

Thursday, December 29, 2011
Pausa 8, 1933 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Ninth Session
(Fifteenth Lok Sabha)



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, December 29, 2011/Pausa 8, 1933 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MADAM SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of our former colleague Dr. Babu Kaldate.

Dr. Babu Kaldate was a Member of the Sixth Lok Sabha from 1977 to 1979 representing the Aurangabad Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra.

Dr. Kaldate was a Member of the Rajya Sabha from 1984 to 1996 for two terms representing the State of Maharashtra. He served as a Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly from 1967 to 1972.

An able Parliamentarian, Dr. Kaldate served as the Chairman of the Committee on Public Undertakings during the Sixth Lok Sabha. He also served as a Member of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House during the Sixth Lok Sabha.

An active social and political worker Dr. Kaldate played a significant role in developmental activities in his constituency and took special interest in the cooperative movement.

Dr. Babu Kaldate passed away on 17th November, 2011 at the age of 81.

We deeply mourn the loss of our friend and I am sure the House would join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

11.01½ hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be Laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:

- (1) Review by the Government of the working of the HLL Lifecare Limited (formerly Hindustan Latex Limited), Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2010-2011.
- (2) Annual Report of the HLL Lifecare Limited (formerly Hindustan Latex Limited), Thiruvananthapuram, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6106/15/11]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): Madam, On behalf of my colleague Shri D. Napoleon, I beg to lay on the Table 1 beg to lay on the Table:

- (1)
 - (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2009-2010, alongwith Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2009-2010.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6107/15/11]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rehabilitation Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2010-2011.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6108/15/11]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, New Delhi, for the year 2010-2011, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (2) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, New Delhi, for the year 2010-2011.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 6109/15/11]

11.02¹/₄ hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Madam Speaker, I have to report a message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 28th December, 2011 passed, in accordance with the provisions of article 368 of the Constitution of India, without any amendment, the Constitution (Ninety-Seventh Amendment) Bill, 2011, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd December, 2011."

11.02¹/₂ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

Statement

[English]

DR. MANDA JAGANNATH (Nagarkurnool): Madam, I beg to lay the Statement (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final replies in respect of Recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Ninth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2009-10) (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in First Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2009-10) on Demands for Grants, 2009-10 of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

11.02³/₄ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

24th and 25th Reports

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table the following Reports (Hindi and English version) of the Standing Committee on Energy (2011-12)

1. Twenty-fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations of the Committee contained in the 18th Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for the year 2011-12.
2. Twenty-fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations of the Committee contained in the 19th Report (15th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Power for the year 2011-12.

11.03 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of Implementation of the Recommendations contained in the 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on 'Production, Pricing and Distribution of Molasses', Pertaining to the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT JENA): Madam, I make a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on 'Production, pricing and distribution of Molasses', pertaining to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

I want to lay the Statement on the floor of the House.

*I would like to lay the statement on the implementation of the Recommendations contained in the Thirteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers (2010-11) on 'Production, Pricing and Distribution of Molasses in pursuance of the directions issued by the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha.

The Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers examined the Production, Pricing and Distribution of Molasses and presented their Report to Lok Sabha/Rajya Sabha on 8.12.2010. The Report contains 6 Recommendations. The gist of the Recommendations is as follows:

- (i) Expressing concern on the fluctuating trend of sugarcane production which, in turn, has affected the production of the molasses, the Committee felt that there is an urgent need to ensure the satisfactory availability of sugarcane every year. As the sugarcane production falls within the domain of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Committee desired that the Department of

Chemicals and Petrochemicals should coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture to chalk out ways and means for sustained growth of sugarcane production. In this regard, the Committee recommended that the Department should impress upon the Ministry of Agriculture the need for taking suitable steps to encourage sugarcane cultivators.

- (ii) There is need to encourage utilization of molasses for human consumption in India and coordinate with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries for taking suitable steps in the direction. The production of molasses would be augmented in such a way by the Department that besides meeting the industrial requirement, it would also cater to the needs of human consumption.
- (iii) Ensure enough quantity of molasses and its availability at reasonable prices for end users. Department should explore the feasibility of introducing incentive schemes for molasses producers and take suitable steps in co-ordination with the Department of Food and Public Distribution and Department of Agriculture and Co-operation and constitute a Committee, if necessary, for the purpose of ensuring adequate quantity of sugarcane and molasses required for various purposes. Government should take suitable expeditious steps to revive sick sugar industrial units which would not only ensure optimum utilization of the sugarcane but also result in increase in production of sugar, molasses and ethanol which are required in abundance not only by public but also by industrial units.
- (iv) The Department should chalk out proper monitoring mechanism for molasses at the earliest. The Committee further recommended that the Department should evaluate the effects of withdrawal of Molasses Control Order, 1961 on the price and distribution of molasses and revisit the feasibility of introducing some mechanism of control relevant today.
- (v) Excise duty on Denatured Ethyl Alcohol has been reduced from 10% to 8% but there is no corresponding reduction in the specific duty on molasses. As the reduction of duty on molasses is bound to boost the chemical industry, Department should take up the matter

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. See No. LT-6110/15/11.

at the appropriate level with the Ministry of Finance for early decision in this regard.

- (vi) Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas should co-ordinate and chalk out a strategy regarding allocation of Ethanol to different industries. Further, for ensuring sufficient availability of ethanol for different industries, Department would take early action on the suggestions for improvement in production of molasses made by them. Government should take necessary steps to permit industrial units to produce ethanol direct from cane juice which would also boost the demand of sugarcane and in turn benefit the farmers.

The concerned Ministries/Departments have been apprised of the Standing Committee recommendations and the gist of the reply is as follows:

- (i) The issue of sustained growth in sugarcane production was taken up with Department of Agriculture and Cooperation in the Ministry of Agriculture. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation informed that it is evident from the trial data that there is a plenty of scope for enhancing productivity of sugarcane crop. With the existing sugarcane area (ranging from 42 to 50 lakh ha), sufficient quantity of sugarcane can be produced by increasing the level of sugarcane yield through various technologies and interventions.
- (ii) The Department had taken up the issue with the Ministry of Food Processing Industries requesting them to take suitable steps as per Committee recommendation and inform this Department of the action taken. Ministry of Food Processing Industries suggested that a joint action committee coordinated by Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers could be formed to address and discuss the issues raised in the Report pertaining to utilization of molasses for human consumption in India. The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals constituted the Joint Action Committee having the representatives from Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (Director, Directorate of Sugarcane Development, Lucknow), Department of Food and Public

Distribution (Director, National Sugar Institute, Kanpur) and representatives of this Department. The meeting of the Joint Action Committee was held on 4.5.2011, The members of the Committee felt that due to cyclic nature and growing demand and also due to new use of Ethanol for Ethanol Blending in Petrol Programme, if some molasses get diverted to newer applications, there is possibility that industrial requirement of molasses for the production of Ethanol may not be fully met. Moreover, sufficient molasses are not available to meet the demand of distilleries, it is not considered necessary to find other avenues for utilization of molasses. In the year of bumper crop, excess sugarcane can be directly converted into alcohol which can also mitigate the shortage of alcohol. In India, sugarcane molasses, which is produced as a byproduct in the process of sugar production cannot be directly used for human consumption as it contains biomass/biochemicals and can be used for human consumption only after processing the byproduct molasses, In this context, National Sugar Institute, Kanpur suggested to take up the matter with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) vide their letter dated 13.9.2011 informed that Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and its Rules/ Regulations do not permit the use of molasses as food for human consumption. FSSAI vide their letter dated 4.11.2011 have also informed that there is no standards of molasses under Food Safety and Standards Regulations, 2011. As per information received from Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) vide letter dated 8.12.2011, Molasses is a viscous byproduct of the processing of sugarcane, grapes or sugar beets into sugar. Molasses has bitter taste. The blackstrap molasses (obtained after third boiling of sugar) contains trace amounts of vitamins and some minerals like calcium, magnesium, potassium and iron. However, information on bioavailability is not available. Molasses could contain some levels of herbicides and insecticides used on sugar cane crops. However, no quality control screening lab tests are being performed on molasses.

Since there is no PFA standards, one may not be able to assure its quality/ safety. Joint Action Committee is in considering all the above mentioned points and the draft report is yet to be finalized.

- (iii) A meeting was held on 28.01.2011 with the representatives of Department of Food and Public Distribution and Department of Agriculture and Cooperation to discuss issues viz. enhancing sugarcane production, incentive scheme for producers of molasses and coordination mechanism among various agencies for ensuring adequate quantity of sugarcane and molasses required for various purposes. It was informed that the country has surplus capacity for production of sugar. However, the sugarcane production fluctuates due to its cyclic nature. Government has fixed fair and remunerative price (FRP) for sugarcane. Some State Governments are paying even higher price than the FRP. Ministry of Agriculture has also implemented Sugarcane Development Scheme under Macro Management Mode on Agriculture, The Government has also amended Sugarcane Control Order and permitted sugar factories to convert sugarcane juice directly into Ethanol. Department of Food and Public Distribution has informed that loans from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) are given for the purpose of cane development to the sugar factories. Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and Department of Food and Public Distribution are already having incentive schemes for production of sugarcane and sugar and since Molasses are not produced separately but produced as by-product by sugar mills during the production of sugar, separate incentive scheme for Molasses production is not considered necessary. Regarding coordination mechanism among various agencies for ensuring adequate quantity of sugarcane and molasses required for various purposes, as the sugarcane production is cyclic in nature and so it is difficult to assure quantity of sugarcane production. The issue of food security is also significant and the priority should be for higher production of food grains rather than sugarcane. It was, therefore, suggested that under the aegis of the Standing Committee, Planning Commission may be requested to

form a Committee of concerned Ministries/ Departments for proper coordination mechanism. Regarding revival of sick sugar industrial units, Department of Food and Public Distribution has informed that as per the provisions of SDF Rules, a sick undertaking is required to get a revival package approved by the BIFR in the case of private and public sector sugar factories and by the Committee on Rehabilitation (COR) in the case of Co-operative sugar mills, with a component of SDF loan in the package. Loan is available from SDF both for cane development and rehabilitation/modernization.

- (iv) Regarding Control on Molasses and Review of decontrol policy, it is reiterated that the prices and distribution of molasses were regulated by the Central Government under the Molasses Control Order, 1961 up to 10th June, 1993. The allocations were made on the advice of Central Molasses Board but on a non-statutory basis. Central Govt, allocations were also not fully honoured by the State Governments. There were also reports of inordinate delays in obtaining allocations. Taking all these factors into account and with a view to falling in line with the liberalization policy of the Central Government in other sectors of economy, the Molasses Control Order, 1961 was rescinded on the 10th June, 1993. The matter was examined in detail in Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals and it was decided that it may not be advisable to reopen the issue of reintroducing control regime by the Union Government and it may not be necessary to bring back such control in the present era of free market economy. The Department, however, took up the issue with the Excise Departments of ten major producing states and their comments in the matter were invited. Replies were received from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. The replies of the State Governments indicated that various state governments are already having some control on Molasses and it may not be possible to build consensus for bringing back central control over molasses and as mentioned above it may not be necessary to bring back such control in the present era of free market economy. Regarding the data on

prices of molasses, the Department has taken up the matter with the major molasses producing State Governments and as per recently compiled information, the average price of molasses during 2009-10 was Rs. 415 per quintal.

- (v) Since the Excise Duty on Denatured Ethyl Alcohol has been restored at 10%, it was decided not take up the matter with Ministry of Finance.
- (vi) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas constituted an Expert Committee on Pricing of Ethanol for EBP programme under the Chairmanship of Dr. Saumitra Chaudhuri, Member, Planning Commission. The report of the expert committee suggested a mechanism of allocation of Alcohol to different users. Regarding production of Ethanol directly from sugarcane juice, Central Government has already amended Sugarcane Control Order, 1966 in 2007 and permitted sugar factories to convert sugarcane juice directly into Ethanol.

11.04 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

**Situation arising out of spread of Encephalitis
and Brain Fever in various parts of the country,
particularly in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal
and Bihar**

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, we are taking up calling attention motion. Yogi Aditya Nath Ji.

[English]

YOGI ADITYA NATH (Gorakhpur): Madam, I call the attention of the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement therein:

“Situation arising out of spread of Encephalitis and Brain Fever in various parts of the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar and steps taken by the Government in this regard.”

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Madam Speaker, the Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) including Japanese Encephalitis is a major public health challenge. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Yogi ji, had you spoken in Hindi, the hon. Minister would have given his reply in Hindi. The entire country would have known as to what provisions are being made by the Government and the hon. Minister.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: This is a long technical name and it is very difficult to translate these technical names. A virus might be mistaken for something else. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you may speak. Please, make your point.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (Vidisha): Its Hindi name is 'Dimagi Bukhaar or Mastishk Jwar'. It is not difficult to pronounce. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Any way, it was raised in English, therefore, reply will also be in English. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you on your legs? Please take your seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: In the beginning it was asked in English, then how can I reply in Hindi?

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, please continue.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Please do not create a dispute over it. Its translation is available in all the languages and there are certain areas of health science which are totally technical and this in particular is a problem with those areas.

[English]

Acute Encephalitis Syndrome is characterized by high fever, altered consciousness and convulsions mostly in children below 15 years. It is estimated that about 25

per cent of the affected children die and among those who survive, about 30 to 40 per cent suffer from physical and mental impairment. AES is a complex problem and there are various causative agents including JE and entero-viruses.

Brain Fever due to Japanese Encephalitis (JE) is caused by a virus and is transmitted through mosquitoes. The main reservoirs of the JE virus are pigs and water birds and in its natural cycle, virus is maintained in these animals. First major outbreak of JE was reported in 1973 from Bardhaman district of West Bengal. Later, most serious outbreaks were reported from eastern part of Uttar Pradesh, particularly in the districts of Gorakhpur and Basti Divisions in 1978. AES has now been reported from 171 districts in 19 states. During 2011, 7,813 AES cases and 1,133 deaths have been reported in the country till 27th December. The major States affected by AES are Uttar Pradesh which reported 3,474 cases and 575 deaths; followed by Assam with 1,391 cases and 250 deaths; West Bengal with 714 cases and 40 deaths; and Bihar with 821 cases and 197 deaths.

Presently, there is a vaccine only for prevention of Japanese Encephalitis. For the rest of the AES cases, there is no vaccine for prevention. JE vaccination has been introduced by Government of India in a phased manner in the affected districts since 2006. Prevalence of JE has been declining. For example, in Uttar Pradesh, the JE positivity rate in AES cases has declined from 36 per cent in 2005 to 6.4 per cent in 2011.

Another key cause of AES is entero-viruses which are transmitted primarily through use of unsafe drinking water. I personally visited Gorakhpur recently and had discussions with experts, officials and local people and it was evident to me that AES is not only a medical problem but a much broader and complex development issue and linked with various social determinants of Health including safe drinking water, basic sanitation, personal hygiene and nutrition. To effectively combat the problem, it is, therefore, essential to evolve a multi-pronged strategy encompassing prevention, case management and rehabilitation measures.

This strategy can be successfully implemented only with the active engagement of various Ministries like Ministries of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Social Justice and Empowerment, Rural Development, Urban Development, Women and Child Development and the active cooperation and involvement of the State Governments. Appreciating this fact, hon. Prime Minister

has constituted a Group of Ministers on 4th November, 2011, to develop a comprehensive multi-sectoral strategy. Three meetings of the Group of Ministers have already taken place on 21st November, 2011, 25th November, 2011 and 9th December, 2011.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV (Mainpuri): Madam Speaker, I would like to say something on this issue.

MADAM SPEAKER: It is Yogi Aditya Nath Ji's turn now.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV: Madam Speaker, this is a very serious issue.

MADAM SPEAKER: It is his turn now.

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Madam Speaker, the hon. Minister has read the same written statement which may have been drafted by the officers of the Ministry and I have been listening to same type of written statement for the last 13 years in this House.

Madam, Encephalitis which means brain fever had first time broken out in the country in the year 1956 and cases of this disease first time came to light in Gorakhpur in Eastern Uttar Pradesh in the year 1978. Since 1998, there has not been a single session till date, in which I have not called the attention of the house and the Government towards this issue under one rule or the other.

But I am extremely sorry to say that for the last 33 years perennial deaths of children in the eastern Uttar Pradesh paints a gloomy picture. Do the children in eastern Uttar Pradesh have no right to live a healthy life? Do not the recurring deaths year after year show the neglect and indifferent attitude of both the State Governments and the Union Government? As per the non-governmental figures there have been more than one lakh deaths in the seven districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh in the last 33 years and almost same number of children have become physically and mentally handicapped.

Madam, even last year on 31st August, I had drawn the attention of the House towards this issue through a calling attention motion and Hon. Advani ji had also intervened in that discussion urging the Government to take effective measures in this regard. But it is extremely unfortunate that till date more the assurances given by the Hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare in this

House on 31st August, 2010 has been fulfilled. As per the figures given in the letter forwarded to me by the same Ministry last year, 6061 patients suffering from brain fever were admitted in 2005, out of which 1500 died. 2320 patients were admitted in the year 2006, out of which 528 patients died. 3024 patients were admitted in the year 2007, out of which 995 patients died. 3,015 patients were admitted in the year 2008, out of which 684 patients died. 784 children died in the year 2009 and as per the figures of only B. R. D. Medical College in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, 3,503 patients were admitted in the year 2010, out of which 514 patients died and 3,275 patients have been admitted in this year so far and 624 children have already died in only B.R.D. Medical College. Deaths, have not stopped yet. I am talking about the figures in the seven districts according to which 625 deaths have occurred till yesterday in only B.R.D. Medical College, Gorakhpur. These deaths are taking place despite my continuous efforts for drawing the attention of this House for the last 13 years. I have been constantly raising the issue with regard to this disease and drawn the attention of the Government. It should be declared as an epidemic and a national programme should be announced for its eradication. Sir, as I raised this issue in the House, some action was taken during the NDA run government and as a result vaccination was launched there in the year 2004-05. As a result of vaccination, the cases of J E have been reduced. It has been reduced to 6 per cent as on date from 36 per cent. But whereas deaths due to J E have decreased, the deaths due to antroivirus have increased. We are in a dilemma whether it is J E, V E or AES. The injections which were supposed to be given three times have been given for two times only. Vaccination was done in May-June. This disease is causing deaths throughout the year now. Usually, there were no deaths after 15th November but even today the deaths are taking place there. Three to four people are dying regularly. Earlier, when the J E cases were in excess, the deaths did not occur after 15th November and encephalitis patients stopped coming to hospitals. The vaccination scheduled to be done in February-March was carried out by the State Government in May-June. The cases of disease begin to come to the fore after 15 June, after onset of rains in July. It takes three to four months' time for such injections to get activated. But vaccination has not been done honestly. The vaccination which was meant to be carried out three times was done only once by the Government. The company which produces these injections says and it is also written on the wrappers of the injections that it should be given at least two to three times. So is this approach of the Government like shirking

its responsibility? Is not this like ignoring the menace of epidemic? Does the Government want only a quick fix treatment of this disease? Whether precaution and eradication are not a priority for the Government? 33 years have passed by and the Government has not been able to ascertain the name of the virus which is afflicting the children in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Whether it is J E, V E or A E S. If the Government had a solid and long term national Encephalitis programme then probably this disease would not have reached a gargantuan scale. It is true that this disease first occurred in Tamil Nadu in 1956 and later spread to Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal and reached Eastern Uttar Pradesh for the first time in 1978. Had the epidemic been contained in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, then 35 districts would not have been affected in U. P. today. Hon. Minister said in his statement that 19 states and 171 districts in the country are affected by this disease. But the non-governmental figures show at least 26 states to be affected by this disease to a large or small extent. This disease is regularly causing deaths of innocent children. I often get a chance to visit BRD Medical College and meet those children who are affected by this disease. Whenever I visit BRD Medical College, as I did last time and this time, I have seen that children died due to lack of medicines.

Sir, whether it is the Union Government or the Government of Uttar Pradesh, both the government claim that their priorities include fighting for the rights of the poor people, the farmers and dalits but it is extremely unfortunate that 95 per cent of the children who die of this disease belong to the families of the dalits, the poor people and the farmers. This Government has not been able to stop the deaths of children of dalits, the poor and the farmers.

This unveils the true pace of this Central Government as well as the State Government as the poor, the dalit and the people on the margin are dying unabatedly due to the lack of medicines. I have no information whether any Union Minister went there or not but any Minister in the State Government does not have time to take stock of the situation there. What to talk of the Chief Minister, even any Minister of the State Government did not go there.

Madam, innocent people in Eastern Uttar Pradesh are dying in the absence of medicines. A scam of almost five thousand crore rupees takes place under the National Rural Health Mission in Uttar Pradesh but had even a part of the medicines under the NRHM reached the CSC, the PSC and the district hospitals for the treatment of

that disease and if allocated funds were used for the renovation of the said hospitals, the innocent children would not have died due to the paucity of medicines in Eastern Uttar Pradesh but the fact is that deaths are taking place continuously. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go in record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYA NATH: Madam, on the one hand, the innocent children in Eastern Uttar Pradesh are dying due to lack of medicines and on the other, a scam of medicines worth thousands of crores of rupees under NRHM has taken place in Uttar Pradesh. This has put a question mark on the functioning of the Government.

Madam, therefore, the policy and intention of the Government is quite ridiculous. A writ was filed in the hon. High Court in the year, 2007. Allahabad High Court had ordered the State Government and the Central Government that the centre of Excellence for J.E. should be established in Gorakhpur for the complete elimination of encephalitis and its prevention. But the Centre of Excellence for J.E. was set up in SGPGI Lucknow. This action of the Government is such as the Government digs a well when people start dying of thirst and even, the well is not dug at the place where the people are dying of thirst. What was the logic behind setting up the Centre of Excellence for J.E. in Lucknow when 75 to 80 per cent of patients of encephalitis are from Gorakhpur, its adjoining five to seven districts and the districts along the borders of Bihar and Nepal. The seven points on which the work had to be done for the eradication of encephalitis is not possible in Lucknow in any condition because 75 to 80 per cent of the patients are from Gorakhpur, its adjoining districts, Nepal and Bihar. The Viral Research Centre which was set-up in Gorakhpur in 2007 on the initiative taken by the NDA, is facing the shortage of resources. Even now, this institute is not capable of identifying the virus which is causing untimely death of innocent children in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. Hon. Allahabad High Court had clearly ordered that a research centre of international standards should be set up at Gorakhpur and the Central and State Governments should keep on providing financial assistance to this institution regularly. The Central and State Governments are openly

*Not recorded.

violating the order of the hon. High Court. Due to the neglect of both the Governments, the innocent people are suffering from encephalitis in Uttar Pradesh but even today, the Government is entrapped in the whirlpool of whether it is J.E. viral encephalitis or AES. The number of deaths taking place are breaking record after record continuously.

Madam, the Government was on high alert in the cases of Swine flu and bird flu. For the prevention of these diseases, the Health Ministry had given big advertisements in news papers and on T.V. channels but why has the Government not launched any public awareness campaign in case of fatal epidemics like Japanese encephalitis? If we go through the data of the World Health Organisation, the death rate in case of bird flu and swine flu is only 2 per cent whereas the death rate in case of encephalitis is 20 to 30 per cent. For the rehabilitation of thousands of physically and mentally incapable innocent children due to encephalitis in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, the work for the construction of rehabilitation centre in BRD Medical College, whose announcement was made by hon. Minister in reply to my calling attention motion in the House only in 2009, has not started yet. In this House only, the hon. Health Minister had assured me that the Government of India will cooperate whole heartedly for the prevention and elimination of encephalitis and the rehabilitation centre will be set up in BRD Medical College. The assurance given by the Government in the House has remained an assurance only. When we express our thoughts on any issue, we raise them with the belief that without any prejudice, the Government will implement and take action at least on the issues discussed in the House but no action has been taken in this regard till now. It is very unfortunate that the innocent children of Eastern Uttar Pradesh have become guinea pigs and a laboratory for the Central teams that visit the place. These children have become new means of experimentation for them. How long will the innocent children of Eastern Uttar Pradesh be the victims? How long will they be an instrument of experimentation? The people of this area have fallen victim to death for the last 33 years.

Madam, for a population of five crore in the Eastern Uttar Pradesh, there is only one Government Medical College named BRD medical college. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will take any action to upgrade the BRD Medical College which caters to the population of 5 crore the lines of AIIMS. This area is a plain area and the people living there are suffering from this kind of viral disease.

There is not even a single case of polio in the entire world but there are cases of polio, goitre, filariasis, malaria, dengue, kala azar in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. There people are suffering from a number of disease caused by viruses but there is no such health centre there where they can get medical treatment. A population of five crore has only BRD Medical College to bank upon. If central medical institutes on the lines of AIIMS can be set up in various parts of the country, then why not in Gorakhpur which has a population of five crore. Does the Government propose to take steps in this regard? Is it merely political issue for the Government? Are not the innocent children of Gorakhpur part of Indian republic? Why should they be allowed to die? The death toll is on the rise. We have been facing agitation there and the Government is silent on this issue. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to make an announcement to upgrade BRD Medical College on the lines of AIIMS.

I would like to inform the Government that the people of 35 districts in Uttar Pradesh are suffering from epidemic. Figures narrated by the hon. Minister in his statement reveal that out of a total of 171 districts affected in the entire country, 35 districts in Uttar Pradesh, and 19 states of the country are affected with the epidemic. How can this calamity be a state subject? The hon. Minister went to Gorakhpur and stated that this problem is a state subject. Innocent people are dying and he is calling it a state subject. The epidemic has spread to 19 states of the country. How could you consider that a state subject? Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government proposes to announce any national programme for the eradication of encephalitis.

I would like to know whether the Government proposes to upgrade the Viral Research Centre situated in Gorakhpur so as to diagnose the disease and save the Eastern Uttar Pradesh including Gorakhpur from encephalitis by formulating an action plan.

Madam, this time innocent people have died there for want of medicines. There is no arrangement for proper treatment there. When there was BJP Government in Uttar Pradesh, it had made arrangements for free medical treatment of encephalitis patients. But no medicine was distributed to children there in the last year as well as during the current year. On the one hand, NRHM scam worth crores of rupees is carried out and on the other, innocent children are dying for want of medicines." Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to spend a portion of the funds sanctioned to Uttar Pradesh under NRHM for the prevention and eradication of encephalitis?

What are the steps being taken by the Government to set up Centre of Excellence for Japanese Encephalitis in Gorakhpur? The Government should launch an awareness drive, give advertisements, conduct seminars and programmes for the protection and prevention of encephalitis so that the people may be taught about the measures of protection from this disease. After all, by what time will they be constituting the G.O.M.? When the Government does not want to take any action, it constitutes a committee. And the Government keeps delaying the work in the name of G.O.M. Today, innocent children are dying. What will you do by conducting the meeting of G.O.M. in December, January or February? Why does the Government not make an announcement? No doubt, various Ministries shall together have to launch various programmes. The eradication of this disease cannot be confined to the Ministry of Health only. Why could the G.O.M. not take any decision under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Health for providing potable water and conducting other programmes? He went there in the month of October. The Government could not take a decision from October to December. Does it not portray the indifference of the Government? Therefore, I would like to know as to what steps are being taken by the Government for the protection and prevention of encephalitis from the point of view of widespread public awareness?

The steps proposed to be taken by the Government with regard to cleanliness, potable water, and spray of insecticides in the encephalitis affected areas.

The provisions likely to be made by the Government for rehabilitation of innocent children who have become physically and mentally disabled due to encephalitis.

SHRI RAMESH BAIS (Raipur): Madam Speaker, this motion had been moved for discussion in the House a long back. I am glad that discussion is taking place on this serious issue on the last day of the session. The hon. Member Yogi ji has raised the issue related to this disease in the House many a times and he showed serious concern in this regard but the reply given by the Government is very disappointing. It is highly ironical that this disease broke out in the country in the year 1973 and the cabinet discussed this matter on 4th November, 2011. Four meetings have been held in the months of November and December during the last 38 years. But the Government did not show any concern during the last 38 years that innocent children are dying for want of proper treatment in the rural areas. The factors which are responsible for the death of innocent children are lack of

potable water, poor sanitary conditions and malnutrition. We have been raising the slogan- "Ho raha Bharat nirman", relentlessly. We talk about building India but even today we are unable to pay attention towards the problems of potable water and cleanliness. The number of people dying due to malnutrition is on the rise. This is not a common disease.

First it started in West Bengal, now it is spreading in the whole country. Now it has also spread in the Jaspur and Raigarh areas of Chhattisgarh, adjacent to Jharkhand.

I would like to inform the hon. Minister that earlier the diseases were treated through Ayurveda in our country. The practitioners of Ayurveda used to feel the pulse and find the disease. They used to treat people. But today doctors ask the patient about his disease. Now, the doctors start the treatment after the patient tells them about his disease. This fall in quality of treatment should be taken seriously. The root of the problem is mosquito. It is not just brain fever but mosquitoes spread a lot of other diseases also. Whether it be the elephant foot disease, dengue or malaria, many diseases are occurring due to mosquitoes. Why don't we launch a campaign for eradication of mosquitoes?

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): These people have not been able to kill the mosquitoes even after being in the Government for 40 years. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: It is enough. What is happening?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except what Shri Ramesh Bais says.

*...(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Ramesh Bais, please ask your question.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI RAMESH BAIS: I urge the hon. Minister to not consider it as an issue limited to the state but treat it as a national problem and immediately try to stop this disease in all the states it is spreading.

MADAM SPEAKER: This is enough. What are you doing?

...(Interruptions)

DR. BHOLA SINGH (Navada): Madam Speaker, the matter under review through the Calling Attention. *...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please be quiet. Be quiet.

DR. BHOLA SINGH: Madam Speaker, the matter under review, which is brain fever, being discussed in the House and the statements of the hon. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare are full of irony. I am distressed. You, yourself have been interested in literature. Premchand had built a character sketch of Budhiya in his short story 'Kafan'. In this story it is shown how Gobar her son, and her husband have worked. Budhiya is pregnant, writing with pain. Her husband is cooking potato on stove. Her son is sitting beside the stove. She is screaming in pain. The husband does not bother to go and take a look, because if he goes, his potatoes will be eaten by his son and the son is not going to look after his mother because if he goes, his father would eat the potato. The country is still witness to such tragedies at present.

There was a unique Chief Minister in poor state of Bihar. During his tenure brain fever had affected the whole state. Doctors were saying that they were unable to diagnose the disease. Someone said that the disease was due to pigs. That unique Chief Minister issued an order to apprehend all the pigs and lock them up in jails. 18 D.S.P.s were put to work and all the pigs were locked up in jails and criminals were released from the police stations and the custody. Those pigs were slaughtered. The result was an end to the livelihood of the poor people. I would like to ask the Union Government through you that why is it so that whenever there is disease, fire, shooting, or starvation only the poor people suffer.

Is not it expected to think before speaking in democracy as it stands for public dignity? If there is no shame in the democracy and someone wears expensive cloths, he is still naked. Madam Speaker, the Government has no shame or regard for democracy and the Government is saying that this disease is prevalent for more than 30-35 years and they have not been able to find a cure or come up with a medicine. Can I ask for whom is this Government working and what does it intend to do? Recently, children of the poor people in

*Not recorded.

Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Sitamarhi, Biharsharif, Nawada, Sasaram, Faguha districts in Bihar are suffering on a large scale due to brain fever and many children have died and their corpses have been thrown while the hon. Minister of Union Government says that no cure has been found for the disease yet. I would like to say that if there was a Minister like Shri Madhav Rao Scindia or the late hon. Prime Minister of India Shri Lai Bahadur Shastri, he would have resigned in such a situation, if needed. Dr. Lohia had said once "Are the poor people insects and worms that they can be shot at the whims of the powerful people or let them die of disease or leave them to burn in fire? I would like to know this." This Lok Sabha is a House of worship for the people. It is a place where their pleas can be heard.

Madam Speaker, Vivekananda said that his God was the one whom the unlearned men called human being. Through you, I would like to say that you yourself inaugurated an ayurvedic institute in Biharsharif, Nalanda. The Chief Minister was there and you had also gone there and through that institute, the people were getting treatment. Why was the institute closed by the same people who had inaugurated the institute? What is your reply in the House? ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude.

DR. BHOLA SINGH: Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to say that the autonomous body Jawahar Lai Nehru Bhartiya Chikitsa Avam Homoeopathic Anusandhan Bhawan constituted under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had set up eye vision centres at four places in Nalanda. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you speaking? Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

DR. BHOLA SINGH: This was inaugurated by you and the Chief Minister was also present there. Why did the Government close it? Was it the Government's

incapability? Could the Government not run it? What was the reason? Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to know what policy the Government has made for it? You have said it rightly that this disease is spreading because of poverty and the lack of pure drinking water. This disease is spreading due to malnutrition. After all, who is responsible for it? The Government has failed on this count. With regard to the questions raised before the Government by Hon. Aditya Nath ji, I would like to say that this issue is not related only to Uttar Pradesh or eastern Uttar Pradesh, but for the causes of concern are the life, life-style, social condition and situation as is prevailing in the entire country. Therefore, a national policy should be drafted for it and an arrangement should be made by preparing a policy at the national level. Madam Speaker, if possible, you should call a meeting of the hon. Minister and the leaders of the opposition party and the action should be taken immediately after discussing this grave situation.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI SURESH KASHINATH TAWARE (Bhinwandi): Madam Speaker, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this very important topic.

Children, new born babies, women and the common people are falling victim to brain fever in the country. New born babies are dying. Women are the victim of the fatal disease. The maximum number of people suffering from brain fever and falling victim to this virus are from West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Madam, if brain fever is not controlled, it will spread to the entire country and this is a matter of concern. The symptoms of this disease after becoming infected from this brain fever virus, become obvious after five to ten days but it is too late then. It is very necessary to control this brain fever in the interest of the people and the country. There is a need to take steps for proper treatment. On the one hand, the danger of this fatal disease called brain fever is looming large in the country and on the other hand, there is lack of sanitation arrangements in the Government hospitals in both rural and urban areas. There is shortage of doctors and medicines in the Government hospitals. The Government doctors are running private clinics. The private hospitals are charging unreasonable fees in the name of treatment and tests. There is a need to check it. It is most adversely affecting the poor common people because the only option of treatment for the common people is in the Government hospitals. The poor common people do not have so much money that they could get treatment for them and their families in private hospitals/clinics.

*Not recorded.

I request the hon. Minister to take necessary steps for checking this fatal fever and addressing the shortage of doctors in the Government hospitals. The doctors should be appointed in the Government hospitals. Sufficient medicines should be supplied in the rural Government hospitals. The area inside and around the hospital should be cleaned.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Kaushambi): Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Calling Attention Motion. Today, on the last day of the session, a very important issue has been brought to the cognizance of the House and the Government. It is unfortunate that the Government is unable to provide health services to the poor even after the passage of 64 years of independence ...*(Interruptions)* Madam Speaker, the hon. Minister is not present in the House ...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Minister is busy in discussion with the officials. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You continue. The hon. Minister is there. All of you please keep quiet.

[English]

Do not make issue out of nothing.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: As per the data, the National Rural Health Mission was formulated in the year 2005 for which the Government allocated ninety thousand five hundred fifty five crore rupees but no it has not brought any radical change in the rural areas. Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that Ayurveda, Homeopathy and Siddha, Unani systems of medicine have been our ancient system of medicine, therefore, it is essential to pay due attention towards these systems of medicine. The hospitals which practice these systems are on the verge of closure. The condition of the said hospitals is pathetic. As per a survey conducted by the India Medical Society, seventy five per cent doctors practise in urban areas, twenty three per cent in semi-urban areas, and very less doctors practice in rural areas. This is the current status. Today, there is an abundance of quacks in rural areas as a result of which a number of people are dying. The Government should pay special attention towards this issue. The Government has set up three hundred medical colleges throughout the country but it is ironical that 105 medical colleges have been set up in five states only *i.e.* Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh. Bihar which

has a population of 8-10 crore people has got nine medical colleges only. This is a pathetic situation. You talked about Allahabad Medical College which has been named after Late Moti Lai Nehru ji. The college is going to celebrate its golden jubilee. Kunwar Rewati Raman Singh Ji might have given an indication of the upgradation of the said college. There is no arrangement for the treatment of serious diseases related to heart, kidney and liver there. Therefore, attention should be paid to this. I would like to thank the hon. Minister R.P.N. Singh Ji for reminding me about this issue.

Madam Speaker, there is only one doctor for 34 thousand people in the rural areas. According to a report eight lakh doctors and 20 lakh nurses are still required in the country. But we could not make any arrangement till date. Even your data reveals that 60 per cent of the funds allocated for health sector are spent on the treatment of the water borne diseases. Therefore, the health department should pay attention towards the budget spent on water because a lot of money gets wasted from the fund. If this amount is utilized in health sector, it will be beneficial. 80 per cent of health services are in the hands of private sector and only 20 per cent are under public sector. 80 per cent out of that 20 per cent is under the State Government. Sometimes the State Government shifts the responsibility to the Union Government is not extending any help. Whereas, the Centre counters that attack by saying that the State Government do not carry out the responsibility properly. The poor are dying due to this tug of war. The data with regard to the death of children as revealed by you is fabricated. Thousands of children are dying due to this disease.

I would like to thank the hon. Minister for taking this issue into cognizance and paying a visit to Gorakhpur. Shri R.P.N. Singh Ji has raised this issue in the House a number of times. I associate myself with the issue raised by him. His demand must be accepted. People's right be accepted. People's right from West Bengal, to Jharkhand and, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi are suffering from such deadly diseases. The record of the last ten years reveals that the people are suffering from 22 types of new fevers. But till date our medical agencies or scientists could not diagnose what kind of fever it is recently Bholu Singh ji said that a number of disease are spreading through birds, swines, filth and by contaminated water. We could not invent any vaccine for the treatment of these diseases till date. Moreover, he did not make any effort on international level nor did you discuss this issue with any country as to how to control such diseases. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Do not discuss with each other. Discussion is taking place on a serious issue, listen to him.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: According to a report of the Delhi Government, 20,000 to 25,000 people were admitted to the hospitals during October, 2011. In addition to this four lakh cases of brain fever came to light. This includes Dengue, Chikungunya, Typhoid, seasonal fever etc. There were 5000 cases of dengue in Delhi alone. This is the date recorded at that time. This report has registered very few cases of Chikungunya. These diseases spread due to water logging, humidity and poor sanitary conditions.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech now.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Today is the last day of the Session, therefore, please let me speak. I am about to conclude my speech.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please do not take so much time. This time is only for asking questions and seeking clarification. But you have captivated the House with such a long speech.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Madam Speaker, I have expressed my gratitude for allowing me to speak.

MADAM SPEAKER: Alright, please ask the question quickly.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Now Paracetamol is prescribed for fever earlier it was given for curing fever ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please be quiet.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: I do not know how the quality of Paracetamol deteriorated as it has proven to be ineffective in any kind of fever and is totally inefficacious. Allahabad High Court also took this into cognizance on 2nd November and directed the Government in this regard. But no effective steps were taken. A 14 years old school girl, Shail Kumar who had passed the High School exam in my Parliamentary Constituency, died of dengue. The whole town was closed on her death when we visited that place. As per the Government report in Allahabad on 29.09.2011, 25 deaths took place due to encephalitis while thousands of death have taken place there. Thousands of children have died in that area till date. The whole area is filled with trash

and filth. There is no arrangement of fogging machine. The government has neither taken any effective steps to safeguard people from mosquitoes nor has it been able to kill all the mosquitoes.

I can recall the time when Shri Rajnarayan Ji was the Minister of Health and Family Welfare and he had appointed Public Health Workers in rural areas. Even today, there is a shortage of 26 lakh health workers in the rural areas. I would like to urge the Government to reinstate these health workers who were appointed by the former Health Minister Shri Rajnarayan Ji. It is only then that the condition of rural areas could improve. Here, 55 per cent children are not being able to be properly treated and there is no arrangement for their vaccination due to which nearly a lakh infants die at birth. Bacteria borne and communicable diseases have increased by 40 per cent in the country but the Government has not made any arrangements for their treatment. I would not like to quote the submitted records of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh because Madam Speaker is insisting me to ask my question quickly. I remember the slogan raised by Dr. Ram Manojhar Lohia ji and if anyone has put it in practice in Uttar Pradesh, it is hon. Mulayam Singh Yadav ji. He had raised the slogan "Roti-Kapda Sasti ho, dawai padhai muft hi ho". Uttar Pradesh Government had made adequate arrangements for the treatment of poor people even if it was upto 10 lakhs. Today, it is imperative for the Union Government to implement the slogan raised by Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia and it is only then that the poor people would benefit from it. The figures quoted by the hon. Minister in the House say that 575 people died out of 3474 cases in Uttar Pradesh. Hon. Minister, these figures are inaccurate. The figures quoted by the hon. Minister state that 250 people out of 1391 died in Assam, 40 people died out of 414 people in Bengal, 197 people died out of 821 cases in Bihar. All of these figures are fake. He can send his representatives and get these figures checked. Injection is provided when the patient has already died and disease has spread. We should make preparation in advance. I would like to urge the hon. Minister, through you to take the issues raised by Yogi Aditya Nath Ji, Shri Bhola Singh Ji and Shri Basu ji seriously. I know that I am also in the Health Advisory Committee and that the hon. Minister is extremely concerned in this regard and making appropriate arrangements. The hon. Minister has categorized all these diseases but there is a need for spreading awareness in this regard. Therefore, please make arrangements for compensating the children and old people who died due to brain fever. Please nip the disease in the bud before it spreads. Even if it means importing medicines from

abroad. But what happens is that the Government takes cognizance of the disease after it starts spreading and by that time thousands of people already die. I conclude my speech with these words.

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you shouting? Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Do not shout like this. Why are you shouting?

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Why have you all stood up? How would House function like this? Only sending the names would not solve anything. The Calling Attention is in progress. There is a due procedure as per which you have to give the Notice in advance. How can it be done otherwise?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (Domariyaganj): Hon. Madam Speaker, I request you, please listen to me.
...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I mean, you cannot just stand up and start speaking. You have to give a notice, and I have to permit you to speak.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please sit down. It is take rule that maximum five Members can speak during the period of calling attention because as you are saying. This is a very sensitive issue.

...(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

Therefore in special circumstance. I am allowing you to speak and after you, the hon. Minister will speak.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN (Ghosi): I will also speak on this issue. ... (Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You have not given the notice. Both of you have not given any notice. Please sit down. Let him speak. Please, sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you shouting?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Why have you stood up?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please, let him speak. Do not do so. Why are you standing? Why have you stood up? Why are you standing up again and again.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You, please, sit down. Please, take your seats. Why are you standing up? Please, sit

*Not recorded.

down. Okay. You cannot speak while standing. Please, sit down.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You have not given any notice.

[English]

There is no notice.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: I have given the notice.

MADAM SPEAKER: Yes, please, speak. Since I have got his notice, therefore, I am allowing him to speak in special situation. You cannot make any demand by standing in such manner on the Calling Attention Motion. You, please, sit down and let the hon. Member speak.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Hon. Madam Speaker, I am very much grateful to you that you gave me the opportunity to speak in special situation. As you said that I had given the notice on December 7, but you provided me the opportunity even after five members have already spoken, therefore, I am very much obliged to you for it. I am also grateful to you because this issue is very important and sensitive and the way in which Yogi Aditya Nath ji or other Members have deliberated over it. I would like only to associate with their sentiments. As it has been mentioned that this disease has most adversely affected Gorakhpur and Basti Divisions from where we get elected. ...(Interruptions) But now, it has spread in 35 districts of Uttar Pradesh. Hon. Minister himself has admitted in his speech that it has spread in 171 districts of 19 states of the country. Hon. Minister himself has admitted it. There is no need at all to speak anything more with regard to the gravity and impact of this disease. It is also not a political issue on which there should be allegations and counter allegations. The hon. Minister in the first paragraph of the speech has admitted that 25 per cent of the children affected either from Japanese encephalitis or AES, or BE, die. He himself has acknowledged that 40 per cent of the survived children become the victims of disability or mentally retardedness. Apart from it, in case the family which is already suffering from poverty and its child becomes disabled or mentally retarded after being affected from the strokes of Japanese

encephalitis or AES, then that child becomes a curse, in addition to poverty.

Therefore, today the House needs to be concerned about the current state of affairs where out of 100 children who get sick due to the disease, 25 children die and 40 children get handicapped for life. Therefore, we should find a solution for the same. There is no doubt that this is an issue to be tackled by the State Government and not Union Government as health is a state subject.

Just now the topic was raised with regard to grant of money to NRHM.

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: I would like to say that the said money would go to the states and it is the state's responsibility to spend that money. I would like to say only one thing and would like to congratulate the hon. Health Minister Shri R.P.N. Singh that when this issue was raised recently he went there and I myself visited Gorakhpur and Basti and the meeting that took place there. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please ask one question and conclude.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: As the Union Government had set up G-1 and a group of Minister was constituted on 4 November and its first meeting was held on 21 November, second meeting on 25 November and third meeting on 9 December, I would like to know the outcome of these three meetings. This is a nationwide problem. In view of this problem, has any decision been taken to announce any national level programme on the lines of Polio Eradication Programme and Malaria Eradication Programme? Whether it is a water borne disease or shortage of potable water or a virus spread through pigs? Talks were held in presence of the hon. Health Minister in Gorakhpur Circuit House as he has accepted in his statement that the Japanese Encephalitis has decreased from 36 per cent to 6.4 per cent. But a month ago he had accepted in his statement that the cases of said disease are on the rise. The other disease which is being eradicated. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech now. How many question will you ask? Only one question can be asked.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Whether the Union Government would conduct a research for the cure of AES (Acute Encephalins Syndrome) as there is no cure for it in the whole world? I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether there is any vaccine for AES? Whether it be for the prevention of the disease or for any medicine for its cure and whether any research would be conducted in this regard? What decision had been taken for conducting research in this regard? What are the details of the coordinated efforts made by the Ministry in this regard? As the hon. Aditya Nath ji raised the issue that so much money is being spent under NRHM? ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please do not go in details. Just ask your question.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you people speaking? Three Members of your party have already spoken. Now, please be quiet.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: All this will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: You have completed your statement. Now, please conclude.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: What is happening please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Madam Speaker, the leader of Bahujan Samaj Party come from the same place as my in-laws. If that would not look after my health, who else will? I am thankful to then? for being so concerned about me. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Why is everyone standing up?

...*(Interruptions)*

*Not recorded.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: I have only one more demand that the funds allocated for NRHM should be earmarked for eradication of JE, AES. Whether a vaccine factory would be set up in the eastern Uttar Pradesh or Gorakhpur Siddharth Nagar for making vaccine available in this regard. Immunization drives have totally failed. I do not want to go in details in this regard. Vaccine should also be made available in eastern Uttar Pradesh for the immunization. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: How long will you keep on speaking? You had to ask only one question. I gave you special permission but you are stretching your speech a bit too much.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Now, you may please take your seat,

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: You may please conclude now.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing more will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[*Translation*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Sit down, please sit down. Why are you standing?

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Why have you not given notice? He has given notice. Everyone who has given notice has been allowed to speak. Why did you not given notice? Please do not behave in this manner. Sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Sit down. If you sit down I will think about giving you an opportunity to speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

MADAM SPEAKER: No. Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: I will not give you a chance, if you stand up and behave like this. Please sit down. First you may take your seat. I will not give you a chance. Nothing is going on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: First you must sit down and then, I may consider calling you.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Can't you understand? Please sit down first.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Why are you speaking? Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing, except what the hon. Minister says, will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you may address these issues.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Please let him speak.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Why have you stood up? Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Madam, I thank you very much on behalf of my colleagues and my Ministry. My colleagues have spoken on a very important and necessary issue as the brain fever causes death of thousands of our children in several districts and areas of the country. I would like to discuss it by rising above politics. (Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Shri Yogiji has begun very well.

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN: Please, reply in English.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: There is no problem with Hindi and English. All languages are ours. We should not bother about it.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: English is not our language. (Interruptions)

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: People do write in English from morning to evening. While referring to data and years, our colleagues made mistakes in mentioning year and the party in the power at that time. They are mistaken a little in it. (Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing, except what the hon. Minister is saying, will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, please address the Chair.

[Translation]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: I would not like to create any problem on the last day of this Session. Many problems have already been created. The only difference is that "Hum aah bhi bharte hain to ho jate hain badnaam, Ve katal bhi karte hain to charcha nahi

*Not recorded.

hota"...(Interruptions) The biggest problem with my party and my allies is that those who do work, do not know how to publicise it and those who publicise it, do not work. ...(Interruptions) This has been our problem. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER; Nothing, except what the hon. Minister says, will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: We listened to your speech very patiently. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please, sit down.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: In the parliamentary democracy, those who have the capacity to speak, must have the capacity to listen in the same proportion. Those who spoke but do not want to listen to, then they should not speak.

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing, except what the hon. Minister says, will go on record.

...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Some of our colleagues including Shri Bhola Singh ji said that the Government had not done anything. I would like to say that I am only replying to questions. I am not making any comments from my part. Whatever he said, I will reply to that. If my reply hurts anybody, then, I am not at any fault because the reply will be befitting to the questions. They said that the Government had not done anything. With great regret, I would have to say that the preceding Government before us ...(Interruptions). Every year two visit office ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER; Please, listen. What is it happening?

...(Interruptions)

*Not recorded.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Therefore, I already said that they should not speak like it or they should have the courage to listen to. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: You should address the Chair.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Madam, for the last two years when the UPA has come into power and I have got the portfolio of the Health Ministry, 35 visits from the Central Government have been made to the Japanese encephalitis affected areas. Out of these visits, two ministerial level visits have been made to Gorakhpur. No Minister had visited there before it. ...(Interruptions) What is your problem? You are not on that side? ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please, address the Chair.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Therefore, more than three visits of Secretary and Director General, ICMR and five to six visits at the level of Director General, Health Services have been made in Gorakhpur. The Director of the National Water Borne Diseases Control Programme has paid around six visits. The Deputy Director has also paid around twelve visits to Gorakhpur and other places. Altogether, 23 visits have been paid to Uttar Pradesh and Gorakhpur by the hon. Ministers and senior level officers during the last two years. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please address the Chair. Do not react all the time.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: First of all let me complete. If my reply does not satisfy you may ask again. ...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Please keep quiet.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: I told you that first time vaccination was conducted in Gorakhpur district in Uttar Pradesh in the year 2006. That was the third year of UPA Government ...(Interruptions) Vaccine was manufactured in the year 2004. That time NDA was not in power. He said vaccination was started by NDA Government. I said, that I could tell the exact year ...(Interruptions) He said that vaccination was started by NDA Government in the year 2006. I am telling that at that time UPA led Government was in power and not the NDA ...(Interruptions) I am just making correction. Had you not raised this point, I would not have spoken. I am just saying that you are passing the credit to NDA. I am

just correcting that UPA led Government was in power that time. I am just correcting your general knowledge ...*(Interruptions)* At that time 11 districts were covered. 28 districts of Uttar Pradesh were covered in 2007, 22 districts in 2008, 30 districts in 2009 and 20 districts were covered in the year 2010. In this manner vaccination of Japanese Encephalitis was conducted in 34 districts from 2006 to 2010. Vaccination was again conducted in the year 2010 in seven districts Gorakhpur, Kushinagar, Deoria, Maharajganj, Basti, Sant Kabir Nagar and Siddharth Nagar which are the worst affected from this disease. Now the question may arise as to why the vaccination was conducted again. Because vaccines as well as the fee of administering vaccine was provided by the Government of India. Here, I will not talk about the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, be it the Government of any party in the country, be it any vaccine, today I regret to state that whatever data is provided to us is not authentic, be it of any Government. Therefore, no party should feel offended that it is against their party. Be it any type of vaccine, not only Japanese Encephalitis. But as per data more than 90 per cent vaccination was conducted at that time. But as per the survey conducted by UNICEF only 50 per cent population was vaccinated and not 90 per cent as reported by the State Governments. Therefore, we had to conduct the vaccination again in 2010. The percentage of vaccination in the said year was more than 80 per cent and the outcome of this vaccination I have already mentioned in my reply and statement that this disease could be controlled to a great extent due to the said vaccination ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to inform that Japanese Encephalitis is a syndrome. There are hundreds of types of viruses and Japanese encephalitis is caused by one of these viruses which is curable and vaccine is available. Other fevers are symptomatic. But we provide vaccine for Japanese Encephalitis, even if it is not manufactured in the country, we import it from foreign countries including Japan. Today world has shrunk. Bholu Singh Ji, today you say that we did not do anything. World health assembly is organised every year and 193 countries participate in this assembly. The Health Ministers of 100 countries are its members. Today, if any disease or virus breaks out, the World Health Organisation immediately informs those 193 countries along with the information of the disease, its treatment, vaccine, medicine, management etc. Therefore, whenever the hon. Members demand my resignation, I would say that the Health Ministers, presidents, and scientists of the entire world have to resign because they have not invented any tablet except for Japanese Encephalitis and the moment it is invented, it will be available with us.

I would like to inform that earlier we used to import vaccine for Japanese Encephalitis from Japan and this is first time when licence has been issued to a private sector company Biological Evans. All the formalities have been done by this May this vaccine will be available in the market. In the similar manner Bharat Biotech will manufacture. Its clinical trial on humans is under process. Preliminary trials are over. I would like to say, particularly to Bholu Singh Ji that vaccine will be prepared and manufactured by National Institute of Virology, Pune under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. By the end of this year vaccine will be available in the market. This has been our achievement during the last two years ...*(Interruptions)* Yogi Aditya Nath ji had said that Government provide only one vaccine instead of three vaccines. I will not go in depth as to what are the salts and who prepares it, otherwise it will cause commotion for the contract and vaccination. I will not deviate because this vaccine is made of various salts. But the vaccine which was administered earlier was of lower potency, therefore, it was given three times. But the vaccine which we are providing is of higher potency. It is more potent. The scientist said that only one vaccine is sufficient. But for myself. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME (Bolpur): Is it approved by WHO?

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: It is approved by WHO.

[Translation]

No vaccine is without the approval of WHO ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Ram Chandra Dome, please take your seat. You address the Chair. Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Not only for Yogi Aditya Nath ji but for my own satisfaction, immediately after returning from Gorakhpur I asked the people from ICMR and Health Research to conduct a meeting of scientists

*Not recorded.

from the entire country to confirm whether second dose is required or not. Such few meetings have recently been conducted. If final report suggests second dose, we will give. But that will not be decided by the Health Minister rather experts will decide. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: I would like to mention the steps taken by the Government of India. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

They want to get treatment but do not to take medicine.

[English]

Madam, the measures and initiatives taken by the Ministry of Health, Government of India, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, from 2006 to 2010, are as follows. Special JE vaccination campaign was launched in 34 districts and repeated in 7 districts in 2010, In 2007 for better coordination and management, JE sub-office of Lucknow, regional office was opened in Gorakhpur.

[Translation]

You said that this was set up by NDA Government, but UPA led Government was in power in 2007 and it was set up by UPA led Government.

[English]

In 2007, Epidemiological and Entomological studies and close coordination, a vector borne disease surveillance unit was also opened in DRD medical college, Gorakhpur. In 2008, National Institute of Virology, Pune.

[Translation]

A special unit of this institute has been set up at Gorakhpur and the Ministry has given Rs. 16 crore to medical college for this purpose. As I have said earlier that we had information about JE only and JE has more than hundred viruses. The field office which we had set up at Gorakhpur got success to detect one more virus which is enterovirus. This is of those hundred viruses. No

*Not recorded.

vaccine has been invented for this virus in the world till date. This is a water borne disease. I tell you as to how this is a water borne disease. This virus is found in human being's abdomen. This comes out with human excreta. The areas where latrines are not constructed people go in open to defecate. If the place is not clean enough and water accumulates there for 2-3 months, this virus travels deep into the ground upto 10 to 15 feet. In Gorakhpur and other areas of the country where this virus has been detected, have shallow hand pumps. Lakhs of people in Gorakhpur have got their minimum two hand pumps installed 1-15 feet deep in ground as a result of which when they use this water and this virus travels in the stomach, thereafter it travels to brain through blood vessels. Therefore, its solution is to uninstall the shallow hand pumps and install deep bore wells 70-80 feet below the ground surface. In this way this disease can be prevented. Therefore, this disease is related to sanitation conditions, and drinking water. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

In 2009, in addition to Rs. 16 crore earlier, an amount of Rs. 5,88,00,000 was released to the State Government for upgradation of JE Epidemic ward at medical college, Gorakhpur. Another amount of Rs. 2.77 crore was released to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh for laboratory facilities at 11 JE sanitation sites for regular supply of JE diagnosis kits. In 2010, the Physical Medicine Rehabilitation Centre at BRD Medical College, Gorakhpur was set up with direct financial support of Rs. 54.51 lakh In 2011-12, an amount of Rs. 47.48 lakh has been approved for implementation of Model Action Plan for control of JEs in Kushinagar district. In 2011, an amount of Rs. 18.88 lakh have been sanctioned for 100-bedded new JE ward at BRD Medical College of Gorakhpur. Then, Rs. 99 lakh have been sanctioned for ventilator support of Neonatal Unit for JE cases in Medical College, Gorakhpur in 2011. Then, Rs. 240 lakh have been sanctioned for additional human resource support for JE ward at BRD Medical College, Gorakhpur in 2012.

Madam, a multi-pronged strategy, JE vaccination and other measures have resulted in the decline of JEs and AES in Uttar Pradesh from 6061 cases and 1500 deaths in 2005 to 3378 cases and 543 deaths in 2011. A large part of AES is due to the Enterovirus which I have already mentioned. So, I would not like to repeat it.

Now, what has happened there? After going there, I have realised it.

[Translation]

When I reached there I realised that this disease cannot be prevented through vaccine only. We have to control water borne diseases. For this we will have to take the assistance of the Ministry of Water Resources. It involves sanitation, therefore, assistance from other Ministries will also have to be sought. As I said 30 children died. But those 30 to 40 per cent children who recover from this disease get physically or mentally crippled. Therefore, the provision of rehabilitation will have to be done.

It is a great pleasure that I met the hon. Prime Minister after returning from there and informed that the Ministry of Health and the State Government alone cannot handle this problem. It requires multi-pronged strategy. The other Ministries will also have to be involved. In the month of November, the hon. Prime Minister constituted a group of Ministers under my chairmanship. This committee consist of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Ministry of Urban Development, the Ministry of Women and Child Welfare, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation. I am happy that three meetings have been conducted during the last one month or so and final draft is ready for the Cabinet so that both Union Government and the State Government together may formulate a policy not only for Uttar Pradesh but for the entire country and implement it w.e.f. Twelfth Five Year Plan.

All our hon. Members, be it Yogi ji, Pal ji or other hon. members have suggested to upgrade the medical college on the lines of AIIMS. Five days ago I had announced in Jhansi that we had been in constant touch with the Planning Commission for the last two years and I am happy to inform that the Planning Commission has in principle given approval for Jhansi and Gorakhpur. These medical colleges will be upgraded on the lines of AIIMS. With these words I conclude.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-6111/15/11]

12.35 hrs.

UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION)
AMENDMENT BILL, 2011*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): On behalf of Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to move for leave to

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 2, dated 29.12.11.

introduce a Bill further to amend the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

MADAM SPEAKER: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI JITENDRA SINGH: I introduce the Bill.

12.35° hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Matters under Rule 377 shall be laid on the Table of the House. Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today and are desirous of laying them, may personally hand over slips at the Table of the House within 20 minutes. Only those matters shall be treated as laid for which slips have been received at the Table within the stipulated time and the rest will be treated as lapsed.

- (i) **Need to control the prices of fertilizers in the country and to ensure its availability to the farmers at reasonable price**

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI (Vizianagaram): Our UPA Government has allowed the fertilizer manufacturing companies to fix the price of Urea, potash and Phosphate-based fertilizers. At the same time, the Government had promised to extend a fixed amount of subsidy as assistance to farmers. Urea constitutes almost 50% of the country's fertilizer consumption.

To quote certain facts, the urea produced by Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd., (FACT) Kochi, costs Rs. 5,540 per tonne. After decontrol of prices, it would cost Rs. 17,540 per tonne. The price of Factum fos is Rs. 8,420 per tonne, which will go up to Rs. 20,755 per tonne. Similar is the case with M.O.P., 20:20, 10:26:26, DAP and super phosphate.

*Treated as laid on the Table.

Thus the high prices would lead to sharp reduction in consumption of said fertilizers and in turn steeply increase the cost of food grain production.

Any reduction in the use of steel, cement, automobiles etc. for a couple of years will not have that much effect, but the substantial decline in the consumption of the fertilizers will have greater effect on the food grain production which can play havoc with the lives of the people.

I request the Government, to consider once again to control the prices of all types of fertilizers in the interest of farmers and make them available to the farmers at reasonable price, place and time.

(ii) Need to develop the Cuddalore port in Tamil Nadu

SHRJ S. ALAGIRI (Cuddalore): My parliamentary constituency Cuddalore in Tamil Nadu is a fast growing industrial city in Southern India located South of Pondicherry on the coast of Bay of Bengal. There are several crushing mills in the vicinity of the port and Sugar factories are also located at Nellikuppam, Pennadam and Mundiampakkam near Cuddalore, The Southern Railway Metre Gauge main lines from Chennai to Rameshwaram passes through Cuddalore junction. There is also a direct metre gauge Railway link between Hospet-Bellary area via Ranigunta, Arakkonam, Chengalpattu and Villupuram. The Cuddalore port is well connected by roads. Cuddalore is known for its Silver Beach. It is the place of confluence of three rivers namely Pennaiyar river, Kedilam and Paravanar, The Gedilam River flows through the town and separates the old Town from the new one. There are Thermal Power Plant, Fertilizers plant, one Chemical project and ship building project is also coming up in the region. The port of Cuddalore is required to be developed to serve the increasing demands of shipment and cargo facilities on the pattern of joint Venture. There are 3 R.C.C. cargo sheds each with plinth area of 720 sq. mts, available. The two available Transits sheds each of 293 Sq. Mts. Plinth area are not enough to meet the increasing demand of cargo facilities.

I would like to request to develop the Cuddalore port with state of the art technology to fulfil and meet the demands of the Industrial activities of the Southern India.

(iii) Need to restart the closed cloth mills of Indore, Madhya Pradesh and also give the workers of the closed Mills their dues

[Translation]

SHRI SAJJAN VERMA (Dewas): Indore city is renowned for its textile mills not only in Madhya Pradesh but also in the country from the past. The textile mills survived in Indore for almost 100 years. The recession hit the textile industries around 40 years ago and the mills in Indore are no exception. The mills bore losses. At that time, the then hon. Prime Minister of India, Bharat Ratna, Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi ji had nationalised 7 mills of Madhya Pradesh along with 3 mills of Indore in the year 1972. After the nationalisation of textile mills the Government had formulated the National Textile Corporation (NTC) and the nationalised mills kept functioning under this arrangement. The NTC had closed the said three mills (Malwa mill, Kalyan mill, Swadeshi mill) of Indore in the year 2002. While closing the mills the Ministry of Textile had formulated a scheme according to which a proposal was put forth to continue one of the Mills in Indore. But even after this, the Ministry of Textile did not operate even a single mill and nor took any action in this regard as a result of which thousands of mill workers became unemployed and their family members are on the verge of starvation and hundreds of workers have committed suicide due to unemployment till date.

Hence, I urge the Government to take initiative to restart the textile mills by constituting an Inspection Team and keep its promise and instruct the Government of Madhya Pradesh to sell the land of Hukamchand mill which is lying closed in Indore and give the workers of the closed mills their dues of Rs. 229 crore.

(iv) Need to send a central team to inspect the quality of work executed under Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission in Madhya Pradesh

SHRI PREMCHAND GUDDU (Ujjain): Hon. Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of the House towards irregularities taking place in the implementation of the Central Government sponsored scheme the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission in Madhya Pradesh. Recently Economic Offence Wing of State Crime Record Bureau has found the primary evidences of the irregularities of Rs. 30 crore in the project worth Rs. 60 crore for laying drinking water supply pipeline

for Ujjain approved under the JNNURM and the case has been registered for formal investigation. This incident shows the extent to which negligence is being observed in the implementation of this scheme in Madhya Pradesh. Before it, I had made complaints regarding irregularities in the projects approved under "Pradhanmantri Gramin Sadak Yojana" and "Central Road Fund" in Ujjain itself. The Union Government sent an investigation team after my complaint. When the investigation team took stock of the situation after reaching the spot, it found that the roads approved under these schemes have not been constructed at all and funds have been withdrawn by showing the construction of roads complete on papers and whatever roads have been constructed are in dilapidated conditions within six months only.

I request the Government to send a high level investigation team to investigate into the quality of implementation of projects approved under JNNURM in Madhya Pradesh.

- (v) Need to accord environmental clearance to Krwapa and Channa minor irrigation projects in Gadchiroli-Chimur Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra**

SHRI MAROTRAO SAINUJI KOWASE (Gadchiroli-Chimur): Gadchiroli-Chimur Parliamentary Constituency of Maharashtra is a tribal populated area. In absence of environmental clearance under the Forest Conservation Act, two minor irrigation projects named Karwapa and Channa in Taluka Dhanora and Taluka Moolchera respectively of Gadchiroli district of this area are pending with the Union Government for approval due to which the tribal farmers in the tribal populated area of Gadchiroli district, who are completely dependent of agriculture, are jobless because of the lack of water for irrigation.

I request the Union Government to provide irrigation fulish for the fields in the naxal affected areas by according environmental clearance to Karwapa and Channa minor irrigations projects of Gadchiroli tribal district immediately so that the naxal affected people may be brought under the mainstream of the nation and get benefit from these projects.

- (vi) Need to impress upon the Government of Uttarakhand to extend the benefits of Sixth Pay Commission and Assured Career Progression to Group 'D' Employees of the State**

SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ (Garhwal): I would like to draw the attention of the House towards Group 'D'

employees of the State. Group 'D' employees of the State, Uttarakhand are demanding benefits of Sixth Pay Commission and Assured Career Progression from 1 September, 2008. These low paid employees are executing their work very well. But even after it, they are not given the benefits of the said two schemes till now.

I request the Union Government to direct the State Government of Uttarakhand to provide the benefits of Sixth Pay Commission from September, 2008 to these low paid Group 'D' employees.

- (vii) Need to increase the frequency of daily trains between Mahua and Bhavnagar in Gujarat and convert railway line between Amreli and Dhasa into broad gauge**

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIA (Amreli): Today, Amreli district is in dire need of the development of railway. Without the development of railway the development of this district is not possible because 80 percent people of almost 12 lakh population of the district is dependent on small business for their livelihood and thousands of people commute from one city to another daily for their livelihood.

The present railway line in my district links the areas like Rajula, Amreli, Savarkundla, Dhasa, Liliya, Damnagar, Pipwa but the main problem is that the train which goes from Mahua to Bhavnagar in the morning, returns in the next day morning instead of returning in the evening of the same day. Due to it, the travellers have to stay there for one night or otherwise they have to travel by bus after spending Rs. 125 to Rs. 150 and this way they have to spend more time and money.

I would like to request the Railway Minister to run two trains from Mahua to Bhavnagar daily in the morning and two trains in return so that the problem being faced by the people there could be resolved. Sir, people have been making this demand for years to convert all narrow gauge or meter gauge line linking to this area into broad gauge specially the railway line from Amreli to Dhasa should be converted to broad gauge immediately.

- (viii) Need to enhance the Minimum Support Price of cotton and provide financial relief to the distressed cotton farmers**

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): The cotton farmers of the country are distressed as they are not getting the remunerative price. Due to the rise in the price of cotton in global market last year, there was hike

in the price of cotton in the country also and the cotton farmers got the price for their cotton at the rate of Rs. 6500 to 7000 per quintal but as the price of cotton has come down in the international market this year, its price has decreased in the country also. Without deliberating over the increasing production cost of farmers, as well as, without increasing the minimum support price, to fix the minimum support price of Rs. 3200 per quintal is a violent stroke on the farmers. Thus, the private traders started to buy cotton from farmers at low price as a result of which the farmers are suffering a huge loss. The farmers could have got a little consolation with the hope of the price of cotton to be increased to Rs. 4200 per quintal after the recommendation made by the Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices for increasing the minimum support price of cotton by Rs. 900 for the year 2011-12, but as the minimum support price of cotton has not increased, the farmers, trapped by the private traders, are being forced to go for distressed sale. As the State Government of Maharashtra has not set up any procurement centre for cotton, the farmers are facing double exploitation.

Maximum number of suicide by the farmers is taking place in cotton producing areas in the country. Cotton producing area is called farmer suicide prone area. As the farmers are not getting the remunerative price for their crops, they are forced to commit suicides. Taking into account the increasing inflation and input cost, there is a need to fix the minimum support price at least. Rs. 6000 to 7000 per quintal. Today, the farmers are launching movement for this demand. Considering the reasonable demand of these struggling farmers, the Government should fix the minimum support price of Rs. six to seven thousands and provide the relief amount of Rs. 20,000 per acre as a financial compensation to the distressed cotton farmers. I urge the Government to take immediate action on the issue linked with the livelihood of cotton farmers.

(ix) Need to provide houses under Indira Awas Yojana to BPL families in each Gram Panchayat and also make provision for construction of Indira Awas from MPLADS Fund

SHRIMATI YASHODHARA RAJE SCINDIA (Gwalior): There is a long list of eligible beneficiaries fulfilling the eligibility for Indira Awas in every Panchayat of the rural division of Gwalior Parliamentary Constituency and as only one or two houses can be constructed under the Indira Awas Yojana, the people are not getting houses under the said scheme despite fulfilling the eligibility criteria.

Therefore, I request the Government to issue guidelines for allocating funds for at least five houses under Indira Awas Yojana to every Panchayat for the eligible people belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Tribes, differently abled, widow and BPL cardholders of other reserved/general category.

Since, this list is very long in every Panchayat, therefore, I request the Government to allow to use funds from MPLADS for Indira Awas Yojana (from the pending waiting list as per the knowledge of the MP).

I request the hon. Union Minister of Rural Development and the Government of India to issue proper guidelines to the concerned officer to mull over the proposal given by me.

(x) Need to provide Rake Point Facility at Modasa Railway Station in Sabarkantha Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat

SHRI MAHENDRASINH P. CHAUHAN (Sabarkantha): My Parliamentary Constituency, Sabarkantha is a tribal and economically backward area which is backward today from development point of view even after 64 years of Independence. As railway facility has not been developed in this area, industries have not been set up and the people of this entire area are dependent on agriculture and animal husbandry for their livelihood.

There is scarcity of trains in my area and the trains which are available run at a very slow speed. This area does not have even goods rake point facility, which is necessary for the development. The consumer goods, fertilizers for agriculture and other goods are brought to this area, having the population of more than 25 lakh, from other areas by roads and as the vehicles are not available there all the time, these goods do not reach there on time and this transportation is very costly also.

I urge the Government to provide "Rake Point" facility at Modasa Railway station in my Parliamentary Constituency. I had put this demand before the Railway Department but I could not get any positive reply. Due to it, the people are very agitated and they are mulling over mass movement. I request the Government to provide rake point facility by directing the concerned Railway officers immediately.

(xi) Need to ensure participation of farmers in industries whose lands have been acquired for setting up of industries in Bharuch Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI D. VASAVA (Bharuch): Industries are being set up on agricultural land in the

country. Land is acquired from the farmers in the name of public utility and the same land is allocated to the industrialists by the Government. As per rules, industries should be set up on barren and minimum land so that the area of agricultural land may not shrink. Agricultural land is shrinking due to setting up of industries and the farmers are becoming unemployed due to deprivation of land and they are being displaced. Agricultural land is being acquired from a number of farmers in my Parliamentary Constituency Bharuch for last so many years and the said farmers have been displaced and have become unemployed. The farmers are not given employment in the industries for which their land are acquired and the compensation given to them is far below the market value.

I urge upon the Government to ensure participation of farmers in industries whose lands have been acquired for setting up industries so that the farmers may get the source of livelihood for their families.

(xii) Need to open a Central Agricultural College in Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal

[English]

SHRI PRASANTA KUMAR MAJUMDAR (Balurghat): The land available in Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal is very fertile. A state agricultural Farm is also situated here. A large number of land is there under this State Agricultural Farm. Research work is also being conducted there. This area is an agricultural belt and people here depend on farming. I, therefore, request that Central Agricultural College be opened in Dakshin Dinajpur, West Bengal, so that the people of this area and whole North Bengal could be benefitted.

[Translation]

MADAM SPEAKER: Punia Ji, please speak.

...(Interruptions)

MADAM SPEAKER: Zero Hour has begun. Please keep quiet. Please take your seats. Punia Ji, please speak.

SHRI P. L. PUNIA (Barabanki): Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on a very important issue.

Despite the implementation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and

special provisions made in the Constitution, the incidents of atrocities against these classes are still happening. As per the Rule formulated in the year 1995 under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 provisions of, financial assistance and rehabilitation for the victim families had been made but the number of incidents of atrocities is constantly increasing which is a serious issue. It has been observed that the complaints are not registered in the police stations and even if complaint is registered, the police seems to provide protection to the criminals. If this trend continues, how will the victim families get justice and how the action against the increasing crime be ensured?

More than 90 per cent rape victims are the members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It manifests, either there is any loophole in the present law or it has not been implemented properly. Therefore, it essential to review the same.

Through the House, I would like to urge upon the Government to implement the law effectively which has been enacted to prevent the atrocities against the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and review the law and if necessary, make appropriate amendment to it.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Kamal Kishore Commando is permitted to associate himself with the issue raised by Shri P.L. Punia.

[English]

SHRI C. RAJENDRAN (Chennai South): Madam Speaker, thank you very much. I would like to bring the following matter of urgent public importance to the notice of the House under 'Zero Hour'.

The economic status of the State of Tamil Nadu is improving. It is improving agriculturally, educationally and also industrially. Now-a-days, Tamil Nadu is providing job opportunities to people from all over the country. Tamil Nadu has become the hub of industrial activity also. For all this, power is very much necessary and it plays a pivotal role in development. Due to this, there is an ever-increasing demand for power. But there is stagnation in the generation of power. The Tamil Nadu Electricity Generation and Distribution Company is forced to resort to scheduled as well as unscheduled load-shedding to the extent of about 1,500 mw which is affecting the industrial sector and the domestic consumers.

There is an inadequate supply of power to agricultural pump-sets which is affecting the production

of food grains. The State Government of Tamil Nadu is taking all necessary steps to improve the energy efficiency so that the gap between the supply and demand is reduced.

Nevertheless to meet the genuine needs of the farmers and the public, the State Government of Tamil had requested for additional allocation of power of 1,000 mw to be made in 2012 from the Central pool. Our hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had also written a letter to the hon. Prime Minister in this regard.

I urge upon the Central Government to immediately take necessary action to sanction 1,000 mw of additional power from the Central pool to Tamil Nadu. Thank you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP (Shimla): Madam, I would like to thank you for allowing me to speak on the matter related to grant to permission to Himachal Pradesh to levy 10 paise per unit as generation tax on the electricity being produced in hydro power project.

Madam, I would like to bring to your notice that Himachal Pradesh is a mountainous and bordering state and hydro electricity and forest reserves are the main sources available here. The Government of Himachal Pradesh has forwarded the proposal for grant of permission to the state to levy 10 paise per unit as generation tax on the electricity being produced in hydro power projects a number of times. The Rangarajan Committee had also made the recommendation to allow Himachal Pradesh to levy generation tax in this regard. The report submitted by the committee has been accepted by the Planning Commission vide its semi government letter No. 17/2/91-FR, dated 20.01.1993.

Madam Speaker, there are no mineral reserves of any other kind. Only water and forest are the main form of mineral reserves there. If, as per their rules, the Union Government would not allow to levy generation tax on the extraction of minerals, the growth of the state would be adversely affected. Himachal Pradesh Government has itself decided that the deforestation can not be allowed at all even under Silviculture or selective scientific felling. Thus, Himachal Pradesh is fulfilling its duty of conserving and protecting the environment and the ecology of whole Indo-Gangetic Plane. Due to this it is bearing losses of thousands of crores of rupees in form of revenue but it is absolutely necessary to protect the health of the people in the country and the global environment.

Madam, I urge the Government to allow levying of generation tax of 10 paise per unit on the electricity being produced under the hydroelectricity projects in Himachal Pradesh so that additional revenue could be generated for the growth of Himachal Pradesh. Thank you.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Panna Lal Punia and Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal associate themselves with the subject raised by Shri Virendra Kashyap.

[*English*]

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA (Ghatal): Madam, today is the ultimate day of this Winter Session of Lok Sabha. There has been a gross default on our part "and that is that we have not been able to raise a very serious situation in this country. I am speaking of the critical economic situation in this country. Neither the Government has come to this House to make a *suo motu* statement nor have we been able to raise it because we have been overwhelmed with other issues.

What is the situation today? The economy is in deep crisis. This is not being discussed in Parliament. The economic growth has slipped down below 7 per cent as never before. Investment has gone down. Private and public investment has gone down. Bank lending has declined. Foreign Direct Investment has slowed down. The foreign investment in the stock market is gradually disappearing. The Index of Industrial Production is all-time low. The external value of money as against the dollar is as low as never before. The Current Account deficit is Rs. 70,00 crore which has never been in the recent period. The GDP has declined. Agricultural production has become unstable. As a result of this, there has been a loss of job and there has been decline in the creation of job. The whole economy is under a staggering impact of slow down. This slow down is accompanied by inflation. Therefore, the country is facing a stagflation for the first time after many years.

Madam, you will kindly realize that the world is also on the brink of another phase of slow down. The forecast is that this slow down in the world economy will persist for years together. As a result of decline of the world demand, Indian exports has declined but Indian imports remain high because of the depreciation of external value of money, the economy has become costlier. Therefore, people are in deep distress. This situation cannot be allowed to be forgotten by the highest national forum. We are thinking of a special Session on many issues. I suggest to the Government, before the Budget

Session—because Budget Session may be postponed due to elections—a special Session of Parliament may be called to discuss the economic situation which is extremely grave for the country but we are oblivious of it. We are oblivious of the gravity of the situation. The Government does not speak to us; neither have we been able to speak to you. People of the country understand that farmers are committing suicide but the issue is not being raised; people are losing their jobs, the issue is not being raised; inflation is high, discussion is not being held. Therefore, this distressing. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Nothing else will go on record except what Shri Gurudas Dasgupta is saying.

...*(Interruptions)* *

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: It is a matter of public importance. ...*(Interruptions)* I am not speaking of price rise, I am speaking of stagflation, which is different from price rise. Ignorance is a premium in this House, I cannot help. Therefore, this distressing situation of the economy as never before, which is having its impact on the human being; human distress is on the rise. We want to know as to what is the strategy of the Government. What is the strategy of the Government? Monetary policy has failed. Thirteen times, the Reserve Bank has altered Repo Ratio Rate and Reverse Repo Ratio Rate. But there is no impact. Investment is going down. No industry is coming up. It is very serious for the country. The Government must allow the nation to be known as to what is its strategy and Parliament has to discuss it. Therefore, I am demanding that the Government should make known its strategy and Parliament Special Session to be called to discuss the grave economic situation.

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Kirit Solanki is allowed to associated with the issue raised by Shri Gurudas Dasgupta.

SHRI MANISH TEWARI (Ludhiana): Earlier this month, we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Liberation of Bangladesh. It was perhaps the finest hour for the Indian Armed Forces and this nation. But, Madam Speaker, that hour is tinged with an element of poignancy. There are still 54 Prisoners of War who are believed to be languishing in Pakistani jails. Repeatedly, evidence has emerged. Letters are there; eye witness accounts are there; citings are there about those people languishing in those jails. What I would like to request

the Government, Madam Speaker, through you, is that a multi-disciplinary investigation and search agency must be immediately constituted, they should scientifically sift through the entire evidence which is available in the public domain. They should come to a certain conclusion; take it up with the Pakistani Government so that we can bring the closure to the matter because we can imagine the plight of those families who for 40 years do not know as to whether their loved ones are alive or dead. I think, collectively, we owe it to them; this nation owes it to them to try and bring those boys home, who in 1971, risked their lives for this nation.

I would like to request the Government, through you, Madam Speaker, that this matter should be given the highest importance and should be taken up on priority.

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri Mahesh Joshi, Shri Harish Choudhary, Shri Ijyaraj Singh, Shri P.L. Punia, Shri Kamal Kishor 'Commando' and Shri Dushyant Singh are allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shri Manish Tewari.

SHRI TAKAM SANJOY (Arunachal West): Madam Speaker, it was in 1999-2000 that the lower Subansiri Hydro Electric Project of 2000 MW in Arunachal Pradesh was awarded to the National Hydro Power Corporation. It took nearly 14 years to conduct survey and investigation by Brahmaputra Board. After five years of its award to the National Hydro Power Corporation, this project was declared by the Government of India as a National project. Nearly 80 per cent of the construction work has been done by the National Hydro Power Corporation. In recent past, in a very sudden and interesting move, the Krishak Mukti Sangram Samiti led by Shri Akhil Gogoi in Assam has created not only nuisance but also havoc to the law and order situation in the North-East. The entire North-Eastern States including Assam are facing a very typical and difficult situation. Madam Speaker, this organization led by Shri Akhil Gogoi is said to have connivance with the CPI(M) Maoists movement in North-East. For the first time in history, there are authentic reports of their having connivance, collecting arms and ammunitions, attacking Assam IRBM and all law and order enforcing agencies arms and ammunitions are being snatched. It is going to be one week now. More than 200 vehicles with people got stranded in Arunachal Pradesh. All heavy equipment, including machineries of National Hydro Power Corporation are not allowed to move into the sight of construction. This is a serious breach and challenge to the national security of our country.

*Not recorded.

I would urge the Government of India to put up a ban on this organization and declare this organization to be an outlaw organization to ensure that the internal and external security and national security of our country is protected. Thank you very much, Madam.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY (Guwahati): I would like to add one point in this regard.

MADAM SPEAKER: Your name is not in the list of Members allowed to speak in the Zero Hour. I will allow you to speak later.

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Madam Speaker, I would like to raise the issue of land acquisition in the House through you. Land acquisition for setting up coal mines and power plants has been done in the past in my Parliamentary Constituency Chandrapur district and it will continue in the future as well. The Land Acquisition Act was enacted in 1894 and is an archaic law. There has been a debate on this bill several times in the House and the Government keeps on saying time and again that they are going to formulate a law which would be in the interest of farmers and do justice to the displaced farmers. But the demand for changing the law has been there for years and Hon. Minister of Rural Development has also made an announcement in this regard. I hope that the Government would bring this Bill as soon as possible and the Land Acquisition Bill would be in favour of the farmers displaced. The Government should take initiative in this regard.

I would like to talk about my Parliamentary Constituency Chandrapur. Land is being acquired in my area for setting up of coal mines and power plants. The land is acquired by the DM and the compensation in the range of Rs. 20000 to Rs. 40000 is given in return. This paltry amount is being given to the farmers. The farmers who are being displaced are furious and angry because of this. They have agitated a lot of times and we have also staged agitation. Thus, in this way land of the farmers is being grabbed by the Government by deliberately fixing low compensation for their land. I urge the Government to formulate the new Land Acquisition Bill in favour of the farmers. Therefore, till the time new law is formulated, the Government should prohibit the acquisition of land under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 or Coal-Bearing Act, 1957 and a new law should be formulated as soon as possible to do justice to farmers. I urge the Government through you to do the aforementioned.

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri A. T. Nana Patil and Shri Danve Rao Saheb Patil would like to associate themselves with the submission made by Shri Hansraj G. Ahir.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA (Patna Sahib): Thank you, Madam Speaker, I am grateful to you. This gratefulness is due to a special reason. You have allowed me to speak despite shortage of time. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very important subject of including the Bhojpuri language in the eighth schedule of the constitution.

Madam Speaker, this issue is not of any special party or a person or lakhs of people but crores of people. Bhojpuri language is an ancient and beautiful language of India which is connected with the civilisation and culture and not limited to only Bihar and Uttar Pradesh but other states as well and also has impact in foreign countries. This language is not only the language of the common people but the mother tongue of the father of the nation of Mauritius, Sir Shivsagar Ram Ghulam is Bhojpuri. ...(*Interruptions*) This is a language of the first President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the hero of the 'Sampoorn Kranti', Loknayak Jai Prakash Narayan, Revered Baba Jagjeevan-Ram as well as our former Finance Minister, Shri Yashwant Sinha. If any person who can be regarded as the national asset, then he is Shri Lalu Prasad and this is his language also. Madam Speaker, Bhojpuri is your as well as our language. Even then, this language has not been included in the Eight Schedule of the Constitution till this day. ...(*Interruptions*) This is the language of Bhikhari Thakur. ...(*Interruptions*) This is the language of around 20-25 crore people and ...(*Interruptions*) Bhojpuri drama "Loha Singh" is the most popular radio drama till date and the imprint of Loha Singh on our friend Shri Lalu Prasad is seen many times even today.

SHRI LALU PRASAD (Saran): Bhojpuri is the language of Shri Mahendra Mishra.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: This is the language of Shri Mahendra Mishra. This is the language of such wise, renowned, good and famous people. I called Shri Lalu Prasad as a national asset because as Peacock is our national bird, in the similar manner, Shri Lalu Prasad is famous in the country as well as in the foreign countries including Pakistan. I think that besides including Bhojpuri

language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, Shri Lalu Prasad ji should be declared as the national asset. We have telecast a very popular programme just now in Bhojpuri "Ke Bani Krorepati". This programme became very popular in Bhojpuri language and the special and moot point in it is that when the people speaking Bhojpuri language watch this programme, they like it. But, even those people who cannot speak this language, understand it. We have got two Members who speak Maithili language. Shri Kirti Azad and Shri Hukmadeo Narayan Yadav. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA (Ratlam): This is a language of Shri Shatrughan Sinha.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: I am yours, your brother and your family member. I am saying that those people who cannot speak Bhojpuri fluently can also understand it.

13.00 hrs.

Tamil is a good language. The language of our Maharashtra, Marathi is a good language. Kannada is also a good language. All languages are good. All languages including Gujarati are also good. We have got many good languages and several languages have been included in the Eighth schedule to the Constitution. Maithili language has also been included and it is a good step. Maithili is a language of the learned. But more languages like Bodoland and Manipuri have been included in the Eighth Schedule even though these language are spoken by just a handful of people. I want to say that those languages which are spoken by less number of people have been included and this is a good step. But, Bhojpuri language which is spoken by crores of people and, as people say that this language is famous in the foreign countries, has not been included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution till date. Due to the popularity of this language, a number of Bhojpuri films are being made and appreciated and because of which the entire Bhojpuri Industry is thriving. Our younger brother, Shri Sanjay Nirupam who has also extended great help and cooperation to it, is sitting there. But those films are not given importance at the international level because.

MADAM SPEAKER: Dr. Girija Vyas, please speak.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Madam, I am concluding. Perhaps, I am speaking before you for first time, therefore, I am unable to speak correctly perhaps or I am hesitating a little.

MADAM SPEAKER: Okay. Please conclude after speaking a sentence of Bhojpuri language.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: I am about to do that. Now onwards, I will not speak about Bengali or Marathi. I will speak only about Bhojpuri. I am saying that this is the language of crores of people and those Bhojpuri films which are shown in the foreign countries, are unable to establish their hold at international level because this language has not been included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. The day the Bhojpuri language will get validity, acceptability, respectability and legality, perhaps our films and Bhojpuri industry which is growing, will touch new dimensions and get success.

Therefore, today with the blessings of the entire House, I request the Government to pay attention to it. Hon. Prime Minister is sitting here. With due respect to the Prime Minister, I urge the Government to include Bhojpuri language like other languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. All languages are good. All the mothers are good but there is nothing more valuable than one's own mother to oneself. With this, I would like to say that Bhojpuri language should be immediately included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Those Members who want to associate themselves with him should send their names to the Table of the House. Dr. Girija Vyas, please speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Shri P. L. Punia, Dr. Girija Vyas, Shri Ramkishun, Shri Neeraj Shekhar, Shri Om Prakash Yadav, Shri Kirti Azad, Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey, Shri Gorakhnath Pandey, Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi, Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani, Shri Ramen Deka, Shri Vishwa Mohan Kumar, Shri Rajendra Agrawal, Prof. Ramshankar, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Shukla, Shrimati Putul Kumari, Shri Kamal Kisor Commodo, Shri Ninong Ering, Shrimati Meena Singh, Dr. Vinay Kumar Pandey, Shri Ratan Singh, Shrimati Santosh Chowdhary, Shri Jagdambika Pal, Shri P. T. Thomas, Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, Shri Ajay Kumar, and Shri Shailendra Kumar associate themselves with the issue raised by Shri Shatrughan Sinha.

...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Please take your seats and let him speak.

DR. GIRIJA VYAS (Chittorgarh): I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. ...*(Interruptions)* I along with the hon. Members from Rajasthan and the people of Rajasthan associate ourselves with the sentiments of the hon. Member and would like to appeal the Government to include Rajasthani language to the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

Madam, the couplets written in this language boost the morale of the soldiers and they continue their fight without fearing for their lives. This is the language of our pride and valour. I would like to say only one thing - "Maa hi edon poot janyo, jedo veer pratap, soya soon Akbar dare, Jaani sirhane saanp". Listening to these lines mothers wished to give birth to such sons. This is the language which has provided good translation of Upanishads to common people. It is such a language which has elevated literature to paramount position. It has carved its niche be it story, novel, or poetry. This language conforms to our culture and spoken by common people. A number of movies and songs have been sung in this language and our culture is recognized through this language.

I would like to add something to Shatrughan Sinha ji's point that the impression of Rajasthani language is always visible in T.V. episodes, movies etc. our culture cannot grow without our language. Therefore, we appeal to the Government to include Rajasthani and Bhojpuri languages to the Eighth Scheduled of the Constitution. ...*(Interruptions)*

MADAM SPEAKER: Alright, you lay your names on the Table of the House.

Shri P.L. Punia, Shri Dushyant Singh, Shri Ajay Kumar, Shri Dilipkumar Mansukhlal Gandhi, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Shri Mahesh Joshi, Shri Harsh Choudhary, Shri P. T. Thomas, Shri Tara Chand Bhagora, Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki, Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Shukla, Shri Lai Chand Kataria, Shri Ijyaraj Singh, Shri Badri Ram Jakhar, Shri Ratan Singh, Shri Raghuvir Singh Meena, Shri Khiladi Lal Bairwa, Shri Gopal Singh Shekhawat, Shri Bharat Ram Meghwal, Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, Shri Kamal Kishore Commodo associate themselves with the issue raised by Dr. Girija Vyas.

13.05 hrs.

RE: A COURT CASE IN RUSSIA SEEKING BAN ON BHAGWAT GEETA

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): Madam Speaker, with your permission, I

would like to share information with this distinguished House. I am sorry, Madam, my voice is cracked. As the Leader, of the Opposition and other hon. Members will recollect, there was an agitation when the news appeared that some organizations in Tashkent in Russia, moved in the Court and sought a ban on *Bhagwad Gita*, because of an extremist language it has.

Yesterday, I received information from the Foreign Secretary that the higher court, in which the case was being heard, have rejected the petition and clearly demonstrated that even those who filed the petition and made comments, did not go through the original text of the language. They depended on the translation of somebody and on the basis of that came to some erroneous conclusions. As the hon. External Affairs Minister, while responding to the queries of the hon. Members, stated that it was absurd and his observations have been vindicated by the judgment of the Russian court.

I thought that I should share this information with the hon. House.

13.06 hrs.

VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[English]

MADAM SPEAKER: Hon. Members, the Ninth Session of the Fifteenth Lok Sabha, which commenced on 22nd November, 2011, is coming to a close today.

During this Session, we had 24 sittings and the House sat for 85 hours and 01 minute.

The Session saw the disposal of important Financial, Legislative and other Business. Discussion on Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 2011-12 lasted for 3 hours and 24 minutes before the Demands were voted and the related Appropriation Bill was passed.

Discussion on the Supplementary Demand for Grant (Railways) for 2011-12 was held on 13th and 16th December, 2011. The discussion lasted for over 5 hours and 21 minutes, in which 96 Members took part, before the Demand was voted and the Appropriation Bill was passed.

During the Session, 27 Bills were introduced and 18 Bills were passed. Some of the important Bills passed were the Damodar Valley Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the New Delhi Municipal Council (Amendment) Bill, 2010; the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second Bill, 2011; the Life Insurance Corporation (Amendment) Bill, 2009; the Petroleum and Mineral Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Amendment Bill, 2010; the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2011; the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Amendment Bill, 2011; the Regulation of Factor (Assignment of Receivables) Bill, 2011; the Export-Import Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 2011; the Constitution (One Hundred and Eleventh Amendment) Bill, 2009.

The House also passed the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Bill, 2011 and the Whistle Blowers Bill, 2011.

During the Session, 400 Starred Questions were listed, out of which, only 41 Questions could be answered orally. Thus, on an average, about 2.05 Questions could be answered per day, which you will agree is extremely low. Written replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with 4,600 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

About 168 Matters of Urgent Public Importance were raised by the Members after the Question Hour and by sitting late in the evening.

Hon. Members also raised 314 Matters under Rule 377.

The Standing Committees presented 34 Reports to the House.

The House also held two Short Duration Discussions under Rule 193 on subjects of Urgent Public Importance, namely (i) on the Statement laid on the Table on 22nd November, 2011 by the Minister of Finance regarding the inflation situation in India; and (ii) on the situation arising out of the threat being posed to the very existence of the River Ganga and the Himalayas due to their ruthless exploitation. The discussions on these two important matters concluded with the reply of the Ministers concerned. A discussion on the increase in agrarian crisis in the country and the incidence of

suicides by farmers by Shri Basu Deb Acharia, remained part-discussed.

During the Session, an Adjournment Motion on the situation arising out of money deposited illegally in foreign banks and action being taken against the guilty persons was discussed for five hours and 36 minutes and negatived by the House.

The House also adopted a motion, moved by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs regarding constitution of a Committee of both the Houses, to be called the 'Committee for Welfare of Other Backward Classes' (OBCs).

During the Session, three important matters were raised by way of Calling Attention, namely (i) the situation arising out of non-revision of wages of employees of IDBI Limited; (ii) the need to take adequate safety measures to protect the lives of Safai Karamcharis (sewer cleaners) and provide health insurance cover to them; and (iii) the situation arising out of spread of Encephalitis and Brain Fever in various parts of the country, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Bihar. In response to these Calling Attentions, the Ministers concerned made statements and also replied to the clarifications sought by the Members.

As many as 39 Statements were made by the Ministers on various other important subjects including four Statements made by the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on Government Business.

Unfortunately, which is a matter of great concern for all of us, is that no Private Members' Business could be taken up during the Session due to forced adjournment of the House.

In this Session, the House sat late for 22 hours and 12 minutes. But, regrettably we lost over 76 hours and 21 minutes of time due to interruptions followed by forced adjournments. Such forced adjournments compromise the authority and supremacy of Parliament.

I would like to thank the hon. Deputy-Speaker and my colleagues in the Panel of Chairmen for their help and cooperation in the completion of business of the House. I am extremely grateful to the hon. Prime Minister, the Leader of the House, the Leader of Opposition, the Chairperson of UPA, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Leaders of various Parties and Groups as well as

the Chief Whips and the hon. Members of the House for their cooperation. I would also like to thank, on behalf of all of you, our friends in the Media.

I take this opportunity to convey my deep appreciation to the Secretary-General for the competent and expert assistance he has rendered to me. I compliment the officers and staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for their dedicated and prompt service to the House. I also thank the allied agencies for their able assistance in the conduct of the proceedings of the House.

I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Same to you, Madam.

13.15 hrs.

NATIONAL SONG

[*English*]

MADAM SPEAKBR: The hon. Members may now stand up as *Vande Mataram* would be played.

The National Song was played.

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned *sine die*.

13.16 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.
