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Friday, August 9, 2024
Sravana 18, 1946 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Second Session

(Eighteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. III contains Nos.11 to 15)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, August 9, 2024/ Sravana 18, 1946 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[**HON. SPEAKER** *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCES
AND
HOMAGE TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND MARTYRS
ON 82nd ANNIVERSARY OF QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, with profound grief, I have to inform the House about the sad demise of three of our former colleagues.

Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi was a Member of the 13th and 14th Lok Sabha representing the Gulbarga Parliamentary Constituency of Karnataka.

Shri Saradagi served as a member of the Committee on Railways, Committee on Privileges, Committee on Estimates and Committee on Home Affairs.

Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradagi passed away on 21 May 2024 in Kalburgi, Karnataka at the age of 79 years.

Squadron Leader (Retired) Kamal Chaudhry was a Member of the 8th, 9th, 10th and 12th Lok Sabha representing the Hoshiarpur Parliamentary Constituency of Punjab.

Shri Chaudhry served as a Chairperson of the Committee on Public Undertakings and the Committee on Defence. He also served as a member of the various Parliamentary Committees.

Squadron Leader (Retired) Kamal Chaudhary passed away on 25 June 2024 in New Delhi at the age of 76 years.

Shri Ramesh Rathod was a Member of the 15th Lok Sabha representing the Adilabad Parliamentary Constituency of the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh.

Shri Rathod served as a member of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table, Committee on Coal and Steel. Earlier, he also served as a Member of the Andhra Pradesh State Legislative Assembly.

Shri Ramesh Rathod passed away on 29 June 2024 in Adilabad at the age of 57 years.

We deeply mourn the demise of our former colleagues and this House expresses its sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

Hon. Members, today the whole country is celebrating the 82nd anniversary of the 'Quit India Movement'. On this day, 9 August 1942, the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi had called upon the whole country to unite for liberating India and gave the mantra of 'Do or Die' to the countrymen.

‘The Quit India Movement’ was one of the defining moments in the history of our struggle for freedom. The entire Indian population cutting across age, gender and class

participated in this movement in a spirit of solidarity and exhibited the power of non-violent and peaceful protest against the unjust and exploitative forces.

On this occasion, we pay our tribute to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, and all the martyrs who laid down their lives during the freedom movement. Let us all resolve to rededicate ourselves to the ideals and values cherished by our freedom fighters for which they made their supreme sacrifice.

Now this House shall observe silence for some time in honour of the departed souls.

11. 04 hrs

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

HON. SPEAKER: Om Shanti, Om Shanti, Om Shanti.

11.05 hrs

FELICITATIONS BY THE SPEAKER

**Congratulation to Indian Hockey Team and Mr. Neeraj
Chopra on winning medals in Paris Olympics**

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Indian Hockey Team achieved a remarkable feat by winning a bronze medal yesterday on 8th August in Paris Olympics 2024.

Yesterday only, Shri Neeraj Chopra of India has made history in the Indian sports world by winning a silver medal in the Men's category of the Javelin throw event in the Paris Olympics. Winning consecutive two medals in the two Olympic Games by the Indian Hockey Team and Shri Neeraj Chopra is indeed a big feat which will certainly inspire our young players. On my own behalf and on behalf of the entire House, I congratulate the Indian Hockey Team and Shri Neeraj Chopra for their outstanding performance. This House wishes our players all the very best for the future.

11.06 hrs

***ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Question Hour.

Question No. 261, Shri Giridhari Yadav.

*261.. [Click to view Hindi Question and Answer.](#)

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Hon. Speaker Sir, the subject of establishment of High Courts falls under⁷¹ the Union List. A state like Bihar with a population of 13 crores has only one High Court with no Bench, while states having less population have one High Court and two Benches. If the power to establish a Bench lies under the Union list, whether the Government proposes to establish another High Court or any Bench in Bhagalpur or any other area of Bihar?

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to apprise the Hon. Member that the High Court Bench is established as per the recommendation of Jaswant Singh

* For Questions and Answers Click Link shown against each Question Number. Edited Questions and Answers are available in Master copy of Debate, placed in Library.

Commission and the decision given by the Supreme Court. Under this, with the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court and Governor the complete proposal is sent by the State Government to the Union Government for consideration. When the proposal for consideration is received, the infrastructure facilities and budget for the Bench is provided by the concerned State Government. This process has been set in accordance with the recommendation of Jaswant Singh Commission and the Supreme Court. The Hon. Member is asking about Bihar. At present there is no proposal under consideration with regard to opening a Bench of Patna High Court in Bhagalpur or Purnia.

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Hon. Speaker Sir, when the establishment of the High Court and Bench has been placed under the Union List and not under State or Concurrent List, then what can be done by any Chief Justice or Governor? In a welfare state, it is the responsibility of the union Government to establish a High Court Bench in a State with a population of 13 crores.

HON. SPEAKER: What is your question?

SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV: Hon. Sir, the question is that when this subject has been placed in the Union List, then the

Union Government must make efforts to establish the Bench, not the Governor or the High Court. The authority of the Government is mentioned at number 78 and 79 in the Union List.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Speaker Sir, Hon. Member is aware that the country runs according to the Constitution. There is also provision for the Supreme Court in the Constitution. This process is based on the decision of the Supreme Court and the recommendation of the Jaswant Singh Committee. This process has been decided. Be it any High Court, if a High Court Bench is to be established in any State, then the proposal must be sent by concerned High Court along with the recommendations of the State Government and the consent of the Governor, only then the proposal would be considered. It has a set process but right now, there is no proposal under consideration.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: Hon. Sir, earlier also, I had written a long letter to Ravi Shankar Ji. That may be looked into. They should see the 125th report of the Law Commission; it is clearly mentioned in it. Gandhi Ji had said - Justice delayed is justice denied. The Government should consider these two issues. The Government and the Governor can also ask for it. In other States,

like in your own State, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, there should be three, two, three and two Benches respectively whereas in Bihar there should be four benches of the High Court.

HON. SPEAKER: What is your question?

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: Hon. Sir, I would like to submit that in Patna High Court of Bihar about 2,37,000 cases are pending. The situation as of a few days ago is that there is no place for the lawyers to sit in Patna forcing them to sit on the floor.

Hon. Sir, the setting up of a High Court Bench at Purnia has been a long pending demand. The area of Kosi, Seemanchal, Mithilanchal and Bhagalpur regions houses the poorest people. They cannot come to Patna because Patna is far away from there. Due to this they are unable to get justice. Similarly, the situation is the same in Bettiah, Chhapra, Sheohar, Gopalganj, Muzaffarpur. A Bench is needed here too. In this way, two Benches are needed in Bihar. ...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Did the Hon. Minister not tell you that the State Government and the High Court has to send a proposal in this regard?

Hon. Minister, please answer this and clear all doubts.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to clarify this point again to the Hon. Member that the recommendations of Jaswant Singh Commission and the decision of the Supreme Court have laid down certain procedures in this regard. Under that procedure, the concerned State Government and the High Court will consider all aspects and make a mutual consensus regarding the establishment of a new Bench. The Chief Justice of the High Court, the Chief Minister of the State and then the Governor will reach a consensus and then submit such a proposal. No such proposal has been received yet in this regard, this is what I have told them.

Hon. Sir, at present there are 25 principal seats of 25 High Courts functioning in the country. Apart from this, a total of 15 benches, including 13 permanent benches and 2 circuit benches are also functioning.

HON. SPEAKER: Shrimati Misha Bharti.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MISHA BHARTI: Sir, is my name also there?...

(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: As you repeatedly speak while sitting, that is why your name has been added to it. You should ask questions, instead of speaking while sitting.

SHRIMATI MISHA BHARTI: Hon. Speaker sir, whatever Girdhari ji and Pappu Yadav ji have demanded, I am also making the same demand. Shri Abhay Kumar Sinha of our party wanted to raise a question. I am not satisfied with the reply given by the Hon. Minister.

Hon. Sir, through you I would like to request the Member of Parliament from the JDU party to discuss with his leaders, Hon. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and send the proposal in this regard from there.

HON. SPEAKER: Please ask the question to the Hon. Minister. Do not deliver a speech.

...(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MISHA BHARTI: Hon. Sir, if they cannot get sent such a proposal, then they should withdraw their support from the Government and should not deceive the people of Bihar. ...
(Interruptions)

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Speaker Sir, this is not her question. Her question is the same which was asked by the two Hon. Members earlier and I told them that no proposal is pending at present. If any proposal is received from the Government of Bihar after agreement of the High Court, the Governor and the Chief Minister, the Union Government will consider it.

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 262, Shri Tejasvi Surya.
... (Interruptions)

*262. **[click to view Question & Answer,](#)
[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Pradeep Purohit.

SHRI PRADEEP PUROHIT: Hon. Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether Odia language will also be considered in the ongoing process of

** Question original in English, reply in Hindi.

conducting proceedings in the regional language of the respective State in the High Court, District Courts and other lower courts?

Hon. Sir, secondly, as far as the circuit bench is concerned, Jaswant Singh Commission had recommended that a circuit bench may be established in the western part of Odisha. What decision has the Union Government taken in this regard?

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Speaker Sir, the question asked by the Hon. Member concerns the Article 348 of the Constitution, which has a provision for conducting all proceedings in the Supreme Court and High Courts in the English language. However, Article 348 also provides that the Governor of a State can authorize the use of a regional language in the High Court of that State with the consent of the President. Currently, under Article 348(2) of the Constitution, the use of Hindi has been authorized in the Rajasthan High Court since 1950, in the Uttar Pradesh High Court since 1969, in the Madhya Pradesh High Court since 1971 and in the Bihar High Court since 1972.

***SHRI SELVARAJ V.:** Hon Speaker Sir, Vanakkam. Tamil is the oldest language of the world. Tamil is also the oldest living Indian language. Tamil is a classical language. Our poet Puratchi Kavignar Bharathidasan says, "Tamil is like the elixir: and Tamil

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

is equivalent to our life". I wish that Tamil language should be made the Court language of Madras High Court. This is a long pending demand. I want to know from Hon Minister that when will they make Tamil as the Court language of Madras High Court?

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Sir, through you, I would like to inform the Hon. Member that the Government had received proposals from the States of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Karnataka to conduct High Court proceedings in Tamil in Madras High Court, Gujarati in Gujarat High Court, Hindi in Chhattisgarh High Court, Bengali in Kolkata High Court and Kannada in Karnataka High Court respectively. These proposals were referred to the Chief Justice of India for his suggestions in compliance with the decision of the Cabinet Committee, 1965, but the Chief Justice of India informed through a letter dated 16 October, 2012 that these proposals were not accepted after discussion in the full court meeting on 11 October, 2012. Nevertheless, we are making efforts to get the decisions of the courts translated in all the regional languages through Bhashini.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker Sir. Article 348(1)(a) of the Constitution of India provides that

the language of the Supreme Court and the High Courts will be in English. Article 348(2) proviso says that even though the language of some High Courts could be Hindi or some other regional language, the judgments, decrees, and orders will be in English. There is a logic to it, and the logic is that there should be a standardisation of authoritative text across the board.

11.16 hrs (Shri Krishna Prasad Tenneti *in the Chair*)

Now, the Minister, in his answer, has referred to an initiative by the Supreme Court of India where the Supreme Court is using an Artificial Intelligence tool to translate judgments into various regional languages.

My question to the Minister is this. What is the integrity of that translation? Who will certify that the translation from the original judgement is correct? I am asking this primarily because the translation is not being done by the judge who has authored the judgement.

Even if you look at Section 7 of the Official Languages Act of India, which Mr. Minister you have referred to in your answer, it says that the only recognised authoritative text will be the text that has been translated into English and certified by the High Court.

[TRANSLATION]

So, my question is that as they have permitted for translation of court judgments in various regional languages. Suppose, the translation has also been done. Now if a lawyer gives any argument on that basis in any court, who will certify that the translated judgment, its nuance, its tenor, its interpretation is exactly the same as what was written by the judge in the original judgment given in English language? Who will authenticate it? Who will keep a watch on its integrity?

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Chairperson Sir, through you, I would like to say that Hon. Manish Tiwari has raised an important issue. I would like to submit that Modi Government is promoting ease of justice along with ease of living.... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please listen to him.

... (Interruptions)

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Kindly listen to me. Keeping this judicial ease in mind, judicial proceedings and

judgments are being translated into regional languages through technology and artificial intelligence based tools. The Hon. Member has asked who is monitoring it. Currently, as he has also told, English judicial documents are being translated through artificial intelligence based Bhashini app and Supreme Court legal translation software i.e. Suvas. In the case of the Supreme Court, the actual information of daily orders, judgments etc. is being made available through the Supreme Court's multilingual app in six languages, which include English, Hindi, Marathi, Kannada, Tamil and Telugu. Apart from this, an Artificial Intelligence Assisted Legal Translation Advisory Committee has been formed by the Supreme Court under the chairmanship of Honorable Justice Abhay S. Oka. That Committee is continuously monitoring this process. Only after that things are taken forward.

Thank you.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Question No. 263, Shri Gaurav Gogoi.
Not present.

Adv. Adoor Prakash.

*263. [click to view Question & Answer](#)

[ENGLISH]

ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH: Sir, so many youths are recruited for the job by the false agencies. They are offering a high salary but, unfortunately, these youths are cheated. They are not getting the salary that was offered. Five youths from my constituency were recruited in Russian Army on the false promise of a job. The issue had been taken up with the External Affairs Ministry and all of them have been released and repatriated. It is concerning that the incident of fake recruitment in foreign countries on false promises are increasing. Many such incidents including recruitment of youths in Cambodia and Myanmar for cybercrime and slave jobs were reported recently. Such fake agencies are very active. The jobless youths are easily falling victim to such incidents. The Government has ordered an inquiry into such agencies targeting Indian youths.

I want to ask what are the findings of the inquiry and what action has been taken against the agencies. Has the same inquiry resulted in the arrest of any Indian citizens, recruitment agents or conspirators in false recruitments?

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: Sir, we have total 91 cases so far of Indian nationals who were recruited into the

Russian Army. Eight of them, unfortunately, have passed away. Fourteen of them have been discharged or in some manner have come back with our assistance. There are 69 Indian citizens who are awaiting release from the Russian Army.

11.22 hrs

(Hon. Speaker *in the Chair*)

Sir, as my answer has also conveyed to the hon. Member, we take this issue very, very seriously. I have myself raised it numerous times with the Russian Foreign Minister, and when the Prime Minister was in Moscow last month, he raised it personally with President Putin, and he got President Putin's assurance that any Indian national who is in the service of the Russian Army will be discharged and released.

The problem is that the Russian authorities maintain that these Indian nationals entered into contracts for service with the Russian Army. We are not necessarily subscribing to that. I share the hon. Member's view. I think in many cases there are reasons to indicate that our nationals were misled, that they were being told that they were going for some other job, and that they were then deployed with the Russian Army.

Regarding the hon. Member's question, what action we have taken, because the main question pertains to people with the Russian Army, I would like to inform the hon. Member through you that CBI has registered a criminal case against 19 individuals and entities. They have examined those 14 people who have returned from Russia. Sufficient evidence has surfaced against ten human traffickers whose identities we know. During the investigation, two of the accused were arrested on 24th April and two more on 7th May. All the four accused are presently in judicial custody.

Sir, the hon. Member also referred to a different issue, which is the cyber trafficking of people who are being misled, taken to South East Asia and made to work on cyber scams, and related issues. Again, we take this very, very seriously. We have taken it up with all the Governments concerned at a political level. So far, 650 Indian nationals have been repatriated from Cambodia, 415 from Myanmar and 548 from Laos. So, as the hon. Member has noted, and the Government also appreciates the gravity of this issue, this is an issue for which we have to be very vigilant; we have to crack down very hard. So, I have also attached with the answer a list of cases State-wise for the last three years, what is the action taken report, what is the status of legal proceedings in those cases.

ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH: Sir, these youths are appointed without any training. How can these youths be recruited without any training? The respected Minister has given one answer. A total of 3,042 illegal agents have been notified on the portal till June 2024. I want to ask what action has been taken against these illegal agencies?

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: Sir, there is a range of issues in this. The cases regarding Russia are in a different category. I would like the hon. Member to be aware, through you, that those cases are being probed by CBI. They are being investigated. The cases have been registered. As I said, people have been arrested and they will be prosecuted. We also have cases in respect of those who have been held for cyber crimes, who have been trafficked to Southeast Asia. They are a different category. In their cases too, we have asked the State Governments to initiate in many cases prosecution against agents where we have information about them.

There are a bulk of the cases, the number which the hon. Member referred to, where we have put on our portal recruiting agents who we have found to be in violation of the rules. What it does is that they will not be allowed to continue in this business, and wherever there is evidence of any criminality or any violation

of the law, they will be prosecuted. In many cases, prosecution is underway.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Hon. Minister be kind enough to answer my specific question? He has accepted that there are 69 Indians who are stuck in Russia. Will the Indian Embassy in Russia ensure that these boys who are stuck at the Russia-Ukraine border are brought to Moscow? Eight have died, and there are two boys' dead bodies from Punjab and Haryana. The DNA tests have been done. These bodies have not been returned. No one knows about the whereabouts of one Kashmiri boy, Zahoor. As he knows, one Baba Vlogs in Dubai, Faisal Khan in Russia, Moin, Ramesh and Pushpri, are the main criminals sitting in Russia and one in Dubai, who are misguiding our youths. Will the government first cancel their passports, issue an LOC, and third, if the Russian Government is not taking us seriously, will this Government not purchase any Russian oil? Will they stop these Indian refiners from buying discounted oil from Russia?

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: Sir, I will give a set of very specific answers to the very specific questions of the hon. Member. As I said, there are eight Indian nationals who unfortunately died while in service with the Russian Armed Forces.

Sir, the mortal remains of four of them have been sent to India with the payment made by the Indian Community Welfare Fund. In one case from Haryana, the Russian Foreign Ministry has informed us about his death. They have sought a DNA test report to identify him. This has been sent to the Russian side. We are following it up. In one case relating to a person from Gujarat, the family wants cremation in Russia. The necessary authorisation from the family has been obtained. It has been sent to the Russian side. In a case from Punjab, the Russian side has requested for DNA sample. That DNA sample is being provided. Finally, in the case from Uttar Pradesh, the eighth case, the family has sent their wishes that the mortal remain should be brought back. We expect that it will be brought back.

Regarding the people who are involved in the trafficking, we will have to go by what the CBI inquiry has told us because that is evidence; that is what is legally permissible. We have 19 people, including some of the names that the Hon. Member has referred to. In each case, the inquiries are going on. In many cases, the prosecution is going on. So, I can assure the Hon. Member, through you, that we take this very, very seriously.

His last point is this. What is the status of discussions between us and the Russian Government? I think, it would be fair to say that the Prime Minister himself has taken up the matter

with the Russian President and the Russian President has himself given an assurance. We should not jump the gun and say that the Russian are not serious on this matter. I think, it is important to hold the Russian Government to their word. It is most important for us. We are not here to score points or to enter into debates. We are here to get back those 69 people because the Indian citizens should not be serving in the Army of foreign countries.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister has given quite a detailed reply.

...(Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY: Thank you very much, Speaker Sir. Recently Telugu youth icon and our leader Shri Nara Lokesh Garu actively helped in the repatriation of Indians trapped abroad due to fraudulent job offers, including safely from the Middle East region with the assistance of our hon. Minister of External Affairs. We are all extremely thankful to you.

In the light of these incidents, what I would like to ask, through you, the hon. Minister is this. What specific measures is the Government taking to crack down on the immigration agents

who actively participate in such fraudulent activities in India?
Thank you very much.

DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR: Sir, the bulk of the cyber-related trafficking cases or the highest number of cases are from Andhra Pradesh and to some extent from Telangana. So, I completely understand the hon. Member's concerns in this regard. If the hon. Members would look at the data we have provided, the majority of cases are from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Telangana. The bulk of the cases come from them. So, we have sought the cooperation of the State Government. It is an issue of national concern. This is not a political matter. This is a case where both the State Governments concerned and the Union Government, should work together. I can assure the hon. Member that wherever we find evidence of any infraction of the law, we will very vigorously prosecute the agents.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 264, Shri Bhausahab Rajaram Wakchaure.

*264 [click to view Question & Answer](#)

SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Hon. Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to say that the Hon. Minister has replied to the question that according to Article-171 of the Constitution, in the Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Councils of various States ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: What is your question?

SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Hon. Speaker Sir, my question is that reservation must be implemented in the Legislative Council and the Rajya Sabha according to the Constitution. Regarding that, I would like to tell you that it has been told that reservation is not provided. This is true, but through you, I would like to tell the Hon. Minister that the Hon. Sarsanghchalak Mohanji Bhagwat has said many times ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, you should not mention anyone's name like this. Hon. Member, you are new here. You should not take the name of a person who is not a Member of this House. You should remove this and remember this for future.

SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to say that even today discrimination

has not ended in our society on the basis of caste and tribe. It would be appropriate to make a provision for reservation for this community. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the Hon. Minister to amend the Constitution and ensure reservation in the Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils of the country.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to tell the Hon'ble Member that as per Constitution there is a provision for reservation in the Lok Sabha and the State assemblies. But, there is no provision for reservation under the Constitution in the Rajya Sabha and the Legislative Council.

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, would you like to ask a supplementary question? Those who stand up without their name being called will never get a chance to speak.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Hon. Speaker Sir, I have a second supplementary question. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Those who stand up without their name being called will not get a chance.

Hon. Member, do you want to ask a supplementary question or not?

... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to ask a supplementary question. My second supplementary question to the Hon. Minister is that just last week, the Hon. Supreme Court has given a decision in the matter related to reservation about classification of quota within quota and creamy layer, which is being criticized all over the country. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Please ask questions related to the subject.

SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: Hon. Speaker Sir, this issue has caused a lot of anger among these castes. A party supporting this Government has also approached the Supreme Court in this regard. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: This question is not related to that.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Speaker Sir, the supplementary question asked by the Hon. Member is not related to this question. Still, through you, I would like to submit that in the matter of sub-categorization of castes, the State Governments of Punjab and Andhra Pradesh have approached Supreme Court. The matter of creamy layer that he is talking about is only an

observation made by the judges of the Supreme Court. It is not a part of the decision. He should not try to spread confusion in the society.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Thank you, hon. Speaker, Sir.

Sir, reservation in the State Legislative Councils and Rajya Sabha is a very long-pending demand. The hon. Minister's reply was a technical one.

So, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the approach of the Government for providing reservation in the Rajya Sabha as well as in the Legislative Councils.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon. Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to tell the Hon. Member that the Question Hour itself is technical. Only those questions are answered which are asked by them. As I said, it has been provided in Article 80 that the representatives of each State in the Rajya Sabha shall be elected by the elected members of the Legislative Assembly of the respective State and there is a direct election in the Lok Sabha. Due to the difference between direct and indirect elections, there was a discussion in the Constituent Assembly at that time. I am saying this because right now, there is no provision for reservation in the Constitution. This is what I have told him.

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 265, Shri K. Gopinath.

***265.** [click to view Question & Answer](#)

SHRI K. GOPINATH: Hon. Speaker, Sir, what steps are proposed to be taken by the Government of India through the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in association with such international regulatory bodies to address the regulatory issues pertaining to the veterinary medicines?

SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL: Sir, I have explained in my reply but I would like to explain again that worldwide there are three models of regulatory bodies that we follow for human as well as veterinary drugs and medicines. There are countries like USA, EU, Japan and New Zealand which follow a common regulatory body. Then, there are second categories of countries like the UK, like China, like Brazil, like Australia which have a separate regulatory body system, and there is this third category wherein the countries follow a model where they have a main national regulatory authority body and within which they have a dedicated veterinary division. So, India falls in that third model where we have one regulatory body and within which we have a separate dedicated division for veterinary drugs and medicines. That is how, we have the arrangement for regulation. In case of

our country, that body is CDSCO which looks into the quality, safety and efficacy of the drugs, both human and veterinary, and it has a regulatory role in so far as the permission for the import, manufacture or clinical trials of any veterinary drug or human drug or vaccine is required.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. M.K. Vishnu Prasad – not present.

Now, Dr. T. Sumathy.

DR. T. SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN: Thank you very much hon. Speaker, Sir.

Last year, the NITI Aayog tabled its reports on telemedicine for livestock. It also has highlighted a shortage of approximately 41,000 veterinary institutions, veterinarians and thus, called for improving coverage *via* telemedicine which is the need of the hour. So, I would like to ask this to Madam, Minister, through you Sir. What measures has the Ministry or the Minister taken in this context for the regulation of telemedicine for livestock.

SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL: Sir, this question pertains to separate regulatory authority for veterinary drugs and medicines. Telemedicine is not related to it.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 266, Shri Karti P. Chidambaram.

*266. [click to view Question & Answer](#)

[*ENGLISH*]

SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, it is disappointing that this NDA Government has not made available the data. It does not have the data on the number of people who are disabled or who seek benefits from Ayushman Bharat Scheme. About 4-5 per cent of our country have some disabilities.

Through you, I would like to know whether the Government has got any special plans to make sure that everybody with disabilities is universally covered by this insurance scheme. Do they have any plans for giving any support for those caregivers? Will they pay for those caregivers?

SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL: First of all, the Government has all the data in so far as our eligible beneficiary base is concerned. We are covering bottom 40 per cent population under this Scheme. This question pertains to disability. I would like to first apprise this House through you and the hon. Member. When we talk about the beneficiary base of PM-JAY, where do we derive the beneficiaries from? We derive it from the SECC data, we derive it from the RSBY; and we derive it from NFSA.

Sir, under SECC data, we have three criteria. One is the automatic allocation category; second is the deprivation criteria for the rural areas under which they fall under D-1, D-2, D-3 and

D-4 categories. If you take D-4, that is specifically for the disabled. So, that criteria is for the disabled member and not for the able bodied adult member. So, the disabled members or the disabled persons under this SECC have been included in this PM-JAY scheme.

Also, Sir, under NFSA, we have a criterion under which the Antyodaya Anna Yojana households also specify that disability will be common inclusion criteria for the identification of priority households. The disabled persons, who are heading a household, which has no societal support or an assured means of subsistence or the disabled person himself does not have a societal or assured means of subsistence, are also included under the PM-JAY. So, the disabled members are included in different ways under these schemes. But we do not maintain a central repository of only the disabled members but we have an overall figure which reflects how many people we are covering under the scheme.

Also, Sir, there are 13 States. I would like to apprise the hon. Member that there are 13 States which follow the universal health coverage. So, every member within that State, who is disabled also, is covered under the scheme, and I would like to add that we have a health benefit package under the PM-JAY. That package has been revised five times.

Sir, the new package of 2022 that we have includes 36 medical surgical packages across six medical specialities, which are aimed at helping the disabled persons, and as reported by the States, more than 95,000 admissions across 27 States have happened for the disabled persons. So, we very much take care of the disabled persons by way of the PM-JAY scheme but in a different way.

SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM: The question that I asked was, whether the support is given to the caregivers of disabled people. The Minister did not answer that.

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE;
AND MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
(SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA):** The question is about the caregivers. I would like to be very clear that the Ayushman Bharat Scheme takes care of the curative part, not the rehabilitatory part. So, as far as the caregivers are concerned or the NGOs are concerned, they are mostly in the area of rehabilitation. The Ayushman Bharat Scheme is for the curative part, and for the curative part, the Minister for State has given a very detailed answer about the packages, about the issue and about the areas where we intervene and we give support to the people.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab – not present.

Dr. Mallu Ravi.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, please be seated. Whenever your name is called, only then you should ask questions. I have observed many times that even when your name is not called, you stand up. Dr. Mallu Ravi ji, I am addressing you.

[ENGLISH]

DR. MALLU RAVI: Thank you very much for giving me time to ask this question.

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any data available on the utilisation by the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme.

SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL: Sir, under the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana, as I have already explained in my previous reply, we have different basis on which we select or identify the beneficiary. We do not maintain the separate data for SC/ST but if you go to the criteria that we have chosen under the PM-JAY in the rural areas as well as in the urban areas, in the rural areas, we have deprivation criteria and in the urban areas, we have occupation criteria, and also there are certain categories of automatic allocation.

Sir, I do not want to go into the details of every category. It will take time but mostly, it is the marginalised and vulnerable

sections of the society who are also SC/STs who are benefited majorly under the scheme.

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 267, Shri Rao Rajendra Singh.

*267. [click to view Question & Answer](#)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI RAO RAJENDRA SINGH: May I say to the hon. Minister that there is a negative answer for all the first two queries about inclusion of the HPV vaccine in the immunisation programme. There is utter confusion between the federal States of the Union and the Central Government. You have innumerable number of letters being received from the Government of Rajasthan to you thanking you for including that. While I get an answer here saying that this is not a part of it.

So, there has to be an explanation for it. Will you please kindly clear whether HPV vaccine is a part of it or not? Nearly Rs.400 core was given to Rajasthan. I am asking whether the logistic procurement programme will be initiated by the Government of India or the State should do it on its own.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: First of all, I would like to make the Member clear that as far as HPV Vaccination Programme is concerned, the status is like this. The National Immunization Technical Advisory Group of 2022 has

recommended for HPV vaccination. The Government is actively considering it. There are logistic issues which have to be addressed.

The first issue is about the single and double dose vaccine. The indigenous vaccine, which we have prepared is a double-dose vaccine and the vaccine, which is being supported by the external agencies is a single-dose vaccine.

Secondly, we have also to see the capacity to roll out the programme. As I said, the immunization programme itself is world's largest programme. For that, we have to see the capacity of the logistic part which the Government is actively considering.

There are States, which have taken initiatives on their own, which we accept and welcome. But as far as the Government of India is concerned, it is under our active consideration. Yes, this needs to be rolled out and we are actively considering it.

SHRI RAO RAJENDRA SINGH: May I ask the hon. Minister one thing? Will you permit the States to do it on their own or are the States under any restriction not to do it till it is decided at the Government of India level?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: No Sir, we have not restricted any State. Sikkim is doing this vaccination programme. Punjab did it for a year and a half when they got the external support and then they stopped it. So, the States can do it on their

own initiative. We have not stopped them. Yes, we have to roll out the programme because it is a national programme. It is a free of cost programme for every child. But for that, a cohort logistic system has to be developed and we are doing it.

SUSHRI S. JOTHIMANI: Thank you, Sir, for the opportunity. I am really happy to know about the inclusion of HPV vaccine in immunization programme. I would like to ask the hon. Minister one thing through you.

There is a test called VILI test to identify cervical and breast cancer at the initial stages. It has been done free of cost in all the previous years. Earlier, there used to be an awareness programme about it through advertisement on radio etc. Now, it has been stopped over the years. Has the Government any plan to create awareness through advertisement etc. about VILI test?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: No, we have not stopped any programme of awareness. In fact, I would like to share with you that we are actively working on it. As far as the screening part is concerned, it has been rolled out. Here, I would like to share with you the figures of screening which we have done.

First of all, I would like to tell you that sexual transmission infection, development of abnormal cells, early marriage, child birth, multiple pregnancies, using oral contraceptives, tobacco smoking, immune cells separation etc. are the reasons for this.

If you see the NCD portal, you will find that 6,17,74,353 women have been screened; 76,652 women have been diagnosed with cervical cancer and 67,424 are being treated in the Government facilities.

I would like to also share with you that we have 1,73,000 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs where we have the screening facilities for diabetics, cervical cancer, HIV etc. All the necessary screenings are being done there. So, we have not stooped this. In fact, we have increased the screening. That is why, these figures have come up.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 268,

Shri A. Raja- Not present.

.... (*Interruptions*)

*268. [click to view Question & Answer](#)

HON. SPEAKER: Question Number 269.

Shri Selvaraj V. - Not present.

.... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Let us take up all the 20 questions today. Hon. Minister, please reply in brief. Today we will take up all the 20 questions.

Shri Subbarayan K. – Not present.

... (*Interruptions*)

*269. ******[click to view Question & Answer](#)

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 270, Shri Ananta Nayak.

*270. [click to view Question & Answer](#)

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK: Hon. Speaker Sir, I thank the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister. Today the budget has also been enhanced. I would also like to thank the Hon. Prime Minister as he has also taken initiative in tribal areas where sickle cell, anemia and thalassemia are more widespread. Through you, I

****** Question original in English, reply in Hindi.

would like to know, from the Hon. Minister whether more funds are needed in the budget for the development of infrastructure there? What is the Government planning to do in this regard?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: I would like to apprise the Hon. Member that as far as the Government is concerned, the GDP has increased by 1.13 percent and we have taken it to 1.35 percent. The second thing is that our out of pocket expenditure has also decreased. If we look at it, it was 62 percent in the year 2014-15, today, it has come down to 47.01 percent. If we look at the total per capita health expenditure, it was Rs. 3,826 in the year 2014-15 and it increased to Rs. 4,863 in the year 2019-20. In this way, it increased by 27 percent.

In this way, we are increasing the Budget on Health sector. As far as the Hon. Member has mentioned about sickle cell, the programme for the elimination of sickle cell was launched by Prime Minister Modi in the year 2023. We are doing its actively screening rapidly. Special screening has been arranged for it in the tribal areas and all the suitable arrangements for its treatment have been made.

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 271, Shri B. Manickam Tagore.

*271. [click to view Question & Answer](#)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE: Sir, will the hon. Minister provide details on the emergence and characteristics of KP.1 and KP.2 strains of the SARS-Co V-2 virus? How does this strain differ from previous variants and what measures are being taken to address its spread?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Sir, there is a continuous surveillance programme which is going on. In that surveillance programme, if there is any change in the virus or if it is mutated, we see that. All this is being done by our agencies as far as the disease control programme is concerned. We are vigilant and regularly monitoring it. If there is any change because of that, we accordingly change our strategy.

SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE: Sir, what steps are being taken by the Government to promote community awareness regarding this new COVID-19 strain and the importance of adherence to the respiratory hygiene? How is this awareness being spread among the general public?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: There is a regular programme – Information, Education, Communication Programme. This question is very relevant because one has to be very much aware of the changes which are taking place and for that our IEC programme is there. In that programme, community participation and community involvement are done at the grassroot level. Even in the Arogya Mandir, we communicate to the patients and to the vulnerable patients who are there. That is all we are doing.

12.00 hrs

SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR ALIAS VIJAY VASANTH: Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister what are the key research initiatives currently underway to understand the behavioural impact of the KP.1 and KP.2 strains. How is the Government supporting the research institutions in this regard?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Sir, there is a regular process going on project-wise. There are many agencies where the research is going on. If I talk about the ICMR-NIV, this also takes care of it. We have the projects for taking care of these upcoming problems in the field of medical sector. So, this is also being taken care of accordingly.

***WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

(Starred Question Nos. 272 to 280
Unstarred Question Nos. 2991 to 3220)

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received notices of Adjournment Motions on several subjects from several Hon. Members. I am not giving consent to any notice of adjournment motion.

... (Interruption)

12.01 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Now the papers will be laid on the Table of the House.

Item No. - 3, Shri Prataprao Ganpatrao Jadhav.

... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYUSH; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PRATAPRAO GANPATRAO JADHAV): Hon, Speaker, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental

Health, Tezpur, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi Regional Institute of Mental Health, Tezpur, for the year 2022-2023.

- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 565/18/24]

- (3) A copy of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Amendment Rules, 2024 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.119(E) in Gazette of India dated 21st February, 2024 under Section 52 of the Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 566/18/24]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY): Sir, I beg to lay the following paper on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the International Financial Services Centres Authority, Gandhinagar, for the year 2023-2024, under Section 19 of the International Financial Services Centre Authority Act, 2019.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 567/18/24]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:-

(i) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Currency Accounts by a person resident in India) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024 published in Notification No. FEMA.10R(3)/2024-RB in Gazette of India dated 23rd April, 2024.

(ii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Mode of Payment and Reporting of Non-Debt Instruments) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024 published in Notification No. FEMA.395(2)/2024-RB in Gazette of India dated 23rd April, 2024.

(iii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Deposit) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2024 published in Notification No. FEMA.5(R)/(4)2024-RB in Gazette of India dated 6th May, 2024.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 568/18/24]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:-

(i) S.O.3058(E) published in Gazette of India dated 31st July, 2024, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Customs (N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.

(ii) G.S.R.456(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th July, 2024, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 22/2022-Customs 4 dated 30th April, 2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 569/18/24]

- (4) A copy of the Ad-hoc Exemption order No. 5 of 2024 (Hindi and English versions) dated 23rd July, 2024, exempting from payment of Customs Duty in terms of section 25(2) of Customs Act, 1962 for re-importation of one unit of Liebherr Heavy Lift Crawler Crane (Model: LR 1350/1, Sl.No. 074113) by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 570/18/24]

[ENGLISH]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; AND MINISTER OF
STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND**

FERTILIZERS (SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL): Hon. Speaker Sir, with your permission, I rise to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Output Outcome Monitoring Framework (Hindi and English versions) of the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers for the year 2024-2025.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 571/18/24]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences & Kasturba Hospital, Wardha, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mahatma Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences & Kasturba Hospital, Wardha, for the year 2022-2023.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 572/18/24]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 573/18/24]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh, for the year 2022-2023.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 574/18/24]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Health and

Family Welfare, New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023 together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023.

(9) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (8) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 575/18/24]

(10) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English Version) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi for the year 2022-2023.

(11) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (10) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 576/18/24]

(12) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-

- (a) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Goa Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Limited, Goa, for the year 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of Goa Antibiotics & Pharmaceuticals Limited, Goa, for the year 2022-2023 and alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 577/18/24]

- (b) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of HLL Infratech Limited (HITES), Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the HLL Infratech Limited (HITES), Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2022-2023, and alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 578/18/24]

- (c) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of HLL Biotech Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the HLL Biotech Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 579/18/24]

- (d) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the HLL Lifecare Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2022-2023
- (ii) Annual Report of the HLL Lifecare Limited, Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 580/18/24]

- (e) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Madras Fertilizers Limited, Chennai for the years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Madras Fertilizers Limited, Chennai, for the years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023,

alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 581/18/24]

- (f) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Fertilizers Limited, New Delhi, for the years 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Fertilizers Limited, New Delhi, for the years 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 582/18/24]

- (g) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, Mumbai for the years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 583/18/24]

- (h) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 584/18/24]

- (i) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited, Kochi, for the years 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited, Kochi, for the year 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 585/18/24]

- (j) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the FCI Aravali Gypsum and

Minerals India Limited, Jodhpur, for the years 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

- (ii) Annual Report of the FCI Aravali Gypsum and Minerals India Limited, Jodhpur, for the years 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 586/18/24]

- (k) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited, Dibrugarh, for the year 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited, Dibrugarh, for the years 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 587/18/24]

- (l) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Project and Development India Limited, Noida, for the years 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Project and Development India Limited, for the years 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 588/18/24]

- (m) (i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the years 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the years 2020-2021, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (13) Thirteen statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (12) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 589/18/24]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS (SHRI SHANTANU THAKUR): Hon. Speaker Sir, I rise to lay on the Table a copy of the Board of Major Port Authority for Deendayal

Port (Meetings and Transactions of Business) Regulations, 2023 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. LW/GN/2790/2024/001 in Gazette of India dated 8th April, 2024 under section 73(A) of the Major Port Authorities Act, 2021.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 590/18/24]

[TRANSLATION]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SAVITRI THAKUR): Sir, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Adoption Resource Authority, New Delhi for the year 2022-2023, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of Central Adoption Resource Authority, New Delhi for the year 2022-2023.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 591/18/24]

12.04 hrs

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[ENGLISH]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary General of Rajya Sabha:-

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2024, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 30th July, 2024 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."
- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2024, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 5th August, 2024 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Finance (No.2) Bill, 2024, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 7h August, 2024 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."
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12.05 hrs

GOVERNMENT BILLS – Introduced

(i) **BANKING LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024***

[TRANSLATION]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY): Hon. Speaker Sir, on behalf of Hon. Nirmala Sitharaman ji, I rise to move for leave to introduce the Bill further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980.

HON. SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

Undertakings) Act, 1970, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980."

[*ENGLISH*]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (CHANDIGARH): Mr. Speaker Sir, in accordance with Rule 72 (2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I rise to *pro forma* oppose the introduction of the Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 as there is no provision in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha to get a clarification with respect to the source of legislative power of the Union Government under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India to introduce the proposed Bill even though it may be an amendment to the principal Act.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I am aware that the Banking Regulation Act was amended in 1965 to make it applicable to the cooperative societies. I am also aware that it was amended in 2020 to bring cooperative banks under the purview of the Reserve Bank of India. The Entry 45 pertains to banking. However, it is important to note that the Entry 43 of the Union List expressly excludes the cooperative societies from the legislative remit of the Central Government and by implication, the cooperative banks.

Entry 44 of the Union List does not specifically refer to cooperative societies. On the other hand, Entry 32 of the State

List gives specific powers to State Governments to legislate on cooperative societies and by derivation on cooperative banks.(*Interruptions*) Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is an important issue of legislative power, if you could indulge me for a second.(*Interruptions*)

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this matter had also come up when the Joint Parliamentary Committee had deliberated on the Multi-State Cooperative Bill. There are a catena of judgments by various courts in this country including the Supreme Court that the power to legislate with regard to cooperative societies and by implication cooperative banks vests with the State Governments. The Government's answer will be that the earlier two Banking Regulation (Amendment) Acts have not been challenged. But that does not mean that we can have an ambiguous source of legislative power.

My submission, through you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, to the Government is that where there is ambiguity with regard to legislative power, why they would amend the Seventh Schedule. List-I, List-II and List-III are updated so that there is absolute clarity with regard to where the Government is drawing legislative power in order to enact a particular legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: The matter related to Multi State Cooperative Society will come under the ambit of Centre Government, right?

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Hon. Speaker Sir, when the Joint Parliamentary Committee was constituted on this matter, this issue was also raised in it. As there is a contradiction in Entry 43, 44 of Union List and Entry 32. We did not submit a dissent note even at that time. But we submitted our observations on whether the Central Government can regulate the cooperative societies or not? There is a contradiction on this matter. This is my limited point.

HON. SPEAKER: OK. The registration of Multi State Cooperative Society is done in the Central Registrar office, right? I want to ask this much.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Sir, on this matter...

(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri N. K. Premachandran.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Prof. Sougata Ray ji, your turn will also come. Please put on the headphone.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri N. K. Premachandran.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, my objection is not to the legislative competence of the Bill. My objection is regarding the established rules, practices and procedures in the House. By this Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 the Government is intending to amend four laws - the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934; the Banking Regulation Act, 1949; the State Bank of India Act, 1935; and the Banking Companies Act, 1970 as well as 1980.

Sir, I am not questioning the legislative competence of the Government with regard to these Acts. But the problem is with regard to compiling or consolidating of four laws into one law, that is, banking laws. Yes, there are a lot of precedents. It can be done. But it is for the common purpose that the provisions of all these Bills should be interconnected.

I will just cite one example. Here, in this case the Cooperative Societies Act, in which the tenure of the Directors of

the offices is extended from eight years to ten years. It has nothing to do with the original common purpose of the Bill.

My point is that this is against the precedence and conventions of the House and the practice which is being followed. Only those provisions which are interconnected, interrelated and have a common purpose to achieve, then only you can consolidate all these legislations together. That is the objection which I would like to raise.

Thank you very much, Sir.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, under Rule 72(1), I oppose the introduction of the Bill further to amend several laws. As has been pointed out, this Bill is entirely superfluous. It deals with amendments of the Banking Regulations Act to redefine substantial interests.

Then again, it changes the Rules with regard to directors of cooperative banks.

Then again, it goes to the State Bank of India Act and says that the unclaimed dividends would go to the Investor Education and Protection Act. Again, it goes to the State Bank of India Act to provide discretion to the public sector banks in the matter of remuneration of auditors.

Now, this Bill is superfluous in the sense that all that this Bill is seeking to achieve can be achieved through administrative

steps. If the banks are not reporting to the Reserve Bank of India, then steps can be taken against the banks under the present law. If the cooperatives, in which there is a lot of corruption throughout the country, are not functioning properly, the Banking Department can take steps against them. I totally object to the fact that they are saying that any unclaimed dividend would go to the Investor Education and Protection Fund, as a result of which we may complicate the resolution.

Sir, Mr. Premachandran has pointed out that through one Bill, four different laws are sought to be amended. Is this the way legislation should happen in this country? Four Acts are sought to be amended through one Bill, which is unnecessary, superfluous and against the interest of the people. Hence, I oppose the introduction of the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir, the hon. Member was pointing out the ambiguity which prevails and also quoting from the slight dichotomy which prevails in the VII Schedule-listed items. I just want to highlight, which I think hon. Member Manish Tewari also conceded, that there have been several amendments earlier and probably, he felt that it was not sufficient to say that it has been

done earlier, courts have not struck it down, so why not now, if I have understood him right.

Sir, I would think it is important for us to recognise the ambiguity, which he rightly points out, between Entry Numbers 43, 44 and 45 where one excludes the 'cooperative' and Entry 45 brings in the 'banking' and therefore, with that done and remaining in front of us, the various amendments which have been done to the Banking Regulation Act with respect to the cooperative banks are not just one or two; they are several. It happened in 1981, 1984, 1987, 1989, 1991, 2004, 2013 and 2020, just to cite a few. There are several instances, but I do not want to take the hon. House's valuable time.

But the simple understanding is that we are not touching any aspect of the cooperative other than that which came under the name of banking. I would not so directly relate it, but I would certainly bring to the notice of this hon. House, if I remember correct, that in 2019 when there was near collapse or complete collapse of a multistate cooperative bank, which hon. Speaker remotely mentioned, not the multistate cooperative dealing with primary agricultural society - it was through the Banking Regulation Act and through the body which governs insurance to be paid to the bank account holders - we had approached this hon. House and raised the insurance cover from Rs. 50,000 to Rs.

1,00,000 and from Rs. 1,00,000 to Rs. 5,00,000. As a result, we were able to give a lot of small account holders in these cooperative banks some relief. So, the inter-linkage between the banking regulation and that which is cooperative but banks, not the primary agricultural society, is completely getting repeated in history and every time the Banking Regulation Act has to, with due consideration, come with a delayed step. This is one of the reasons why we are doing not just the Banking Regulation Act but all those related to this, at one go. We can always come four times to this august House for the same cause, but when it is related to the same function of banks, either under the cooperative society or regularly under the banks, we need to take this route.

That is what is being done here. Just to give an example, I will cite the 2004 Amendment where Section 22A was introduced as a part of the Banking Regulation (Amendment) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act of 2004. It addresses the validity of banking licences granted by the Reserve Bank of India to multi-State cooperative societies. Section 22A was enacted to protect licensing status of multi-State cooperative societies, ensuring that licences granted before the 2004 Amendment remain valid, and providing a clear process for those whose applications were still pending at that time. So, the Sections which have been brought in as amendments and also the Court's

verdicts have repeatedly reinforced the point that the Banking Regulation Act and the cooperative banks do have this relationship, and therefore, it has to be taken through this route. Otherwise, there is no attempt to undermine the cooperatives, particularly, the cooperatives which do not deal with banking. The banks and the cooperatives with licence for banking will have to have a route, and therefore, we have shown this.

I partly answered Prof. Sougata Ray's question regarding why so many Acts will have to be dealt with. The amendment that we are now aiming at is shifting of submission of statutory reports by banks – which he mentioned distinctly – to RBI from the reporting Friday to the fortnight of last month or quarter. What is the rationale behind it? The current reporting Friday system has several limitations that impact the accuracy and effectiveness of reporting of the data. I will name a few of these limitations. These limitations are: incomplete coverage of monthly data; seasonal fluctuations in banking activities, which lead to inconsistent reporting; and the need for adjustment every 11th year which introduces complications and inconsistencies. That is why, in order to address this issue, it is proposed to amend this legislation to transition to reporting on 15th and on the last working day of each month, thereby, accuracy can be brought in. Reports for the 15th would be submitted on the 20th of the same month, while

reports for the last day would be submitted by the 5th of the following month.

So, these are largely aimed at the common cause, a point which Shri N. K. Premachandran would say, a point which Shri Manish Tewari would say that the larger cause is what you should deal with through the Acts but not the minor ones or not the specific ones which benefit one section. This is actually going to impact the banking, both of cooperatives and otherwise as well. These are data today which are being used legitimately with approval by very many different sources and if inaccuracies are going to guide our policy-making, it may not be effective, and therefore, we had to come up with this.

Sir, I would seek your indulgence in clearing this.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 and the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980.”

The Motion was adopted.

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY: Hon. Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

12.19 hrs

(ii) CARRIAGE OF GOODS BY SEA BILL, 2024*

[ENGLISH]

THE MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL):

Respected, Speaker Sir, I rise to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the responsibilities, liabilities, rights and immunities attached to carriers with respect to the carriage of goods by sea and for matters connected therewith or related thereto.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: The Motion moved:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the responsibilities, liabilities, rights and immunities attached to carriers with respect to the carriage of goods by sea and for matters connected therewith or related thereto.”

[ENGLISH]

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: Sir, I have opposed the introduction of this Bill, which is called the Carriage of Goods by Sea Bill, 2024.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

The Indian Carriage of Goods by Sea Act, 1925 was enacted to amend the law with respect to carriage of goods by sea. It has stood us in good stead for 100 years. Suddenly, in the 100th year the Minister thinks of coming up with a fresh Bill. The mention of Hague rules, Brussels rules, Visby rules, all these were always there.

So, I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. Is it just to find some work for his Department that does not have enough work that you are bringing in a new Bill? A Bill which has served its purpose for 100 years, suddenly you jump and say that: "... with rules that are applicable ...", they are all minor amendments. This superfluous legislation should be done away with. It only makes your bureaucrats happy. It does not make the country happy, and it does not help anything. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Respected Speaker Sir, the hon. Member is a very senior and very respected Member in the House. I believe that, after going through the Act, you have also come to realise it.

I do agree with you that the spirit and the substance of the Act are unchanged. We are bringing this because it is already 100 years old. Now, to comply with the international conventions; to deal with the changing situation of the global scenario; and also with the modern legislations, simplification and ease of

understanding is very necessary. Here, we have made some proposals, which need to be incorporated to empower the Government to issue directions so that the spirit and also the provision is strictly carried out by the concerned.

12.23 hrs (Shrimati Sandhya Ray *in the Chair*)

So, I believe that this particular Bill is very much necessary, and it is imperative to bring certain changes. We are trying to make it simplified for better understanding of the Act by incorporating some definitions. Thank you.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the responsibilities, liabilities, rights and immunities attached to carriers with respect to the carriage of goods by sea and for matters connected therewith or related thereto.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

12.24 hrs

(iii) BILLS OF LADING BILL, 2024*

[ENGLISH]

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Respected Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make provisions for the transfer of rights of suit and all liabilities to the consignee named in a bill of lading and every endorsee of a bill of lading, to whom the property in the goods mentioned in the bill of lading shall pass, upon or by reason of a consignment or an endorsement, and for matters connected therewith or related thereto.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provisions for the transfer of rights of suit and all liabilities to the consignee named in a bill of lading and every endorsee of a bill of lading, to whom the property in the goods mentioned in the bill of lading shall pass, upon or by reason of a consignment or an endorsement, and for matters connected therewith or related thereto.”

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

12.25 hrs

(iv) RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024*

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 13, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS; MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW): Hon. Chairperson Madam, I move for leave to introduce the Bill further to amend the Railways Act, 1989.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Motion moved:

“That leave be granted to introduce the Bill further to amend the Railways Act, 1989.”

[TRANSLATION]

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: Hon’ble Madam Chairperson, I oppose the Railways (Amendment) Bill, 2024. The Hon’ble Minister has stated in the Statement of objects and reason that *[ENGLISH]* the functioning and independence of the Railway Board will be enhanced with this Bill. All the provisions of the Indian Railway Board Act, 1905 are proposed to be incorporated

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

in the Bill. *[TRANSLATION]* The existing Bill was passed in the year 1989. *[ENGLISH]* It is not a very old Bill. Originally, as you have mentioned, Railways was separated from PWD. Then the Railway Board was set up. May I represent to you, hon. Chairman, that the Railway Board was bureaucracy? That can happen. It is inflexible. It is unable to take timely decision. It is unable to give relief to the people of this country. The Railway Minister, instead of bringing unnecessary bills which have functioned for a long time, should give attention to the railway accidents. He himself was present when the railway accident took place in Balasore. He was present again when the Kanchanjunga Express rammed into a station. The whole question is, what is the railway doing about safety of railway passengers? The Railway Minister has introduced Vande Bharat Train. It is good. They take you fast. When I oppose something, I can bring all the points. ... *(Interruptions)* Your Railway Board has failed to control accidents. *[TRANSLATION]* What shall we gain by giving it more powers? ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon'ble Minister of Railways.

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Hon'ble Chairperson Sir, it seems to me that Hon'ble Prof. Sougata Ray ji has acute shortage of work to be done. That is why, bringing up superfluous objections becomes a compulsion for him. He must not be having

any work to do. I would like to request him to approach his own Party also to allot him some more tasks.

Now, I am coming to the point regarding the need to bring this Bill. As all of you know, that Railways was introduced in India as a branch of the Public Works Department. Its development started as a separate branch termed as Railway Branch. When it expanded, a need was felt for provision of separate systems for it. Hence, provision of a Railway Board was made in the year 1905 with the efforts of a number of Princely States and several other institutions which contributed towards expanding the network of Railways. The provision of Railway Board at that time was made through an Executive decision and not through a Statutory Legislation. It was needed because Railways is a different type of department compared to all other departments. It is an operating department. Secondly, network effect is observed in this department. This question comes up through several Hon'ble Members frequently. Suppose, freight is loaded on train from some place for a certain destination. The freight is handed over at the originating station but all the intermediate railway systems on the way are also required for the freight to reach from one place to another. Another requirement is that the dimensions should be the same. Technology should be similar. The Railway Time Table should be unified. Keeping in

view all these arrangements, the Railways Board was constituted in the year 1905. A shortcoming was left unattended when the new Act was enacted in the year 1989 replacing the Indian Railways Act, 1890 and it was that the required Statutory Power was not conferred on the Railway Board. It was kept linked alongside with the Executive Order through a Saving Clause. But it was a shortcoming which is being addressed through this Bill. It will enhance the complete powers of the Railway Board and will also enhance the efficiency of the Railways.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to further amend the Railways Act, 1989.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Hon’ble Madam Chairperson, I introduce** the Bill.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

12.30 hrs

**MOTION RE: 3rd REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item no. 9; Hon'ble Member Shri Baijayant Panda ji.

SHRI BAIJAYANT PANDA (KENDRAPARA): Madam, I beg to move:

“That this House do agree with the 3rd Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on 08 August, 2024.”

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is:

“That this House do agree with the 3rd Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on 08 August, 2024.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI VARUN CHAUDHRY (AMBALA): Hon'ble Chairperson Sir, a sense of discontent and confusion has arisen within the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes across the country due to the recent judgement of the Supreme Court in the State of Punjab Vs. Davinder Singh case. A call for 'Bharat Bandh' has also been given against the same on 21 August.

Madam Chairperson, there have been calls for introduction of Creamy Layer and sub-classification. Above that the right for sub-classification is being delegated to the State Governments which is not right. The reservation to the Scheduled Castes was never given on the basis of economic conditions. When it was given, it was against untouchability, caste supremacy and inferiority. This caste supremacy and inferiority is still prevalent in the society. If reservation is provided to certain members of the Scheduled Castes and denied to others, it will be against the vision and concept of Baba Saheb Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar. Therefore, I would like to request the Government to make a statement on this issue and also file a review petition against the said judgement in the Supreme Court because, with this judgement it is feared that a case is being made out to abolish reservation for the Scheduled castes.

Madam, we can see a number of cases of atrocities being registered under the Prevention of Atrocities Act even today. Hence, it is necessary that a Review Petition must be filed by the Government before the Supreme Court and it must also make a statement on this issue.

SHRI RAJA RAM SINGH (KARAKAT): Madam, will the Government take cognizance of this? The Government must give a statement on this issue. ... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

SHRIMATI KRITI DEVI DEBBARMAN (TRIPURA EAST): Madam, I would like to inform the House that my State of Tripura has a very famous and divine Siddha Peeth, the Mata Tripura Sundari Temple, which is also a Shakti Peeth. The temple is situated at Matabari, and is the most sacred pilgrimage for the people of Tripura, both for the indigenous tribal people and for the non-tribal people.

Devotees from different parts of the State, especially the indigenous tribal people who belong to the lower income groups find it difficult to find any affordable accommodation to stay for a night or even to make a short transit.

I would request the Tourism Minister to kindly ensure that the ongoing Temple Corridor project, which is currently under the Tripura State Government, must have provisions for free or affordable accommodation for the devotees, primarily the indigenous people.

This will create employment opportunity for the local youth as well. Also, additional steps to put the temple on the National and International Tourism Map must be taken as it will boost the overall economy of the region.

Today being world indigenous day, I wish everyone and the people in the House who belong to the indigenous tribe, a very, very happy indigenous day.

Thank you, Madam. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Thank you Madam Chairperson for giving me an opportunity to raise one of the most important issues relating to the fishermen of Kerala. Everybody knows that the plight of fishermen nowadays is very miserable. Due to various reasons, particularly due to weather, they are not in a position to catch fish and they are facing very many different problems everyday. The kerosene supply is not at all there. Therefore, fishing has become a difficult thing.

Now, the fishermen of Kerala are totally depending upon the debt from the cooperative society. The apex body of the cooperative society is NCDC. Earlier, there was a central subsidy for the fishermen for taking this loan. Earlier, when the UPA was in power, 25 per cent of subsidy was there from NCDC and NABARD like organisations. When the NDA came to power, gradually this subsidy on loan for the fishermen has been reduced and now, it is totally stopped. What is happening in the coastal areas? The suicide thing will happen because the fishermen's condition is like that only. They are in a position to commit

suicide. It is because every fisherman is in debt. There is no subsidy at all. The Government of India is talking about the poor people. But the entire action is against the poor. How will the poor fishermen live? Therefore, my request to the hon. Government is to introduce the subsidy for the fishermen. Why are you penalizing the fishermen? They are the poor people of this country. Like tribals, our fishermen are residing near the seashore. Both the tribals and the fishermen are in the same condition. We need to treat them in a very good manner. On the other side, the Government of India is penalizing the fishermen to the maximum extent.

My request to the Government is that they need to immediately look into this matter and reintroduce the subsidy for the poor fishermen.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY (DHENKANAL): Madam, Hindu temples were attacked in Bangladesh. The picture being published and circulated depicts that there was idol of Mahaprabhu Jagannath ji in the temple. Attack on the idol of Mahaprabhu Jagannath ji is extremely unfortunate, condemnable, sacrilegious and painful. This particular incident has happened in Bangladesh. There has been a coup against the Government in that country due to a movement based on differences in political

ideologies. But what are the reasons and motives behind destruction of Hindu temples? The news coming out and being broadcasted in this context depicts the destruction of idols of Jagannath Mahaprabhu, Balbhadra Mahaprabhu and Devi Subhadra. This has deeply saddened not only the people from Odisha but also the people from all over the world.

The Parliament, the Government, entire human society and country should ponder over this serious issue. The Government should hold talks with Bangladesh to catch the culprits and give appropriate punishment. Although the Hon'ble Minister of Foreign Affairs has said that the attack on Hindu temples is a matter of concern. I believe that Lord Jagannath belongs to the entire world. ... (Interruptions) Jai Jagannath. You must also put pressure.

Madam, there used to be a long queue from Kolkata and Howrah to Jagannath Puri. ... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI S. SUPONGMEREN JAMIR (NAGALAND): Thank you, Madam, for giving me the time. I want to bring up the issue of Eastern Nagaland People's Organisation.

In Nagaland, we have 16 districts. Out of 16 districts, six districts are asking for a separate State. This was started from 25th November, 2010. The people of ENPU have been deprived of

employment. Adequate fund allocation was also not done and the Act East Policy was not implemented properly for Eastern Nagaland people. Nothing was done for them in respect of natural wealth, native skill talent, infrastructure, roads and highways, transport, education and health.

We have three international trade centres, that is, DAN (Pangsha), Lungwa and Mimi. But they were also not taken care of well by the Government. They have been asking for the upgradation of village roads. The State Government formed a committee on 23rd May, 2011 and all the replies have been given regarding their demand for a separate State.

The State Government had proposed for an autonomous State. But the ENPU rejected it. They want a separate State. The BJP Government has agreed to give the Frontier Nagaland Territory. The ENPU has accepted that.

Now, due to the delay in fulfilling that promise, they have abstained from voting in the last parliamentary election. They have also abstained from voting in the regional council elections. It is deteriorating the situation. We need to bring social harmony among our Naga people.

So, I would like to know about the tripartite talk among the Government of India, the State Government of Nagaland and the ENPU about the Memorandum of Settlement of 6th December,

2022. So, I would like to appeal to the Home Ministry, through you, to kindly take up the matter urgently and solve the problem. Thank you.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ (LALGANJ): Hon'ble Chairperson Madam, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak during Zero Hour.

Madam, there used to be a slogan under the Saakshar Bharat Mission- '*Shiksha hai anmol ratan, Padhne ka sab karo jatan*'. But what is happening today? Through you, I would like to point out that the then Hon'ble Prime Minister launched the 'Saakshar Bharat Mission' conducted by the School Education and Literacy Department under the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 08 September, 2009 on the occasion of the International Day of Literacy. This programme is sponsored fully by the Union Government. Five lakh Shiksha Preraks were employed by the Government with two in every Gram Sabha across the country under the Saakshar Bharat Mission. They worked under the said mission to enable people read and write going door to door and also doubled as BLOs from time to time. Women contributed the most in this task.

Madam, one lakh Shiksha Preraks were employed in my home State Uttar Pradesh alone. Eight years later, the State

Government, vide letter nos. 17036 and 17536 dated 27 December, 2017 cancelled the renewal of District Coordinators, Block Coordinators and Shiksha Preraks stating that their reinstatement or renewal will not be done until orders are received from the Union Government. The honorarium of Shiksha Preraks for about 40 months also remained withheld and they are unemployed till date. Their families are starving due to this.

Madam, through you, I would like to humbly request that the Union Government may issue guidelines to the State Government regarding the above scheme keeping in view the starving conditions of the lakhs of Shiksha Preraks and their families so that those lakhs of unemployed people and their families may lead a happy life. Along with that, the withheld honorarium should also be paid. It will be so kind of the Government. Thank you.

SHRI MURARI LAL MEENA (DAUSA): Madam, I would like to draw your attention towards a very important issue concerning Rajasthan which pertains to the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP). I would like to draw your attention towards solving the problem of drinking water and irrigation water in 13 districts (21 at present) of Eastern Rajasthan. Rajasthan covers 10.41 percent of the total land area of the country. In terms of agricultural land, Rajasthan accounts for

13.88 percent of agricultural land of the country. Eleven percent of country's livestock is in Rajasthan and 5.67 percent population of the country resides in Rajasthan. Rajasthan's situation in the country, from the water resources point of view, is quite unequal and worrying. Rajasthan's share is only 1.6 percent of the groundwater and 1.16 percent of the surface water available in the country. According to a survey conducted in the year 2022, the condition of 264 blocks out of total 302 blocks in Rajasthan, has become very serious due to excessive exploitation of water. The remaining 38 blocks are also rapidly turning into dark zones.

Madam, the DPR for the ERCP scheme for the year 2016-17 was prepared by the then Government of Rajasthan regarding 13 districts (21 at present) of eastern Rajasthan with 50 percent water dependency. With this, these 13 districts were to get 3921 MCM water. Instead of declaring it as a National Project, a new MoU was entered into by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and the Union Government. As far as, the information available with me, this MoU was signed with 75 percent water dependency. This will provide Rajasthan only 1775 MCM of water which is very less. I would like to request that the scheme may be implemented with 50 percent water dependability only by reviewing the changed PKC MoU keeping in view the difficult conditions prevalent in Rajasthan. This is my demand.

Hon'ble Chairperson Madam, I would like to request one more thing. Today is the Tribal Day. The Government of Rajasthan observes holiday on the Tribal Day. Through you, I would like to request that holiday for the Tribal Day be declared across the country. ... (Interruptions)

***SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND (VELLORE):** Hon'ble Chairperson Madam, Vanakkam. I wish to raise an important issue pertaining to Vellore Parliamentary Constituency. All the trains and railway track between Chennai and Bengaluru go *via* Vellore Constituency. This Union Government has introduced superfast Vande Bharat trains. Those trains are the need of the hour. I do not deny. But in our area, they say a proverb. It goes like this, "Although the building is strong, the base is so weak". This Government, which has introduced superfast trains, has forgotten to expand these railways tracks. All those trains from Chennai to Arakkonam *via* Vellore and Jolarpet should use this Vellore route besides all the trains going to Bengaluru and north India. Almost 200 trains pass through the Vaniyambadi, Ambur, Gudiyatham, Pernambut railway stations. If the people want to cross the railway track to go on both sides, they have to wait for at least one hour at the Level Crossings. When the people cross through the railway tracks due to the closure of Level Crossings

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

for long time, accidents take place and every day at least one precious life is lost. I urge that in order to rectify this, at LC- 81 at Vaniyambadi New Town, an over-bridge should be constructed. We need an over-bridge at Latteri, at LC-57 besides another over- bridge at LC-58 at Parangipettai Railway Gate. We also need over-bridges at Katpadi VIT Gate at LC-53 and Katpadi Vanjur Gate, at LC-129 respectively. In all these places, these Level Crossings should be removed and overrides or underpass should be provided to ease the movement of people on both sides of the railway route. When I was MP of 17th Lok Sabha, I raised this issue several times in the Lok Sabha but nothing has happened. When I took this issue to the Divisional Railway Officer at Chennai, they said since elections were around the corner and he promised to complete this after the elections are over. Even elections are over now and we have won in our constituencies and we are now in Parliament, but over-bridges are not constructed in these places. I urge, through you, in order to stop people dying in accidents every day, all these LCs should be either converted as over-bridges or underpasses. Thank you for this opportunity.

SHRI RICHARD VANLALHMANGAIHA (MIZORAM):

Respected Madam Chairperson, first of all, being a first-time MP, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt

gratitude to all the people of my State for placing their confidence in me and giving me the opportunity to represent them in this august house.

Secondly, I would also like to extend my invitation to all my esteemed colleagues and request them to take time out from their busy schedules during this tenure to visit my beautiful State. Mizoram is also known as the most peaceful State in India despite being surrounded on two sides by the neighbouring countries, Myanmar on the East and Bangladesh on the West.

Hon. Madam Chairperson, through you, I want to draw the kind attention of the Central Government to a burning issue currently affecting my State, that is, African Swine Fever (ASF), which has affected the livestock and livelihoods of thousands of people. As per the latest reports, the pig farmers of our State have suffered financial losses of over Rs 200 crore due to the recent outbreak of ASF.

Since February 2024, the ASF has caused deaths of over 8,251 pigs and culling of over 15,000 pigs, as per the official records. This number is bound to be much more as there are a number of unreported cases. I would specifically like to highlight the hardship being faced by some of our pig farmers who have taken loans worth several crores but have lost everything due to this outbreak.

Madam, even before this recent outbreak, the State has been plagued by African Swine Fever (ASF) for many decades. Such is the magnitude of this problem. Even I myself have been affected personally by this outbreak. After the results of the Lok Sabha elections were announced, I could not even celebrate my victory properly as my own locality was declared as an infected area.

I, therefore, request the hon. Union Minister of Animal Husbandry to help us containing the spread of ASF immediately, and to help in finding out measures to contain it permanently.

Keeping in view the hardship faced by our pig farmers, a project proposal for revival of the piggery sector amounting to Rs 26,725 crore had already been submitted to the Central Government. I must mention that no financial aid has been received yet to compensate for the livestock which have been lost due to the disease but not due to culling. I, therefore, urge the hon. Union Minister of Animal Husbandry to kindly look into this personally and give favourable consideration to the proposal at the earliest.

Madam, from 2021 to June, 2024, in about three and a half years, about 55,602 pigs have died from ASF, and about 40,540 pigs have been culled. So, the total loss of pigs in terms of number

has been 96,142. A total of 22,718 families and 652 villages have also been affected due to the deadly disease.

Thank you, Madam.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI RAHUL SINGH LODHI (DAMOH): Hon'ble Chairperson Madam, I would like to thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak. I am also thankful to the people of Damoh with whose blessings I have been able to come here.

Through you, I would like to apprise the Hon'ble Minister of Railways that there are two world famous pilgrimage sites in my Parliamentary Constituency. One is Jageshwar Nath Dham where devotees throng all the time. I have personally met the Hon'ble Minister of Railways in this regard and have discussed regarding stoppages of various trains there. This demand is necessary to be fulfilled. Further, there is one more site which is famous throughout the world as the Kundalpur pilgrimage site of Jain community. I would like to provide information regarding that also. The Railway line from Jabalpur to Damoh and from Damoh to Panna via Kundalpur was approved in the year 2004 and 2011 earlier for which a survey was also carried out. If this line is laid, we shall get twin benefits. At present, when we are to go to Delhi we have to come first from Jabalpur to Katni, Katni

to Damoh, Damoh to Sagar and finally to Delhi, thus travelling about 200 kms. If this line proceeds from Jabalpur to Damoh via Kundalpur, the distance will reduce by 100 kms. Besides that, it would be better if the line passes from Damoh to Panna via Kundalpur because that is a pilgrimage site of the Great deity (*Baba*) at Kundalpur. It is renowned across the world. People visit there. If this line is laid, it will certainly be a crucial welfare step for the Jain community by the Hon'ble Minister of Railways and will be a real tribute to the Great deity.

Madam, through you, I would like to request you that this Railway line should be constructed at the earliest so that people may travel from Damoh to Kundalpur and Kundalpur to Panna. I would like to thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to put forth my views.

13.00 hrs

DR. MOHAMMAD JAVED (KISHANGANJ): Madam, I hail from Kishanganj lying within the Seemanchal region of Bihar. All varieties of vegetables and fruits are grown here but the farmers have to sell their produce at very low prices due to lack of markets. Not only fruits and vegetables, jute and tea are also grown by farmers there. But the people have to migrate from there in the absence of assistance from the Government. The Institute of Science Population has held that more than 50 percent

households in Bihar migrate to other States in search of employment. In my area, about 80 percent people i.e. one or two people from every family, go out to work. Pineapple has been chosen as the product of Kishanganj under the ‘One District, One Product’ scheme. Pineapple is grown there on large scale and sent across the country but the farmers do not get fair prices. The Government itself advocates ‘Vocal for Local’. Under these circumstances and in line with the Government’s policy, I would like to request that a Mega Food Park funded by the Central Government be set up there so that our farmers can get fair prices for their produce. This would also arrest the migration from the State and people will get jobs. This is my humble request. Thank you very much.

[ENGLISH]

ADV. GOWAAL KAGADA PADAVI (NANDURBAR):

Thank you Madam Chairperson. Please give me three minutes to speak.

[TRANSLATION]

At the outset, Madam Chairperson, I would like to thank you for allowing me to speak on the auspicious occasion of World Tribal Day.

World Tribal Day is observed every year on 9 August to protect and support the rights of the tribal people of the world. It is an occasion to recognise the significant contributions and achievements of the tribal communities that have helped build a better world. It gives us an opportunity to celebrate and cherish the social heritage, traditions, languages and experiences that tribal people have contributed to the world. This auspicious day hopes to develop unity among the tribal community and raise awareness among the wider public.

But, unfortunately, the reality today is different. The problems faced by tribal people in India are numerous, including social, religious, educational and health-related issues. The dropout rate of tribal students is extremely high, especially at the secondary and higher secondary levels. Child marriage is a complex social problem in tribal areas. The tribal population faces major problems in terms of health. There is a shortage of health care workers who are trained and willing to work in scheduled areas. This issue has become a significant obstacle in providing basic health services to the tribals. Most of the tribals are poor. The primary occupation of most tribals is hunting, foraging, and agriculture, which gives negligible profits.

Madam Chairperson, tribal people worship nature and follow environmental conservation in their daily routine. For

them, protecting nature comes first. Nature provides them food and nature also protects them. Tribal dances, festivals and food are also very unique and unusual. There are many tribal songs, dances, stories and folklores which have been documented and others are yet to be documented.

The tribal people are still struggling for their constitutional rights and privileges. They are facing many issues like loss of land, forest problems, lack of roads, limited network access and challenges related to mainstream development. The government has not been able to fully successful in understanding these problems.

It's time for us to take a pledge to understand the tribal issues, become sensitive and determined. Only then will there be any meaning in celebrating World Tribal Day. I once again extend my warm wishes to all the tribal brothers and sisters of India and the world on World Tribal Day. I request that 9th August be declared as a national holiday.

[ENGLISH]

DR. RABINDRA NARAYAN BEHERA (JAJPUR): Thank you, Madam Chairperson, for giving me this opportunity to raise my topic in Zero Hour.

It was decided to develop waterway connectivity in the River Brahmani in Odisha and its branches Kharasrota and Kelua and other rivers of Odisha under the development of National Waterways (NW-5) by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and other stakeholders, like Dhamra Port Company, and Paradip Port Trust for mineral and cargo transportation.

In the early days, the Sadhabas of Kalinga used to travel Java, Sumatra, Borneo, and other Asian countries for trading on the country boats through these rivers. This is an alternate to reduce road congestion and traffic control for mineral and cargo transportation, and simultaneously, to bring back the maritime heritage of Kalinga. In 2010, a tender was floated in this regard.

I request the hon. Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways to kindly look into this matter and revive the past glory of Kalinga by bringing back this project. A time frame in this regard may be communicated.

Thank you.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY (ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS): Madam Chairperson, my father fled from Pakistan, today's Bangladesh, to West Bengal in 1946 to save his life. After that, for some reason, I went to Andaman and Nicobar. Whatever is happening in Bangladesh today, MPs from West Bengal are

present here. They are sitting quietly. They do not say anything. People from there kept coming here as refugees. They were sent to villages inside India.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon'able Member, raise the matter of Zero Hour.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI BISHNU PADA RAY: These Bangladeshi people do not listen to the cries of Mothers. There is crying, beating, death, violence, looting all around. Children are dying and they are being kidnapped. But the Congress Party, CPM Party, Trinamool Party are not opposing Bangladesh together. They should criticize Bangladesh, discuss it. ... (Interruptions) These people will not open their mouths. Pakistanis come, Bangladeshis come, this is all they have been saying. ... (Interruptions) I am opposing because Trinamool Congress will not speak, Congress will not speak. Rahul Gandhi will not open his mouth. ... (Interruptions) For them, this is just a vote bank. Bangladeshis come, Pakistanis come. I will oppose this. The entire House should oppose this and India should send a letter to Bangladesh by India. This is my request. ... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH (ATTINGAL): Madam, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the inordinate delay in the construction of sanctioned Railway Over Bridges in my Parliamentary Constituency of Attingal, Kerala.

Chirayainkeezhu Railway Over Bridge (LC-566) was sanctioned in the year 2013. The construction works were started only two years back and the inordinate delay in works is causing great difficulties to the public. Similarly, the Railway Over Bridge at Kaniyapuram level crossing (LC-573) was also sanctioned in the year 2013. The works of this ROB is not started yet and the public are facing extreme difficulties due to closure of railway gate at Kaniyapuram.

Apart from these two, works of following ROB's are also long pending: LC-567 – Sarkara, the year of sanction is 2013; LC-569 – Manjadimoodu, the year of sanction is 2013; LC-555 – Edava, the year of sanction is 2012; LC-557 – Venkulam, the year of sanction is 2012; LC-558 – Punnamoodu, the year of sanction is 2016; and LC-570 – Azhoor Gate, the year of sanction is 2018.

It is necessary to take immediate measures for the execution of these projects without further delay. I request the Government to complete the sanctioned Railway Over Bridges in Attingal constituency under Thiruvananthapuram Railway Division at the earliest.

Thank you, Madam.

[TRANSLATION]

***SHRI ABU TAHER KHAN (MURSHIDABAD):** Hon'ble Chairperson, My Constituency Murshidabad is a place of historical importance. It was once the capital of Bengal, Bihar, and Odisha. Nashipur Bridge has been constructed which is adjacent to the Murshidabad station. This Rail Bridge will reduce the distance of travel between Sealdah and North Bengal by 100 kms. Railway Services are yet to be started on the Rail bridge. Due to the Honourable Chief Minister Mamata Bandyopadhyay's initiatives, the construction of the Rail bridge has been completed after 10 long years. It has been 6 months since this bridge was inaugurated. New trains are yet to commence journey through the bridge. Through you I am requesting the authorities to resume rail services through this bridge. Since the construction of the rail bridge has already been completed, since it will reduce 100 km of distance between Sealdah and North Bengal, which will be eventually beneficial for the Railways; train services should readily kick off on the bridge to benefit the people of North Bengal. Murshidabad is a historical station, this place was once the capital of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa, thus this station deserves to be modernized. There are many problems regarding the

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

underpasses at Bhogobangola, Jiaganj, Lalgola- steps should be taken accordingly to amend those. Karimpur is a famous place in my constituency. A rail line needs to be constructed from Krishnanagar to Karimpur. If the new rail line gets constructed, people from two sub-divisions- Domkal and Tehatta will be benefitted. Honourable Chief Minister Mamata Bandyopadhyay sanctioned this rail line during her tenure as the Railway Minister. There has been no progress since. I demand the rail line to be constructed. Around my constituency, there's Domkal on one side, there's Jolongi, there's Islampur on the other side- people of this large area will get benefitted, people hailing from North Bengal will also get benefitted, people living in the frontier areas which falls in the radius of 100 kms. from my constituency, they will all find this beneficial if they get to avail the Railway services. Thus, I am requesting through you, to escalate the work.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRIMATI LOVELY ANAND (SHEOHAR): Madam Chairperson, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister of Heavy Industries to a very important problem of my parliamentary constituency Sheohar. Sheohar is a border district of Bihar, which is surrounded by Nepal in the north and Sitamarhi, Muzaffarpur and Motihari in the other three directions. The economic condition of this area is very weak, due to which

there is a large scale migration of workers from here. The main reason for this is the lack of industries in the district, due to which the local people do not get enough employment opportunities. The second reason is that the only sugar mill of the area, Riga Sugar Mill has been closed for years.

Hon'ble Chairperson Madam, the Riga Sugar Mill should be restarted as soon as possible and at the same time there are vast possibilities of setting up a cement industry in Sheohar district. If a cement factory is set up here, not only will the local people get new employment opportunities but the migration of workers will also stop to a great extent and the State will also get the benefit of increased revenue. Therefore, through you, I request the Honorable Minister to give priority to this important issue and take immediate action for setting up new industries in Sheohar district. Along with this, I will once again request that the Riga sugar mill be opened which has been closed for years, hindering the work of the farmers. Restarting the mil Farmers will provide relief to laborers the farmers. This is my request to you. Thank you.

SHRI KARAN BHUSHAN SINGH (KAISERGANJ): Madam Chairperson, first of all I would like to thank you that for the first time today in Zero Hour, you have given me an opportunity to

raise my voice for the people of Kaiserganj Lok Sabha constituency.

Madam, I would like to draw your attention towards the sports talents of rural areas and the problems in their athletic preparations. Madam, I am a national shooting player and have been associated with sports like wrestling for a long time. Therefore, I am well aware of the daily problems of the players of rural areas. Therefore, my effort is to convey the demands of the players to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Sports Minister.

Madam, I would like to inform you that in my area, students strive to become athletes as well as join the police and army. To fulfill this resolution, youth and students run on the roads every day, which leads to accidents and untimely death of youths.

Today, through the Parliament House, I urge the temple of our country's glorious democracy that an excellent stadium should be made available to conduct sports activities in my Kaiserganj parliamentary constituency. Thank you.

SHRI DEVESH SHAKYA (ETAH): Madam Chairperson, I express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak during the Zero Hour. In my parliamentary constituency Etah

Kasganj, I would like to request the construction of four lane main road connecting Etah to Agra division and from Kasganj to Aligarh division. Because currently, due to heavy traffic on both these routes, many people lose their lives in accidents every year.

Through you, I would urge the Hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways to complete this work in the public interest because it aligns with the Government's intention to connect district headquarters to the divisional headquarters. I request that the proposal to make it a four-lane road be included in this budget itself.

In addition to this, in my Parliamentary constituency Etah as well as Kasganj, Farrukhabad, Badaun and Aonla, farmers cultivate chicory on a large scale. Coffee powder is made from chicory. Farmers invest a lot of hard work and money in its cultivation. However, contractors buy their crops at very low prices and economically exploit the farmers.

I request you to kindly set up a large Government plant in Kasganj so that the atrocities against farmers can be stopped and the farmers can get the fair price for their chicory produce. Thank you very much.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI RAJABHAU PARAG PRAKASH WAJE (NASHIK):

Madam, I would like to draw the attention of the House on the stalled Nashik-Pune High Speed Rail Project in my Nashik constituency. The project has immense potential to transform the economy of the surrounding areas as the project will pass through Nashik, Sinnar, Sangamner, Narayangaon, Rajgurunagar, and Chakan and will greatly benefit agriculture tourism and the industries of the region. The Nagpur-Mumbai Samruddhi Highway and the proposed Surat-Chennai Highway intersect on this route. Another aspect of this project is that it will create new avenues of economic development as it will connect the western and northern regions with the southern region.

Madam, through you, I would like to request the Ministry concerned to take immediate steps for the completion of the project at the earliest.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I am extending the Zero Hour further. I request all the Hon. Members to present their points within one minute each. I have a long list of Members to speak. Please conclude your remarks within one minute.

Dr. Sambit Patra ji.

DR. SAMBIT PATRA (PURI): Hon. Chairperson Madam, I express my heartfelt gratitude for allowing me to speak during Zero Hour to raise a matter of utmost importance.

Madam, today, the 9th of August, is a historic day. On this historic occasion, through this August House, I wish to pay my respects to Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaq Ullah Khan, Rajendra Lahiri, Roshan Singh, Chandrashekhar Azad and all those great patriots and immortal martyrs, revolutionaries who exactly one hundred years ago today, on August 9th, 1925, in Kakori gave concrete form to the armed revolution plan against the British.

Madam, unfortunately, this historical event has not received the recognition it deserves in our textbooks, in our tradition of history writing and in the digital footprint. Instead, this event of the Kakori resistance has been written in history books as the Kakori incident, Kakori Conspiracy or Kakori robbery. If you search on Google right now, you will find names like Kakori Conspiracy, Kakori Train Dacoity, Kakori Train Robbery, Kakori conspiracy and Kakori loot have been given to this.

Madam, robberies or conspiracies are misdeeds committed by antisocial elements. This is an insult to the martyrs who gladly embraced the gallows for the freedom of this country.

Through you, I would like to request the Hon. Minister of Education to issue an advisory to ensure that the word 'Kakori

Conspiracy' is removed from textbooks and the Kakori incident may be mentioned as 'Kakori Resistance' or 'Kakori Rail Action'.

Similarly, I would also request the Hon. Minister of Culture to provide sufficient funds for extensive publicity on the occasion of the centenary year of 'Kakori Resistance' and to issue a commemorative coin and a commemorative postage stamp in this regard.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, please cooperate.

Shri Lumba Ram ji.

SHRI LUMBA RAM (JALORE) : Hon. Madam Chairperson, I wholeheartedly thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak in the House.

Madam, due to a significant decline in the groundwater level over the past several years in Sirohi and Jalore, both districts have been declared as dark zones. To relieve the farmers of this region from the dark zone status, you are requested to provide the water of Mahi Dam to the Sirohi and Jalore districts. This scheme has been in existence for 60 years but the Congress Government had buried it under papers. Consequently, the hopes of the farmers had been shattered. However, after Shri Narendra Modi became the Hon. Prime Minister, a new hope has arisen among the farmers regarding drinking and irrigation water.

I request you to note that the work on the Mahi Dam project commenced in 1966 according to the agreement between the Rajasthan and Gujarat Governments. At that time, as per the Khosla Committee report of September 1, 1965, it was proposed to build the Kadana Dam on the border between Gujarat and Rajasthan. Subsequently, in the Mahi water sharing agreement between the Rajasthan and Gujarat governments on October 1, 1966, the construction of the Kadana Dam was formalized. According to that agreement, it was decided that after the Narmada water reached the Kheda district, Rajasthan would receive a $\frac{2}{3}$ share of the water from the Kadana and Mahi dams, while the Kheda district of Gujarat would receive a $\frac{1}{3}$ share.

Since the Narmada water has been reaching the Kheda district of Gujarat since 2005, Jalore and Sirohi should now receive their rightful share of water according to the agreement. I find it very unfortunate to inform you that during the Congress government's tenure, water from the Kadana Dam overflowed 27 times in the last 37 years, resulting in 1.30 lakh MCM of water being wasted into the sea, depriving farmers of their rightful share.

Therefore, on behalf of the farmers in western Rajasthan, I request that drinking water from the Kadana and Mahi dams be supplied to the villages of Jalore, Sirohi and Barmer through a

high-level canal as per the wishes of Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi in the interest of the farmers.

Once again, I would request implementation of this plan timely. The farmer community of western Rajasthan and the farmers of Jalore and Sirohi will be grateful to you for this.

[TRANSLATION]

***SHRI MALAIYARASAN D. (KALLAKURICHI):** Hon. Chairperson Madam, Vanakkam. I thank Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Hon. *Thalapathiyar* who has given an opportunity to this ardent follower like me belonging to an ordinary family of farmers to serve as a Member of Lok Sabha. I thank the Secretary of DMK Youth Wing who is the heartbeat of lakhs of youth of Tamil Nadu. I also thank the voters of Kallakurichi constituency who voted for me, besides the party cadre of DMK and cadre of alliance parties for their valuable support. More than 2 lakh people live in the mountains of Servarayan hills, Yercaud - the poor man's Ooty, Kalvarayan hills, Pachaimalai hills and Arunootru Malai of the areas in Kallakurichi and Salem Districts under the Kallakurichi parliamentary constituency. Farming is their primary profession. These people who are dependent on agriculture are not provided Patta or ownership right for their

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

farm lands. People of this area and the Officials have informed me that the Department of Forests under the Union Government is causing delay in providing a No Objection Certificate. Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government and the Department of Forests under them to immediately provide this NOC so as to protect the livelihood of the people of these areas. These people in mountainous areas should also be provided with road facilities. These tribal people are being affected due to these issues. I as a Member of Parliament representing these tribal people want them to get these facilities. Thank you.

SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA (AMRITSAR): Hon. Madam Chairperson, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

Madam, Basmati rice is largely cultivated in our region. The Government had previously imposed a cap of \$1,200 per tonne on the export of Basmati rice. After protest, this cap was reduced to \$950 per tonne.

The basmati rice varieties 1509, 1121, and 1718 are cultivated in our region. Basmati rice is exclusively grown in India and Pakistan only worldwide. However, due to its high price, our exporters are no longer receiving orders for the 1509 basmati rice. This is exported to the Middle East. All the orders have gone to Pakistan.

This is my request to the Government. The Government says it intends to double the farmers' income. The farmer's crop is now ready but there are no orders for 1509 Basmati rice. The Government should reduce its cap. Pakistan has a cap of 700 dollars. It should be less than that so that our farmers and our traders can survive.

I thank the Government for this.

SHRI C. N. ANNADURAI (TIRUVANNAMALAI): Madam, a new Bus Stand near Tiruvannamalai Railway Station in Tamil Nadu has been constructed. There is an urgent need to allocate funds for construction of a new railway over bridge connecting the railway station and the new bus stand. This will enable the passengers to make easy access/movement from bus stand to railway station and vice-versa. Besides, the proposed railway over bridge will also be connected with old bus stand. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister for Railways to allocate adequate funds for the project in the interest of the general public.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Thank you Chairperson Madam for giving me an opportunity to raise a matter of urgent public importance. Cashew industry is facing an unprecedented crisis and the situation is ignored by inaction of the Central Government and Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

It is shocking that around two lakh cashew workers are rendered jobless in the last four years in the Kollam, Alleppey, Pathanamthitta and Trivandrum districts and also in neighbouring States. This industry is facing a serious crisis. More than 10 people from the cashew industry committed suicide.

We have submitted so many memoranda to the Government of India for a special package for the cashew industry. But, unfortunately, the Government of India has not taken any step to revive the cashew industry in Kerala.

So, I would like to request the Government, through you, that a special package should immediately be announced for the revival of cashew industries.

At least Rs. 1,000 crores should be given as revival package to the cashew industries in Kerala. Thank you.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI CHANDAN CHAUHAN (BIJNOR): Madam, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this very important issue.

Madam, this is a problem of every constituency of every elected honorable Member of this House, whether he/she belongs to the ruling party or opposition. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards this issue.

Madam, due to HT and LT lines passing over the populated areas, it would not be wrong if I say that more deaths occur daily than any disaster, war or epidemic. These are the figures of NCRB, in the last decade from the year 2011 to the year 2020, about one lakh people have died. More than 12,500 deaths have occurred in the year 2022. In Kulchana village of my Bijnor Lok Sabha constituency the number of deaths due to electrocution because of electric lines during the rainy season is increasing day by day.

All I want to say is that awareness and precaution must be enhanced, whether it is insulating the lines, rubberizing or extending their height etc. Even the state governments do not have any system to change them. If this issue draws the attention of the House, then I will be very grateful to everyone for that. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

SHRI AMRINDER SINGH RAJA WARRING (LUDHIANA): Madam, I would like to talk about a big gangster of the country whose name is Lawrence Bishnoi and whose terror is spread throughout the country. These days he is lodged in Sabarmati jail of Gujarat. He has murdered the world famous artist Siddhu Moose Wala. He says that he will kill Salman Khan. His terror is at its peak in Punjab. He does extortion from businessmen and those businessmen who do not pay him the

ransom are killed. Yesterday, his interview came from the jail. Last 6 months ago, we raised this issue, the High Court took cognizance, after that it came to light yesterday that the police officer in the CIA, where interrogation is done, his interview was aired on a famous channel. One interview was held in Punjab and another in Rajasthan. When he goes to the court, he behaves as if he is the of the country. He murders people. Will the central Government do something about him or not? He murders people every day. They talk about external things, but they should do something about the person who has spread terror in the country.... *(Interruptions)* *

SHRI BRIJMOHAN AGRAWAL (RAIPUR): Madam, please delete the word country's...*.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I will see. Whatever word is there, we will see it.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI ASIT KUMAR MAL (BOLPUR): Madam, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the price hike of medicines. The people of our country cannot bear the excessive pressure of price rise anymore. The price of daily commodities is

* Not recorded as ordered by the Chair.

increasing day by day. The price of medicines is increasing at an alarming rate and it is exploiting the people.

The medicine manufacturing companies get a huge amount of money by electoral bonds. They do not care anybody. They are free to increase the cost of medicines. Has this Government any responsibility in this matter?

We have drawn the attention of the Government inside the Parliament to remove the GST on medicines. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister to this matter. Thank you for giving me the opportunity.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Thank you very much, Madam. This is my first 'Zero Hour' submission in the Budget Session. It is relating to the Employees' Provident Fund pension.

In the Sixteenth Lok Sabha, I moved a Private Members Resolution and the Government appreciated it. A Committee was then appointed. It went into the matter of EPS,1995. It recommended to increase the minimum pension to a higher level. The Ministry of Labour and Employment also accepted it.

It is pending before the Finance Ministry. So, my first submission is that the minimum pension should be enhanced as per the recommendations of the High Level Empowered Committee.

My second submission is regarding the inordinate delay in the disbursal of lawful pensionary benefits to the contributors for the pension on higher wages. The higher pension on the basis of actual wages should be provided as per the direction of the hon. Supreme Court's verdict dated 4th November 2022. It is clear on the part of the hon. Supreme Court that higher pension should be given on the basis of actual wages. But, it is quite unfortunate to note that there is a delay in that till now. Most of the PF offices are not disbursing the amount on time.

My third submission is regarding the unlawful introduction of *pro rata* calculation method for higher pension which is overpowering the Parliamentary provisions and disregarding the apex court judgement dated 4th November, 2022. The pensionable service and the wages are divided into two parts. After 1st September 2014, 30-35 per cent pension will be reduced. It is a gross violation of the hon. Supreme Court's judgement as well as the Act passed by the Parliament.

There is one more point that I wish to make. There is a non-compliance of the judgement dated 4th November 2002 of the hon. Supreme Court as well as the judgment dated 30th May 2004 of the High Court of Kerala with respect to the petitions of pensioners of CPSUs in Kerala. In Kerala, para 11 of the pension

scheme has not been opted. They are now being denied this higher pension.

All these issues go to show that the Employees Provident Fund Organisation is always acting against the interests of the poor labourers in the country. Therefore, an urgent meeting may be conducted by the Government of India to address this serious issue.

With these words, I thank you very much for permitting me to speak.

[TRANSLATION]

ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR (NAGINA): Hon. Chairperson, my name is also in the list.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I would like to inform all the hon. Members that I have the names of all of you. Please be patient, everyone's turn will come. All of you please cooperate.

ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR: It is because of you that we hope that we will definitely get an opportunity to speak.

SHRIMATI ANITA NAGARSINGH CHOUHAN (RATLAM) : Hon. Chairperson, the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was implemented by the former Prime Minister Late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, through which one village was connected to another. In my parliamentary constituency Ratlam

Jhabua Alirajpur, people live in Falia, there are no roads. It is not easy to provide any kind of facility where there are no roads. Through you, I would request the Honorable Minister that the way the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana was implemented, the Pradhan Mantri Falia Sadak Yojana should be implemented in the same manner.

SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT (SUPAUL): Hon. Chairperson, Pratapganj Railway Station of my Parliamentary constituency Supaul comes under the East Central Railway Samastipur Division. Only 1 passenger train and 2 express trains run from the said station. Both the express trains do not stop at Pratapganj Railway Station. Therefore, in public interest, train no. 13211/13212-Jogbani-Danapur Express and 13213/13214-Jogbani-Saharsa Express must be given a stoppage for 2 minutes at Pratapganj Railway Station. Also, Vaishali Express train number-12553/12554 and Rajyarani Express-train number-12567/12568 must be extended from Saharsa to Saraigarh or Supaul in public interest.

SHRI DILIP SAIKIA (DARRANG-UDALGURI): Hon. Chairperson, this is a very important matter. The events that have been happening in Bangladesh for the last few days and India's diplomatic relations with Bangladesh have also been good. We

want and the whole of India wants that peace should return there once again.

Madam, the border between Bangladesh and India is about 4,096 kilometers. States like Assam, West Bengal, Tripura and Meghalaya are connected with Bangladesh. I demand from the Government of India that just as the Western Border of India has been made strong, similarly the East and North-Eastern Border, Indo-Bangladesh Border should also be made very strong. There are also riverine areas there. Our international boundary must have strong security there.

Madam, when Bangladesh became independent in the year 1971, there were nearly 24 percent Hindus there, but today only 6 percent Hindus remain there and they too are facing a lot of atrocities. The Honorable Prime Minister has requested that Hindus must get protection over there. I once again want to appeal to the Government of Bangladesh and the Bangladesh administration through this Parliament and all the MPs that every Hindu and every minority living in Bangladesh must get complete protection. I request the Indian Government to ensure that they do not have to migrate to any other country.

DR. SHIV PAL SINGH PATEL (PRATAPGARH): Hon. Chairperson, I, Dr. S.P. Singh Patel thank you for giving me time to speak.

Madam, I want to draw your attention to Dr. Sone Lal Patel Medical College in Pratapgarh district of Uttar Pradesh. The medical facilities there are negligible. People there say that the district hospital has been given the status of a Medical College, but the facilities there are still at the level of a district hospital, whereas Medical Colleges in other districts have a lot of facilities. This Medical College does not have a critical care unit and trauma center. There is no neurosurgeon, psychiatrist and cardio disease specialist doctor over there, so what kind of treatment would be possible there? MRI machine is installed there, but there is no operator for it. People have to go to a private hospital or rush to another district for every test. The Medical College has been opened here only for the name sake, but it serves no purpose, due to which many patients lose their lives every day and it does not make any difference to the Medical College administration. Due to less number of beds in the dialysis centre, patients have to wait for a long time for their turn for tests. This Medical college is only there for name sake. There is also a shortage of faculty. In this Medical College, what will the doctors studying here learn?

Madam, therefore, you are requested to pay attention to these points of public importance through the House and provide all the above facilities. The Minister of Health & Family Welfare may pay attention to this.

SHRI BALABHADRA MAJHI (NABARANGPUR): Hon. Madam Chairperson, The former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had launched the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana to connect rural areas with paved roads, so that patients could reach hospitals through ambulances at the earliest. During the last decade during Modi ji's tenure, 4,528 kilometers of roads have been constructed in my constituency, but the rule that has been made now is that only those villages which are more than three kilometers away will be connected with the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana and because of this, nearly 400 villages in my Lok Sabha constituency have not been connected with the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana or paved road. Ambulances cannot reach these areas and the patients and expectant mothers frequently have to be carried to the hospital on cots.

Madam, through you, I request the government to relax this three-kilometer rule. My plea is that all villages should be connected by paved roads.

13.44 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, matters under Rule 377 will be laid on the Table of the House. Hon. Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today are requested to personally lay them on the Table of the House within 20 minutes.

**(i) Regarding implementation of 'Har Ghar Jal' Scheme
under Jal Jeevan Mission in Shahjahanpur Parliamentary
Constituency**

SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR (SHAHJAHANPUR): The quality of work being carried out under the Jal Jeevan Mission's "Har Ghar Jal" scheme in my parliamentary constituency of Shahjahanpur (Uttar Pradesh) is unsatisfactory. During my visits to the Constituency, I have been continuously receiving complaints that the construction work being executed through the executing agency is substandard and does not meet the required standards. Extremely poor quality materials are being used in the construction and the implementing agency has further

* Treated as laid on the Table.

subcontracted the work to small contractors who lack the necessary experience for such projects.

The pipeline being laid by the executing agency is of extremely poor quality. The pipes are very light and they are breaking during installation at the site. Additionally, after the pipeline is laid, the roads have not been properly repaired or restored anywhere. This situation is prevalent in all the Gram Panchayats within my parliamentary constituency, Shahjahanpur. Furthermore, laborers also got injured in Murcha village, Sidhauli block, Shahjahanpur district due to the collapse of the stairs of a water tank being constructed with substandard materials under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

Therefore, considering the seriousness of this matter, I request that a high-level technical committee be formed at the Ministry level to conduct a detailed enquiry into the entire aforementioned case. This committee should ensure strict departmental action against the culpable officers by immediately blacklisting the executive agency and take appropriate action to allot the work to a competent executing agency.

**(ii) Need to establish Horticulture and Forestry College
in Maharajganj Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar**

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL (MAHARAJGANJ): My parliamentary constituency, Maharajganj, Bihar is predominantly an agricultural area. Within my constituency, there are two Krishi Vigyan Kendras established by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). One is in Manjhi, Saran (Chhapra) district and another in Bhagwanpur Hat, Siwan district. As the said region is predominantly agricultural area, farmers and the general public here wish to provide their children advanced and modern education related to agriculture in today's modern era. This would enable their children to build their future in the agricultural sector and help farmers adopt advanced farming methods. Therefore, the people in my constituency wish for a College of Horticulture and Forestry to be established at one of these two Krishi Vigyan Kendras. These centres have ample land available.

Therefore, I urge the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare to establish a college of horticulture and forestry at any one of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras located in Manjhi and Bhagwanpur Hat in my parliamentary constituency.

**(iii) Regarding displacement of people in Jayant in
Singrauli district, Madhya Pradesh**

DR. RAJESH MISHRA (SIDHI): The biggest issue in the Jayant area of Singrauli district is displacement. This will be the largest displacement in my parliamentary constituency. Previously, displacements in this area primarily affected rural populations. However, this displacement is affecting the markets, showrooms, establishments, bus stands, hospitals, places of worship, schools, sports fields and the laborers working in these establishments. Over 75,000 people, more than 30,000 families, 927 hectares of land and over 22,000 homes including forest land are being affected. Sections 4, 7, 8, and 9 of the Coal Bearing Act have been published. Displacement is inevitable. The local populace is also ready to leave their homes for the sake of national interest, progress and prosperity. However, the displaced people have some doubts. I would like to point out those doubts. Previous displacements in that area did not adhere to regulations. Therefore, there is apprehension about whether everything will be alright this time. The rate at which the land will be acquired needs to be clarified whether it will be per square meter or square foot. It should be in accordance with the provisions of LARR.

**(iv) Need to construct a bridge over Ganga River in Bhadohi
Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

DR. VINOD KUMAR BIND (BHADOHI): There is a need for a permanent bridge over the Ganges River in the Koniya region, specifically from Dhantulasi to Dengurpur, under my parliamentary constituency, Bhadohi. The bridge is approximately 1 km long. This area is significant as it is close to religious sites such as Sita Samahit Sthal, the birthplace of Luv Kush, and Valmiki Ashram. A large number of devotees from both India and abroad visit these sites daily. If a permanent bridge is constructed over the Ganges here, it will benefit lakhs of villagers from over 50 villages who commute for work as well as numerous pilgrims. Currently, residents of the Koniya region, have to travel long distances to visit Madhya Pradesh and surrounding areas including Prayagraj and Mirzapur. This area is approximately 55 kilometers from the Bhadohi district headquarters. Therefore, the construction of a permanent bridge over the Ganges in the Koniya region would benefit lakhs of people. I request the Hon. Minister to kindly expedite this project.

(iv) Need to formulate a national policy to grant land rights to ancestral land of the people

[ENGLISH]

SHRI RAJU BISTA (DARJEELING): The Forest Department in India was set up in 1864, whereas Tea Gardens in Darjeeling was set up in 1850s and Cinchona gardens in 1861 which means the Tea gardens and Cinchona gardens are older than the Forest Department. But today, the West Bengal Forest Department claims that even Tea Garden and Cinchona Garden land belongs to the Forest Department of State. But the State Government has not yet implemented the Forest Rights Act, 2006 passed by the Parliament. When the Tea Gardens and Cinchona Gardens were developed, the British appropriated our ancestral lands and they refused to give land documents to our ancestors. Even though 77 years have been elapsed since independence, the Government of West Bengal is yet to grant Parja Patta land rights to the workers of Tea garden and Cinchona Garden. The people from Darjeeling region have done four Andolans for “LAND” and in recent days, the ownership of people’s ancestral land is claimed by the State Forest Department. Hence, I request the Central Government to form a National Policy to grant land rights to ancestral land of the people.

(vi) Need to complete construction of remaining portion of Agra – Tantpur Court Road in Uttar Pradesh declared as national highway

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI RAJKUMAR CHAHAR (FATEHPUR SIKRI): I would like to draw your attention towards the Chandausi-Agra-Tantpur-Court Road also known as the CAT Road. It is a crucial route for the residents of Agra district. The stretch from Chandausi to Agra has already been declared a National Highway (NH). It has been constructed too. However, the Agra to Tantpur-Court section of the road has not yet been built. Therefore, I kindly request that the remaining portion of the Agra-Tantpur-Court road be constructed to provide relief for the public from the traffic congestion.

**(vii) Need to include tribal people of Dadra and Nagar
Haveli and Daman and Diu in the Fifth and Sixth Schedules
to the Constitution**

SHRIMATI KALABEN MOHANBHAI DELKAR (DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI): I represent Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, which are regions with a significant tribal population. Due to the high tribal population in Dadra and Nagar Haveli as well as Daman and Diu, many families in the tribal community there do not have access to basic facilities. When my region gained independence, it was stated that the tribal community would be included in the Fifth and Sixth Schedules. Despite my region being predominantly tribal, 80% of the tribal community has not yet been included in the Fifth and Sixth Schedules since independence. In the past, my late husband, Shri Mohan Delkar raised this issue in the House many times. I would like to request the Hon. minister to include the tribal community of my State in the Fifth and Sixth Schedules, thereby classifying them as Scheduled Tribes so that they can receive all the basic amenities. The tribal community can only progress if they receive every facility such as roads, water, electricity, housing, education, healthcare, employment and reservation.

(viii) Need for establishment of a Trauma Centre in Keonjhar district, Odisha

[ENGLISH]

SHRI ANANTA NAYAK (KEONJHAR): NH-20 and NH-49 are two most important National Highways which pass through heart of my constituency Keonjhar and are lifeline of this area. As these two NHs are connected to the major ports and mining areas, almost more than 10,000 trucks in addition to other vehicles ply daily through these two highways carrying mineral ores from mines to major ports. Due to heavy traffic on these two major highways lots of accidents occur on these highways and many precious lives are lost over the period due to unavailability of immediate medical facilities/trauma Centre in Keonjhar to treat the patients met with accidents. The nearest city/town with trauma Centre/medical facility to treat accident victims is quite far from my constituency and often it becomes too late to get urgent necessary medical treatment. Considering the increasing number of accidents and the consequent need for specialized medical intervention, I request the Government to initiate the process for the establishment/construction of a dedicated trauma centre in my constituency, Keonjhar district so that the time and risk associated with transporting patients to distant hospitals may

be reduced, thereby minimizing complications and fatalities and precious lives of the people can be saved.

(ix) Need to grant Divyanga status to Ostomy patients

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI VIJAY BAGHEL (DURG): In case of colon or urinary bladder cancer, ostomy surgery is performed under which an artificial path is created through surgery and a bag is put on the stomach so that the excreta passes into the artificial bag instead of passing through the original path. The artificial bag has to be changed every 2 to 3 days. The patients do not sense bladder pressure. When the bag is full, one has to empty it. Just imagine the horrific situation if an ostomy bag overflows during the work. Their clothes can be stained with excreta and stinking in front of everyone, the condition they are living in is no less than hell. At present, there are approximately 10 lakh such patients across the country. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare that since an important organ of their body is not functioning, please take a positive initiative to include them in the Divyang category at the earliest.

**(x) Need to construct road over-bridge in Satna City
Madhya Pradesh and also provide additional funds for
conservation of Satna and Tamas Rivers**

SHRI GANESH SINGH (SATNA): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards my Parliamentary Constituency, Satna city. The important scheme approved by the Ministry of developing 100 cities across the country into smart cities, also includes Satna city. I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister, as the traffic in the city is increasing day by day, our demand to construct a flyover road from Semriya Chowk to Tikuria Tola via Purani Galla Mandi and from Circuit House to Nazirabad Colony via Railway Station Road may be approved. An additional fund should also be provided for the conservation of Satna and Tamas rivers, as drinking water is being supplied to Satna city from the confluence of these rivers.

(xi) Need to promote spiritual tourism in Himachal Pradesh and also set up a Yoga Vidyalaya in Mandi area of the state

SUSHRI KANGANA RANAUT (MANDI): Himachal has been a glorious land of India since ancient times. It has been the place of penance for Rishis', gods, Shiva-Parvati themselves, Rishi Veda Vyas, Rishi Markandeya and Pandavas. Himachal Pradesh has found mention in many scriptures and Puranas. We are forgetting our culture, our civilization and ancient holy places. Today, the plight is that people consider Himachal as a tourist place for smoking cannabis, consuming cheap liquor and doing rave parties. This hurts the sentiment of Dev Samaj and Sanatan culture of our Dev Bhoomi. Pandavas, Rishis and Munis used to visit Himachal Pradesh for penance, meditation and for spiritual benefits during the Mahabharata period. In view of the ancient glorious spiritual history of Himachal, I would like to request on behalf of the people of Himachal Pradesh to the Ministry of AYUSH that spiritual tourism should be promoted there. I would like to request the Ministry of AYUSH to set up a world class yoga school in Mandi Constituency of Himachal Pradesh on the lines of Bihar, where people from India and abroad can visit and take benefit of spirituality and Ayurveda, so that the glory and culture of Himachal can be restored.

(xii) Need to establish a 'Bharatiya Rashtriya Gramin Bank'

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): I would like to draw attention to the Regional Rural Banks of the country set up under the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976. Since then, the rural banks are fulfilling the economic needs of about 40 crore common people through their more than 22,000 branches in 26 States and 3 Union Territories of the country. The current reserve profit of rural banks is about Rs 40,000 crore and net worth is Rs 50,000 crore. The division of ownership of rural banks is as follows - Government of India - 50%, concerned State Government - 15%, sponsor bank - 35%. Today, there are 12 sponsor banks in the country which are sponsoring 43 rural banks in the country. The numbers of the said banks varies in various States like UP - 3, Gujarat - 2, Mizoram - 1, Kerala - 1. I would like to request that a 'Bhartiya Rashtriya Gramin Bank' may be set up at the central level for the convenience of 40 crore people, which regulate these banks as a main authority. So that these banks could be freed from the operation of different sponsor banks. The process of new recruitment and promotion should be expedited without any delay as per the rules prescribed for recruitment in proportion to the business growth in these banks.

More than 20,000 staff in temporary service should be made permanent.

**(xiii) Need to set up a Trauma Centre at Gajraula on
National Highway 9**

SHRI KANWAR SINGH TANWAR (AMROHA): I would like to draw your attention to National Highway No. 9. The Highway passes through my Parliamentary Constituency, Amroha and witnesses a large number of accidents on a daily basis. A large number of people are reported to be injured and killed in accidents every day. The injured have to travel long distances to other parts of the nearby cities for treatment in the absence of medical aid in Gajraula section of the National Highway. A large number of Hindu devotees from all the neighbouring areas including Delhi and Haryana visit the pilgrim site Garhmukeshwar to take a holy dip in the river Ganga on various festivals. Thousands of people throng on these festivals. Besides, the movement of tourists visiting Jim Corbett National Park and Nainital on weekends also leads to a huge increase in the traffic on this Highway. There is no trauma centre in Gajraula on National Highway no. 9, therefore, I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare to set up a trauma

centre in Gajraula on priority basis so that the injured in accidents can get immediate treatment.

(xiv) Regarding revised schedule to conduct census of the country

[ENGLISH]

SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE (VIRUDHUNAGAR): I wish to raise an urgent matter regarding the delay of the 2021 census, which has traditionally been conducted every decade for the past 100 years. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted this schedule, and it is imperative for the Government to declare about the revised schedule to prepare and plan effectively to conduct the census along with estimation of the budget for the purpose. Transparency in this regard is crucial for public trust. In light of the Supreme Court's directions on Dalit reservations and the Rohini Committee's recommendations for OBCs, it is vital to collect caste-based data to ensure fair implementation of reservation policies. We seek not just explanations but concrete assurances from the Government. Timely action and clarity on these issues are essential for upholding democratic principles and ensuring equitable policy implementation.

(xv) Regarding poor condition of the national highway stretching from Canacona to Pernem in Goa

CAPTAIN VIRIATO FERNANDES (SOUTH GOA): There have been massive landslides across the national highway stretching from Canacona to Pernem in Goa. The highways have also developed cracks, thus endangering the lives of motorists and people travelling on the route. There is a need for a thorough investigation to find out the cause and ensure that the huge amount of money spent on the construction of these highways does not go waste and accountability is fixed.

(xvi) Need to set up an institute like AIIMS at Kasargod in Kerala

SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN (KASARAGOD): For the last 10 years people of Kasargod raising their voice in all platforms demanding that All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) should come up in Kasaragod, as the proposal for School of Medicine under Central University Kerala (CUK) was shelved. AIIMS is the only health institution capable of conducting research and studies beyond the health backwardness of Kasaragod to find the root causes of endosulfan poisoning. The

Government has an obligation to put an end to endosulfan misery, which can affect generations at least. It is the responsibility of the State and Central Governments to fulfill it. AIIMS is needed for this backward district where 14 lakh people reside and 86 lakh people live around the so-called backward district. AIIMS is an essential for Kasaragod district more than any other district, considering the state of healthcare facilities available. There is huge barren and unutilised land in Kasargod and the place currently identified by Government of Kerala in Kozhikode seems to be sufficient to build up a biggest medical organisation like AIIMS. Considering these factors, it's the need of the hour to establish a health institute like AIIMS in Kasaragod, Kerala.

(xvii) Need to increase the limit of MPLADS fund from five crore rupees to fifteen crore rupees

SHRI VARUN CHAUDHRY (AMBALA): The MPLADS Fund limit of Rs. five crore was last revised in the year 2011-2012. It is a high time to revise the MPLADS fund limit as the construction costs have increased. A reference may be taken from the CPWD Rates of 2011 & 2024. Goods and Services tax is also levied on the materials for construction works. The present amount is too meager to fulfill the expectations of the people. Therefore, I request to the Minister for Statistics and Programme Implementation to increase the limit of Rs. five crore to Rs. fifteen crore.

**(xviii) Need to release funds under Border Area
Development Programme in Banaskantha Parliamentary
Constituency, Gujarat**

[TRANSLATION]

SHRIMATI GENIBEN NAGAJI THAKOR

(BANASKANTHA): It would like to submit that the Government used to allocate grants under the Border Area Development Program (BADP). The last grant was allocated for the year 2019-2020. After that the grant was discontinued. Though the utilization certificates of 2019-20 were sent by all the districts. After that the Government also called for the action plan for the year 2020-2021, but despite that the grant was not allocated which has hindered the development of border areas. If this grant is allocated, the development work in border areas can be resumed again. Patan and Kutch districts including my Parliamentary Constituency, Banaskantha are adjacent to the border of Pakistan, which includes 17 villages of two talukas of my Parliamentary Constituency, Banaskantha.

I would like to request the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to resume the grant under BADP which has been discontinued and also include some more villages under this programme.

**(xix) Need to provide stoppage of various trains at Kheta
Sarai Railway Station in Jaunpur Parliamentary
Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI BABU SINGH KUSHWAHA (JAUNPUR): My Parliamentary Constituency is Jaunpur. It still lacks basic facilities in terms of development. People have to migrate to big cities like Delhi-Mumbai to earn their livelihood. One has to travel several kilometers to reach other stations to board the train in the absence of stoppage of trains. The people have been demanding stoppage of trains at Khetasarai railway station for years. But the Government has not paid any attention in this regard. I would like to request the Government to provide stoppage to Doon Express 13009, Farakka Express 13483-84, Memo Express 04217-18, Godaan Express 11055-56, Chhapra Express 11059-60 etc at Khetasarai railway station in Jaunpur in view of the difficulties being faced by the public. The operation of Mughalsarai to Faizabad 54109-10 and Varanasi to Balamau 54333-34 passenger trains should also be resumed which were discontinued 8-10 years ago, so that the passengers could be facilitated.

**(xx) Need to construct an over-bridge/ under pass at Level
Crossing No. 6A and 6B in Bisharatganj in Aonla
Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI NEERAJ MAURYA (AONLA): I would like to submit that the population of Bisharatganj Municipal Council in Bithri Assembly Constituency of Aonla Parliamentary Constituency, District Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh is 25000. I would like to request that an over bridge/under pass may be constructed in public interest at the crossing number 6A and 6B of the railway line passing through there as it is a very busy route. An over bridge should be constructed at Bisharatganj, Bareilly Railway Station so that passengers do not jump the railway line to reach the platform. The operation of the only passenger train from Bareilly to Bandikui via Aligarh-Tundla-Agra may be resumed again.

**(xxi) Need to construct a road over bridge at Level Crossing
No. 128 between Attur and Thalaivasal Railway Stations in
Tamil Nadu**

[ENGLISH]

SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI (SALEM): People of 13 villages viz. Kattukottai, Deviyakurichi, Kamakkapalayam, Arathi Agragaram, Navalur, Punalvasal, Sathapadi, Sathasivapuram, Sarvoy, Vadakumarai, Thenkumarai, Manivizhunthan South and Manivizhundan North in Salem District were against construction of Limited Use Subway (LUS) at Kattukottai- Sadhasivapuram- Thedavur Road in lieu of LC.No.128 between Attur and Thalaivasal Railway Stations as it is not in their interest. Eight panchayats have passed resolutions against it. Considering prevailing of current law and order problem, District Administration has temporarily withdrawn permission given for LUS. Kattukottai industrial cluster has more than 20 sago factories and to these factors approximately 300 loaded tapioca Lorries and tractors reach every day as well as sugarcane to various sugar mills and all these go through this level crossing gate. Many educational institutions and Government offices and hospital exist just near to this gate.

Famous

SHRI

VADACHENNIMALAI

BALASUBRAMANIAN Temple which attracts over 3.00 lakh devotees during Panguni Uthiram festival is also near to this level crossing. As per Traffic census of Highways Department and Number of gate closures at this Level Crossing & Train Vehicle Unit in 2024 will be more than 1.00 lakh which qualifies elimination of level crossing. Therefore, it is urged that instead of Limited Use Subway, Road Over Bridge be constructed at LC.No.128.

(xxii) Need to accord the status of classical language to Marathi

SHRI RAVINDRA DATTARAM WAIKAR (MUMBAI NORTH-WEST): We have been demanding to accord the status of classical language to our Marathi language for the last many years. We do not only speak Marathi but also read, write and research in Marathi. It has got a glorious and historical heritage. The best quality literature is also available in abundance in Marathi language since ancient times. In the year 1278, Mhaibhatt had written 'Leelacharitra' and Sant Dhyaneswar composed 'Dyaneshwari' in 1290. Sant Eknath had written 'Bharud and added one more classic Epic named 'Eknathi Bhagmat Bhavarth Ramayan". The most adorable deity of Maharashtra Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj founded Maratha Empire. The archeological Department has the old and ancient records of Marathi scripts and texts as old as 1012 AD. We celebrate Marathi Language Day every year on 27th February. The Union Government has given the status of classical language to six different languages. When I was serving as a Minister in Maharashtra Government, I had sent a written request to Hon. Prime Minister in this regard on 19.2.2019. Marathi language fulfills the criteria to be accorded as a classical language. This is a matter of pride and honour for all the people of Maharashtra.

Hence, I would like to request the Culture Minister to look into it personally and accord the classical language status to Marathi language.

**(xxiii) Need to address the bottlenecks in implementation of
Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme in Krishna district in Andhra
Pradesh**

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI (MACHILIPATNAM): Jal Jeevan Mission is not just one of the Flagship Schemes of the Ministry, but is one of the priority projects of the hon. Prime Minister and hence we have to work collectively to reach the goals. The Machilipatnam Parliamentary Constituency falls under Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh and if it is looked at the progress of Jal Jeevan Mission – ‘Har Ghar Jal’ which aims to provide every household with safe and adequate drinking water through individual tap connections is yet to be realized fully in Krishna district. Out of 3,75,600 households in Krishna district, only 2.2 lakh households – which constitute just 59%, much below the national average of 78 – have been provided with individual tap connections. Jal Jeevan Mission was started in 2019 and 100% progress is to be achieved by 2024. But the pace with which the Government is providing

tap water connections in Krishna district, I feel, it takes 4-5 more years to achieve 100%. There is a need to push things faster. I once again request the Government to look into bottlenecks and hurdles in implementing JJM in Krishna district and see that they are removed and 100% households are provided with individual tap connections.

**(xxiv) Regarding Collegium System for appointment of
Judges in Higher Judiciary**

[TRANSLATION]

ADVOCATE CHANDRA SHEKHAR (NAGINA): The Collegium is not accountable to anyone, leading to unchecked power and abuse of authority. The Collegium does not represent the diversity of Indian society, leading to a lack of perspectives and understanding of social realities. The Collegium prioritises seniority over merit. The Collegium system concentrates power in the hands of a few, undermining the principles of democracy. All of this has resulted in a judiciary that does not reflect the experiences and perspectives of SCs and STs. This has led to a reduction in access to justice, perpetuating a cycle of oppression and discrimination. For decades, SCs and STs have suffered systemic discrimination and oppression. They have been denied

access to education, employment and health care. They have been subjected to violence, harassment and intimidation. And yet, the Collegium system has failed to address these issues and has resulted in a reduction in access to justice, perpetuating a cycle of oppression and discrimination.

**(xxv) Need to take measures to promote production of
Foxnut seeds (Makhana) and also set up industry for
Makhana production in
Purnia, Bihar**

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN (PURNIA): The botanical name of Makhana is Euryale Ferox Crucifer (Lotus Seed). Makhana is a food ingredient which needs neither fertilizer nor pesticide in production. It requires a little amount in the name of input cost. It is in demand all over the world because it is a fruit free from chemical and full of nutrition.

In our country, Makhana is cultivated in about 15 thousand hectares of area, out of which 80 to 90 percent production takes place in Bihar only. 70 percent of its total production is from Mithilanchal (Madhubani, Darbhanga, Katihar and Purnia). About 1,20,000 (one lakh twenty thousand) tons of Makhana seeds are produced. About 40,000 (forty thousand) tons of

Makhana lava is obtained from it. Makhana is also produced traditionally. The fruit of Makhana is thorny and surrounded by peels, which makes it difficult to extract and produce it.

While extracting Makhana, about 20 to 25 percent Makhana seeds are lost on the surface of the pond and 30 to 35 percent Makhana gets spoiled while peeling, that is, only 40 percent of the total Makhana seed production gets harvested in Bihar.

Farmers producing Makhana are not getting the remunerative price for their produce. Farmers are taking steps like suicide. Makhana is purchased from farmers at Rs. 200 to 300 per kg, whereas it is being sold in the market at Rs. 1200 to 2000 per kg.

Therefore, I would like to request the Government to provide advanced technology based agricultural machinery to farmers for Makhana seed production. Similarly, a modern technology based industry for the production of Makhana from Makhana seeds should be set up in Purnia, the Koshi Seemanchal region of Bihar. The Government should also fix the minimum support price of Makhana so that the farmers can get freedom from the middlemen.

[ENGLISH]

DR. SHARMILA SARKAR (BARDHAMAN PURBA):

Thank you, Madam, for giving me an opportunity. I would like to speak about an important issue which has a huge impact on doctor-patient relationship, and the critical decision making by a doctor while performing medical procedures.

Madam, being a medical practitioner and educator, I am acutely aware of the dedication the medical students and the doctors bring to the patient care. But it is essential to remember that doctors are humans too. A doctor never intentionally harms his patient. When a doctor unintentionally makes a mistake, it can cause a huge trauma to the mind of the concerned doctor and it takes several days to overcome. When a patient dies, the family believes that the doctor was negligent. Even if the negligence was minor, the magistrate has no option other than to give him ‘imprisonment and fine’ both as a punishment under Section 106 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

Therefore, I respectfully urge the hon. Health Minister and the hon. Law and Justice Minister to consider including ‘or’ between ‘imprisonment and fine’ so that either imprisonment or fine or both can be given as punishment depending upon the severity of the negligence. This would provide a stringent

punishment for a clear medical negligence while it will award less punishment for minor mistake.

Madam, in addition to this, I would like to say that a clarification is also needed on what basis the negligence will be determined and who will determine the negligence. We are looking forward to the hon. Minister of Health and the hon. Minister of Law and Justice to kindly consider the above requests for the betterment of the society. Thank you, Madam, for giving me the opportunity.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI LALJI VERMA (AMBEDKAR NAGAR): Hon. Madam Chairperson, I would like to put a very important issue regarding my Parliamentary Constituency, due to which the life of lakhs of people has become miserable. There is an NTPC project in Tanda, which has a 1320 MW unit. The ash flies from its ash dam and it engulfs more than fifty villages nearby it with darkness even during day time. People cannot do their daily work e.g. if they wish to have their meals outside their home, the ash falls in their food; if they want to sleep outside at night, the ash falls on their bed. Thus, the condition is very bad there due to such pollution. The NTPC gets work done in other districts under CSR and R&R but it is not doing anything to address the fly ash issue there. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the

Minister of Power and the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to kindly address the issue, which is posing a threat to the life of all the people.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Hon. Chairperson Madam, I would like to submit a matter of utmost public importance, which is related to the Constituencies of all the hon. Members.

In the three-tier Panchayati Raj system, the importance of the Gram Sabhas and the regional Panchayats at the district level, which are also called BDCs is equal to the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha at Centre and the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council at State level. The Block Pramukh is elected from the same Block Development Council where the regional Panchayat members are also elected. The regional Panchayat Members get elected from a larger area than the Pradhan, but the irony is that they have no participation in development. He cannot make any proposal. All the proposals come through the Block Development Council. I would like to request through you that when elections are held in the three-tier Panchayati Raj system and the regional Panchayat Members of the blocks get elected in all the Parliamentary Constituencies in the States, their participation should also be ensured. Just like the participation of Pradhans, MLAs and MPs is ensured in development matters. They do not

even get honorarium like Pradhan or other public representatives. Despite being a public representative, they do not get honorarium. I would like to request on behalf of the entire House that the participation of regional Panchayat Members of the Country, Uttar Pradesh and of Siddharth Nagar may be ensured in development and in proposals of MGNREGA or Finance Commission and they may be paid honorarium.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM (SIVAGANGA):

Madam, I would like to bring to the attention of this House a policy of this Government, which is completely motivated by rank and blatant crony capitalism.

The polyester staple fibre is a necessary raw material for our textile industry. The international price is Rs. 80 a unit whereas the domestic price is Rs. 110 a unit. This Government has come up with a quality control order, which is a non-tariff barrier, which prohibits imports into the country to protect certain manufacturers who are profiteering from the high price in India. Due to this high price, our textile units are becoming unviable. In fact, there are very few manufacturers in India, who make polyester staple fibre, but there are many textile units which need to use it as a raw material. This Government is interested in protecting the interest of only a few. In fact, the biggest

beneficiary of this non-tariff barrier is an A-lister company. Everybody knows who I mean when I say 'one of the A-lister companies'.

This blatant crony capitalism must be scrapped; this quality control order must be withdrawn; and the Indian textile units must be able to import polyester staple fibre at international prices so that the products manufactured by them are competitive. This crony capitalism must end right now.

Thank you, Madam.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE (MAVAL):

Hon. Chairperson Madam, a new airport is being constructed in my constituency Panvel Navi Mumbai. Flights will start from here in the year 2025. There was a big movement while acquiring the land on which the airport is being constructed. The movement was led by Loknete MP D.B. Patil ji. Three farmers also lost their life during the movement. The local farmers are demanding that the airport be named after Loknete D.B. Patil. The Maharashtra Government has also sent a written proposal to the Union Government in this regard.

Hon. Chairperson Madam, I would like to request through you that completion of the airport being built in Panvel, Navi Mumbai be named after Loknete D.B. Patil. Thank you.

SHRI RAHUL KASWAN (CHURU): Hon. Chairperson Madam, I would like to speak about a very important pending issue regarding the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana. Out of the claim amount allocated for Churu Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan. For the Kharif crop for the year 2021, claim amount worth only Rs 250 crore was disbursed. Many complaints were received there. Many farmers protested. We went to the STACKS at Level Assessment Technical Committee.

Hon. Chairperson Madam, no STACK committee meeting has been held for the last eight months. Farmers are sitting on strike. The companies charged unfair premium and also disbursed claims unfairly. A huge injustice has been done to the farmers. Today, a claim amount worth Rs 450-500 crore is pending. This has been pending for the last 2-3 years. Through you, I would like to request the Government of Rajasthan to call a meeting of the STAC as soon as possible and disburse the pending claims of farmers of Rs 550 crore for Kharif year 2021.

Madam, as we have already paid the premium for the Kharif year, 2024 Kharif on 31st July. Till date, the claim disbursement of for the Kharif year 2023 has not been done. The main essence of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana has been destroyed. Farmers wait for one year, but do not get the claims. The Hon.

Minister had said that if the claim disbursement of the farmer is delayed, then 12 percent interest would be paid. Through you, I would request the Hon. Minister, to allocate the claims with interest for the year 2021 to the farmers as soon as possible. Thank you very much.

***SHRI NAVASKANI K. (RAMANATHAPURAM):** Hon. Chairman Madam, thank you for this opportunity. In order to benefit the coastal areas of my Ramanathapuram Constituency, Karaikkal- Thoothukudi rail route was already planned. This rail route connects Karaikkal and Thoothukudi via Thondi, Ramanathapuram, Keelakarai, Ervadi and Sayalgudi. This Scheme which was already in planning stage, should be implemented soon. The people living along the coastal areas will be benefitted by this rail route. This will also benefit them commercially. A new rail route from Manamadurai to Thoothukudi via Parthibanur, Kamuthi, should be implemented in order to benefit the people of southern Districts of Tamil Nadu. Thangachimadam railway station was successfully operational 20 years ago. This station needs to be started again. Many trains pass through this rail route but do not have a stoppage Thangachimadam railway station. I urge that trains should have stoppage in Thangachimadam. Since this railway station was not

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

functional, there was 30 acres of land available around this station. We can set up a Railway Yard in Thangachimadam. I once again urge that railway station at Thangachimadam should start functioning as before. People as a Group are staging agitations in this regard. I urge that this Thangachimadam railway station should be made operational very soon. Thank you.

[ENGLISH]

SHRIMATI D. K. ARUNA (MAHBUBNAGAR): Respected Madam, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak in the House today.

On this occasion, I also thank Shri Narendra Modi ji who is an able, dynamic, and a visionary leader who aims to make India Viksit Bharat by 2047. With his blessings, I have won the Lok Sabha election. I also thank my constituency people for electing me to the Parliament representing from Mahbubnagar Parliamentary Constituency.

I would like to bring to your kind notice the need to set up a new Sainik School in Narayanpet district headquarters which falls in my Mahabubnagar Parliamentary Constituency in the State of Telangana. In this regard, I would say that, at present, there is no Sainik School in my entire constituency. My constituency people have urged me at various platforms whenever I go in my constituency.

Earlier, a survey was done and an extent of 50 acres of land was identified at Ekklaspur village in Narayanpet district headquarters and Assembly Constituency for establishment of a Sainik School. But the then BRS Government has not allocated the land to establish the school. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister of Defence, through the Chair, to kindly intervene in the matter to expedite this project.

Thank you.

SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN (KASARAGOD): Thank you very much, Chairperson Madam, for giving me this opportunity. I would like to bring forward an urgent matter for immediate action. An amount of around Rs. 23 crore is to be distributed in the Kasaragod Constituency area under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), which includes the wages of skilled, unskilled labour and the cost of materials. This is for both the current financial year 2024-25 and the previous year 2022-23. This amount of wages is arrears despite the rule that wages must be paid within 15 days of employment. The workers are entitled to compensation for delay in payment of wages if the wages are not paid within 15 days from the date of completion of muster roll. The workers are also entitled to compensation at the rate of 0.05 per cent of the wages payable for each day of delay beyond

the 16th day after completion of the muster roll. For example, the Development Block wise details of the dues for the financial year 2024-25 are as follows: in Kanhangad, it is Rs. 75 lakh; in Karadka, it is Rs. 1.5 crore; in Kasaragod, it is Rs. 35 lakh; in Manjeswaram, it is Rs. 69 lakh; in Nileswaram, it is Rs. 75 lakh; in Parappa, it is Rs. 1.55 crore; in Payyannur, it is Rs. 55 lakh; and in Kalliasseri, it is Rs. 1.5 crore. The highest is Rs. 1.54 crore due in the Parappa block and the lowest is Rs. 34 lakh in Kasaragod block. Madam, I urge upon the Government to intervene in the matter immediately. Thank you very much, Madam.

[TRANSLATION]

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE (KALYAN): Madam Chairperson, today I would like to raise a serious issue before you regarding the online gaming addiction in India, particularly games like Jungle Rummy. It is very important to analyze this dangerous trend because this game is not only affecting the young generation but is also leaving a deep impact on various sections of the society.

14.00 hrs

(Shri Jagdambika Pal *in the Chair*)

The online gaming market in India will reach 30 billion dollars by the year 2025. A large part of this amount involves is also of Jungle Rummy, in which money is put at stake and its

addiction has seriously affected the lives of many people. The problem of addiction to the game Junglee Rummy has become so serious that according to the National Council, 30 percent of the youth are facing mental health related problems due to online gaming in the year 2023.

Nearly 3.5 per cent of the Indian adolescents suffer from gaming disorder. In this, 40 percent of the people have become victims of excessive money addiction. In many cases, these games have become the cause of personal and family financial crises. People commit suicide due to debt.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please be brief.

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE: Sir, the specialty of Junglee Rummy is that it gives a very attractive in nature and it gives the promise of and quick win expectation, but when the players lose, they try to play more, which further worsens their financial condition.

There is a great need to spread awareness about this issue. It is necessary that we spread information about the dangers associated with gaming addiction in schools, colleges and other parts of the society. Along with this, strict rules and appropriate steps need to be taken so that discipline and control can be established in the field of online gaming. We have to ensure that our young generation remains safe and can avoid this addiction.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon'ble Members, there are names of 54 Members in the list. I want all 54 Members to be able to speak. So, be brief, so that they can also be a part of the proceedings. All Hon. Members should raise their points in 30 seconds.

Shri Khagen Murmu - Not present.

Smt. Krishna Devi Shivshankar Patel ji.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA DEVI SHIVSHANKAR PATEL (BANDA): Hon'ble Chairperson, I would like to draw your attention to a matter of public importance. The problem of water in our country is becoming more severe day by day. Especially due to the continuous decline in the water level, the water crisis is deepening across the whole country.

This problem is also exists in my Lok Sabha constituency Banda-Chitrakoot, which is a more serious issue. 'Har Ghar Nal se Jal Yojana' should be implemented effectively, so that drinking water can be supplied to every household. For this, the quality of pipelines should be ensured and arrangements for regular maintenance should be made. An immediate plan should be made for the repair and reconstruction of roads, so that the residents of rural areas do not face any difficulty in commuting.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You have made your point. I have requested everyone to make their point in 30 seconds.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA DEVI SHIVSHANKAR PATEL: Sir, attention should be paid to the exploration and development of alternative water sources. Like repairing canals and reconstructing ponds and utilizing river water. ...(Interruptions)
[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You should have patience. Everybody will get an opportunity. *[TRANSLATION]* Everyone will get a chance to speak.

Shri Khagen Murmu ji, please make your point in 30 seconds.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI KHAGEN MURMU (MALDA NORTH): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, with all due respect. I would like to bring to your notice that due to heavy rains and decrease in the depth of the river, the water level of Ganga, Fulhar and Kosi have crossed the danger mark. This has created an unprecedented flood situation.

My Lok Sabha constituency Malda North and homes in riverside villages under blocks like Ratua Specifically in panchayats like Khasmahal, Nasiruddin Tola, Bhasha Ram Tola, Kanatu Tola, Mahananda Tola and Bhilai Mari have been

devastatingly impacted. In this, more than 300 families have been affected by the erosion of Ganga, Phulhar and Kosi.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please put forward your demand. Please raise your issue. Honourable members are requested to please raise your issue, in which you should state what their demand is.

SHRI KHAGEN MURMU: Sir, due to this, more than 135 families in villages like Uttar and Dakshin Bhakuriya, Rashidpur in the Harishchandrapur-II block have been affected by Phulhar.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please put forward your demand.

SHRI KHAGEN MURMU: Sir, all the said villagers have unfortunately been displaced from their homes due to the havoc of the three rivers and have come on the streets. ... (Interruptions)
All these people should be rehabilitated as soon as possible by giving them proper relief and compensation.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please say your last line. More than 50 Hon'ble Members have to speak. This time has been allotted to you separately from the ballot, so you cannot get three minutes.

SHRI KHAGEN MURMU: Sir, in such circumstances, I request you that on the issue of flood affected areas along the banks of Ganga, Phulhar and Kosi, Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti, C.R. Patil ji and the Government of West Bengal should

immediately make arrangements for the rehabilitation of flood affected victims. Thank you.

[ENGLISH]

DR. RICKY A. J. SYNGKON (SHILLONG): Sir, I want to draw your attention to the NGT ban on mining and transportation of coal in the State of Meghalaya which are the major activities of the people of our State. However, the sad part is that, in spite of the ban, there is a High Level Group which is indulging in mining and transportation of coal. This is very serious. The Government of the day in Meghalaya is turning a blind eye to this activity. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to take up this issue seriously either to ensure that the blanket ban is enforced or open it so that the people are allowed who have been dependent on this important industry for their livelihood.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI NARAYANDAS AHIRWAR (JALAUN): Honorable Chairperson, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak. I thank the people of my Lok Sabha constituency Jalaun, Garautha, Bhognipur for giving me this opportunity to raise the issues of my constituency in the House.

Sir, my parliamentary constituency falls under Bundelkhand, which is a very backward area in the field of agriculture. The people here mostly depend on agriculture, but this area has a

severe problem of stray animals. These stray animals eat the crops of the farmers before they are ready for harvest.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please state your demand.

SHRI NARAYANDAS AHIRWAR: Hon. Chairperson Sir, farmers are unable to save their crops despite fencing their fields with bamboo, poles, and wire. Farmers are on the verge of ruin due to the damage caused to their painstakingly cultivated crops by stray animals. Still, the problem of these stray cattle has not been properly resolved to date.

Sir, through you, I request the Government to set up large cow shelters for the stray animals roaming in my Constituency with arrangements made for their food and water as well as to appoint people on a salary basis to properly take care of these animals. This will ensure the safety of stray animals, increase the production of milk and ghee, and also boost government revenue. Thank you.

SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA (UJJAIN): Hon. Chairperson, through you, I would like to thank the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Minister of Railways. It is due to the Prime Minister's vision of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas" that the Ministry has increased the number of general railway coaches. The Ministry has added 2,500 railway coaches and for this, I extend my sincere gratitude. Through you, I would also like to request to expedite

the preparation of the DPR for the Ujjain-Jhalawar railway line for which five crore rupees have been sanctioned. Thank you.

ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR (NAGINA): Thank you, Hon. Chairperson. The Gurjar community, dedicated to national identity and pride has demonstrated immense courage and valor in every struggle for the nation and made countless brave sacrifices. Examples include Kotwal Dhan Singh Gurjar during the 1857 revolution and the hanging of 140 Gurjar revolutionaries at Kala Aam in Bulandshahar. The demand they made on November 27, 1940 was for the formation of a Gurjar Regiment. Through you, I urge the Government to establish a Gurjar Regiment.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI SHAFI PARAMBIL (VADAKARA): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. We know about the devastating experience of landslides in Wayanad. On the same day, on the same night, Vilangad town of my constituency also experienced a massive landslide. Sir, 150 houses were destroyed. They lost everything but life. Mathew Kulathinkal, affectionately known as Mathew master of that area, drowned away in the landslide. So many farmers have lost everything. We request a special package for Vilangad. It is a necessity. I urge the Government to declare a special package for Vilangad.

[TRANSLATION]

***SHRI BHASKAR MURLIDHAR BHAGARE (DINDORI):**

Hon. Chairman Sir, thank you very much for giving me this maiden opportunity to speak in Zero Hour. Today is World Tribal Day and would like to wish you all on this day. Onion is a main crop in my constituency. Onion producing farmers are facing serious problems today. The ban on onion export has been revoked but the export duty is very high which is around 40% and export value imposed is around 550 US dollars. So, our onion costs around Rs. 56 per kg. in international market whereas the onions from Pakistan are available as cheap as Rs. 28 per kg.

So, if the Government really want to ensure the financial benefit of these farmers, the export duty on onions should be removed immediately and NAFED should start procuring onions from the market committees and farmers directly.

SHRI HARENDRA SINGH MALIK (MUZAFFARNAGAR): Thank you, Hon. Chairperson. Through you, I would like to raise a matter of public importance before the House and demand action by the Government.

Sir, the Government has made a lot of promises under the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme. Many units were established and loans were provided under this scheme

* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Marathi.

in Uttar Pradesh but they have not yet received any subsidy. Even after three years, the district industries have neither adjusted the subsidy nor provided the sanction letters. Upon inquiring at the District Industries Centers, it was informed that the verification of this is carried out by the Government through a private organization affiliated with a specific organization and the subsidy will be included in the loan only after they upload their report on the portal. Through you, I urge the Government that all the small units that were set up should be given their subsidies. Those people whose subsidies have been approved should receive them.

DR. VINOD KUMAR BIND (BHADOHI): Thank you, Hon. Chairperson for giving me an opportunity to speak during Zero Hour. I would like to raise an important issue concerning my Constituency, Purnia. Purnia has a large population. There are also several religious sites there, such as Sita Samahit Sthal, Luv-Kush Janmasthan and Valmiki Janmasthan. People who visit here often have to travel significant distances to reach Allahabad, Prayagraj Sangam and Maihar Devi Temple in Madhya Pradesh. Through you, I would like to request the Government to construct a one-kilometer bridge connecting Dhantulsi to Dengurpur.

SHRI SHANKAR LALWANI (INDORE): Thank you, Hon. Chairperson.

Sir, I am from Indore and Indore is the Cleanest City of India. It has consistently ranked number one in cleanliness, number one in Smart City initiatives and we have planted 12 lakh trees in a single day under the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign. Our city, Indore, is rapidly developing in the country. I have two requests for the Government. Firstly, Indore has many medical and pharmaceutical industries. So, I request the Government to set up a Pharma-Drug Park in Indore. Secondly, Indore produces excellent wheat, chickpeas, the world's best soybeans and potatoes which are used to make chips. I request the Government to set up a Mega Food Park in Indore.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shrimati Kalaben Mohanbhai Delkar
— Not present.

Shri Virendra Singh.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH (CHANDAULI) : Hon. Chairperson, I would like to draw your attention to a highly sensitive matter concerning a very important institution in our country, Banaras Hindu University.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude your speech in 30 seconds and state your demand.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Hon. Chairperson, I am coming directly to the point. The Executive Council has not yet been formed there. The entire university is run by a single person,

which is hindering transparency. The Executive Committee which is responsible for all operations there has not been formed for three years.

I demand that an executive body be formed immediately to run the said university. *[ENGLISH]*

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important matter regarding the State of Kerala. The 128-year old Mullaperiyar dam poses serious threat to the lives and livelihoods of five million people spread over four districts. This is a major concern of the people of Kerala. There is a Government Report which says this. Ageing water storage infrastructure and emerging global risk published in the 11th series of United Nation University Institute for Water, Environment and Health.

Sir, our major slogan is water for Tamil Nadu and safety for Kerala. I urge the Government of India to decommission Mullaperiyar dam and build a new dam which ensures water for Tamil Nadu and safety for Kerala.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN (PURNIA): Hon. Chairperson, I would like to extend my best wishes to everyone on the World Tribal Day. First of all, the areas of Katihar, Purnia, Kishanganj

and Araria are very poor and extremely backward. There's a scourge of smart meters there. These meters aren't recharged. Middle-class, poor, and extremely backward people are constantly being exploited by them. The readings on these smart meters are incorrect and it's absolutely essential to check its readings. I urge that the land acquired for the power grid in Katihar district three years ago has not yet been provided by the Government. Land for the power grid is essential. There are frequent power outages in my area. The most number of power cuts are occurring in Katihar and Purnia.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You are a senior MP. You can raise only one issue during the Zero Hour.

SHRIMATI SANDHYA RAY (BHIND): Hon. Chairperson Sir, I urge and request the Government that just as master plans are formulated for municipalities, a master plan should also be made for village panchayats in rural areas. This would ensure that every street in the village including CC roads and drainage systems is properly constructed. There should be electrification and good water supply in the villages. Furthermore, there should be better arrangements for education and health in villages. "Nal Se Jal" scheme is currently not being implemented effectively there. Therefore, a structured plan needs to be formulated and for

this, the Government should prepare a master plan for the panchayats.

SHRI ANAND BHADAURIA (DHAURAHRA): Hon. Chairperson, in my Lok Sabha constituency of Dhaurahra-Mohammdi, specifically in the Athwa and Pipariya areas, Palhapur in Kasta, Amirta in Maholi, Kairati Purwa in Nanhi Katghara and Dhaurahra, there's been grave threat from tigers and leopards that we've had three casualties in the past two months ever since I became a Member of Parliament. Children are not able to go to school. Farmers are not able to go to their fields.

Hon. Chairperson, through you, I request to check this menace. Just imagine if a tiger or a leopard sneaks into Delhi, perhaps even into Parliament...(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, your point has been recorded.

SHRIMATI SANJNA JATAV (BHARATPUR): Hon. Chairperson, I would like to submit that on August 1, 2024, the Hon'ble Supreme Court issued an order under which it allowed subclassification of Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribe categories for providing benefits of reservation. This provision directs States to include people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes communities. In reality, this order seems to allow political parties and those in power to use these

communities as a vote bank. Along With this, through this order, the Constitution...(Interruptions)

MS. BANSURI SWARAJ (NEW DELHI): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, the sewage system in Delhi has completely collapsed and the Delhi Government is entirely insensitive to the issue. Many areas in my Lok Sabha Constituency such as Kidwai Nagar, Kotla, Munirka, Kirti Nagar, Rajendra Nagar and many other posh localities are completely submerged. The drains here have not been desilted and the super suckers are also not very effective.

I request the Central Government to form a high-level committee to enquire the inaction of the Delhi Government and to address this situation... (Interruptions)

SUSHRI PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE (SOLAPUR): Hon. Chairperson, Union Government is running a Smart City Mission. I would like to say that it is a money-making racket. In Maharashtra, wherever these Smart Cities are being developed, no work is being done. The local body Government in Maharashtra has not conducted elections for the past three years. That is why, wherever Smart Cities are being developed the nexus between the officials and the Smart City contractors has also developed. In Solapur, there are no roads, no airport, and no water.... (Interruptions)

SHRI UJJWAL RAMAN SINGH (ALLAHABAD): Hon. Chairperson, through you and this August House, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the delay in the Metro Rail project in Prayagraj, a holy city with historical and cultural heritage. The DPR for this project was approved by Akhilesh Yadav Ji's Government but the present Government has converted it into a Light Metro Rail project....(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SMITA UDAY WAGH (JALGAON): Hon. Chairperson, our Government has been continuously striving to double farmers' produce. Several farmers in my Constituency have still not received the benefits of crop insurance scheme for the 2022-23 season. This is a serious issue that is affecting farmers financially. Under the guidance of the then Hon. Minister of Agriculture, the district administration had constituted a Grievance Redressal Committee to resolve this issue. The committee had received claim forms from approximately 12,000 farmers. After examination, the committee verified the claims of about 6,690 farmers but they haven't yet received any benefits. I would like to request the Government to immediately direct the concerned officials to expedite this process...(Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): Thank you, Sir, for giving me the opportunity.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You have only 30 seconds. There are so many hon. Members who want to speak.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: But Sir, I have to breathe also. It is an important issue. Please give me some time.

It is an important issue concerning violation of rights, harassment and mental torture to lady officers in UCO Bank in Odisha. Several lady officers have been transferred to far off places like Gujarat, Kerala and Karnataka in clear violation of Clause 14 of the Transfer Policy of the Bank. It clearly states that women officers shall be transferred within the presently posted States or any other adjoining States.

These ladies, as disciplined officers, went and joined and worked there for two years. They suffered great hardships and personal inconvenience, innumerable difficulties, leaving their husbands, children and parents. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Prabha Mallikarjun.

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO: Sir, please give me two seconds. It is a very important issue.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly conclude now. We have time constraint. I think you are well aware of it. There are so many Members who want to speak. I have given you an opportunity.

DR. PRABHA MALLIKARJUN (DAVANAGERE): Thank you, Sir, for permitting me to raise a matter of urgent public importance regarding upgradation of Mariyammanahalli SH25 road as National Highway.

Sir, this SH25 is an important major inter-State highway road which connects NH50, NH48 and NH69. It passes through three major districts of Central Karnataka, that is, Vijayanagar, Davangere and Shivamogga. I request the Minister of Road Transport and Highways to upgrade SH25 as National Highway from Mariyammanahalli to Shivamogga in the State of Karnataka. It is a long-pending demand of the people of central Karnataka. This upgradation will improve the socio-economic condition of this region.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI RAJKUMAR CHAHAR (FATEHPUR SIKRI): Sir, I would like to draw your attention to a very serious issue concerning farmers. In Karnataka, 1200 farmers have committed suicide in the last one year due to the anti-farmer policies of the Karnataka Government. Meanwhile, one of their Ministers stated that farmers are committing suicide because they receive 5 lakh rupees. It's a matter of shame. Our BJP Government gave ₹4,000 at that time. The Hon'ble Prime Minister had included them under the 'PM Kisan Samman Nidhi,' but that too has been stopped. I

request you to kindly constitute an all-party committee of MPs and send them to Karnataka as farmers there are committing suicide.

SHRIMATI SATABDI ROY BANERJEE (BIRBHUM) *

There is a road in my Lok Sabha Constituency Birbhum which connects Lohapur Station to Morgram Station, this road is beside the rail line and is currently at a distressing state. Even after repeated requests, the Railway Department has taken no measures for this. The people who elect us as their representatives, the people who come to us with their requests and complaints, the Railway Ministry and the Railway Minister should be answerable to their questions instead of us. They should answer why even after repeated requests, this work has not been done. Construction of overbridges and underpasses are immediately required in Srikrishnapur and Pakuria.*

Sir, you won't even give me this much time and you yourself spoke for three minutes. What can I speak in just 30 seconds? We've been sitting for three hours and you are not allowing me to speak.

*The Railway Authorities have closed six roads in Birbhum Railway Colony and Shantipara. People won't be able to

*... * English translation of this part of speech was originally delivered in Bengali.

commute through these roads, 3000 tribal people will not be able to go out of their homes. The situation is the same in Harijanpally, Kasaipur, Dakbanglapara. 4000 people are inhabitants of these colonies. They are not being able to get out, they are unable to go to school. People take them immediate actions. Even after repeated complaints to their Railway Ministry why they aren't not responding and taking any necessary step, I demand an answer for that.*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shrimati Kanimozhi Karunanidhi – Not present.

Sushri Iqra Choudhary

SUSHRI IQRA CHOUDHARY (KAIRANA): Sir, through you, I would like to draw your attention towards a very serious problem faced by farmers in my Constituency.

The Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (LARR) Act, 2013 has not yet been fully implemented across the country. This makes it necessary to revise circle rates every second year. In my district, Shamli, land is being acquired from farmers for the Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor but they haven't got benefit of the circle rate revisions in compensation since 2013.

The circle rates for Saharanpur and Baghpat have not been updated. Because of this, the farmers are receiving is very meagre

amount of compensation. In Nakur Tehsil of Saharanpur district, land is being acquired from farmers for the Ambala Green Highway. Sir, please give me two minutes.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I cannot give you two minutes.

SUSHRI IQRA CHOUDHARY: Please give me a minute. The farmers here are facing a problem of category change. They want to change their land's category to fertile land... (Interruptions)

SHRI RAJESH VERMA (KHAGARIA): Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the large number of elderly and disabled people in the country.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please do not leave after finishing your speech. Anand ji, please do not leave after finishing your speech.

SHRI RAJESH VERMA: Sir, under the National Social Assistance Program, the Government provides a pension of ₹200 to ₹500 to the elderly and disabled person. However, through you, I request the Government that in my Lok Sabha constituency, Khagaria and in Bihar, only ₹400 is given to the elderly persons. The elderly there depend on medicines. My only demand is that the old-age pension be increased to at least ₹1,000.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Hanuman Beniwal, please conclude your speech in 30 seconds.

SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL (NAGAUR): First of all, I would like to thank you. I'd like to start my speech by wishing you a Happy World Tribal Day. I would like to draw attention to the situation arising from the polluted water and effluents discharged into the Rajasthan canals from the Harike Barrage originating from the state of Punjab.

Rajasthan receives water from the Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej rivers downstream of the Harike Barrage. Urban and industrial effluents from towns and cities located along the Sutlej River in Punjab flows through drains and into the Sutlej River, eventually reaching the Harike Barrage. The water from Harike Barrage is released into Rajasthan's Indira Gandhi Feeder and the Ferozepur Feeder. The water from the Indira Gandhi Feeder goes to Rajasthan while the Ferozepur Feeder is a joint canal for both Punjab and Rajasthan.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hanuman ji, please state your demand.

SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL: Sir, please give me one minute. The waste in these canals has an adverse effect on human life. I have raised this issue many times in the past and as per the information received, STP's & CETP's are under construction in Punjab for waste treatment, but better measures are required here. NGT also gave necessary instructions to the Punjab Government,

but there has been no positive effect. I am making my demand. My demand is that the Central Pollution Control Board of the Government of India... (Interruptions)

DR. RAJKUMAR SANGWAN (BAGPAT): Honorable Chairman, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak during Zero Hour.

I want to draw the attention of the Government towards a very important issue of my parliamentary constituency. Bikaner to Dabwali National Highway, which is already built and further, a green field expressway is proposed from Dabwali to Panipat. My humble suggestion is that this proposed highway should be connected to Ganga Expressway in Meerut via Chhaprauli, Barot, Barnawa beyond Panipat. By doing so, this highway will be connected from Bikaner to Allahabad, thereby connecting the three states of Rajasthan, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. The construction of this route will increase the ease of traffic between the three states, promote business activities and give a new direction to regional development.... (Interruptions)

SHRI AGHA SYED RUHULLAH MEHDI (SRINAGAR): Sir, through you I want to convey the situation of Jammu and Kashmir and bring this matter to the notice of the Government and also want a reply from them in this regard.... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: There is a time constraint. Please conclude within thirty seconds.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI AGA SYED RUHULLAH MEHDI: In the year 2019, everything was snatched away from us. The only medium of employment that we had here was snatched away. After the year 2019, decisions were taken in relation to mining, whether it is Tawi River in Jammu, Jhelum River, Indus River, these were the sources of employment here.... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please put your demand.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI AGA SYED RUHULLAH MEHDI: Small scale mining used to take place from there. Sand and gravel etc. were extracted from them. That has been banned. It has been outsourced to big companies.... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

DR. C. N. MANJUNATH (BANGALORE RURAL): Thank you, hon. Chairperson Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, there are cases of elephant menace and intrusion of elephants in the farm lands across Kanakapura, Sathanur and Bannerghatta regions of my Constituency. ... (*Interruptions*) There is a need to build barricades along a stretch of 31 kilometres to prevent elephant intrusion. ... (*Interruptions*) If the farmers die, they get only Rs. 15 lakh as compensation, and if the employees die, they get Rs. 20 lakh as compensation. ...(*Interruptions*) The amount should be equal... (*Interruptions*)
 [TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Your statement has been included in record.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR (SALEMPUR): Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I wish to put forth my point while extending my best wishes for the festivals of Adivasi Diwas, Kranti Diwas, Nagpanchami, Pataiya and Putri.

Due to the erosion of the Ghaghra river, the entire Bhojpurwa village has merged into the river. Kharidnipaniya, Purushottam Patti, Bijlipur, Sultanpur, Tahirpur, Khadipur, Kishunpur, Kotwa, Turtipar, Mahuapar, Khaira, Duha, Bihara... from Ghaghra river ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please put forth your demand.

SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR: People of villages like Balua, Afghan, Lakshmipur, Bans Ghat, Ghati, Saraiya Kharat etc. are afflicted by the Gandak river, Khanua river and Ghaghra river.... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: What is your demand?

SHRI RAMASHANKAR RAJBHAR: My demand is that the government should at least waive off the loans of those whose houses have been submerged in the river and rehabilitate them. Their electricity bills should also be waived off.

SHRIMATI KALABEN MOHANBHAI DELKAR (DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI): Sir, thank you very much. Today on 9th August, on the occasion of World Tribal Day, I extend my best wishes to all the countrymen and the people of my state.

The Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli is a tribal dominated area. 70 percent of the population here is from the tribal community. World Tribal Day is celebrated with great pomp every year on 9th August to spread awareness among the tribal communities and to support and protect their rights. The purpose of this day is to protect the rights of the tribal community of the world. 9th August was declared as World Tribal Day by the United Nations Assembly in December, 1994 regarding the rights of the tribal community.

I want to say through you that on this day, people of the tribal society worship their gods and goddesses.

SHRI ANURAG SHARMA (JHANSI): Respected Chairman, through you, I want to request something from the respected Aviation Minister, who is sitting here.

Sir, I come from Bundelkhand, the land of heroes. ... (Interruptions) Our respected Prime Minister has recently given us not one, not two, but three industrial corridors – Defense Corridor, Bundelkhand Industrial Development Authority and Bulk-Drug-Park. My request to the respected Aviation Minister is that Jhansi is the gateway of Bundelkhand. If the Honorable Minister establishes an airport there, then there will be a lot of economic development of the entire Bundelkhand and our entire region, especially ... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Ummeda Ram Beniwal Ji.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI UMMEDA RAM BENIWAL (BARMER): Sir, you have given me the opportunity to speak on the most important issue of Marwar in Rajasthan, the conservation of the Maru Ganga Luni river. I thank you very much for this. I would like to draw the attention of the government through you that the water of drains containing dangerous chemicals and dirty drains from the textile

industries of Balotra, Jodhpur, Pali are released into the river. Due to this, the Luni river, famous as Maru Ganga, has become completely polluted. I demand through you that the textile factories should be instructed not to do this. Despite the orders of Jodhpur High Court and NGT, the administration is not taking any action on this and the factory owners are releasing dirty water into the river at their will. Due to this, the fields of the farmers have become polluted. Drinking water and ponds have also become polluted. ... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Saleng A. Sangma ji.

... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI SALENG A. SANGMA (TURA): Sir, right now thousands and lakhs of Rohingya refugees are entering the North Eastern States as illegal immigrants. Thousands of kilometres of border area is insecure. Immediate serious preventive measures should be taken by the Central Government. We do not have a proper security in our State. Thousands of people are suffering right now. Yesterday itself, more than thousands of Bangladeshis have illegally tried to penetrate Meghalaya through the border.

Sir, through you, I would like to apprise the hon. Union Home Minister to take preventive measures immediately.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (HAMIRPUR): Chairman Sir, thank you. I am grateful to you that you have allowed me to speak on a very serious issue. Sir, we are all concerned about what happened recently in our neighbouring country Bangladesh. All the political parties also spoke in one voice that our people there should be taken care of. The Hon'ble Prime Minister congratulated the Prime Minister of the Interim Government by tweeting, but also said that peace, security, development, everything should be ensured for our Hindus and minorities there. It is unfortunate that when the Leader of the Opposition and the President of the Congress Party tweeted, when he congratulated him, there was no talk of the safety of Hindus there. ... (Interruptions) Neither did he mention it, nor did he talk about the safety of minorities. ... (Interruptions) What was the compulsion that these people could not even talk about the safety of Hindus and minorities there? ... (Interruptions) You had spoken landly in details about Gaza? ... (Interruptions) You used to talk landly in details about Gaza, but you don't talk after coming here....(Interruptions) Sir, how is this possible? ... (Interruptions) Regarding Gaza ... (Interruptions)

HON.CHAIRPERSON: Mrs. June Malia ji.

... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

SHRIMATI JUNE MALIAH (MEDINIPUR): Sir, through you, I would like to raise an important matter related to the Anganwadi workers.(*Interruptions*)

Sir, the honorarium payable to the Anganwadi workers and helpers under the Anganwadi services was last enhanced almost six years ago by the Union Government vide Ministry of Women and Child Development's Order dated 20th September, 2018 with effect from October 2018. The wages of Anganwadi workers and helpers were hiked from Rs.3000 to Rs.4500 per month and from Rs.1500 to Rs.2250 per month respectively.(*Interruptions*) Here, the State Government also contributes 40 per cent to the amount payable to the Anganwadi workers and helpers.(*Interruptions*)

I would urge the hon. Minister to kindly consider an enhancement of the honorarium keeping in view the challenges of ICDS responsibilities. Thank you.

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI JITENDRA KUMAR DOHARE (ETAWAH): Hon. Sir, for those who are against reservation system, I would like to say: '*Ki Laskar bhi tumhara hai, Sardar bhi tumhara hai, tum juth ko sach kah do, vah bhi tumhara hai, tum jo kaho, vah sach hai, ham jo kahen, vah juth hai.*' Indian Judicial Service Commission

should be constituted and recruitment of judges in the High Courts and Supreme Courts should be made on the basis of reservation system. The New National Education Policy 2020 should be scrapped and education should be nationalized under One Nation One Education policy and a law for Uniform and Compulsory Education should be made and implemented across the country, under which education from primary to higher level should be provided free of cost. Old Pension Scheme (OPS) should be restored for the future security of the employees of the Central and the States Governments.... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, your speech is not going on record.

... (Interruptions) ...*

[ENGLISH]

* Not recorded.

**LIST OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE ASSOCIATED
THEMSELVES WITH THE
ISSUES RAISED UNDER MATTERS OF URGENT
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

Members who raised matters of urgent public importance.	Members who associated themselves with the matters raised.
Shri Varun Chaudhry	Shri Navaskani K.
Shri K. C. Venugopal	Shri Navaskani K. Shri N. K. Premachandran Shri Hibi Eden
Shri S. Supongmeren Jamir	Shri N. K. Premachandran Shri Navaskani K.
Shri Daroga Prasad Saroj	Shri Navaskani K. Shri Jagdambika Pal
Shri Murari Lal Meena	Shri Navaskani K.
Shri D. M. Kathir Anand	Shri Navaskani K.
Shri Richard Vanlalhmangaiha	Shri Navaskani K.
Shri Rahul Singh Lodhi	Shri Navaskani K.

Shri Abu Taher Khan	Shri Navaskani K.
Adv. Adoor Prakash	Shri Navaskani K.
Dr. Mohammad Jawed	Shri Navaskani K.
Adv. Gowaal Kagada Padavi	Shri Navaskani K.
Shri Kodikunnil Suresh	Shri Navaskani K. Shri N. K. Premachandran Shri K. C. Venugopal
Shri C. N. Annadurai	Shri Navaskani K.
Shri Malaiyarasan D.	Shri Navaskani K.
Shri Rajabhau Parag Prakash Waje	Shri Navaskani K.
Shri Devesh Shakya	Shri Navaskani K.
Shrimati Lovely Anand	Shri Navaskani K.
Shri Bhaskar Murlidhar Bhagare	Shrimati Supriya Sule Shrimati Kanimozhi Karunanidhi
Shrimati Smita Uday Wagh	Shri Naresh Ganpat Mhaske Dr. Hemant Vishnu Savara

	Shri Anup Sanjay Dhotre
Shri Shafi Parambil	Shri Hibi Eden
Dr. Shrikant Eknath Shinde	Shri B. Manickam Tagore Shri Dhairyasheel Sambhajirao Mane Shri Ravindra Dattaram Waikar Shri Vishaldada Prakashbapu Patil Shri Shrirang Appa Chandu Barne Shri Balashowry Vallabhaneni Adv. Chandra Shekhar Shri Rajesh Ranjan Dr. Hemant Vishnu Savara Shri Naresh Ganpat Mhaske

	Shrimati Smita Uday Wagh
Shri Jagdambika Pal	Dr. Rajkumar Sangwan
Dr. Shiv Pal Singh Patel	Shri Jagdambika Pal
Shri Dilip Saikia	Shri Jagdambika Pal
Shri N. K. Premachandran	Shri Jagdambika Pal
Shri Chandan Chauhan	Shri Jagdambika Pal
Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla	Shri Jagdambika Pal
Shri Rajmohan Unnithan	Shri Jagdambika Pal

14.41 hrs

MOTION RE: REFERENCE OF WAQF (AMENDMENT)

BILL, 2024

TO JOINT COMMITTEE

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister Shri Kiren Rijiju.

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND
MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN**

RIJIJU): Sir, I rise to move:

“That the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024 be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of the following 21 Members from this House:-

1. Shri Jagdambika Pal
2. Dr. Nishikant Dubey
3. Shri Tejasvi Surya
4. Shrimati Aparajita Sarangi
5. Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal
6. Shri Dilip Saikia
7. Shri Abhijit Gangopadhyay
8. Shrimati D.K. Aruna
9. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
10. Shri Imran Masood
11. Dr. Mohammad Jawed

12. Shri Mohibbullah
13. Shri Kalyan Banerjee
14. Shri A. Raja
15. Shri Lavu Srikrishna Devarayalu
16. Shri Dileshwar Kamait
17. Shri Arvind Ganpat Sawant
18. Shri Balya Mama Suresh Gopinath Mhatre
19. Shri Naresh Ganpat Mhaske
20. Shri Arun Bharti
21. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi

and 10 Members from the Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of Members of the Joint Committee,

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the first week of the next session;

that in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committee shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and

communicate to this House names of the Members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee.”

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Wakf (Amendment) Act, 1995, be referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses consisting of the following 21 Members of this House and 10 Members of the Rajya Sabha:-

1. Shri Jagdambika Pal
2. Dr. Nishikant Dubey
3. Shri Tejasvi Surya
4. Shrimati Aparajita Sarangi
5. Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal
6. Shri Dilip Saikia
7. Shri Abhijit Gangopadhyay
8. Shrimati D.K. Aruna
9. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
10. Shri Imran Masood
11. Dr. Mohammad Jawed
12. Shri Mohibbullah
13. Shri Kalyan Banerjee
14. Shri A. Raja
15. Shri Lavu Srikrishna Devarayalu

16. Shri Dileshwar Kamait
17. Shri Arvind Ganpat Sawant
18. Shri Balya Mama Suresh Gopinath Mhatre
19. Shri Naresh Ganpat Mhaske
20. Shri Arun Bharti
21. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi

That the quorum for holding a meeting of the Joint Committee shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee,

That the Committee shall submit its report to this House not later than the last day of the first week of the next session;

That in other matters, the rules of procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such changes and modifications as the Speaker may determine; and

That this House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha shall join the said Joint Committee and that the Rajya Sabha should communicate to this House the names of the members to be appointed to the Joint Committee.

The motion was adopted.

... (Interruptions)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): I would like to request the hon. Minister ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Without the permission of the Chair, how can you speak?

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Who has given you the authority? No, I have not given you.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: How can you talk directly?

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You should address me. You have not addressed me. You are a senior Member.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: Sir, I am now getting your permission. ... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, the IUML, Indian Union Muslim League, has got three Members in this House. Their representative is not there in this Committee. I would like to request the Government, through you, to include a representative of the IUML party also in this Committee.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Okay.

14.45 hrs

BHARATIYA VAYUYAN VIDHEYAK, 2024 – Contd.

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister Shri Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu.

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI KINJARAPU RAMMOHAN NAIDU): Thank you, hon. Chairman, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024.

In fact, I would like to thank the Chair, first of all, for what was supposed to be a three-hour debate, yesterday, went on up to five hours and also had 36 speakers speaking on this important Bill. Adoor Prakash ji, Rajiv Pratap Rudy ji, Rajeev Rai ji, Sougata Ray ji, C. N. Annadurai ji, Magunta Sreenivasulu Reddy ji, Dileshwar Kamait ji, Shrirang Appa Chandu Barne ji, Bajrang Manohar Sonwane ji, Kishori Lal ji, Ganesh Singh ji, Abhay Kumar Sinha ji, Rajesh Ranjan ji, Sachithanantham R. ji, Malvinder Singh Kang ji, Vijay Kumar Dubey ji, Dayanidhi Maran ji, M. P. Abdussamad Samadani ji, Rajkumar Sangwan ji, Ramesh Awasthi ji, Selvaraj V. ji, D. Ravi Kumar ji, N. K. Premachandran ji, Adv. Gowaal Kagada Padavi ji, Praveen Khandelwal ji, Hanuman Beniwal ji, Adv. Chandra Shekhar ji, Ravindra Dattaram Waikar ji, Sudha R. ji, Praveen Patel ji,

Mohammad Jawed ji, Tapir Gao ji, Zia Ur Rehman ji, Ajay Bhatt ji, Jagdambika Pal ji, and Anand Bhadauria ji. So, almost 36 Members have participated in this debate. Not only have they participated, they have given some valuable suggestions and also passionately been involved in this debate.

I would like to remind the House, 20 years back, if you would have seen any civil aviation topic that has been discussed in the House, the participants were mainly coming from technical background or they were coming from these major metropolitan cities where the presence of airports has been maximum. But yesterday, if you had witnessed the debate for five hours, we have seen hon. Members from the length and breadth of this country, from the remotest areas of this country, from the most backward areas of this country, have passionately spoken on this Bill. That is the change this Government has brought in and the hon. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi ji has brought in to the civil aviation industry.

The civil aviation industry has witnessed unimaginable growth in the last 10 years since Modiji has taken charge as the Prime Minister of the country. He had a special focus; he had a special vision for the civil aviation industry and because of which he understood the importance of improving the infrastructure in civil aviation. That is why, what was a total of 74 airports in 2014

has gone up to 157 airports, which has more than doubled in this country today. If you look at the passenger growth in this country, 60 million passengers were there domestically in 2014, which has gone up to 153 million, which has more than doubled in 2024. Also, the international passengers have grown up from 43 million to 66.7 million. As you know, just like any travel industry which took a big hit during the COVID time, aviation also took a big hit. Even though it took a big hit, within three years it stood back on its feet. It not only crossed the pre-COVID numbers, but also we are at an all-time high in the passenger growth in the country, and today we stand as the third largest aviation economy in the whole world. That is the change hon. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi ji has brought in the last 10 years for the Civil Aviation Ministry.

Also, I would like to thank all the previous Ministers who have worked on this, especially my predecessor Jyotiraditya Scindia ji, who had constantly worked for the upliftment of the Civil Aviation Ministry and brought in a lot of policy changes. In fact, I would also like to remember our previous hon. Minister, Ashok Gajapathi Raju ji, who was also handling this and who was from our party also at that time. With this growth, it is very important we look into the future also. This is not just for the 10 years that we are proud of. We are in the third place right now. Under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister, we want to see

India become number one in the domestic economy. If you want to see India in that number one position, there has to be proper legislative backing, there has to be good policy making, there has to be good policy which drives the civil aviation industry in that direction. And that is where this Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak comes into play, and which is why I would like to go into a little bit more detail of the Bill also.

[TRANSLATION]

The Indian Aircraft Act, 1934 was in place before the Bhartiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024. *[ENGLISH]* This was the pre-Independence era Act. Under the British rule, this Act was formed. The Act was promulgated because of an International Aircraft Convention which was formed in 1919.

[TRANSLATION] According to the convention formulated in the year 1919, the Aircraft Bill, 1934 was brought in the pre-independence era. After this, the Chicago Convention also came in the year 1944. After the Chicago Convention, ICAO was formed, which is the International Civil Aviation Organization. ICAO was an agency of the United Nations. The ICAO, formed after the Chicago Convention, had 193 countries in it.*[ENGLISH]* Regularly, all these 193 countries used to sit, discuss, deliberate and formulate the standard and recommended

the practices, which are again supposed to be implemented by all the member countries within the ICAO.

India has also been a very strong participant of the ICAO, and we have tried to formulate our own laws by harmonising whatever the Standards and Recommended Protocols (SARPs) are there from the ICAO. This has been happening for a long time. While we have been doing this, the 1934 Act, which was there, was amended 21 times. It was amended in such a way that whenever some SARPs were coming in, we were just attaching it to the old Bill. There was no proper structure. In the end, right now the way it has become is that there is no clarity. There is a lot of ambiguity in the existing Act that is there right now, and there is a lot of confusion. In some places, there is a lot of redundancy also. So many subordinate legislations have been brought in; so many rules have been brought in; so many regulations have been brought in, there was no proper structure for the whole Act which is why a proper structural difference was supposed to be brought in. This was done with the formation of this new Bhartiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, 2024.

The first thing that we have tried to address is, structure the whole Bill. We have structured by giving the DGCA a separate chapter. We have told what is the DGCA and what are the powers of the DGCA which is the Directorate General of Civil

Aviation. We also have the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS). Similarly, we have another separate chapter for it, and the functions and the powers have been properly listed out for it. There is also the AAIB which is the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau and powers of the Central Government.

[TRANSLATION]

Sir, previously, powers, functions and rules were written in separate Acts. The I.C.A.O observed that everything should be contained within a single principal Act to create harmony in civil aviation. Through this Bill, we have brought that harmony to civil aviation. Other than this, we have tried to reduce the redundancies. We are trying to rectify the previous gaps in this Act through this Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak.

Sir, secondly, we have added definitions to it. *[ENGLISH]* We have brought in definitions for design, maintenance and manufacture into the Bill. The previous Indian Aircrafts Act, we did not have design at all, we did not have the word ‘maintenance’ at all and there was just manufacture as a word, but it was not defined. But today, under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi ji, we see a strong sense of self reliance being formed in this country, and civil aviation, taking an inspiration from that self reliance, is trying to achieve a position for India in the future where we are not only operating planes in this country, but we are

also designing planes, we are manufacturing planes and we want to export planes to the whole world. So, that is the situation we want to create, and that is going to happen. Exactly, that is going to happen because of the Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak and that is going to come.

We have especially added the word ‘design’, and adding of the word ‘design’ is going to create an area where a lot of industry players are going to come, which is going to improve the design area of the manufacturing. Already the HAL is manufacturing Hindustan 228, which is a 19-seater plane; Dhruv is there from HAL, which is a 14-seater helicopter; and NAL is also making another plane. If you bring in these changes in the legislation, then the ICAO will recognise India as a State of design, which will improve our prospects globally also to bring in talent that will attract in creating design here. Further, whatever we design or manufacture is also going to be accepted worldwide.

So, it was very important for us at this stage with the changes that are happening throughout the country, to define design, maintenance and manufacture, which is the major driver in the civil aviation sector today. That is what we have brought into the Bill today. Before bringing this Bill here, a lot of wide consultations have happened both internally and externally. We have received the feedback from the public. There is a feedback

from internal departments like DGCA, BCAS, AAI, AERA, and AIB and from external departments like the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of External Affairs, the Finance Ministry, the DPIIT, and the Department of Telecom. All these were widely consulted and all their feedback was taken in before we brought in this Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak into the august House.

There is another important feature that this Bill is addressing. This is the feedback that we have received from the pilots, especially, the pilots who are getting trained and trying to obtain their CPL – Commercial Pilot License. Sir, before they obtain this Commercial Pilot License, there is one certificate that is required which is the Radio Telephony Restricted Certificate. This Radio Telephony Restricted Certificate which was supposed to be given on the basis of the previous Act was supposed to be given by the Department of Telecom. Now, before obtaining the CPL, they had to go to the Department of Telecom and get this license. Once they get the license from the Department of Telecom, they come back to DGCA which is under the Ministry of Civil Aviation and they get the Flight Radio Telephony Operator License. Once they get the Flight Telephony Operator License, then they again get the Commercial Pilot License which is the CPL.

Now, regarding this process of going to two departments just for that Certificate for Radio Telephony, there was a lot of feedback from the pilots and especially, the training industry that this is creating a lot of problem for them. Going through two departments, you would know how difficult the system gets over the years when there are different kinds of people and especially, DGCA which has the expertise for the radio telephony in aviation which is why it has the capacity to give the Flight Radio Telephony Operator License. So, the feedback from the industry has been to shift this from the Department of Telecom and put it within the Ministry of Civil Aviation. With this Bill, we have addressed that feedback and we have shown that this is the Government which listens to the public, and which does what the public needs and that is the change that we have brought in this Bill also.

Another important change that we have brought with this is regarding the appeals section. I thought a lot of people would talk about this but not a lot of people have thrown light on this but there have been a lot of inconsistencies in the earlier Act related to the appeals. There was a provision for appeal against financial penalties only. Regarding administrative penalties, there was nothing written in the earlier Act which was addressing the appeals on administrative penalties. Only for financial penalties,

there was an appeal and there was only one appeal that was allowed. But now we thought that when we are trying to change this Act by bringing in a new Bill, we have decided that we are going to implement the principles of natural justice and how the industry treats the appeals, how other departments are treating the appeals, the same way we are going to bring that structure into this. That is what we have done here also. So, anytime any action is taken, the first show-cause notice will be issued to the person against whom the action is being taken. He will be properly heard and he will be given a chance to go for two appeals and there will be a proper tribunal also after the appeals so that he can avail of the principle of natural justice. We have accommodated that here. Just like I said earlier, only for financial penalty, the appeal was there. Now, we have added administrative enforcement also so that there is an opportunity for appeal. Earlier, only the Indian Aircraft Act, which is the principal Act, carried certain provisions regarding the action of suspension of licenses, certificate or approvals.

The other sections which come under restrictions were addressed by some other rules. Now, we have brought everything into the principal Act so that there is a legislative backing, there is a clear flow of instructions on how the licenses or certificates get suspended, how they get restricted or how they get cancelled.

All this has been brought into the principal Act which is going to create a lot of clarity on how the appeals and also how the licenses are being done in this country.

These are some of the important points that the Bill covers and I feel that whatever issues the hon. Members have raised regarding the Bill, I was able to cover with this and especially, there has been some discussion on the naming of the Bill also. I do not see the problem. I have calculated how many words are there in the act.

15.00 hrs

Sir, 11,643 words are there in the entire Act. Out of 11,643 words, only three words are there, that is, *Bhartiya Vayuyan Vidheyak*, and the rest of the text is completely in English. So, there is no way how people feel that we are imposing certain things. In fact, when we are bringing these three words also everyone should feel happy. I was hearing someone saying that you come from Telugu land and you are accepting this. Of course, I will accept it. It is an Indian language and we are all proud of all the Indian languages that are there.

I would also like to mention one thing in respect of *Bhartiya Vayuyan Vidheyak*. In Telugu also, Bhartiya is Bhartiya only. In Telugu, Vayu is also Vayu only. So, I treat this as a Telugu name also, and I treat it as a Sanskrit name also; I treat it as any other

Indian language. So just by bringing the name of this act, I feel that everyone should feel proud of this and not oppose the naming of the Act. That is one point which I want to mention here.

Other than this, one of the important issues that have also been raised during the speeches was the airfares issue. It has constantly been coming up, let it be during 'Zero Hour', let it be during Private Members' Bill or let it be during the Question Hour. Through the Bill also, many Members have raised this issue. In fact, I have already mentioned this after taking charge as the Minister also that one of my top priorities would be to make the airfares affordable and accessible to the common man of this country.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: There should be some mechanism for flexibility.

SHRI KINJARAPU RAMMOHAN NAIDU: Sir, I will get it done.

The intention of the NDA Government is this. Till 2014, civil aviation was always like it was for certain sections of the civilized society. It was like civilized aviation. But once hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji has taken charge, civil aviation was considered as civilian aviation, and that is what our commitment is even today also. To make it civilian aviation, this is a very important point which the Ministry is also looking at

very seriously. But I would also like to tell the House that we have to understand the dynamics around the airfares also. It is not just the airlines saying that tomorrow they will just put this air price at so and so price. There is a certain mechanism. There are a lot of other factors which are included in the airfares like the ATF, the fuel cost, the airport security fee, user development fee, landing charges, and a lot of other factors like market demand, and especially when some vacations are there or some special events are happening. So, there are a lot of dynamic factors which get included in deciding the fare of this thing.

Yesterday also when a lot of Members were speaking, they were also mentioning how certain carriers have gone out of system also. Some important airlines like Jet Airways and Deccan Airways and some other important airways which were very optimistic in the area of civil aviation, have all exited the aviation market. So, we have to create a balance. Now if you see, if we create so much pressure on the airlines that they totally are not in a situation to run, then we do not have any planes to run. So, we have to create a balance, and that is the balanced approach that the Ministry is also looking at. There is a balanced approach where the airlines also should not misuse or take advantage of the position of the passenger, and at the same time, we are creating a

level playing field so that the airlines also operate at a certain stage in the country.

On the directions of the hon. Speaker Sir also - last time when there was a discussion on this - he said, 'why do you not meet the airlines?', we are doing it from the Ministry. We are having meetings with the airlines industry, and we are trying to ensure that there is no misuse or there is no disadvantage for the passengers. I would like to mention this in the House also because a lot of Members have raised this issue across the Benches and even the hon. Speaker has also taken cognizance of this. We are thinking of setting up an online mechanism to take in grievances not just from the MPs, but also from the public. We will put up a team in the Ministry which is going to specifically look about these issues where they feel undue advantage has been taken or unnecessarily some unreasonable hike has happened in airfares. Whenever there is an issue like this, we are going to create an online system which will take care of the grievances. You can put in your grievances and with timely response, we are going to address this one. We are going to make sure that there is no undue advantage that has been taken by anyone. I want to tell this to the hon. Members of this house.

Other than this, one important scheme that has been brought in by the hon. Prime Minister which I would like to mention in

the House again, is the RCS Scheme. The RCS-UDAN Scheme was a total game changer for the civil aviation market in the country. We should all be proud of the great vision that hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji had to create the scheme back in 2016 itself. I take great pride in speaking about the RCS-UDAN Scheme which is a regional connectivity scheme, *Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik*, and some of the success stories this has created. I could see the positivity of most of the Members who have spoken yesterday also. They had been proudly speaking about the airports in their districts, airports in their constituencies and how they have increased, how they want more connectivity happening, and how they want the terminal capacity to increase. I would like to take certain examples. One example is the Darbhanga Airport. Darbhanga city is a very historical city. From the Maithili time, it is a very historic and historical city. It had one airstrip there which was running between 1950 and 1962. After 1962, there was no plane there. It was totally taken away from the civil aviation map of this country. When RCS came into play, when UDAN came into play – this was in 2020 – thereafter the airport was upgraded by spending Rs.120 crore under the UDAN Scheme. The first flight from Darbhanga took off on 9th November, 2020. It was in 2020 when the first flight took off. In the year 2022-23 – this was up to COVID-19 also – the airport

handled six lakh passengers in the whole year. That was the kind of change the RCS has brought in for Darbhanga. There was no airport in Western Odisha. There was a huge interest from all the people of Western Odisha that they should have an airport. Before 2014, before the RCS scheme, there was nothing which was addressing this issue. But once the RCS was brought into place, even in the Jharsuguda Airport we have spent up to Rs.202 crore where we have created a new airport. Once that airport was brought in, the first flight took off in 2019. Now that terminal is handling two lakh passengers per year which is a great achievement for the Jharsuguda Airport. Then we have the Pithoragarh Airport, the Kalaburagi Airport, and the Kishangarh Airport. Examples are numerous. These come from all the cities, all the States and all the Union Territories of this country. So, this was the grand vision that Narendra Modi ji had where we are going to take up those remote areas where there is a lot of demand from people to travel through airplanes. That was when the RCS was promulgated and it was brought into effect. More than 500 routes have started under the RCS. More than 1.4 crore people of this country have travelled through the RCS routes. That is something which we all should be proud of.

Other than that, because of the success of the scheme, we are going to improve the scheme in the coming days. With the help

of the Central Government, we are going to bring in the RCS again because it was a 10-year plan. Now, we are seeing that there are some issues. The RCS is specifically for three years because the way that scheme was done is that for three years, we are going to help a certain airport or a certain route to take off. It was not for a continuous time that the Government is going to provide the support. We wanted to create the impetus. We wanted to create the push and the spark. So, for three years, we were supporting. But now, a specific situation has arrived where after three years, the airlines sometimes are backing away from that route. That also has been expressed by a lot of people. So, we are going to address that issue. We have a process where after one year we can re-bid that route and we can restart that route through RCS. We need to extend the scheme of RCS because it has been a huge success and it has given a huge push to civil aviation also. So, definitely, we are going to look into expanding RCS also.

Other than that, in the area of civil aviation, just like how the interest is growing for having more airports and airlines, we want to have seaplanes also. That has been also a brainchild of Narendra Modi ji. He wants to see the seaplane industry also grow in this country. There was a certain policy which was made earlier. But we have taken industry feedback also on seaplane policy. They have requested for some changes. We have done

those changes and very soon we are going to launch the new policy also. That is going to open up a whole new area of air travel. Wherever you have dams, wherever you have lakes, wherever you have sea connectivity, you can use the seaplane connectivity to connect those places. Again, it is going to create an alternate way of travelling. So, seaplanes are something we are looking at.

Now, I come to helicopters. If you look at the situation in India, you will find that the number of helicopters is very less as compared to the population, or the size of the country, that we have. A Brazilian city, Brasilia itself has more than 500 helicopters, and we are looking at 250-something helicopters in the whole country. So, there is a great opportunity to tap into the helicopter services in this country. What is the Ministry of Civil Aviation doing with regard to the same? We want to encourage manufacturing of helicopters in the country. We are trying to push it. Like I have said, there is this state-of-the-art design element that is there in the Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, which is going to improve the setting up of plants, and it will also help in designing these helicopters. And once we have that network within the country, and if the States also support us, I am sure that that will be very fruitful.

I would specifically take the example of the State of Madhya Pradesh. The State is doing a wonderful job by connecting its religious and tourism circuits with helicopters. Now, with regard to medical tourism, Uttarakhand AIIMS has also put in one helicopter so that it can cater to the difficult terrain and unreachable areas in the State. So, there are a lot of services that helicopters can provide us. And we, on behalf of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, are strongly looking into this area. And with the help and support of the States, I am very sure that helicopter services are also going to increase manifold in the coming days.

Sir, I would especially like to thank hon. senior Member of the House, Rudy ji, who has spoken yesterday about the Bill. It is a homecourt advantage for him. Whenever there is a civil aviation matter, it is a homecourt advantage for him. He brings in all the experiences that he has. He has rightfully elevated the discussion that was happening yesterday, and I am very, very thankful to him for bringing in so much of knowledge.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: He is a pilot himself.

SHRI KINJARAPU RAMMOHAN NAIDU: Yes, Sir, he is a pilot himself. We recognise it. The House recognises it. He has actually elevated the whole sense of the debate here. He has also enlightened us on how the civil aviation industry has originated in India, and how it has travelled through the years. He has

specifically mentioned about the Aero Club of India. We take pride in the Aero Club of India. It provides all the services. In future, we are going to see how we can collectively use the wisdom of the Aero Club of India in the growth of civil aviation in this country, and I am definitely going to look into it personally also.

Sir, there were also some suggestions from the hon. Members with regard to air fares. I have already addressed that issue. We will form a specific team in the Ministry which will look into the issues with regard to air fares. Most of the Members have talked individually about the airports in their States or the airports within their own constituencies. About 36 Members have spoken on this Bill, and the names of the airports that they have taken are more than 50. I would say that it is very difficult. Each individual airport has a specific -- I would not say a problem -- update, which I want to give to the hon. Members. So, if possible, I would extend an invitation to the hon. Members through this august House that whenever they have time, they can come and see me, so that I can sit with them and explain to them exactly what is the necessary thing that needs to be done regarding the airports. But on behalf of the Ministry, I would like to tell you that we are interested in building more airports. We want the infrastructure around the airports to increase. And the only

challenge, a big challenge, that we find today is the availability of land. That is why, Sougata *Da* was speaking about it yesterday, and he was mentioning, *[TRANSLATION]* Are you showing off that you've built so many airports and so many airlines are operating? This is not a matter of showing off. If we would not tackle the infrastructure problem today, it is going to be a huge challenge in the future. If we don't settle the issue of airports today, we'll feel everywhere that this is a backward area, what's the need for an airport here? Something else can be built here. We can invest money in something else here. *[ENGLISH]* But very soon, that place is going to need an airport, and when that airport requirement is there, you would not get any land. So, that is something which needs to be addressed today, and it has to be addressed by the States themselves.

An airport has got a great potential to drive a State and there are numerous examples like this. I can take the example of Shamshabad airport. Under the then Chief Minister, who is now also the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Chandrababu Naidu ji, Shamshabad airport was constructed in Hyderabad. He envisioned that. In Shamshabad village, 5000 acres of land were acquired. At that time, people were questioning, 'why do you need 5000 acres of land for the airport'? And today, if you look at it, after twenty-odd years, that 5000 acres of land are not

enough right now for the services that that airport is requiring. This is the challenge which many big cities are facing today.

If you see these places like Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, all of them are very tightly situated in small lands. We want to expand those airports but there is no land available. If you want to acquire more land, the price of the land has become so exorbitant that it is totally unviable to do expansion in those areas. So, I am advising all the Members here and also through you to the States that you represent that if you can focus on getting that land parcels today itself, you are going to create an airport infrastructure which is going to be useful for generations to come. It is very difficult tomorrow to address this land issue. Even yesterday when I was hearing the speeches, a lot of people have already mentioned how land acquisition is a problem.

Right now, if you want to take those areas for airport development, there is a lot of land acquisition problem just like anywhere else. So, we have to tackle this problem and from our side, whatever support is needed from the Central Government, we are going to provide just like we have done for the last ten years and we are committed to improve the airport infrastructure in this country under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji and that is our commitment to all the States.

For Patna airport also, hon. Member has spoken about it. Land is with the State right now and whatever land the State provides, we first give the site clearance. We do a thorough inspection. Can an airport come here? Can it be viable? Can we build a proper runway where big flights, narrow body flights, wide body flights land easily? So, we do all these surveys and we give a site clearance. Once that is done, you go into land acquisition. So, wherever you have a request of a new airport, we see if there is a land parcel available or if there is air strip available. There is already a lot of research done from the Ministry of Civil Aviation but in case, if there is no update for you, you can handover to me again a request for that specific place. I will give you a specific update on the status of that site. With the cooperation from the State and Central Government, I can assure you if everything goes perfectly, we can very soon build an airport in that place. So, do not restrict yourself. If you have any place in mind, please let me know so that I can get it inspected and I am going to provide all support from the Ministry so that we can build airports there. That was regarding individual airports.

For connectivity also, there have been a lot of requests that we have an airport now and we want to improve that connectivity. Now, connectivity is a market driven exercise that is being done

by the airlines. We do not have a specific rule or we do not have the specific power to say to the airlines that you just have to start this route from today. But through RCS, we have done a bidding process where these unconnected routes or unserved airports or underserved airports are all given certain viability gap funding so that the unconnected airports are connected. In that sense, if there is any airport which comes under the RCS category, then definitely, we are going to provide the support and ensure that proper connectivity is given and all other requests that you have – let it be for domestic flights or international flights – even though that is not the direct responsibility of the Government, we are trying through a favourable way to push the request to the airlines so that they can be considered as and when there is a possibility of considering them.

Sir, these are some of the main issues that were mentioned yesterday and other than this, I think any issue from any other Member that has been raised especially Sougata Da, he is not here, but one thing I take objection to what he has said.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: What about Buddhist circuit?

SHRI KINJARAPU RAMMOHAN NAIDU: Sir, your Buddhist circuit is also there. We are definitely going to sit with the State Government and do it.

If hon. Speaker Sir was there, I would have told him that we have given site clearance for Kota airport where he has been very strongly pursuing from his side also. ... (*Interruptions*)
 [TRANSLATION]When this starts, everyone will get one each. I will give separately.

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: He is ready to invite any hon. Member.

SHRI KINJARAPU RAMMOHAN NAIDU: Any grievances that you have regarding airlines or airfares, we are going to create a proper system where we have a team in the Ministry which is going to address all these issues. We are going to create a very efficient system where you can provide us with all the details. If there is a specific airfare that you feel is very unreasonably hiked, you provide us on which website you have taken it, what was the timing of the plane and in which plane. If you can provide the details, we will do thorough research from our side. If there has been any misuse of the rights of the passengers, then we are going to take strict action also. We have done this earlier also.

SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND (VELLORE): What about land acquisition?

HON. CHAIRPERSON: No, please. You kindly address the Chair.

SHRI KINJARAPU RAMMOHAN NAIDU: Sir, as I said, land is a state subject. If you feel that somewhere the cost is very high, it is up to the State to look for alternate land proposals. We are not saying that the airport should be restricted to only one specific area.

You can look at four or five areas and we can provide all the inputs as to where it can be feasible. If the land is very expensive in a certain portion, it is up to the State to look at other alternatives. Now, I would like to take the point of Prof. Sougata Ray.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI (THOOTHUKKUDI): What about the Thoothukkudi Airport?

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kanimozhi ji, this is not fair. Hon. Members have already raised their concerns and the hon. Minister is now responding to them. You can ask your question later on. When I allow you, you can ask a question.

SHRI KINJARAPU RAMMOHAN NAIDU: Sir, I can say that I am very, very accessible to everyone. I am willing to meet anyone at any time and I will give them proper update.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You can take cognizance of Kanimozhi ji.

SHRI KINJARAPU RAMMOHAN NAIDU: Yes. Regarding Thoothukkudi Airport, I can say that a terminal building is being

constructed there. You have also requested many times to speed up the process. Our Ministry is trying to push it up.

In Mumbai, the Navi Mumbai Airport will be a game changer airport for the whole Mumbai city. A lot of people have expressed concerns as to when it is going to open. The construction has been going on for a long time. I personally visited that airport and took a review of it. We have given a strict deadline that by 1st April, 2025 the first flight has to land and take off from there. We are ensuring that they are strictly following it. In many of the airports, we are trying to put a timebound deadline so that they complete their work and people can access all these airports.

Prof. Sougata Ray has mentioned that everything is getting privatised. *[TRANSLATION]* Air India has been given away and now you can't even ask anyone for a seat upgradation. Before 2014, there was a culture of recommendations. Due to this culture of recommendations, Air India's debt went up to 80 thousand crore rupees. This very reason caused the loss and we had to let go of Air India.

[ENGLISH]

Now, the Ministry of Civil Aviation does not get request for seat upgradation. We get request for upgradation of airports; we get request for upgradation of airport infrastructure; we get

request for upgradation of facilities. So, we have raised the level of Ministry of Civil Aviation from just seat upgradation request to airports upgradation request. This has only happened because of the vision of the hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji. We all are showing this commitment to the country.

There is lot of scope and potential especially in the MRO industry. I have replied in one of the answers about the growth of the MRO industry. From a two-billion-dollar industry, we have made it a four-billion-dollar industry in seven years. It also has great potential in job creation in the country.

So, a lot of different sectors in civil aviation are being looked upon. This Bharatiya Vayuyan Vidheyak encapsulates all of them and gives good direction. It harmonises all the SARPs which have been set by ICAO, a United Nations Agency for civil aviation. We are trying to maintain top standard globally. We do not just operate within ourselves but we set standards for the world itself.

So, we are considering the civil aviation sector a very promising one. I would like to personally thank hon. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi ji who has given the responsibility of handling the Civil Ministry to me at a very young age.

I did not have any expertise in the civil aviation sector. But he had the confidence on a young Member of this House. He has the vision that if it is in the hands of a young Minister, it will

definitely touch the height. That is why, I want to thank the hon. Prime Minister.

I want to thank our leader, Shri Chandrababu Naidu also for giving me the opportunity. I also want to thank him on behalf of our Minister of State, Shri Muraleedharan. We both are young Ministers and we want to do a lot good things in civil aviation sector. Yesterday, hon. Members from both sides have spoken. They all have given a lot of support and encouraged us as young Ministers.

On behalf of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, I would like to thank all the Members of both sides. Everyone has supported us. With this kind of support, we are sure that we are going to reach number one position in the domestic aviation market in the whole world.

That is still our commitment. While I say that is our commitment, we are going to ensure that in whatever we do in this Civil Aviation Ministry, it is going to be addressed as ‘civilian aviation Ministry’. The civilian is going to be the topmost priority for us and that we are going to ensure, Sir. This Bill, the Bhartiya Vayuyan Vidheyak, plays a very important role. I request the whole House, just like they have supported through their speeches yesterday, to support in the passing of this

important Bill which creates and gives a new direction for the civil aviation industry in the country.

With these words, I thank you, once again, for giving me the time.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That the Bill to provide for regulation and control of the design, manufacture, maintenance, possession, use, operation, sale, export and import of aircraft and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

‘That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill ’

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 was added to the Bill

Clause 3 Directorate General of Civil Aviation

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri N. K. Premachandran, are you moving Amendment No. 5?

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I am moving my Amendment No. 5, that is, DGCA's authority is being entrusted to 'an officer'. My amendment is that the officer should be not below the rank of a Secretary to the Government of India. Please accept it.

I beg to move:

“Page 2, line 39,-

after

“an officer”

Insert

“not below the rank of Secretary to

the

Government of India.”

(5)

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I shall now put the Amendment No. 5 in Clause 3 moved by Shri N.K. Premachandran to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put to the vote of the House and negatived

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Adv. Dean Kuriakose – Not present

Shri N.K. Premachandran, are you moving Amendment No.

8?

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, the Amendment No. 8 is also same, that, it is not below the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of India in the same Clause. I am moving it.

I beg to move:

“Page 2, line 49,-

after “authority”

insert “not below the rank of

Additional Secretary to the Government of India.” (8)

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I shall now put the Amendment No. 8 in Clause 3 moved by Shri N.K. Premachandran to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put to the vote of the House and negatived

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

‘That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill’

The motion was adopted

Clause 3 was added to the Bill

Clause 4 Power of Director General of Civil Aviation to Issue directions

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri N.K. Premachandran, are you moving Amendment No. 9?

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, the Amendment No. 9 is also same, that, it is not below the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of India. I am moving it.

I beg to move:

“Page 3, line 1,-

after “other officer”

insert “not below the rank of Additional Secretary to the Government of India.” (9)

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I shall now put the Amendment No. 9 in Clause 4 moved by Shri N.K. Premachandran to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put to the vote of the House and negatived

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

‘That Clause 4 stand part of the Bill ’

The motion was adopted

Clause 4 was added to the Bill

Clause 5 Bureau of Civil Aviation Security

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri N.K. Premachandran, are you moving Amendment Nos. 10 and 11?

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, Amendment nos. 10 and 11 are more or less of the same character. Since my other amendments are negatived, I am not moving them.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

‘That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill’

The motion was adopted

Clause 5 was added to the Bill

Clause 6 was added to the Bill

**Clause 7 Aircraft Accidents
Investigation Bureau**

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri N.K. Premachandran, are you moving Amendment No. 12?

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, the Amendment No. 12 is very important. This is an amendment to Clause 7. It is regarding the officer’s qualification of the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau. Since it is a very sensitive post, the qualification should be not below the rank of the Director General

of Police. That amendment can very well be accepted by the Government.

I beg to move:

“Page 3, line 47,-

after “an officer”

Insert “not below the rank of Director General of Police.” (12)

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I shall now put the Amendment No. 12 in Clause 7 moved by Shri N.K. Premachandran to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put to the vote of the House and negatived

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Adv. Dean Kuriakose to move Amendment No. 13 – not present.

Mr. N.K. Premachandran, are you moving Amendment No. 14?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, I am not moving Amendment No. 14 as my earlier amendment is already negatived. So, there is no meaning in further moving it.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That Clause 7 stand part of the Bill ”

The motion was adopted

Clause 7 was added to the Bill

Clause 8 and 9 were added to the Bill

Clause 10

**Power of Central
Government to make rules.**

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri N.K. Premachandran, are you moving Amendment No. 15?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: No, Sir, I am not moving Amendment No. 15.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Okay, thank you.

Prof. Sougata Ray to move Amendment Nos. 16 and 17 –
not present.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That Clause 10 stand part of the Bill ”

The motion was adopted

Clause 10 was added to the Bill

Clauses 11 to 17 were added to the Bill

Clause 18**Power of Central**

Government to prohibit or regulate construction of buildings, planting of trees and the likes.

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Sougata Ray – not present.

Shri N.K. Premachandran, are you moving Amendment No. 18?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, let me read the Amendment No. 18 to Clause 18. As per the existing provision, if the Central Government is of the opinion that it is necessary or expedient so to do for the safety of aircraft operations, direct that no building or structure shall be constructed or erected, or no tree shall be planted on any land within twenty kilometres of the radius. So, my suggestion is, let it be five kilometres.

Sir, I beg to move:

Page 9, line 14,-

for “twenty”

substitute “five”. (18)

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I shall now put amendment No. 18 to Clause 18 moved by Shri N. K. Premachandran to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put to vote and was negatived.

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Sougata Ray to move Amendment No. 19 – not present.

Shri N.K. Premachandran, are you moving Amendment No. 20?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: No, Sir, I am not moving Amendment No. 20.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Sougata Ray to move Amendment No. 21 – not present.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That clause 18 stand part of the Bill”

The Motion was adopted.

Clause 18 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 19 to 21 were added to the Bill.

... (Interruptions)

**Clause 22 Manner of determination and
payment of Compensation
or loss or damage.**

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Sougata Ray to move Amendment No. 22 – not present.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, it is time for the Private Members' Business. ... (*Interruptions*)

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): Sir, Private Member's Bill... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Private Member's Bill would be taken up after this Bill is passed. This Bill is being considered clause by clause. Shri Hibi Eden ji, this is your third term. You should be aware of the rules. We will take it up later on.

The question is:

“That Clause 22, stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 22 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 23 to 25 were added to the
Bill.

[ENGLISH]

**Clause 26 Penalty for flying so as to cause
danger.**

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Kodikunnil Suresh, are you moving Amendment No. 23?

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Sir, I beg to move:

Page 12, line 24,-

after “aircraft”

insert “, drone, manned or unmanned aerial vehicle, remote controlled or radio controlled airborne vehicles”. (23)

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I shall now put amendment No. 23 to Clause 26 moved by Shri Kodikunnil Suresh to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put to vote and was negatived.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is -

“That Clause 26 stand part of the Bill.”

The Motion was adopted.

The Clause 26 was added to the Bill.

[ENGLISH]

Clause 27

**Penalty for failure to
comply with directions
issued under Section 4 or
Section 6.**

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Sougata Ray to move Amendment No. 24 – not present.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is -

“That Clause 27 stand part of the Bill.”

The Motion was adopted.

The Clause 26 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 28 to 43 were added to the Bill.

[ENGLISH]

**Clause 1 Short title, extent, application
and commencement.**

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Sougata Ray to move
Amendment No. 1 – not present.

Shri N.K. Premachandran ji, are you moving Amendment
No. 2?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, it is very important.
The hon. Minister had replied to my query yesterday also. I had
raised this issue at the time of introduction of the Bill also. Article
348(1)(b) mandates that the text of the Bill shall be in English.
So, I am insisting on that, and I am moving the amendment.

I beg to move:

Page 1, line 5,-

for “Bharatiya Vayuyan Adhiniyam, 2024”
substitute “Indian Aircraft Act, 2024”. (2)

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I shall now put amendment No. 2 to Clause 1 moved by Shri N. K. Premachandran to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put to vote and was negatived.

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Vishaldada Prakashbapu Patil, are you moving your Amendment No. 3?

SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL (SANGLI):

Sir, this is similar to the amendment given by Prof. Sougata Ray. So, I am not moving my amendment.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Dean Kuriakose ji to move Amendment No.4— not present.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is -

“That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill.”

The Motion was adopted.

The Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister, now to move that the Bill be passed.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI KINJARAPU RAMMOHAN NAIDU: Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed”.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That the Bill be passed”

The Motion was adopted.

15.37 hrs

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS – Introduced

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, the House will take up the Private Members' Business.

Shri Manish Tewari.

**(i) INTELLIGENCE SERVICES (POWERS AND
REGULATION) BILL, 2024***

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (CHANDIGARH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to regulate the manner of the functioning and exercise of powers of Indian Intelligence Agencies within and beyond the territory of India and to provide for the coordination, control and oversight of such agencies.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to regulate the manner of the functioning and exercise of powers of Indian intelligence agencies within and beyond the territory of India and to provide for the coordination, control and oversight of such agencies.

The Motion was adopted.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.38 hrs

(ii) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024*

(Amendment of Article 80, etc.)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (CHANDIGARH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.38½ hrs

(iii) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024*

(Amendment of Article 324, etc.)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (CHANDIGARH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI MANISH TEWARI: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.39 hrs

**(iv) COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING IN
SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS BILL, 2024***

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE (MAVAL):

Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory military training in schools and other educational institutions to promote discipline, physical fitness, national integration and preparedness among the youth of the nation.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory military training in schools and other educational institutions to promote discipline, physical fitness, national integration and preparedness among the youth of the nation.”

The Motion was adopted.

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.39½ hrs

**(v) VISUAL REPRESENTATION OF INCOME TAX
COLLECTIONS BILL, 2024***

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE (MAVAL): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for visual representation of Income Tax collected from the taxpayers of the country in an accessible and transparent manner and for matters connected therewith.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is::

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for visual representation of Income Tax collected from the taxpayers of the country in an accessible and transparent manner and for matters connected therewith.”

The Motion was adopted.

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.40 hrs

(vi) GLUCOTEST STRIPS (REGULATION AND PRICE CONTROL) BILL, 2024*

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE (MAVAL):

Hon. Chairperson Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to ensure uniformity and standardization in the manufacturing, distribution, and pricing of glucotest strips across India with a view to improve diabetes management and ensure affordability of glucotest strips for all and for matter connected therewith.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce the Bill to ensure uniformity and standardization in the manufacturing, distribution, and pricing of glucotest strips across India with a view to improve diabetes management and ensure affordability of glucotest strips for all and for matter connected therewith.”

The Motion was adopted.

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA CHANDU BARNE: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

[ENGLISH]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: DR. D. RAVI KUMAR – not present.

SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN – not present.

15.40½ hrs

**(vii) MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL
EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024***
(Amendment of Section 3 and Schedule II)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce the Bill further to amend the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.41 hrs

**(viii) ASHA WORKERS (REGULARISATION OF
SERVICE AND OTHER BENEFITS) BILL, 2024***

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for regularisation of the services of ASHA workers and conferring the status of permanent employee of the Government and for matters connected therewith.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“that leave be granted to introduce the Bill to provide for regularisation of the services of ASHA workers and conferring the status of permanent employee of the Government and for matters connected therewith.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.41½ hrs

**(ix) ANGANWADI WORKERS (REGULARISATION OF
SERVICE AND WELFARE) BILL, 2024***

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the regularisation of the services of Anganwadi Workers and conferring the status of not less than those of Group ‘C’ employee of the Central Government on such Anganwadi Workers.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce the Bill to provide for the regularisation of the services of Anganwadi Workers and conferring the status of not less than those of Group ‘C’ employees of the Central Government on such Anganwadi Workers.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.42 hrs

(x) BACKWARD AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD

BILL, 2024*

[ENGLISH]

SHRI NAVASKANI K. (RAMANATHAPURAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for setting up of a Board for speedy development of backward areas and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“that leave be granted to introduce the Bill to provide for setting up of a Board for speedy development of backward areas and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI NAVASKANI K. : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.42½ hrs

**(xi) BAN ON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION IN
PROFESSIONAL COURSES BILL, 2024***

[ENGLISH]

SHRI NAVASKANI K. (RAMANATHAPURAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for ban on entrance examinations to all professional courses in the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce the Bill to provide for ban on entrance examinations to all professional courses in the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI NAVASKANI K.: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.43 hrs

(xii) OVERSEAS WORKERS (WELFARE) BILL, 2024*

[ENGLISH]

SHRI NAVASKANI K. (RAMANATHAPURAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for welfare of Indian Citizens employed outside the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce the Bill to provide for welfare of Indian Citizens employed outside the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI NAVASKANI K.: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.44 hrs

**(xiii) QUALITY EDUCATION (ENHANCING THROUGH
INTERNSHIP) BILL, 2024***

[ENGLISH]

SUSHRI PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE (SOLAPUR):

Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to enhance the quality of education in professional and technical courses by providing mandatory structured internships to the students, providing basic remuneration under the internship and establishing a national-level platform for internship application and for matters connected therewith.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce the Bill to enhance the quality of education in professional and technical courses by providing mandatory structured internships to the students, providing basic remuneration under the internship and establishing a national-level platform for internship application and for matters connected therewith.”

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SUSHRI PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.45 hrs

(xiv) SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT BILL, 2024*

[ENGLISH]

DR. T. SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the segregation and recycling of municipal solid waste, use of recyclable waste in waste-energy plants for generation of energy and transportation of non-recyclable waste into landfills and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“that leave be granted to introduce the Bill to provide for the segregation and recycling of municipal solid waste, use of recyclable waste in waste-energy plants for generation of energy and transportation of non-recyclable waste into

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

landfills and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The Motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

DR. T. SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.45½ hrs

**(xv) SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE
STATE OF TAMIL NADU BILL, 2024***

[ENGLISH]

DR. T. SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN (CHENNAI SOUTH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Tamil Nadu for the purpose of sustainable and balanced development of growth-oriented infrastructure such as housing, drinking water, roads, sanitation, creation of grain and fodder banks, skill development, cloud seeding contour bunding and welfare schemes for the women, children, senior citizens and people living below poverty line in the State and for encouraging traditional water conservation

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

through lakes, ponds, wells, rainwater harvesting and afforestation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Tamil Nadu for the purpose of sustainable and balanced development of growth-oriented infrastructure such as housing, drinking water, roads, sanitation, creation of grain and fodder banks, skill development, cloud seeding contour bunding and welfare schemes for the women, children, senior citizens and people living below poverty line in the State and for encouraging traditional water conservation through lakes, ponds, wells, rainwater harvesting and afforestation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

DR. T. SUMATHY ALIAS THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.46½ hrs

(xvi) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024*

(Amendment of the Seventh Schedule)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.47 hrs

(xvii) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024*

(Amendment of Article 58)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.48 hrs

(xviii) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024*

(Amendment of the Seventh Schedule)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 38, Shri Vijayakumar alias Vijay Vasanth – Not present.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.49 hrs

**(xix) MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
DEVELOPMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024***

(Insertion of New Sections 10A and 10B)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND (VELLORE): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act, 2006.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006."

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.50 hrs

(xx) FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS (AMENDMENT)

BILL, 2024*

(Amendment of Section 3, etc.)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND (VELLORE): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.51 hrs

**(xxi) SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR
ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL
SITES AND REMAINS IN THE STATE OF
TAMIL NADU BILL, 2024***

[ENGLISH]

SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND (VELLORE): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Tamil Nadu to meet the costs of repairs, renovations and preservation of ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains situated in the State of Tamil Nadu.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is :

“That the leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Tamil Nadu for the purpose of meeting the cost of repairs, renovations and preservation of ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains including excavation of new archaeological sites and remains located in the State of Tamil Nadu.”

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI D. M. KATHIR ANAND: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.51½ hrs

**(xxii) ANDHRA PRADESH REORGANISATION
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024***
(Insertion of New Section 90A).

[ENGLISH]

SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY (TIRUPATI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.52 hrs

**(xxiii) COMPULSORY TEACHING OF SANSKRIT
LANGUAGE IN SCHOOLS BILL, 2024***

[TRANSLATION]

SHRIMATI SMITA UDAY WAGH (JALGAON): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for teaching of Sanskrit as a compulsory language in schools.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill provide for the teaching of Sanskrit as a compulsory language in schools.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SMITA UDAY WAGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.52½ hrs

(xxiv) NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION BILL, 2024*

[TRANSLATION]

SHRIMATI SMITA UDAY WAGH(JALGAON): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Youth Commission for the purpose of prescribing and implementing programmes for educating and empowering youth and to function as protector of rights of youth and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to constitute a Youth Commission for the purpose of prescribing and implementing programmes for educating and empowering youth and to function as a protector of the rights of youth and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SMITA UDAY WAGH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.53 hrs

**(xxv) VICTIMS OF NATURAL LIGHTNING DISASTER
(COMPENSATION) BILL, 2024***

[ENGLISH]

SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN (PALAKKAD): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the rehabilitation and compensation to the victims of lightning strike disaster and for matters connected therewith.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the rehabilitation and compensation to the victims of lightning strike disaster and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.53½ hrs

**(xxvi) HIGH COURT OF KERALA (ESTABLISHMENT
OF A PERMANENT BENCH AT PALAKKAD) BILL,
2024***

[ENGLISH]

SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN (PALAKKAD): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Permanent Bench of the High Court of Kerala at Palakkad.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent bench of the Kerala High Court at Palakkad.”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.54 hrs

**(xxvii) ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024*
(Insertion of New Section 3A).**

[ENGLISH]

SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN (PALAKKAD): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956.”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item-48, Shri Janardan Singh Sigriwal – Not present.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.55 hrs

**(xxviii) PROMOTION OF ORGANIC FARMING BILL,
2024***

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR CHAHAR (FATEHPUR SIKRI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to promote organic farming in the country, reduce dependency on chemical fertilizers in farming and highlight ill effects on the health of the individuals and for matters connected therewith.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to promote organic farming in the country, reduce dependency on chemical fertilizers in farming and highlight ill effects on health of the individuals and for matters connected therewith.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR CHAHAR: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.55½ hrs

**(xxix) MAHATMA GANDHI NATIONAL RURAL
EMPLOYMENT GUARANTEE (AMENDMENT) BILL,
2024***

(Insertion of New Section 5A, etc.)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005.”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI HIBI EDEN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.56 hrs

**(xxx) AIR (PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF
POLLUTION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2024***

(Amendment of Section 2, etc.)

[ENGLISH]

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI HIBI EDEN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.56½ hrs

**(xxxi) AIRLINES PASSENGER SERVICES AUTHORITY
BILL, 2024***

[ENGLISH]

SHRI HIBI EDEN (ERNAKULAM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to establish the Airlines Passenger Services Authority for the protection of passenger rights in airlines and to provide compensation for flight delay, cancellation, denied boarding and baggage lost or damage and to regulate the rights of frequent travellers in India.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to establish the Airlines Passenger Services Authority for the protection of passenger rights in airlines and to provide compensation for flight delay, cancellation, denied boarding and baggage lost or damage and to regulate the rights of frequent travellers in India ”

The motion was adopted.

[ENGLISH]

SHRI HIBI EDEN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.57 hrs

(xxxii) PLAY SCHOOLS (REGULATION) BILL, 2024*

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL

(MAHARAJGANJ): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to regulate the functioning of play schools and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to regulate the functioning of play schools and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.57½ hrs

**(xxxiii) ORPHANS (RESERVATION OF POSTS IN
GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHMENTS AND WELFARE)
BILL, 2024***

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL (MAHARAJGANJ): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the reservation of posts and formulation of welfare schemes and programmes for orphans in Government establishments and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the reservation of posts and formulation of welfare schemes and programmes for orphans in Government establishments and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.58 hrs

(xxxiv) RURAL LABOUR WELFARE FUND BILL, 2024*

[TRANSLATION]

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL

(MAHARAJGANJ): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to constitute a Rural Labour Welfare Fund for the welfare of rural workers employed in agriculture and other rural occupations and for matters connected therewith.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is :

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to constitute a Rural Labour Welfare Fund for the welfare of rural workers employed in agriculture and other rural occupations and for matters connected therewith”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 09.08.2024.

15.59 hrs

(Hon. Speaker *in the Chair*)

**COMMISSION FOR REGULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
INDUSTRY BILL, 2024**

[ENGLISH]

HON. SPEAKER: Item No. 58, Shri C. N. Annadurai.

SHRI C. N. ANNADURAI (TIRUVANNAMALAI): Sir, I beg to move:

“that the Bill seeking to provide for the setting up of a Commission to regulate and promote the development of Information Technology industry in the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration.”

16.00 hrs

The Commission shall consist of a Chairperson and four other members to be appointed by the Union Government having such qualifications as may be prescribed.

Information technology is the gateway of all future developments, be it education, healthcare, agriculture, sports, bio-diversity, safety and security etc. The Tamil Nadu Government is taking care to enrich capacity building in Information Technology each year and spread awareness in e-

governance and mobile-governance. It will open opportunities for employment generation for scientists, techno-experts and other managerial jobs. All socio-economic development growth and civilizational march will depend upon direction of information technology based on Artificial Intelligence.

The Commission shall take appropriate steps to set up information technology parks in cities with population of more than one million and in cities having potential for development of information technology parks. Information technology industry is one the fastest growing industries of the country. There is tremendous potential for further growth of this industry, Therefore, we require more investment. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is making all-out efforts for attracting and encouraging more investment in the IT industry in Tamil Nadu. This industry can prove to be a major source of revenue for the Government. There is huge scope to tap the growth potential of the information technology industry. It is also proposed that a national policy on information technology be formulated. This Bill will pave the way for socio-economic development of various States of the country, especially the developing States including the State of Tamil Nadu.

I take this opportunity to announce that our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu aims to make the State a trillion-dollar

economy and global human capital hub through IT industry. The Tamil Nadu Government is already fostering entrepreneurship related to IT and establishing IT parks in the State.

Thank you.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER : Motion moved:

“That the Bill seeking to provide for the setting up of a Commission to regulate and promote the development of information technology industry in the country and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be taken into consideration”

Dr. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Hon’ble Speaker Sir, I rise to speak on the Bill introduced by Hon’ble C.N. Annadurai Sahib.

Sir, this Bill seems nice apparently but he has raised an apprehension in this Bill and that apprehension is not rooted where it is thought of. He has expressed an apprehension and has suggested a remedy for the same in the Bill. He goes on to say that the single industry going to surge ahead in the future is IT industry if we look at the pace and type of development taking place across the world.

Hon’ble Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to apprise the entire country and particularly this House that the leadership

of any political party plans for the next 50 or 100 years. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister Modi ji thinks on those lines only and the country is marching ahead under his leadership thus fulfilling his resolve of '*Viksit Bharat*' by the year 2047. The whole world knew that the IT industry in the field of Software and Hardware is going to see growth. Extensive Debates are held in the Parliament on the issues such as 'Brain Drain', number of people migrating to foreign countries and those immigrating to our country and the number of children studying. The Silicon Valley of America was controlled totally by people of Indian origin. There used to be complete hegemony of Indian people. We usually rejoiced over the fact that the people educated in our IITs with the money of our tax payers have migrated to America due to lack of facilities back here and are successfully making names for themselves setting up big enterprises. Despite that, the 'then Government' never gave a thought over it and I am mentioning only the 'then Government of India' and not taking name of the Opposition party since that is likely to make them angry.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, you will be surprised to know that we went on to sign an agreement in WTO in the year 1996 above that all. The responsibility for the problem of unemployment visible everywhere and other problems in laws of the country starting from PMLA lies solely with Hon'ble Chidambaram Sahib, the

renowned economist of this country who has contributed so much to the development of this country. He went to WTO and signed and agreed for zero Duty on all the electronic items, IT equipments, computers, software and hardware. It wiped our toy industry, IT industry and the mobile phone industry. Further, all items that used to be exported from India prior to the year 1996, stopped and India's markets got swamped with Chinese products. The present Government, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister is struggling to find ways to bypass the said agreement which was signed in 1996, since the year 2014 till 2024 so that we can promote the domestic industry, domestic talent, domestic technology and educated youth of our country. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: So as to be able to promote positively.

... (Interruptions)

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY: Sir, how can it be positive because as you sow, so shall you reap. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: You should speak positive things today; rest can be said some other day.

... (Interruptions)

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY: Hon'ble Speaker Sir, that is why I would like to mention that the Software Technology Parks in India for Start ups, Stand ups, PLI Schemes, and above all for STPI, set up today have been located at smaller towns only.

Because the talent is concentrated in those places only. Be it sports, other fields or you can see even in Parliament, the talent lies at small towns and villages only. We have come from small towns and villages only where you are the Speaker and I have been elected for the fourth time as a Member of Parliament and my Party provides me with ample of opportunities. Keeping this in view, the Government of India has made a very nice set up which is termed as STPI. ... (Interruptions) I come from Godda Lok Sabha Constituency which is an Aspirational District and a unit of STPI has been set up there also. An STPI unit has even been set up at Bokaro, a small place in my neighbourhood. ... (Interruptions)

Hon'ble Speaker Sir, since the Hon'ble Prime Minister has arrived in the House, I would like to speak more on this topic the next time. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Okay, I will give you chance to speak in the next session.

16.09 hrs

VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, we have come to conclusion of the second session of the 18th Lok sabha. This session commenced on 22 July, 2024. We held 15 Sittings lasting for about 115 hours and 21 minutes during this session.

Hon'ble Minister of Finance presented the Union Budget, 2024-25 in the House on 23 July, 2024. The general discussions on the Union Budget 2024-25 in the House lasted for 27 hours 19 minutes. A total of 181 Hon'ble Members participated in the said discussions. Hon'ble Minister of Finance replied on the discussions on 30 July, 2024.

The House discussed the Demands for Grants for the year 2024-25, pertaining to certain selected Ministries/ Departments from 30 July, 2024 to 05 August, 2024 and Division was held on them on conclusion of discussions. The Finance Bill pertaining to the Union Budget was passed on 05 August, 2024.

Twelve Bills were introduced during this Session and a total of four Bills were passed. Important Bills passed include, The Finance Bill, 2024; the Appropriation Bill, 2024; the Jammu and Kashmir Appropriation Bill, 2024; and the Indian Aircraft Bill, 2024.

A total of 86 Starred Questions were replied orally during the Session. The Hon'ble Members raised 400 matters of urgent public importance. 358 matters were raised in the House under Rule 377. A total of 30 statements were made in the House including 25 statements under Direction 73A, two statements by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on Government Business and three 'Suo Motu Statements' by the Hon'ble Ministers under Rule 372. During the Session, as many as 1345 papers were laid on the Table of the House.

During the Session, the House held a short-duration discussion under Rule 193 on 22nd July, 2024 regarding India's preparations in the run up to the Olympic Games. A Calling Attention motion was taken up on 31st July, 2024 under Rule 197 on the loss of lives and property caused due to landslides and floods in various parts of the country.

65 Private Members' Bills were introduced during the Session. With regard to the Private Members' Resolutions, a resolution moved by Shri Shafi Parambil on the issue of appropriate measures to regulate airfares in the country was taken up for discussion in the House on 26th July, 2024., The discussion on this resolution was not concluded though.

The total productivity of this Session of the Lok Sabha was around 136 per cent. During the Session, the House welcomed

Smt. Tulia Ackson, the Speaker of the National Assembly of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Hon. President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) on 23rd July, 2024. The parliamentary delegation from Japan was also warmly welcomed on 01st August, 2024.

Hon'ble Members, I am thankful to the Hon'ble colleagues included in the Panel of Chairpersons for their contribution in conducting the proceedings of the House.

I am very much thankful to the Hon. Prime Minister, the Hon'ble Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Hon'ble Leader of Opposition, the leaders and Members of various parties for their cooperation. I, on behalf of all of you, also thank the friends of the Press and Media.

I also place on record my appreciation for the Secretary General, Lok Sabha and the officers and staff of the Secretariat for their dedicated and prompt service rendered to the House.

I also thank all the allied agencies for the services rendered by them in transacting the Business of the House.

HON. SPEAKER: Hon'ble Members, please rise at your respective places as we will play the National Song, "Vande Mataram".

16.13½ hrs

NATIONAL SONG

The National Song was played.

[TRANSLATION]

HON. SPEAKER: The proceedings of the House are adjourned sine die.

16.14 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

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