai Rohilla. Immediately police teams were formed to identify and nab the culprit. The woman was sent for medical examination and she was also counselled by an NGO volunteer authorized by Delhi Commission for Women.

Following the clues at hand and through painstaking investigation, the culprit driver was zeroed down as one person from Mathura, owner of the vehicle Swift Desire No. DL-1YD 7910. He has this vehicle registered with Uber Cab Service. The Vehicle used in

the crime has been found and brought to Delhi where it is being subjected to thorough forensic examination.

The accused was arrested on 7.12.2014 from Mathura and was brought to Delhi where he was produced before the court on 8.12.2014 and he has been sent to three days police remand.

The Delhi Police is also exploring the issue of possible legal liability of the taxi service 'UBER', in the crime committed. The Transport Department of the Government of the NCT of Delhi has banned the said company from providing any transport related service in the NCT of Delhi.

The Ministry of Home Affairs has advised the State Governments/ UT Administrations to ensure that the operations of the web based taxi services are stopped and such service providers which are not licensed with the State Governments/ UT Administrations are prohibited to operate till they get themselves registered with the State Governments/ UT Administrations.

The Honble Minister, replying to the points raised by the members, said: We are of the opinion that whichever Government is in power, whenever any issue regarding the safety of women and children has come up, all the Governments have taken effective steps. I want to apprise of the steps taken by our Government. I want that all the doubts should be resolved. So, I want to give a comprehensive reply. We have increased the the number of lines of the Helpline Number 100 from 60 to 100. The number of lines of Women Helpline Number 1091 has been increased from four to ten. The response time for the Distress Call has been reduced from 12.17 minutes to 10 minutes. The time for Preference Calls has been reduced to 5 to 7 minutes which earlier was 10 to 12 minutes. The number of PCR Vans has been increased to one thousand. Installation of GPS System has been made mandatory for vehicles engaged in public service. 377 CCTV cameras have been installed in the markets and border posts in Delhi and 1550 more cameras will be installed soon. The Government has identified 255 sensitive roads, routes and police patrolling is being done on these roads. I will call a meeting of my officers in this regard to discuss the matter and the necessary steps will be taken. I also want

to give information about the convict in this case. His character certificate has been found completely fake. It is not a policy of our Government to impose a total ban on the taxi services. We want to regulate the taxi services in some other manner.

We will take steps to make it simplify and transparent. Women are being given training in the field of self defence. Government of India has sanctioned Rs.320 crore from Nirbhya fund for security of women. Amount under the Nirbhya fund is given to States on 50:50 sharing basis. We have appointed project management consultants. Special investigation units have been set up in 150 districts of the country to investigate the crimes against women like rape, dowry death, acid attack etc. I personally feel pain whenever a crime against woman is committed. Conviction rate in Delhi is more than other parts of the country. There is a need to establish more fast track courts in the country. Functioning should be improved. If anybody wants run taxi in Delhi then he will have to take NCR permit despite having all India permit and he was not having that permit but we are investigating from that angle. Number of PCR vans has been increased. As far as lapse, if any, on the part of police personnel is concerned then no one will be spared. A SIT has been constituted to investigate in a time bound manner in the incident of burning a church in Delhi. A PCR van should act on face to face complaint and we will send instructions to Delhi police in this regard.

There is requirement to implement laws effectively and cooperation of all is required for this purpose. We will take care that rules and regulations related registration of taxis may be followed in a proper way. Weapons license are issued by district and State authorities. NCRB is preparing database. I appeal to this House that such unfortunate incidents should be condemned and I on behalf on the Government assure that effective steps will be taken to ensure safety of women and children.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The Delhi Hotels (Control of Accommodation) Repeal Bill, 2014

The Bill was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Food Safety and Standards (Amendment) Bill, 2014

The Bill was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

The Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2014

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI) moving the motion for consideration of the Bill, said: The Bill further to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration. Bihar assembly and Bihar legislative council have unanimous urged the central Government that a central university in the name of Mahatma Gandhi should be established in Motihari.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I rise to support the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2014. When a decision was taken to establish a Central University in Bihar, the location that was identified by the UPA Government was near Gaya. due to availability of adequate land there. The then Chief Minister of Bihar made a special request that in view of the fact that the country would be celebrating the centenary of the Champaran agitation, the Central University should be located in Motihari, and not near Gaya.

There has been a universal demand that a Central University should be established in North Bihar in Motihari, and we have this Amendment Bill. Higher education infrastructure has always been expanding but it is in the decade of 2004 - 2014 that the expansion was at its most rapid pace. I believe that between 2004 and 2014 enrolment rates have increased and expansion has taken place. But now the challenge is to address the quality issues. It is one of the great paradoxes of India that Indian institutions are of world-class quality because of their students and not because of their faculty. The Central Universities must set the tone for quality as far as faculty is concerned. The quality challenge with the Central Universities must

extend to all other institutions of higher learning most of which are under the control of the State Governments.

Two years ago, the Government recognising the importance of quality launched the Rashtriya Uchcharat Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA). This was a very innovative programme to use Central Government funding in order to upgrade the quality of infrastructure and education in universities run by the State Governments. I would request the hon. Minister to accord priority and importance to RUSA and use RUSA as an instrument of driving quality changes, infrastructure changes and most importantly governance changes in universities particularly in the universities that are run by the State Governments. There is a huge regional imbalance in the distribution of private educational institutions. Almost 60 percent institutions are in five states. So, the regional distribution is very important because the contribution of private sector in higher education is much higher and is going to increase in the years to come. The regulation of private education providers is very important. I would request the hon. Minister to give thought to a comprehensive regulation of the private sector. I do wish that the Central Universities Act would be implemented in letter and spirit. Our universities must emerge as world-class institutions on the strength of their faculty, their research and their intellectual contributions.

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: We should carry forward the original philosophy of the Gandhiji along with us. It would be very auspicious if this university came into existence in 2017. I do not understand why this is not under the Ministry of Human Resource and Development? It may be ensured in the selection of Vice Chancellor and faculty of this university that the selected persons have faith in the philosophy of Gandhiji. The Mantra of this university should be head, heart and hands which is the mantra of Gandhiji. Infrastructure should not be the problem in establishing university in Motihari or Champaran. We need to understand the skill development from our own resources and our people itself. We are born researchers. If fundamental research in some sectors is included in the domain of university then we can materialise the scheme of Prime Minister. We are born with the brain so we can export faculty.

I would urge upon the Government that repairing of education system would not be enough rather you have to rebuild it. With these words I support the Bill.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I rise to support the Bill. We realize that setting up of another Central University will help Bihar and students will have a greater access for higher education. I would urge upon the Hon. Minister to look into the already existing issues in Central Universities. Thousands of posts are lying vacant in the teaching faculty across the country. Also, the Students Grievance Redressal System has to be strengthened. The quantum of Central Assistance to the State Universities should also be enhanced. The researchers in Central Universities should also be encouraged.

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN, making his maiden speech, said: I rise to support this Bill which provides for setting up of a Central University in Bihar after the name of Mahatma Gandhi. At the time of setting up of a University the Government should ensure that the infrastructure of the same is also developed properly. Today, several Universities including the prestigious Delhi University are lacking in infrastructure wherein 50 percent of the teachers are working on adhoc basis. Their salary is also very meager. In absence of proper facilities and salary to the teachers we cannot expect good education on their part.

After the start of globalization era the education has been commercialized. We should try to associate the education with the social concerns and needs of the society. The sovereignty of the Universities should also be ensured. We have to check the brain-drain in the fields of IT, Engineering etc. I would also urge upon the Hon. Minister to bring in the similar Amendment with regard to the Jamia Milia Islamia University. It should also be ensured that the student union elections are conducted compulsorily in all the Universities so that country could get a better leadership.

SHRI D. BANDYOPADHYAY: I rise to support the Amendment to the original Act. Merit should be the dominant criteria both for recruitment of faculty and for admission of students. But a small percentage of local candidates, who have cleared the admission

test but couldn't find their names in the merit list, should also be accommodated. A university is an organization where the excellence depends both on the quality of faculty and students. In this regard, IIMs and IITs in India have set a record. I would urge upon the Minister that similar methodology may be followed in all matters regarding Central Universities so that they can become really centres of excellence.

SHRI HARIVANSH: I rise to support the Bill. The Central University which is going to be set up in southern Bihar should be named after Mahatma Budh. There has been a long process of discrimination with state like Bihar. All experts in our country go to abroad. We require such educational institututes where character is made. The purpose of the Central Universties was that the centre would provide centre of exellecne to the States in the backward parts of the country. There is inflation. This fund is not enough. These universities should not be seen mere as new centres for education.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: I welcome this Bill with certain suggestions. We will be happy if one more Central University is sanctioned for Tamil Nadu. Open new Kendriya Vidyalayas. I request to make the NIT, Trichy as an IIT. The shortage of quality teachers is a big problem. My leader has introduced 'Marriage Assistance Scheme' for promoting and encouraging higher education amongst girl students. The students studying in Government or Government-aided schools are provided education free of cost. My leader presented a memorandum before the hon. Prime Ministe. There grants are pending for school education. The Government of India is requested to release it at the earliest. In the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, the entire Central share is yet to be released. I request to provide one more Central University to Tamil Nadu, to open Kendriya Vidyalaya and release of pending funds.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: I feel that by bringing this Bill the Government has shown some sincerety for the progress of the education. Baba Sahib Ambedkar gave this message to the entire country that education has to be seen from development point of view. It is a good step taken late. Behan Kumari Mayawati ,

at the time of her Government gave this message to the people of UP that if there is good intention, the education can be encouraged even in limited resources. We would like to know whether provision of reservation has been made in it? If so, what is the ratio? Students of the dalit society are not getting scholarship on time. Ensure that reservation should be fulfilled as per the constitution and there should be consideration on the dalit student who are unable to complete their education without scholarship.

SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : I support this Bill. The Central Universities should be teaching universities. Many of the teachers are not given UGC salaries. All the teaching posts should be filled. . Some authorities are highly arbitrary. Delhi University and Pondicherry Central University are some instances. You have to put an end to it. I think universities and other institutions should be made a model in handling the issue of sexual harassment. Observation of democratic norms should be one of the norms to select Vice-Chancellors and other authorities. The teachers are paid a paltry sum. I request these issues should be solved.

SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : I support the Bill. This has opened a new gate for other States to demand second university in those States also. The whole system is connected from primary to university level. Unless you put proper persons with administrative and academic experience at the helm of affairs of the university, you can't run Central Universities properly. Many Posts are lying vacant in the Central University also in the State Universities posts are vacant. We should maintain academic atmosphere in the universities. We should not have any political interference in it. Communalisation of the university education is not proper. We have to build scientific temperament in higher education.

SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI : Reputed universities help us in achieving our Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) goal. But we can achieve GER only when our GER in higher secondary improves. My state Telangana has three Central Universities. The position of University of Hyderabad is more pathetic. Faculty positions are shocking there. The University of Hyderabad is recruiting positions at

the level of Asst. Professors without following the Roster in reservation for OBCs for the last few years. I request the government to kindly consider the setting up of a Central University in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA : I rise to support the Bill. Today, Central Universities are born in collusion and middlemen are selected as Vice-Chancellors. I have information that middlemen paid money to get someone appointed so that they can get into that business of building infrastructure

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA : I would like to apprise the House that the Central Universities Act, 2009 should be thoroughly changed and it should have a clause very clearly stating that if there is any corruption charge against any Vice-Chancellor, they would be removed. The Visva-Bharati University is facing problem related to administrative and financial irregularities today. In this Bill one more Central University is proposed in the State of Bihar in the name of Mahatma Gandhi is good enough.

SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: I support the Bill. In the list of 200 major Universities of the world, the name of India does not flash. We can take on this world with the small industries of India. It must be taken into consideration that Universities must be build up for maintaining harmony. The Universities run by State Governments should be made ideal universities.

SHRI A.V. SWAMY : I support the present Amendment of renaming the existing Central University of Bihar in Champaran in the name of Mahatma Gandhi. There is another small university at Koraput, where the Central University is established. Many ethnic groups of tribals are living in this area. It is considered to be a paradise for anthropologists. The relevance of a Central University in Koraput is not merely that of higher education. I want that the faculty must be such that they are committed to the local culture.

SHRI D. RAJA: I support this Bill. Higher education is one of the major challenges before the country. There is lack of infrastructure and adequate faculty members. There is no proper recruitment of faculty members. SCs/STs/OBCs are not given proper representation. An Expert Committee should be appointed to go into all these issues. The democratic atmosphere in the university must be promoted. Private sector is becoming dominant in higher education, which has led to commercialization. There are UGC guidelines and Supreme Court guidelines. Even then, the private universities don't adhere to those. The Government will have to address these issues so that the quality of higher education can be improved.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: I support this Bill. I suggest to name this university on the name of Karpoori Thakur. Several posts are lying vacant in Delhi University. Adhoc teachers are placed on very low salary. It must be taken care of. It is a serious matter that the funds provided for the scholarship of OBC students has been misused. Inquire into the Matter.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: I welcome this Bill. A Central University should be opened in Maharashtra on the name of Baba Saheb Ambedkar. The vacant posts of teachers belonging to SCs/STs should be fulfilled. An effort should be made to encourage SCs/STs in higher education. Students should be provided education to strengthen the country. There should be a university for minority in each state.

The Hon'ble Minister, replying to the debate, Said: I would like to express my gratitude to all hon'ble Members. Today, the biggest challenge before us is, if the rebuilding alongwith repair work is not done, this whole frame work would collapse. Today, the Central University of Bihar is facing challenges. I would certainly, try to find out a solution with cooperation. Regarding the misuse the funds meant for OBC students in D.U., a Committee has been constituted and it has submitted its Report. I have also met representatives of DUTA, employees and students. The University is facing some challenges. Here it has been mentioned that there should be election

in the Universities. Let the Universities determine themselves as to what is the best for them.

We have urge to fulfil the faculty posts at the earliest. I welcome the suggestion regarding making the teachers recruitments procedures simple and transparent. We are having detailed discussion with vice-chancellors with regard to challenges. Access to education is a big challenge First time, we would provide the free graduate and post-graduate education to our students and citizens of the country on the portal named as 'swyam'. We would try to invite academicians from all over the world in India. We are indigenously developing a national ranking system for India, by India and with India. I would like to tell that we have uploaded free video lectures.

I have had also the privilege, for the first time, of introducing a credit transfer frame work. Several Members are very much worried about brain drain. For this Unnat Bharat Abhiyan has been launched. We have initiated a programme called 'Ishanya Vikas' to remove the regional imbalance. The reservation policy would continue. I am happy to inform that scholarship has been increase by fifty percent a few days ago. We know the challenges of this field and would face them.

*The motion for consideration of the Bill was adopted,
Clauses etc., were adopted.
The Bill was passed*

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***Supplement covering rest of the proceedings is being issued separately.