

RAJYA SABHA

*SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE

(Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

Monday, February 07, 2022 / Magha 18, 1943 (Saka)

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to passing away of Ms. Lata Mangeshkar, the legendary playback singer and a former Member of this House.

Ms. Lata Mangeshkar passed away on the 6th of February, 2022, at the age of 92 years.

Born in a family of musicians in September, 1929, at Indore in Madhya Pradesh, Lataji took to singing at a very young age after being introduced to music by her father. Since then, there was no looking back and the chain of events that began back then culminated with her acquiring a status of legend in the world of music.

Fondly known as the 'Nightingale' and the 'Melody Queen', Lataji recorded over 25,000 songs in her career spanning more than seven decades. Her singing prowess has been as diverse as our country with her recording songs in over 36 Indian languages and a few foreign languages too. Lataji had a special quality and intricate ability of connecting herself with the songs she sung at a deeper level which

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

led to creation of masterpieces that left one and all mesmerised across the globe.

Lataji knitted our nation by representing us collectively and each one of us in our singularity. Besides defining the golden standard of playback singing through thousands of her melodious songs in many languages, she captured every mood, moment and journey of our nation for over seven decades. Her distinguished and long career ran parallel to that of free India over the last 75 years, capturing the trials and tribulations of the times. India is struck silent with her passing away in the 75th year of Independence.

A philanthropist, Lataji was the Founder of Lata Mangeshkar Medical Foundation, a public charitable trust which contributes towards medical expenses of needy patients irrespective of caste, creed and religion. She also started Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smruti Pratishthan which provides assistance to students and contributes to the welfare of senior citizens.

Lataji was the recipient of several awards and recognitions including the Padma Bhushan in 1969, Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1989, the Padma Vibhushan in 1999 and the Bharat Ratna in 2001. She was also three time recipient of the National Film Award and was awarded the National Order of the Legion of Honour, the highest award of the French Republic.

Lataji also served as a Nominated Member of this House from November, 1999 to November, 2005.

Lataji's success in the field of music exemplifies her tenacity and sheer will-power to carve her own niche and excel in it. Her rise to fame elucidates her grit, determination, hard work and passion that will serve as a benchmark for others, especially women to emulate and commemorate.

In the passing away of Ms. Lata Mangeshkar, the country has lost a legendary playback singer, a compassionate human being and a towering personality in the world of Indian music and film industry.

Her passing away indeed marks end on an era and has created an irreplaceable void in the world of music.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Ms. Lata Mangeshkar.

(One Minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIR

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to inform that as per the List of Business of the day, the Home Minister has to make a Statement in the House at 11.30 a.m. today. However, the said statement will be made by him later, before the House rises for the day.

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2022

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA): I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 to omit Bhogta community from the list of Scheduled Castes in relation to the State of Jharkhand and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 for inclusion of certain communities in the lists of Scheduled Tribes in relation to the State of Jharkhand.

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS - *Contd.*

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR,
Continuing his unfinished speech dated 04.02.2022,
said: Polavaram multi-purpose project, the lifeline of Andhra Pradesh, has already missed two deadlines set for its completion by the YSRCP Government. It is not likely to be completed in the near future. The

State Government is not even submitting reliable accounts of expenditure to the Centre resulting in delays in reimbursement by the Centre for this national project. While legitimate business and industrial activities are being driven out of Andhra Pradesh, illegitimate enterprise is booming in the State. Sand and mining mafia is on the rise. Cultivation of ganja is rising and drug trade is flourishing. Casino culture has been introduced into the State with the support of those in power.

SHRIMATI SEEMA DWIVEDI: Every State has been taken care of in this Address. When the pandemic of Corona prevailed and the whole world was groaning, our government acted bravely to vaccinate against Corona. India made the corona vaccine by working in the forefront as a big country as compared to other countries of the world, worked to send the vaccine to other countries as well. When there was a shortage of food for the people in the country, our Prime Minister did the work of providing free ration to 80 crore people under the 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana'. He also did the work of providing medicines at low prices by issuing more than 80 thousand Ayushman cards, more than 800 Jan Aushadhi Kendras for the poor were opened. Yoga and Ayurveda are the best and oldest disciplines of our country. For the first time in the world, the World Health Organization is going to set up a Global Centre for Traditional Medicine in India. We live in a village, our Prime Minister has done the work of providing housing to everyone on the basis of equality. The former Prime Minister of the country late Shri Rajiv Gandhi used to say that if I send 100 rupees from Delhi, then only 15 rupees reach the village, 85 rupees are stolen. Where did that 85 rupees go? Today, if our Prime Minister sends an amount of Rs 6,000 from Delhi, it reaches the farmers' account immediately. The government has started 'Swamitva Yojana' to provide documents to the people in rural areas for their properties. So far more than 40 lakh property cards have been given in 27,000 villages. Agriculture is the mainstay of our economy in our country. Due to the efforts of the government, agricultural exports have increased to a record level. The government has started 'Kisan Rail Seva' for farmers to get higher price for their crops, to promote their produce and so that their goods can reach the market.

1,80,000 crore rupees have been given to more than 11 crore farmer families through 'Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana'. Work is also being done to connect the rivers of our country. Women empowerment is the biggest example of the success of 'Ujjwala Yojana'. Through 'Mudra Yojana', the enterprise and skills of the mothers and sisters of our country are being promoted. Our country is spread from east to west and from north to south. Work is being done to build National Highway all around. Under 'Bharatmala Pariyojana', work is being done on highways of more than 20 thousand km length at a cost of Rs.6 lakh crore. The Delhi-Mumbai Expressway is also nearing completion, which is the fastest and longest expressway in India. Climate change is also a big problem before us today. India has set a target of net zero emission economy by the year 2070. India has also taken Green Grid Initiative - 'One Sun', 'One World', 'One Grid' by taking the world community along. This government has made good efforts for our daughters under the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' scheme. Today, along with cooking in the house, they are also driving ships and trains. They are becoming doctors, engineers, masters, teachers and professors and are doing good work in all the fields. If anyone has done the work of providing 'roti, kapda aur makan', that is our government. The job of the opposition is only to make allegations. But even after that our government did a good job. Today youth are getting jobs, there is happiness among farmers. The country is progressing. Factories are being set up. People sitting in front also want to praise us, but they cannot. If you remove those glasses and see, you will feel that so much work has been done which is done neither in past nor future.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Hon'ble Sir, in the President's address it is told that what is the condition of the country and what are the policies of the government. The achievements which are there are acknowledged, but the country is also warned about the challenges that are before the country. It is disappointing from this point of view. It negates the ground reality and challenges. All these announcements have been made in the last budget and in this budget. While reading this, I was wondering who wrote this? Those who have written this must have some accountability. Looking at the situation, perhaps the

time has come for collective thinking. A golden picture has been shown that India is at number one in economic progress in the world and is successful in every front. Let it be so, we all want this, India should move forward, but delete the dark lines that are being drawn. In a democracy, whoever comes in the government of the centre and the state, they do the work of building the country. Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, was the first Prime Minister, he laid the foundation for this, he was in the British jail for 14 years. You may object. The martyrdom of Indira ji, and Rajiv Gandhi ji, can it be questioned? Honorable Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji was also the Prime Minister, we accept that work has been done in his time also, work has been done in Dr. Manmohan Singh ji,'s tenure also. One thought, one ideology can and never will be in a parliamentary democracy. Thinking differently, that is fine, but it is not right to belittle each other. The rise of India did not happen in the year 2014, it is not a journey of 8 years, but a journey of 74 years. I want to tell you that after 1947 big institutions were formed. IIT institutions, nuclear institutions and the first nuclear explosion also took place. Aryabhata went into space in 1974. There have been many achievements. This list is very long! Truth causes great pain, but it cures disease. The country is made, everyone has a contribution in its formation. There is continuity in the government and there are also shortcomings. The people of the country also expect that the works which are unfinished, they should be completed, new works, new schemes should come. The country was in good shape during our time. Nuclear power, space power, there was a two trillion dollar economy. You drop the mindset of only criticism. There are many challenges in front of our country like unemployment. Many people are there in India today who need employment. Industries are collapsing, markets are collapsing, jobs are being lost. The country and the world have suffered for two years in the Corona epidemic. In the President's address in 2019, it was said that in five years India will become a five trillion dollar economy. We will definitely reach five trillion dollars, we will reach beyond that. The people of this country have potential. I said this because India is one of the youngest countries. Opportunities have to be created for these youth. Our society cannot accept that the gap between rich and poor keeps

increasing. Your government's figures speak, look at that. Do what is in the interest of the nation and future of the country. Today one third of the industrial capacity is lying idle, India's debt has increased. The big organizations that were formed after independence, the institutions. This loss will not be met by selling them. This deficit will be by saving them and through economic development. There is no mention of national security. There is no mention of the tension at the borders. The Indian army passes through Leh-Manali road. The Atal Tunnel which has been built has facilitated the movement. Congratulations for that. One lakh army is standing in front of the Chinese army! Shouldn't the Parliament of our country get this information? Shouldn't there be discussion in Parliament? Please look at this situation and think about it. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is mentioned in paragraph three. We all respect him. I am glad that Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was the President of Indian National Congress twice. You said that there will be a big statue of Netaji and now the Republic Day celebrations will start from 23rd January. We are glad. The Amar Jawan Jyoti at India Gate was dedicated to the soldiers who died in the war of Bangladesh. Now it has been removed, merged. Why did this happen? I consider my constitution as my religious scripture outside the house. I am a practicing Hindu, I know that the flames are not merged. It was said that India Gate is a colonial relic. But there the names of thousands of soldiers of India are inscribed, who were martyred in the First World War, respect them. In the monuments built in Europe, the tales of valour of those soldiers of India are inscribed. Where you put the statue, isn't that a colonial symbol? Statue of King George was there. I want to say something about Subhash Chandra Bose ji, He had said that the present freedom movement originated from the message of Swami Vivekananda. If India becomes independent, it would be the land of different religious communities filled with the spirit of nationalism, living with harmony - this is the mantra of Swami Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda. When Netaji is being remembered, what was Netaji's thinking, you should also see that. Today I also want to tell the House that we should see in the last century, the important events have happened four times in history on 11th September. Why did I say

this? 9/11 came in before the world four times, it went with the message of love, humanity and non-violence twice from India through Swami Vivekananda and Mahatma Gandhi. Netaji, Subhash Chandra Bose addressed the people of India from Azad Hind radio station, in which he called Mahatma Gandhi 'Father of the Nation' for the first time. There were four brigades in the Azad Hind Fauj - Subhash Brigade, Nehru Brigade, Gandhi Brigade and Azad Brigade. Babasaheb Ambedkar's name was taken in the address. Not only should Ambedkar's name be taken, but follow the path shown by him. One very important point is that today lines are being drawn, minorities are being attacked. Today the world is connected. This country belongs to everyone. We have to remember that people of Indian origin are all over the world, there are people of Indian origin in very high positions. US Vice President Kamala Harris, UK Home Secretary Priti Patel, Rishi Sunak is chancellor there, Prime Ministers of many countries, Defence Ministers of many countries and people of the Sikh community. In big multinational companies, people of Indian origin are their heads. Through you, I demand the honourable Prime Minister to give a message to the country and the world that we are the biggest democracy, we are a constitutional country. There are people of such thinking, there are some organizations, who are spreading hatred, those who indulge in violence, they do not benefit anyone. We do not want India to have such an image. If these lines are drawn in the minds of the children, in the minds of the youth, then it will be a wound on the soul of India, a wound, the cost of which will be paid by the country.

DR. FAUZIA KHAN: We are celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav of freedom and this freedom means a life of dignity and the freedom to live the life of one's choice. I wish to acknowledge the Preamble of the Indian Constitution and to emphasise the pressing need to adhere to each of its principles. In the last few years, various values of the Constitution have been derogated. Currently, India's relationship with its neighbouring countries seems to be slightly worrisome. In such a situation the actual capital outlay for Defence has been constantly declining in such a situation despite the Budget Estimates being high. If we have 20 per cent population disgruntled

and dissatisfied, then, how is it going to be advantage to the sovereignty of India and how are we going to remain strong from inside and outside .Speaking of socialism, is socialism meaningful when PSUs after PSUs are privatized or disinvested. Despite the latest Economic Survey highlighting the increased demand for MNREGA the allocation hasn't moved an inch.The budgetary allocation for the PDS has directly and drastically fallen. With the exponential rise on attacks on places of worship, particularly of the minorities and legitimization of such acts does not it shame the ideals of secularism. Where there is no justice, there is no democracy.For the first time ever in history, the Supreme Court Judges have publicly appealed for justice themselves .Do you call it liberty in a country where my choices are not my own, but somebody else is allowed to make my choices .When journalists are charged with stringent anti-terror laws merely for exercising their right to freedom and expression, doesn't it stink of inequality. As far as gender equality is concerned India is at the 140th place among 156 countries .When you are talking about empowerment when would the Government bring the Bill for reservation of women in the Parliament. When calls of genocide are made on minorities, when Muslim women are auctioned on social media,when Mahatma Gandhi is humiliated , the Government is silent. If we do not have the willingness to fight for democracy, it will be taken for granted and will be moving towards authoritarianism and majoritarianism.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: The poor have got all the facilities free of cost. The business of Khadi has tripled and 33 lakh new jobs have been created. This is the condition of rural industries. The government has closed all unmanned gates and now not a single accident has occurred. Wi-Fi has been provided at 10,000 railway stations. We get 1 GB data here for Rs 19, so digital transactions has increased in the country today. In 2014 only ten forest produce would get MSP but now 87 forest produce gets MSP. Crores of tribals have benefited from this. Even in a small state like Goa, a lot of work has been done in the field of infrastructure. Today, women in Goa are given Rs 1,500 per month under the name 'Griha Aadhar Yojana', Senior citizens get Rs 2,000 and under 'Ladli

Laxmi Yojana' Rs 1 lakh are received. A Police force named Pink Force for women's safety has been made. When the Covaxin was developed, everyone said that it is BJP's vaccine, we will not take it, it has not been fully tested. When the Prime Minister himself took Covaxin the people who opposed stopped talking and the world also believed that Covaxin is a good and effective. People were given 170 crore vaccine doses, out of which 160 crore doses were given free of cost. In this case also a record has been made in the world. Today the Food Security and Public Distribution System has been implemented across the country and the subsidy has not reduced, but the evasion of subsidy has ended. Now the names of 26,000 soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the country have been included in the War Memorial.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE): I support the President's Address on behalf of my party. This Address is for the development of the country and connecting the society. The country belongs to everyone, so all people should move forward together. We are doing the work of developing the country under the leadership of Honorable Narendra Modi ji. This is not only the President's Address but it is a mirror of development of Modi ji's Government. It includes many schemes. We are doing the work of connecting all the castes. The country cannot develop without Modi ji. Everyone's life has become better with the facilities provided by Modi ji. The opposition plays an important role in a democracy. Modi ji will move ahead with the opposition.

SHRI RAKESH SINHA: In parliamentary democracy, a dialogue is established in the direction of a consensus on the President's Address. If the picture of the country shown in the President's Address is not based on reality, then questions can be raised on it, but sitting in this House, the work of tricking the people of the country should not be done. History is a double-edged sword. If you go with History, go with reality, History supports you and if you falsify History, resort to propaganda, History becomes a weapon against you. We are not shortening anyone in History; We are reviving History and making it all-inclusive. We cannot divide great men on

the basis of caste, religion, language and party. Celebrating 'Amrit Mahotsav' is not our ritual, but through it, a step has been taken towards an important reform in the hegemonic History. I would like to say one more thing in terms of foreign policy. We all parties are for this country, no party is enemy of this country, but we all parties should think that speaking a word, quoting a word affects the sovereignty of this country. Do not restrict the limits of martyrdom to three or four people. The 'Amrit Mahotsav' which is being celebrated, is not a normal 'Amrit Mahotsav'. In this 'Amrit Mahotsav', we are acknowledging the importance of everything, from Kashmir to Kanyakumari. In parliamentary democracy, we are the people who constitute the nation. While constituting the nation, we are different ingredients of different colours. But that does not mean that we can degrade the constitutional authority the way the President's Speech was degraded. I know that inputs come. But it cannot be questioned 'Who has written his speech? This is genuine degradation of parliamentary democracy.

SHRI H.D. DEVEGOWDA: I would like to concentrate only on the farming sector. In the Budget, the Government has mentioned it. But, some of the points, which are going to be debated in the Budget, are also again mentioned in the President's Address itself. If at all the country has to prosper and progress economically, it can happen only through agriculture sector, by giving priority and support of the Government. We used to talk about food security. Now, we have started talking about nutritional security. That is not a new thing that has been done by this Government. Nutritional security is one of the most important things that we are discussing. The Budget allocation for agriculture and allied sectors has disappointed all those who were expecting increased Budget outlay. A big appeal was made by all farmers and other stakeholders that GST should be removed from all the farm inputs, including farm implements and farm machinery as well as the Value Added and Processed (VAP) farm produces but it is unheard in the present Budget. Instead of increasing subsidies for food and petroleum products, subsidy has been decreased which will impact the cost of cultivation and decrease the profit margin to farmers. The Budget allocated for MSP has been

reduced instead of an increase to cover large number of crops and increase the quantity of procurement of farm produces under MSP. This will adversely impact the food production as well as income of farmers. Promotion of Zero Budget Natural Farming (ZBNF) and Organic Farming to bring chemical-free agriculture is a serious issue which needs to be thoroughly debated in view of the growing demand for food production to meet the needs of growing population of the country. Although it is envisaged to double the income of farmers by 2022, there is no mention on the back up programmes to attain the target committed by the Government. Use of drone for chemical spray is totally inappropriate in the Indian context. This will have adverse impact on bio-diversity, particularly, on flora, fauna, birds, animals and even human beings. Aerial spray is not advisable. The allocation under MGNREGS has been reduced in the present Budget. It is not going to solve the problem of the rural area. It is one of the most important schemes that have been launched by the UPA Government. The Government should think over it and see that the allocation is increased. Otherwise, this is not going to solve the problem. So far as the jobs are concerned, the unemployment is one of the most important factors which we are unable to solve. Covid is not going to adversely affect the Indian population as compared to other countries. It is a remarkable achievement of this Government. With these words I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Chair for having permitted me to speak on the farmer's issue.

SHRI SANJAY SINGH: The President's Address has nothing to do with reality. The Government works just the opposite on the ground. The Government should have also discussed Gandhiji in the President's Address at the 75th Amrit Mahotsav of Independence. The Government should discuss the fees of poor children. The Government should discuss progress. Shrestha Bharat has been spoken in this Address. That India is the best, was the best and will remain the best. Farmers were mentioned throughout the Address. The 'Garib Kalyan Yojana' was mentioned. The Government reduced their budget to a minimum. Also, the poor will get free ration till March. Bharat Mata ki Jai will happen when 130 crores children of that mother, whether they are Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians,

Forwards, Backwards, Dalits, Savarnas, when all will be happy together, only then will Bharat Mata ki Jai in the true sense. When poor children will get good education, good treatment, when farmer will get the price of his crop, then Bharat Mata ki Jai will be there.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: I, on behalf of my party, the Communist Party of India, stand before you to oppose this Motion. This Motion can only be opposed because the Speech of the President is full of tall claims without any content. We stand at 101 in the group of 116 in Global Hunger Index. We stand first in the world where pregnant women are anaemic and number one where children under five years are prone to deaths. And despite that, the Government claims that it is the saviour of national pride. What you say goes southwards and what you see in this country is going northwards. When they speak about national unity, they pit in the Muslims, the Christians and the Communists as national threats. So, this Speech of the President was attempt of a failed Government to mislead the people and the country. So, I oppose it.

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV: I would like to say that the way our farmers were treated unfairly in this country, it has never happened before in history. Our farmers' movement was suppressed and there has been a lot of feet- dragging in giving Minimum Support Price. Justice should be done to our farmers and they should get MSP at the earliest. Secondly, I would like to say that caste wise census has been talked about time and again, but every time it is avoided. I would like to ask this government through you that the OBC census should be conducted so that we can do justice to the backward people. At the same time, I want to say that Yadavs have a history, whether it is a fight with China or with Pakistan, there are many tales of bravery of Yadavs, but it is repeatedly discussed as to why Ahir Regiment is not being created? When there is a Jat regiment, a Rajput regiment, a Sikh regiment, a Punjab regiment, a Bihar regiment and a Mahar regiment in the army, why not form an Ahir regiment? The people of our Yadav Samaj have received many gallantry awards. Along with the demand of Yadav Mahasabha, I would like to add that the Ahir regiment should be formed in the same way as there are other regiments in the

army, or the practice of community-based regiment should be abolished and there should be no regiment in the army. Apart from this, under the new formula in OBC reservation, the limit of creamy layer has been kept at Rs 8 lakh per annum and the limit for general caste has also been kept at Rs 8 lakh. This needs to be examined.

SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: When a person becomes a father and his children are born, then he is worried about how he raise his child in a proper way. And when he starts growing old, he is worried about how he will live his old age. In other countries where taxes are taken, the responsibility of education of children lies with that government, where taxes are taken, the responsibility of old age lies with the government. This needs to be done even here. Hundred years of independence will be completed in 2047 and it is feared that then the cities will become heavily crowded as more and more population from rural areas will migrate to the cities because the rural areas are being ignored and the infrastructure is not being built there. If we did not put in place proper infrastructure, whether it is electricity, education, employment, roads or the matter of addressing unemployment, then a time will come that the whole crowd will be in the cities and the life of people in rural areas will further deteriorate. And if they remain backward, our country will not remain developed. There is a district named Katihar in Bihar, which is a very backward area. There the poor people live along the river Ganga and due to the erosion of the land near the Ganga their houses collapse at many places in Katihar district, their farming is destroyed and the people there become poorer. We would like to urge the government through you that that erosion of Ganga is may be controlled so that they do not become more poor and homeless.

SHRI JAIPRAKASH NISHAD: The honourable President's Address reiterates the resolve with conviction that all of us together will take India to the pinnacle of glory. The President has also expressed thanks to all of the Members for successfully carrying out their responsibilities during the Corona period and maintaining the atmosphere of harmony in both the Houses while following necessary precautions. This is the first government which has thought about the

poor, street vendors, hawkers and so on and has made laws to protect their interests. Today Yogi ji's government in Uttar Pradesh and Modi ji's government at the centre have established an ideal governance. I want to tell you about 'Ayushman Bharat Yojana'. If anyone has cared for those poor, then it is the Prime Minister of this country and the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. Through the Ayushman Bharat yojna, the government made sure that the poor people get medical treatment up to five lakh rupees by issuing them Ayushman Bharat card. If anyone has made arrangements for gas cylinders and food for the poor, then it is our double engines Government. We ourselves have seen that before 2014, there was a coalition government in Uttar Pradesh. At that time, the farmers did not get enough electricity. They kept doing rounds to the electrical office for weeks, but they were not attended. Today, the Government of Shri Narendra Modi ji and the government of Uttar Pradesh together have brought such a system that today no one needs to collect donations to replace the transformer. Today, the farmer is happy. The poor, youth and labourers are happy. Because now the Government is giving 24 hours electricity to the city, 22 hours to the tehsil and 20 hours to the villages. The UPA government ruled this country for 70 years. But the farmers did not get self respect. Shri Narendra Modi's Government gave himself respect. In past, our mothers and sisters in the villages used to bring wood and sugarcane bagasse from the forests to cook food at home. Due to this, they used to suffer from all kinds of ailments. There was no one to see them. But, today those poor mothers and sisters are getting respect. Madam, when this double engine Government was not there in the state, then goons and mafia were dominating there. These goons-mafia used to keep their eyes on the poor families. Madam, the double engine Government has worked to crack down on the mafia. Because of this, poor mothers and sisters, people from poor families, youth, labourers and farmers of Uttar Pradesh are all happy. Prior to the year 2014, the Governments did the work of dividing the Majhwar society into 17 castes and hanged them like a pendulum. They neither allowed us to live in the backward, nor did they allow us to go to the scheduled caste category. Whatever jobs were advertised, they were given to a particular caste of their own. Shri

Narendra Modi's Government is working to advance this society by bringing schemes like, '*Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana*' etc, and by giving them an opportunity to participate in politics. Finally, I support the Address made by hon'ble President.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: I am going to raise only two issues. The first is about Special Category Status which was assured to the State of Andhra Pradesh. The second is the reduction of borrowing limits to the State of Andhra Pradesh, which is nothing but a step-motherly treatment. Our Chief Minister, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddygaru, met the hon. Prime Minister more than seven times as also the hon. Home Minister, who is present in the House, more than twelve times. He has requested the Prime Minister as well as the hon. Home Minister for the grant of the Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh. Madam, in the Zonal Council meeting also, the issue of Special Category status to Andhra Pradesh was raised. We are making our best efforts and we had agitated on the floor of this House in the last Session and stalled the House. You have not taken any action for on the adjournment motion in Lok Sabha also. The Centre has given six reasons which are totally flawed, unreasonable and untenable for not granting the Special Category status. The BJP has bifurcated three States - Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Did any of the residuary States, whether it is Bihar, MP or UP lose the capital city? Patna remains with Bihar. Lucknow is with UP. Bhopal is with Madhya Pradesh, whereas the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh has lost Hyderabad. The second reason why the BJP is denying Special Category status apart from what I have mentioned above is on economic grounds. We have absolutely no objection if the Central Government is willing to grant Special Category status to Odisha and Bihar. But that can't be the reason for not granting Special Category status to the State of Andhra Pradesh. Former Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh had assured Special Category status to Andhra Pradesh on the floor of this House. The third reason for not granting Special Category Status is, 'It is not there in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act.' But in the case of the Uttar Pradesh, even though it was not there in the Uttar Pradesh Reorganisation Act, still BJP granted Special Category Status to Uttarakhand. The next point cited

is politics involved in it. On 26th March, 2021 –recently – the hon. Finance Minister released the Manifesto of BJP before Puducherry elections wherein she declared that if BJP comes to power Special Category Status would be granted to the Union Territory! Another reason quoted is special package which was accepted by the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Chandrababu Naidu Garu. But, this package cannot be an alternative to Special Category Status. Madam, BJP is referring to Fourteenth Finance Commission Report as another reason for not granting Special Category Status. However, the Commission's Report says, 'Some States have requested for grant of Special Category Status. This does not constitute part of the mandate of the Finance Commission and remains entirely in the domain of the Union Government which can take appropriate decision after due consideration.' So, this reason given by the BJP Government for not granting Special Category Status is untenable. The Standing Committee on Commerce, in its 164th Report, says "The Committee, therefore, recommends Special Category Status shall be granted to the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Jharkhand, for a period of not less than ten years. Madam, I request the hon. Home Minister, who is present in this august House, to kindly grant Special Category Status to the State of Andhra Pradesh. During YSR Government, there were under-borrowings under the FRBM Act; whereas, during the Government of Chandrababu Naidu, there were over-borrowings. So, there were different Governments at different points of time. The BJP Government would like to punish us for the over-borrowings made by the Chandrababu Naidu Government; and would not give us due credit for the under-borrowings made by the YSR Government. So, I request the hon. Home Minister to kindly consider giving due credit for the under-borrowings. In terms of fiscal deficit, our state has performed better than national average. Andhra Pradesh has got discipline in terms of finances. Hon. President has mentioned that the Government is making special efforts for neglected states. The State of Andhra Pradesh is also one of such states. Kindly do appropriate justice. Please do not show any step-motherly treatment to the State of Andhra Pradesh.

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Sir, we all know that as per the convention of the House, we take the President's Address very seriously. We think about it and even debate it. Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition made a reference to the last 70 years and said that we should know that you kept us alive. We are grateful to you for this. My grandfather and my father survived the riots that followed the brutal and reprehensible murder of Bapu Ji in Maharashtra in 1948. We are grateful to you for this. Emergency was imposed in the country in 1977. Many people of our ideology went to jail while doing *Satyagraha*. I also went to jail as an activist. Many people were tortured in the jail. Some people were also murdered. We escaped. We are grateful to you for keeping us alive. Then came 1984. At that time, we were the workers of Vidyarthi Parishad and we used to travel to Delhi. We were also in Delhi at that time. It was said that if a banyan tree falls, what happens? This Delhi metropolitan city also witnessed many murders. We escaped. We are grateful to you. During the 2010 Commonwealth Games, the foot over bridge was built near the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium. It fell because of corruption. We were getting out from under it. It didn't fall on us. We are grateful to you for this. He said, "Sardar is yours, court is yours and newspaper is also yours." Sir, we are proud of the freedom of journalism and we also want to keep journalism free. There are newspapers like Times of India, Indian Express and The Hindu. Sir, out of their 30 editorials, 25 kept criticizing the Government and you are saying that the newspapers are yours. Please don't talk beyond the truth. This is my sincere prayer to you. Every Member of this House knows that PM Cares Fund is being run in a clean manner. It was deliberately linked to a partisan politics. On the other hand, many leaders of our opposition may not even be aware that the name of the President of the Congress Party is involved in the operation of the Disaster Relief Fund and they claimed that it was a Government fund. If we look at the political scenario of the last few years, it comes to notice that the current government is working on the basis of ' Politics of Performance' in the country, while our opposition friends don't seem to show any intention of shunning their 'Politics of Prejudice'. Hon'ble President has mentioned in a very good way about the institution of

two new memorable days, Partition Horrors Remembrance Day' and 'Veer Bal Diwas'. You take example of one fictional app and tell us today that we do surveillance. You have taken the opposite meaning of 'turning the searchlight inwards' in an opposite way and mean it as keeping a watch on your own people. If we talk about foreign exchange, in 2014, when we took over the reins of power from you, our country's foreign exchange reserves had a capital of \$313 billion. Today our forex reserves have crossed \$600 billion. Rs. 6.50 lakh crore pesticide subsidy has been given during our Government. Under our tenure, today 1,280 billion units of electricity are being generated per year, whereas if we look at the average of energy generation during the UPA era, it was 720 billion units per year. In road construction, the work of laying roads in the country is being done at full capacity at more than 30 percent speed as compared to the 10-year tenure of UPA. We have achieved very good success especially in terms of quality when it comes to MGNREGA. The commitment that we have about 'MNREGA', we have made good use of the system by improving it, eliminating the leakages, corruption that used to happen and the construction being done for the public. , it's worked while arranging it all. We honor the talent and give Padma Awards. Who used to get these Padma awards for years, why did they get only people of a specific system? Why did you give it only to the people of a particular ideology? Why was it decided on the basis of ideological untouchability? It is our Government and it was the thinking of the Prime Minister that we honored a person like the honorable Shri Sharad Pawar ji with the Padma award, who happens to be a sharp critic of our Government .We have democratized honouring talent also. It is the democratization of national identity. Therefore, today a new creation has been done by the method of People's Padma, we have honored many such unknown faces. Development has also been democratized. We had the terminology of 'Most backward districts' in our country . We made them 'aspirational districts, appointed officers here at the center, allocated funds and democratized development. It is our thinking that development should not be limited to only a few selected cities and districts. The expansion of 'Jan Aushadhi Kendra ' took place during our tenure. I

repeat this demand that not only the medicines which are given for the treatment of humans, but medicines for the medicine of animals should also be included in it. Today the network of Jan Aushadhi Kendras is spread all over the country, I believe that this is the democratization of healthcare. In the last 5-7 years, by Ministry of Sports, through our the National Sports Authority, we are promoting indigenous traditional sports. The present Government has emphasized on traditional sports. I believe that this is a democratization in the sports sector as well, because according to the hopes, aspirations and sentiments of the people, we are trying to bring some improvements in the system of sports as well. There were small places in other areas of the country where air service was not available, we brought 'Udaan yojana' for that and all those small areas have also been brought on our air travel map. By this method we made Deendayalu coaches, prepared Kisan trains. We democratized the transport system also. Our traditional knowledge of Ayurveda and Yoga in our country has a very long and rich tradition. But yoga is ultimately a knowledge, our traditional knowledge and wealth and our soft power. With a view to spread it all over the world, 'International Yoga Day' was instituted under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister. Till now there was no ministry for cattle rearers, fishermen, dairy businessmen and they were attached with agriculture subject. Right now all these areas are developing in such a good way in their own right. In a way, the agricultural enterprises are developing from it. Now we can say through our self-attestation that this document is authentic. Is this not giving rights to the people? Is this not democratization of small rights? What I have described here is called 'achche din' and the public knows it. Whether you know it or not, the public knows it. We have democratized respect. Through its various schemes, this Government has brought employment guarantee scheme, paving the way for public welfare. This is empowerment guarantee scheme, it is necessary to make the person capable, empowered. And for that whether it is about the development of skills, it is a matter of development of entrepreneurship. You accept the reality of this empowerment guarantee scheme, with an open

mind. Make your heart bigger, achche din have come, achche din will keep coming, achche din will go on.

Discussion concluded and the reply be given later.

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER

Attack on the Convoy of Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, Hon. President of Aimim, at Thana Pilkhuwa, District - Hapur, U.P. on 03.02.2022

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF COOPERATION (SHRI AMIT SHAH): On February 3, 2022 at about 17:20 PM, Shri Asaduddin Owaisi, MP was returning to Delhi after completion of a public contact programme at Kithor, Meerut in Uttar Pradesh. When his convoy was crossing Chhijarasi Toll Plaza, NH-9, Police Station Pilakhuwa, District Hapur, Uttar Pradesh, two unknown persons fired on his carcade. Shri Owaisi escaped unhurt. However, three bullet marks were visible on the lower portion of his vehicle. The said incident was witnessed by three (3) witnesses.

In this regard, an FIR crime no. 45/22, u/s 307 IPC and u/s 7 Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1932, Police Station Pilakhuwa, District Hapur has been lodged and is being investigated. Shri Owaisi did not have any pre-scheduled programme in the District Hapur, and neither did District Control Room have any prior information about his movement. Shri Owaisi had reached Delhi safely following the incident.

The site of incident has been inspected by the senior officers of the district. In the course of investigation, the local police promptly arrested two accused and two unauthorized pistols (one from each) and one Alto car have been recovered. The forensic team is investigating the place of incident and vehicle, and evidence is being collected. Both the accused are being interrogated by UP Police. The law and order situation in the district is under control and normal.

Strict vigilance is being kept. The Union Home Ministry immediately obtained report from the State Government.

On several occasions in the past, the Central Government, on the basis of threat assessment by the Central Security Agencies, had issued directions for providing security cover to Shri Owaisi. However, repeated endeavours of Delhi Police and Telengana Police to provide security cover to Shri Owaisi did not succeed on account of his unwillingness to take security cover.

A review of threat perception has been undertaken again and based upon threat inputs, he has been provided with 'Z' category CRPF security cover on all India basis along with bullet proof car in Delhi. In the context of the oral information sent to us by Mr. Owaisi, I would like to point out that he has still refused to take security. I would like to request Mr. Owaisi through the House to take security immediately and address the concerns of all of us.

P. C. MODY,
Secretary-General.

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**ERRATA TO THE SYNOPSIS OF DEBATE DATED 4th
February, 2022**

Page No.	Line No.	Correction
64	10	add 'be' after 'it can'
66	9	Read 'containers' for 'containers' '
78	32	Read 'Act' for 'act'
81	5	Remove 'for' after 'work'