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Friday, December 10, 2021  
Agrahayana 19, 1943 (Saka)

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

**(English Version)**

**Seventh Session**

**(Seventeenth Lok Sabha)**



(Vol. XIV contains Nos. 01 to 10)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI**

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

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Friday, December 10, 2021/Agrahayana 19, 1943 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Question Hour. Question numbers 181 and 183 are clubbed.

Shri Suresh Narayan Dhanorkar Ji.

**(Q. 181 and 183)**

**SHRI BALUBHAU ALIAS SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR:** Sir, I wanted to know the extent to which Covaxin and Covishield which are being given extensively across the country are effective against the new variant of Covid-19, Omicron. Have there been any standard treatment protocols and guidelines for the treatment of this new variant? If so, what is its basis? How many laboratories are operational across the country to test the new Omicron variant and are these sufficient?

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Hon. Speaker, Omicron virus was detected for the first time on 19th November. In Africa, Omicron case was reported on 24 November. After that, it has been reported in many countries. On 1st November, Omicron was also found in India during genome sequencing. Today, Omicron virus has been found in 59 countries in the world. In all the places of the world, studies are being done in the laboratories on the effectiveness of various vaccines like Covaxin, Covishield and Pfizer vaccine by developing its virus in the laboratories itself. This study will determine the effectiveness of a particular vaccine.

**SHRI BALUBHAU *alias* SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR:** Speaker Sir, I didn't get the complete answer to my question. Through you, I have asked the

number of laboratories operating in all the countries and whether these laboratories are adequate.

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Speaker Sir, today, 36 laboratories are available in the country for genome sequencing. We can do genome sequencing in these 36 laboratories. We currently have the capacity for that. This capacity can be increased by taking assistance from the private laboratories.

**SHRI BALUBHAU *alias* SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR:** Speaker Sir, I have a second supplementary question... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** You have asked the second supplementary question.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI BALABHAU *alias* SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR:** Speaker Sir, this was the answer to my first question. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, through you, I would like to ask about the technical approach if the babies and children are infected in the third wave. Whether symptoms and effective standard treatment protocol and guidelines have been selected in this regard? What are the post-Covid complications found in the people who have been infected with Covid in the first and second wave and the manner in which these are likely to be used for the treatment of Covid?

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Speaker Sir, Coronavirus is a virus with various forms. It mutates from time to time and changes its variant through mutation.

Advisories and protocols are being decided based on the variant and its effects. By keeping all this in mind, it is important that the country should follow the

advisories and information provided by the Government for Covid appropriate behavior.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Rajbahadur Singh.

Shri N.K.Premachandran.

....(Interruptions)

[English]

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Thank you very much, Sir. India started COVID-19 vaccination drive on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2021. So far, six different types of COVID-19 vaccines have already been administered in India. The Statement of the hon. Minister goes to show that 51 per cent of the total population in India, the specialised category, has already been administered two doses of this vaccine.

The Omicron variant, which has spread from South Africa, is creating great apprehension among the people. It is also learnt from the newspapers, media reports, that some of the developed countries have started giving the booster dose of the vaccine. During the Discussion under Rule 193 on COVID-19, I had put a very specific question but unfortunately the Minister did not answer that question.

I would like to know from the Minister the booster dose policy of the Government of India. Is it being insisted or will it be administered to the people? In foreign countries, especially the developed countries have already started giving the booster dose. Even after having taken two doses of vaccine, this virus is infecting the people. In such a situation, is it being made mandatory to provide the booster dose of the vaccine; if so, when? I would also like to know from the hon. Minister the target for completion of two doses of vaccine. It is still less than 51 per cent.



What is the target fixed by the Government of India for the complete vaccination of the targeted population?

*[Translation]*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Hon. Speaker, as Premachandran ji has said, we hope that 100 percent vaccination may be done as soon as possible. Today, India is an example before the world where 86 percent of the population has received the first dose of the vaccine. If we look at the manner and the number of vaccine doses that have been given, it is evident that India's performance has been the best. If we look at the USA, 77 percent of people have taken the first dose and 59 percent have taken the second dose. In Germany, 72 percent have taken the first dose and 69 percent have taken the second dose. In France, 80 percent have taken the first dose and 78 percent have taken the second dose. 46 percent in Russia, 55 percent in Poland, 67 percent in Turkey, 30 percent in South Africa, 76 percent in the Netherlands, 78 percent in Italy, 75 percent in Vietnam, 77 percent in Belgium, and 78 percent of people in Brazil have taken the first dose...*(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs, there are 193 countries.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** India has administered the first dose of vaccine to 86 percent of people so far. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Very good.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** The States have seven crore vaccines as on date. I would like to request all the hon. Members except Premachandran ji to complete the vaccination campaign by conducting a campaign in their respective areas.

*[English]*

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Kindly enlighten the House with regard to the booster dose policy.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Hon. Speaker, I said that day itself during the discussion on Covid in the House that there are two expert groups in the country - NEGVAC and NTAGI. One group conducts research on vaccines and gives their opinion. The second group gives advice on immunization, and the time and process to do immunization. Both of these groups are scientific groups. That day too, I said that if we have to make a political decision, we can argue on anything.

But, we believe in the scientists of our country. The whole world takes advice from our scientists. When our scientists recommend this, we will take this policy forward. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. SPEAKER:** I have allowed your supplementary question.

**SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Sir, this is my second supplementary question.

**HON. SPEAKER:** I have allowed you a second supplementary question. You have asked about the booster dose and he has answered the question.

**SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Sir, this was my first supplementary question.

**HON. SPEAKER:** It's not that I haven't paid attention to the second supplementary question.

**SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Sir that was my first supplementary question.

**HON. SPEAKER:** You have asked your second supplementary question on booster dose.

**SHRI N.K.PREMACHANDRAN:** Sir that was my first supplementary question.

**HON. SPEAKER:** All right, ask the question. Hon. Minister will answer it.

*[English]*

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Sir, once my State Kerala was declared by everybody as a model to the whole nation and even to the globe. But, unfortunately, nowadays, it is seen that more than 55 per cent of the cases reported in the country are from the State of Kerala. The mortality rate is also very high.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India, especially, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare or ICMR has conducted any research or study or analysis of the situation prevailing in the State of Kerala. Once, it has done in a better way but now it is the worst-hit State in the country. I would like to know from the Government whether any study has been conducted. If so, kindly give us the details.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, when Kerala was witnessing thirty thousand cases per day, I had gone to Kerala and had a detailed discussion with the State Government there. I had also met people in various

hospitals of Kerala. I had also sent an expert team there which went there and had given many suggestions after meeting with people directly in four-five districts. The team also made request to the State Government to implement these suggestions. The most important thing in it is that we can protect ourselves from COVID by adhering to the guidelines which have been declared for COVID Appropriate Behavior.

**SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' (MUNGHYR):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, the country has created history in vaccination drive. Words fail to praise the Government for this. It needs more appreciation as indigenously developed vaccine has been administered. But, the Hon. Minister said that the COVID virus is constantly changing its variant. When it first came to light, it was different; then it evolved in the form of Delta variant and now it has come as Omicron.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, through you, whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard, because, the Delta variant was very lethal. It used to affect the lungs directly. It created an atmosphere of panic in the country.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, through you, regarding the effect and deadliness of the new Omicron variant in comparison to the Delta variant. Has the Government conducted any study in this regard? If so, what are the outcomes of the said study?

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, ever since the Omicron variant came and the first case was reported in the country, there are 23 active cases of Omicron in the country. In this regard, every morning at 9.30, an expert group of eminent scientists of our country, regularly discuss what is happening in the world, which region is more affected, and also about hospitalization status there or at other

places. All these are being monitored in India. Omicron is being grown in the laboratory and the entire world is checking the effect of it. Today the entire world is studying Omicron. Based on the study, the expert will give their opinion.

**SHRI RAMSHIROMANI VERMA:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, will the Minister of Health And Family Welfare be pleased to state that in many countries of the world, the effect of Omicron, a new variant of COVID-19 is being seen more in children, and in view of this, vaccination of children below 18 years of age has been started in foreign countries. Whether the Government proposes to start the vaccination of children below 18 years of age at the earliest? If so, the time by which it is likely to be done?

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has talked about the effect of Omicron on children. Omicron virus is currently being studied. WHO has also said the same thing and our scientists are also saying the same thing, we will consider after we get their opinion.

**SHRI MANISH TEWARI:** Sir, through you, I would like to ask a question to the Hon. Minister.

*[English]*

Sir, I have had the unfortunate occasion of dealing with the post-vaccine complication of a very close family member over the last two or three months. I have been talking to the doctors across the country, and they told me that increasingly, there is empirical evidence which is emerging that there are vaccine-related complications which are taking place.

Mr. Speaker Sir, through you, my question to the hon. Minister is this. Has the Indian Council of Medical Research or any other medical body conducted any

kind of research, or is there any kind of empirical evidence which has been gathered, to determine that what really is the incidence of post-vaccine complications? Has the Government really, institutionally taken a view as to how to deal with it and surmount it?

*[Translation]*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, everybody has its own effect. A detailed study is conducted before giving approval to any vaccine. Apart from this, even if there is a negative effect on someone's body, and that person goes to the hospital and if there is evidence that something like this has happened because of the vaccine, then further action is taken.

Hon. Speaker Sir, I request that misconception about vaccine that something or other has happened due to vaccine will again lead to vaccine hesitancy. After a lot of efforts and awareness, the vaccination drive is currently going on, we should give it momentum and cooperate with it process.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Shri Manne Srinivas Reddy - Not present.

Shri Su. Thirunavukkarasar ji. *[English]* Hon. Member, please ask your question.

**(Q. 182)**

**SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR:** Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Under the District Mental Health Programme, only Rs. 84.13 crore are approved country-wise, for the year 2021. We have got nearly 550 districts in the country. If we see the district-wise amount, it is very meagre. So, I would like to ask

the hon. Minister whether the Government will try to increase the amount district-wise.

Secondly, is it true that the developed countries allocate 5 to 18 per cent annually for the health-care budget in respect of mental health, and India is allocating roughly 0.05 per cent for health care in respect of mental health?

The Budget Estimates figure in respect of mental health for 2017-18 was Rs. 3.5 million. In 2018-19, it was Rs. 5 million. However, this figure was reduced to only Rs. 4 million in 2019-20. This year also, in 2021-22, it is at the same level, that is, Rs. 4 million. So, every year, why is this amount getting reduced while diseases are increasing? The youngsters and women of this country are more affected.

Due to COVID-19 also, a lot of people are affected. But why is the amount getting reduced year after year? Will the Government try to increase the amount? Will the Central Government help to establish State-wise mental healthcare programmes?

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Minister, please answer.

*[Translation]*

**DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR:** Sir, the question raised by the hon. Member is related to mental health. He has raised the issue that we are giving less funding. I would like to inform the House, through you, that whether it is primary health care, secondary or tertiary health care, the Government is working at different levels. At the primary level or at the secondary level, we provide funding for the PIP, whether it is from the State or from the district, which we get under NHM. If we receive any proposal from any State, we approve it. The District Mental Health Program provides this fund. We have received proposals from 692 districts so far, where we

have allocated funds. At present, a district is getting at least Rs 4 lakh. Apart from this, an amount of Rs 12 lakh is also provided to the same district for different programs related to children and women, whether these are for their awareness or for their life skill. In addition, we have three institutes in Bangalore, Assam and Ranchi for tertiary care. Separate funds of about Rs 600 crore have been allocated for them. I would like to say, through you, that if these proposals come from the State level, the Central Government allocates funds therefor.

*[English]*

**SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR:** The Central Government has approved 19 Government Medical Colleges throughout the country and it has allotted Rs.35 crore for their improvement and for the establishment of additional facilities and additional courses in the medical colleges. Under this programme, how many Government Medical Colleges are selected from Tamil Nadu? And, what is the amount allotted to the Government colleges selected in Tamil Nadu?

*[Translation]*

**DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I would like to inform, through you, that there are Centers of Excellence too which are functioning under Tertiary Care programme. There are PG Departments in various medical colleges and institutes. Therefore, now there are 19 such institutes and medical colleges where we are working on this project. Apart from this, as you have asked for Tamil Nadu, I will give you details about it.

**DR. SATYAPAL SINGH:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, thank you. First of all, I congratulate the Honorable Prime Minister, our former Health Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhan and the present Health Minister, Shri Mansukh bhai ji for the historic work done by the



Government of India regarding mental health and especially to control the situation arisen due to COVID-19.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Please ask your question.

**DR. SATYAPAL SINGH:** Sir, my issue is that the Government of India spends a lot to control mental illnesses and for its medicines. About 99 percent of the funds are spent on medicines or the facilities which are likely to be provided to the patients in the hospital. For years, we have heard that 'Prevention is better than cure'. How can we prevent it with treatment? A survey has been conducted which shows that 10.6% people who are above 18 years of age, are suffering from mental illness. A very detailed description has been provided in Ayurveda about what causes mental illness. My question to the Hon. Minister is: whether the Government of India formulates any strategy in this regard by combining our ancient knowledge system under Ayurveda with allopathy so that our children and our people do not suffer from mental illness?

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDVIYA:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, mental health is an important issue. It has not been given due attention in the past. People have a little phobia about it and they feel hesitant to talk about mental health, so the issue of mental health did not get proper attention. Treatment of mental illness is very essential and it can be treated too. That is why; there are three institutes which are functioning under the Government of India. During lockdown when people were at home, more cases related to mental illness were reported. Numerous calls were received in this regard. We also started a call center so that people can share their problems openly, or can share their issues on mail. As soon as we received calls, we immediately came into action mode and started talk and consultations therefor, and suggestions were also given to patients regarding nearby hospitals for counseling.

The Hon. Member has asked a very good question: whether we can develop any therapy by combining Ayurveda and Allopathy? I would like to say that earlier our social structure was such, where we used to live in a joint family and whenever a mother beat her child, he would directly go over to his grandmother's lap. His grandmother used to take care of him by saying that she would scold his mother. This gesture by his grandmother used to comfort the child and after that, it was as if nothing happened. Our social engineering was so good; the social system was so effective that there used to be readymade treatment available. The treatment for mental illness should be a combination of Ayurveda, Allopathy and all medical systems. Now, we are working in this direction.

*[English]*

**SUSHRI MAHUA MOITRA:** Thank you, Sir. With your permission I would like to bring an important issue to the notice of the hon. Health Minister. During COVID-19, all of us were so worried that we told our parents and grandparents not to go out of the house. Touchwood, my parents did not get COVID-19 and a lot more people did not get infected as well. But staying in the house continuously locked up, especially for older people above 60 years of age, who could not go out for a walk and see anybody, has caused them depression, anxiety and a lot of other issues. A lot of children stay away from their parents. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** What is your question?

*[English]*

**SUSHRI MAHUA MOITRA:** My question is whether the Government is thinking of something where we have community helplines as part of COVID19 management to call on people above 60 years of age to see if they are mentally fit.

*[Translation]*

**DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR:** Hon. Speaker Sir, Hon. Member has raised a very good question. Be they parents or elderly people or women, *[English]* the Government has taken a number of initiatives to provide psychological support during and post COVID 19. We have also initiated certain helpline numbers where we provide psychological support through mental health professionals to the entire affected population, including children and elderly people. *[Translation]* We have issued some guidelines for the states. We have issued advisory about management of mental health issues. Awareness is being spread through media platforms. Different mediums, be it social media or others, are being used for it. One website has also been launched for it. On Health Ministry website, Behavioural Health and Psychological helpline has been provided. *[English]* I want to say that through DIKSHA platform we have provided online training to the health workers for capacity building so that they can further provide psychological support to the people in need.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Question No. 184,

Shri Chandeshwar Prasad.

(Q. 184)

*[Translation]*

**SHRI CHANDESHWAR PRASAD:** Hon. Speaker Sir, it is necessary to continuously identify the new encroachments and ensure its prevention. On many places of Defence Department, encroachment is being done. People have in many places encroached upon these places illegally in absence of any action in this regard. Therefore, I urge the Hon. Minister that some system should be put in place at the earliest and if some arrangement has been made, it may be shared.

**ADV. AJAY BHATT:** Sir, till now total 9,505 acre land of Defence Department has been encroached. Out of 477 acre land belongs to Bihar only. You have asked about Bihar. Out of it, 338 acres of land has been encroached upon or abandoned air field Gopalganj in Bihar. 53 acres of land has been encroached by State Government units. We have taken so many measures. You have asked as to how much land has been recovered. Its reply has been given in writing.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Please tell us what is your policy? He is asking, what is the policy of Government on the encroachment of Defence lands? Kindly reply.

**ADV. AJAY BHATT:** We have taken several steps. All the land records have been digitized. Second point is that under the Land Management System, GIS layer has been developed of Defence Land. We have created a separate GIS layer of the encroached land and its monitoring is being done.

Sir, the survey is being done by the latest technology, which uses drone system. In that drone survey, we completed the survey in two months of field firing range of 37 lakh acre of land, which was encroached. Same way, we are getting

surveyed other field firing range pockets. We have a software developed by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, which is being used for detecting the new constructions.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Your reply is very apt. You have also explained the policy.

Question no 185, Shri Jyotirmay Singh Mahato.

(Q. 185)

**SHRI JYOTIRMAY SINGH MAHATO:** Hon. Speaker Sir, thank you very much for the time given to me. Hon. Minister, I fully agree with you that our Government is fully committed to digitalization of courts. Government is doing commendable work in this direction. With it, I want to ask the Hon. Minister, what is the current situation of E-Nyayalaya Mission Mode scheme in districts of Jungle Mahal including my Lok Sabha Constituency Purulia? How much help, the digitalization will do to reduce the cases pending for the last so many years in the courts all over India.

**SHRI KIREN RIJITU:** Sir, the courts throughout the country, be it District Courts or Subordinate Courts, a comprehensive programme of completely digitalization is going on. As far as West Bengal and its related Constituencies are concerned, I will separately provide the information. If you say, I can give the details of whole country, but to the Hon. member, I will send the information separately.

**DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:** Hon. Speaker Sir, Thank you. First of all, I want to thank the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Bhai Modi Ji and our Law Minister that even during the hostile circumstances of COVID in our courts, arrangements of online hearing were done. During this period, the Hon. Supreme Court heard the maximum number of cases digitally in the whole world. Today, as a leader of the world, Supreme Court heard around 1.5 lakh cases during the Covid period. Similarly, High Courts heard more than 55 lakh 24 thousand cases.

**HON. SPEAKER:** You have not been asked to give reply, please ask your question.

**DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:** All good work has been done and I congratulate the Minister for this. Alongside, I would like to ask a question that the beneficiaries are

unable to get replies through e-Portal at such places where there is no arrangement for Video Conferencing and where the cases are being heard in e-Courts.

I would like to request the Hon. Minister that arrangements should be made to make the copy of reply available online in respect of hearings through e-Courts. Along with, the reply furnished in English should be made available to the beneficiaries in Official Language Hindi as well as in local languages of the States after translation so that they can get benefit by understanding the Court verdict. Shall the Government consider this proposal?

**SHRI KIREN RIJJU:** Hon. Speaker Sir, first of all, I would like to inform this House that the efforts of the courts right from the Hon. Supreme Court down to the lower courts to conduct hearings entirely through Video Conferencing, Online and using technology during COVID is commendable. I highly appreciate it. A lot of efforts have been put up by the Department of Justice also. Our Department is working closely with the e-committee formed under the leadership of senior judges of the Hon. Supreme Court. Virtual Hearing or Video Conferencing has been mentioned and they have also given the figures. We have implemented the Rules of Video Conferencing in 21 Benches of the hon. High Courts. Besides, 28 Benches of Hon. High Courts and 22 District Courts have adopted Video Conferencing till 30 Nov 2021. Aatmanirbhar Bharat App and Bharat V.C. have been developed at local level in India and everything has been shortlisted. We are conducting trials, so that a uniform Video Conferencing can be implemented in all the Courts throughout the country and everyone may get equal facilities. All the Courts are conducting Video Conferencing and Virtual Hearing with the help of technology at present, which has helped the litigants and lawyers and it will also help reduce the pendency of cases.

**SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, due to the reasons of geography, topography and for financial reasons due to COVID... (Interruptions)

**HON. SPEAKER:** You have worked in the Hon. High Court. You may see the changes that have taken place in the hon. High Courts of that time and the present time.

**SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI:** Due to this, the Muffasil Courts have become the last resort for most of the people since people do not have money to approach upper courts. What are the measures taken to make the Muffasil Courts a reality for the people? I would say in respect of far flung areas of Jammu-Kashmir like Shopian, Kulgaum that it must be implemented there if we are to provide justice at the doorstep so that there is no compulsion. What is the status thereof?

We have to put restrictions on internet due to security reasons. Is there any mechanism to ensure that such restrictions are not imposed on the Courts, Judicial System and these facilities remain available to the people and they can get benefits of these facilities?

**SHRI KIREN RIJJU:** Hon. Member has been a judge himself. I met his colleagues, the Chief Justice and the judges of the District Courts when I visited Kashmir valley last month. I have asked them to give all their proposals just as the Hon. Member has requested or has given suggestion here. At the level of Government of India, we will do whatever is possible. He has raised the point of how instant justice can be provided to the common man using technology. Respecting your sentiments, I assure in this House that we are moving forward in the direction of quick justice to the extent possible and very soon the task of digitization will be complete throughout India.



*[English]*

**SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:** Sir, I am respectfully saying to the hon. Minister that he is proceeding with a very laudable objective. There is no doubt about it. There are many constraints. I am aware about it also.

The point is, which Mr. Sridhar has also just now mentioned, that the problem is really in the trial courts, in the district courts. It has not yet been installed. It has to be looked into quickly. Family courts are not functioning at all. Women are being deprived. My question is this. In your reply, it has been stated that an amount of Rs. 1,151.84 crore has been released to various high courts for this purpose. I would like to request you to give a breakup of this amount for four High Courts. I am not asking for more. These courts are – Kolkata High Court, Allahabad High Court, Mumbai High Court and Gujarat High Court. I would like to know the amount that has been released to each of these High Courts. With respect, I have put this question.

**SHRI KIREN RIJJU:** As I have stated earlier also, I have already provided the details for all the States and Union Territories in the answer. Regarding the additional information which the hon. Member has sought, I will definitely give all the details of how much money we have sanctioned. We will have to consult with High Courts, the Registrar-General etc. It is difficult for the Ministry of Law and Justice to seek information directly from the courts, and you know the procedure. I will definitely seek the information and provide it.

Regarding the difficulties which we face, the Department of Justice has constituted a Committee. Many courts under the e-court projects are located in far-flung areas. Such areas are termed as 'Technically Not Feasible'. So, this is a problem which the hon. Member has mentioned about. We have brought into the Committee, the Department of Telecom, e-Committee of the Supreme Court of India, NIC, BSNL,

Vidhi, an NGO, to prepare SOP for lodging complaints, capacity upgradation of WAN bandwidth. The Committee has recently submitted its report and we are working on that.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Question number- 186, Shri Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy- Not Present.

Shrimati Ranjanben Bhatt- Not Present.

*... (Interruptions)*

**(Q. 186)**

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Minister, please.

**DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, the reply has been placed on the Table of the House.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Question Number- 187, Shri Dayanidhi Maran.

*[English]*

**(Q. 187)**

**SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN:** The AIIMS in Madurai is a very prestigious institution in Tamil Nadu. The Prime Minister himself personally came and laid the foundation stone two years back. Now, the hon. Minister has said that it is going to be completed in 2026, and they are going to take temporary accommodation of Government colleges to place the students. My question is very simple. Students and parents want to choose AIIMS because of the infrastructure as AIIMS, especially AIIMS, Delhi is much better compared to the other institutions in India. That is the image they have. In this situation, you do not have a campus and it is very, very clear that the first batch of students will never be sitting in their own campus because the five-year course will get over. You are completing the building only in 2026. Is it not a let-down? Is it not a compromise? Are you not compromising the education of these students who are coming there thinking that they are going to get the same level of standard of AIIMS, Delhi?

*[Translation]*

**DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR:** Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to say that new AIIMS are being established under PMSSY scheme and the work of upgradation of existing Government Medical colleges is in progress. The Hon. Member has expressed his concern regarding the date of its completion. Earlier, there were six AIIMS and now there are going to be 22 AIIMS under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister, out of which 16 are new AIIMS.

Sir, I would like to convey through you that the loan for the Madurai Project has been obtained through a Japan International Corporation Agency. This involves some processes and surveys which take time to complete. An Executing Agency has

already been appointed for this. As far as its completion is concerned, I would like to convey to the Hon. Member through you that it is a work in progress and consultants have also been appointed in it.

Sir, the Hon. Member has shared his concern regarding college for the students. For this, the States have been asked by the Government to provide *[English]* suitable temporary infrastructure for starting the first batch of MBBS. *[Translation]* Madurai holds the same importance and priority for us and the Government is working in this direction.

*[English]*

**SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN:** Sir, all the medical institutions in India are governed by the Medical Council of India. If an individual like me would like to start a medical college, then I should have my own campus and my own building. As an advocate you know that there are so many cases in the Supreme Court where the license of an institution has been cancelled because they did not have their own building. The National Medical Commission of India has very clearly said that their licenses should be cancelled. How come AIIMS, Madurai or AIIMS, Patna is borrowing building space from another Government hospital? How are they excluded? If they are excluded, then the same exemption should be given to other private medical colleges. If so, have you got any exemption from the Cabinet? Is there any law exempting you to do it? Thank you, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA):** Sir, this is an important subject and not a subject to get annoyed. It is our Government

only which started Health and Wellness centres also to provide Primary Health Care. The Health Infrastructure at District level is being upgraded and provision has been made to establish AIIMS in the country to ensure best Tertiary Healthcare to the citizens which has already been started.

Sir, the infrastructure is not built overnight. Decisions are taken and infrastructure will come up subsequently as per established processes. I would like to assure this House through you that we shall not bargain on the quality of education. Our students will come prepared with the mindset that this is AIIMS only and they will be provided education of AIIMS standards only. Infrastructure is also getting ready and the students will get good education as well, there is no need to worry in this regard.

**DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED (KISHANGANJ):** Sir, there was a proposal of opening 11 AIIMS in Phase 5, 6 and 7. Out of these, only one AIIMS is in Bihar. I am glad to inform you that when the survey was conducted, Kishanganj was the only district in which the written proposal of 200 acres of land was given in June, 2016 but unfortunately it was not considered. No fund has been released so far for the second location which has been earmarked for setting up AIIMS. Bihar is not only the poorest State in India and the area of Seemanchal, Kishanganj where 200 acres of land was supposed to be provided, that is the poorest in Bihar. Keeping this in view, they selected Darbhanga. I want to ask the hon. Minister when will the amount be provided for that? Bihar is also the most densely populated area with approximately 14 crore people.

Hon. Speaker Sir, I also want to know from the Minister that out of 22 new AIIMS that are being built in the country, will one of these AIIMS be opened in Kishanganj? If new AIIMS will not be opened in Kishanganj, then will the hon.

Minister be pleased to state the reasons for not opening new AIIMS here? Thank you.

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Hon. Speaker Sir, Bihar will not remain a poor state. Eastern India should also have economic development and social system and health infrastructure should also increase. Till today, there was such a system that if a patient is sick and he/she needs tertiary care, then he had to come to Delhi only. But the decision was taken under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister that AIIMS should be built in all the regions of the country. AIIMS on the lines of Delhi will be built in Bihar so that people could get tertiary healthcare. Funds are not a concern for this. There is a procedure to start the work, first the DPR is prepared. After that the tender is issued. The work starts after the tender. Funds are available according to the progress of the work, so there will be no shortage of funds in Bihar. The best AIIMS will be built there, which will be useful in the healthcare of the people of Bihar.

**SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL:** Thank you sir, through you I would like to know that an AIIMS was sanctioned for Bhatinda in the year 2015. It is written in it that OPD is operational there since 2019. At the time of Corona, when the epidemic was spreading everywhere, Punjab had the highest mortality. Despite having such a huge infrastructure, in-house patients could not be accommodated there. All the buildings were ready, but only 20 to 40 patients of Corona were admitted there and the poor had to go to private hospitals.

Sir, the second thing is that you know how much backward area that is. A train namely 'Cancer Express' runs from there to Bikaner and cancer is treated there. Despite having such a huge infrastructure, only OPD is operational. What is the date of completion and the treatment of in-house patients and beginning of operations?

And the date by which funds will be provided and recruitment process will be over, so that patients can take advantage of such a huge infrastructure and the building does not continue to be unutilized like this.

**DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR:** Sir, Bhatinda AIIMS, was started in Phase-5 and about 95 percent of its work has been completed. Hon. member has asked about the OPD there, so I would like to tell that OPD is operational since the year-2019. She has demanded to start IPD there. IPD is also proposed to be started in the coming days and MBBS classes for the 2019-20 batch have also been started. We want that the work goes on and there is a provision for all the AIIMS that it is completed within the time limit. We will try that the construction work is completed within the time limit.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Question No. 188, Shri Kuruva Gorantla Madhav.

(Q. 188)

*[English]*

**SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:** Sir, the post-mortem rules prescribe that in deaths where homicide, suicide, rape or foul play is suspected or alleged or the body is decomposed, the dead bodies should only be examined during daylight hours. But if the law and order situation is fragile, then the procedure can be expedited to be conducted after daylight hours. Can the Minister clarify what constitutes a fragile law and order situation and which authority will decide if the law and order situation is fragile?

*[Translation]*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Hon. Speaker, Sir, when it comes to postmortem, I would like to state that a universal truth in the country for postmortem was that postmortem should be conducted during the day, but technology has changed in changing times. There was no light at that time, due to that postmortem was not done at night, but now technology has changed, lights have also become available, other facilities have also become available, due to which in normal cases we try to get postmortem done at night also.

**HON. SPEAKER:** It is a commendable effort on your part.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Sir, apart from this, there are many such cases, where something special is needed. For example, if there is a special incident, in which a police case has been registered, a case of rape or there is a need for panel PM care and for these cases a criterion has been fixed. In such a situation, the



postmortem will be done during the day with videography so that nothing important gets lapsed. For example, if there is a case of organ donation. A person can be given a new life by donating an organ. There is a certain period for an organ to be active. If time passes, that organ fails. So it has to be delivered in short time. In such a situation, by donating an organ, a life could be saved, such arrangements have been made in it.

*[English]*

**SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:** Sir, the handwritten post mortem reports were often not legible. Unless they were legibly written, it would not be possible for non-medical people to understand the prescriptions of the doctors and forensic experts. The certificates had to be read and understood for conducting investigation and deciding cases.

Can the hon. Minister make a new protocol for post mortem procedures mandating doctors to provide typed post mortem reports?

*[Translation]*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Sir, the issue is important, but its clarification may be sought.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Hon. Minister, the post-mortem report which is written by hand, is not written properly. I think, it will be fine if it is computerized.

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Sir, I will tell you it is true, it happens many times. Sometimes handwriting couldn't be read. I can read what I have written, maybe others can't, so in such a situation it can be difficult. But we have also ensured that in such a situation if it is to be translated and computerized, then it could be

done. If a judge or an expert needs any clarification, then it is the responsibility of him/her to give it in typing or in writing, so that it can be convenient and there is no problem.

*[English]*

**SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA:** Sir, according to the reply given by the hon. Minister regarding the post mortem, new guidelines have been issued for conducting post mortem in hospitals after sunset but, till today, the rural areas are suffering with respect to post mortem report because they do not have a voice to debate with the doctors for the post mortem report. Here, the sufferers are the rural people. Do we have any special guidelines issued to the doctors across the country?

*[Translation]*

**SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA:** Sir, our government listens more to the voice of the rural people and that is why this decision has been taken. Not only should the rural people, health care be easily available to any citizen universally in the country. If any death has happened and the postmortem is to be done, then it could be done easily during the day and the dead body could be taken to their home and for this purpose this circular has been issued. All the State Governments have also been instructed to take its cognizance. An advisory has been issued so that the State Governments may follow it.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Question No. 189, Shri Ritesh Pandey

(Q. 189)

**SHRI RITESH PANDEY:** Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to ask a question.

Sir, through you, I want to ask the Hon. Minister about the impacts of the US sanctions imposed on Iran on our work going on in Chabahar Port? Iranian people are saying, the Iran Government is saying publicly that our project of Chabahar port has been delayed very badly. Are the sanctions imposed having an impact on the project and if so, what are the solutions for it? We also know that China, by taking advantage of it, is trying to work on this port by taking full possession of it. It has already done so with the rail link.

*[English]*

**DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR:** Sir, through your medium, I would like to inform the hon. Member that the assertion is completely inaccurate. This agreement was signed in 2016. We took possession of the terminal in 2018. We have already supplied six cranes. The terminal is fully functional. We have given details of how much cargo it is handling and how many countries it is covering. The US sanctions are not relevant to this project.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RITESH PANDEY:** Sir, my second question to the Hon. Minister through you is that the port was used to help the Central Asian Countries and Afghanistan for providing wheat or any other thing, as you said in your answer. Now, the Government of Afghanistan has been taken over by the Taliban, have you made any backdoor agreements so that this help continues there.

**HON. SPEAKER:** You ask only related question.

**SHRI RITESH PANDEY:** If any such agreements have been made, please tell.

*[English]*

**DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR:** Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that all our agreements on the operations at the Chabahar Port are limited to Iran. Originally, there was a trilateral agreement but that was the basis to set it up. In terms of Port's operations, we are not required to have any agreement with the Government of Afghanistan, and I assure that the Port is functioning and it is functioning well.

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** Question No. 190, Adv. A.M. Ariff.

(Q.190)

*[English]*

**ADV. A.M. ARIFF:** Sir, as we know, the NRIs are big contributors to our Indian economy. Will the Government consider including more projects in Atmanirbhar Bharat for these NRIs to return to India?

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** The Question Hour is over, but you can answer the question.

*[English]*

**DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR:** Sir, with regard to the workers who have come back, NRIs who have come back, to India our focus is on trying to get them back, in restoring the jobs, and in making sure that the payments which are due to them are given back. That has been very much the focus of our activities. The full details are given in my answer.

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**\*WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS****(Starred Question Nos. 191 to 200****Unstarred Question Nos. 2071 to 2300)**

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\* Available in Master copy of the Original Version of Debate, placed in Library.

You can also visit <https://sansad.in/ls/questions/questions-and-answers> for more information.

**12.01 hrs**

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

*[Translation]*

**HON. SPEAKER:** The papers will now be laid on the Table of the House.

Item No. 2 – Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL):** Hon. Speaker, Sir, I on behalf of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Tourism, Shri Shripad Yesso Naik, lay following papers on the Table:-

- (1)(i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2020-2021.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2020-2021.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2020-2021, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on the Audited Accounts of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2020-2021.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 5395/17/21]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 2020- 2021.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 2020-2021.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 2020-2021, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on the Audited Accounts of the Mormugao Port Trust, Goa, for the year 2020-2021.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 5396/17/21]

- (3)(i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2020-2021.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2020-2021.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2020- 2021, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on the Audited Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2020-2021.



[Placed in Library, See no. LT 5397/17/21]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 5398/17/21]

- (6) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under subsection 1(b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2019-2020.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hooghly Dock and Port Engineers Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2019-2020, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above.

[Placed in Library, See no. LT 5399/17/21]

- (8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 73 of the Major Port Authorities Act, 2021:-

- (i) The Major Port Authorities (Accounts and Audit) Rules, 2021 published in Notification No. G.S.R.820(E) in Gazette of India dated 23rd November, 2021.
- (ii) The Major Port Authorities (Master Plan and Application of Funds from Non Port related Use) Rules, 2021 published in Notification No. G.S.R.821(E) in Gazette of India dated 23rd November, 2021.
- (iii) The Major Port Authorities (Corporate Social Responsibilities) Rules, 2021 (1 of 2021) published in Notification No. G.S.R.823(E) in Gazette of India dated 23rd November, 2021.
- (iv) The Major Port Authorities (Fixation and Implementation of Scale of Rates, Fees and Conditions) Rules, 2021 published in Notification No. G.S.R.824(E) in Gazette of India dated 23rd November, 2021.
- (v) The Major Port Authorities (Application of Money in Sinking fund) Rules, 2021 published in Notification No. G.S.R.825(E) in Gazette of India dated 23rd November, 2021.

[ Placed in Library, See No.LT 5400/17/21]

- (9) A copy of the Notification No. G.S.R.725(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 8th October, 2021, approving the Chennai Port Trust (Licensing of stevedoring and shore handling) Regulations, 2021 under sub-section(4) of Section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.

[Placed in Library, See No.LT 5401/17/21]

**12.01 hrs**

(Shri Rajendra Agrawal *in the Chair*)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Item no.3 - Shri Kiren Rijju.

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KIREN RIJJU):** On behalf of Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (3) of Section 24 of the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958:-

(i) The Supreme Court Judges (Second Amendment) Rules, 2021 published in Notification No. G.S.R.531(E) in Gazette of India dated 4th August, 2021.

(ii) The Supreme Court Judges (Amendment) Rules, 2021 published in Notification No. G.S.R.200(E) in Gazette of India dated 18th March, 2021.

(iii) The Supreme Court Judges (Travelling Allowance) Amendment Rules, 2020 published in Notification No. G.S.R.14(E) in Gazette of India dated 18th March, 2021.

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (ii) & (iii) of (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5402/17/21]

(3) A copy of the High Court Judges Travelling Allowance Amendment Rules, 2020 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.13(E) in Gazette of India dated 8th January, 2021 under sub-section (3)

of Section 24 of the High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954.

(4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5403/17/21]

*[Translation]*

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE; AND  
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (ADV. AJAY  
BHATT):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

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

- (a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa, for the year 2020-2021.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Goa Shipyard Limited, Goa, for the year 2020-2021, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5404/17/21]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2020-2021.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2020-2021, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5405/17/21]

- (c) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2020-2021.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2020-2021, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5406/17/21]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune, for the year 2020-2021, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, Pune, for the year 2020-2021.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5407/17/21]

- (3) A copy of the Cantonment Board Employees Service Rules, 2021 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.R.O.16(E) in Gazette of India dated 14th October, 2021 under sub-section (4) of Section 347 of the Cantonments Act, 2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5408/17/21]

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR):** I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following Annual Reports (Hindi and English versions) for the year 2020-2021 alongwith Audited Accounts in respect of the following centres:-

(i) Population Research Centre (JSS Institute of Economic Research), Dharwad.

(ii) Population Research Centre (Institute of Economic Growth), Delhi.

(iii) Population Research Centre (University of Kerala), Thiruvananthapuram.

(2) A copy each of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Population Research Centres, mentioned at item No. (1) above for the year 2020-2021.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5409/17/21]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940:-

(i) The New Drugs and Clinical Trials (Amendment) Rules, 2021 published in Notification No. G.S.R.605 (E) in Gazette of India dated 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2021.

(ii) The Drugs (5th Amendment) Rules, 2021 published in Notification No.G.S.R.766 (E) in Gazette of India dated 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5410/17/21]

(4) A copy of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy (Amendment) Rules, 2021 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.730(E) in Gazette of India dated 12th October, 2021 under sub- section (3) of section 6 of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5411/17/21]

(5) A copy of the Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) First Amendment Regulations, 2021 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F.No. Stds/SP-18/A-1.12/N-1 in Gazette of India dated 31st August, 2021 under Section 93 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 5412/17/21]

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**12.02 hrs**

**MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA**

*[English]*

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

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of 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 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 agreed without any amendment to the Assisted Reproductive Technology (Regulation) Bill, 2021 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 1st December, 2021."
  - (ii) "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 9th December, 2021 agreed without any amendment to the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2021 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th December, 2021."
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**12.02½ hrs**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOME AFFAIRS**

**235th and 236th Reports**

*[English]*

**DR. SATYA PAL SINGH (BAGHPAT):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs:-

- (1) 235th Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Two Hundred Thirty- first Report on Demands for Grants (2021-22) of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
  - (2) 236th Report on Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Two Hundred Twenty- ninth Report on The Management of COVID-19 Pandemic and Related Issues.
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**12.03 hrs**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES,**

**LAW AND JUSTICE**

**108<sup>th</sup> to 111<sup>th</sup> Reports**

*[English]*

**SHRI SURESH PUJARI (BARGARH):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following four Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice:

- (1) 108th Report on Action Taken on 106th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2021-22) pertaining to the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
  - (2) 109th Report on Action Taken on 107th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2021-22) pertaining to the Ministry of Law and Justice.
  - (3) 110th Report on "Pensioners' Grievances - Impact of Pension Adalats and Centralised Pensioners Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPENGRAMS)".
  - (4) 111th Report on 'Strengthening the Grievance Redressal Mechanism of Government of India'.
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**12.04 hrs**

**ELECTION TO COMMITTEE  
All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS),  
Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh)**

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND MINISTER  
OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA):**

Sir, I beg to move:

“That in pursuance of Section 4(g) read with Section 6(3) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Act, 1956, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner, as the Speaker may direct, one member from amongst themselves to serve as member of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh) vice Shri Ram Swaroop Sharma passed away on 17.03.2021, subject to the other provisions of the said Act.”

*[Translation]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The question is:

"That in pursuance of Section 4(g) read with Section 6(3) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Act, 1956, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner, as the Speaker may direct, one member from amongst themselves to serve as member of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh) vice Shri Ram Swaroop Sharma passed away on 17.03.2021, subject to the other provisions of the said Act.”

*The motion was adopted*

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**12.05 hrs**

**NOMINATION TO COMMITTEE**

**Committee on Welfare of other Backward Classes (2021-22)**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAJESH VERMA (SITAPUR):** I beg to move:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate one member from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes of the House for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Dr. Banda Prakash resigned from Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the name of the member so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The question is:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate one member from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes of the House for the un-expired portion of the term of the Committee vice Dr. Banda Prakash resigned from Rajya Sabha and do communicate to this House the name of the member so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

*The motion was adopted*

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**12.06 hrs**

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

*[English]*

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL):** Thank you, hon. Chairperson. With your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 13<sup>th</sup> of December, 2021 may consist of :-

1. Consideration of any items of Government Business carried over from today's order paper: - [it contains:- Discussion on Statutory Resolution seeking disapproval of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Ordinance, 2021 (No. 8 of 2021) promulgated by the President of India on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 and consideration and passing of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Bill, 2021- To replace an Ordinance]
2. Discussion and Voting on Second Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2021-22 and introduction, consideration and passing of the related Appropriation Bill.
3. Consideration and agreeing to the amendments made by Rajya Sabha to the Surrogacy (Regulation) Bill, 2020, *as passed by Rajya Sabha*.
4. Consideration and passing of the following Bills, after their introduction:-
  - i. The Biological Diversity (Amendment) Bill, 2021
  - ii. The Wildlife (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2021
  - iii. The Mediation Bill, 2021
  - iv. The National Anti-Doping Bill, 2021

- v. The Chartered Accountants, the Cost and Works Accountants and the Company Secretaries (Amendment) Bill, 2021

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**12.08 hrs**

**MATTERS UNDER RULE- 377\***

*[Translation]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Members, matters under rule 377 will be laid on the Table of the House. Members who have been permitted to raise matters under Rule 377 today and who wish to lay them on the Table may personally send the text of the matter to the Table within 20 minutes. Only those matters shall be deemed to be laid on the Table, for which the text of the case has been received on the Table within the stipulated time. The rest will be treated as lapsed.

... *(Interruptions)*

**(i) Regarding construction of sanctioned road projects  
in Rewa district, Madhya Pradesh**

**SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA (REWA):** Under one time investment policy under Rewa district -----

(1) 18.94 km in the left out urban areas of Hanumana, Mauganj, Devtalab, Raghunathganj of National Highway 135 cost of Rs. 4158.08 lakh.

(2) 9.30 kms in the left out urban areas of Mangawan and Raipur Karchulian of National Highway 30, with the cost of 1743.04 lakh rupees, and (3) 01 km in the left out urban areas of Gudh of National Highway 39, with the cost of 764.68 lakh rupees and the Minister of Road, Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari ji has sanctioned the construction of all the above mentioned roads but the said construction works have not started till date. I request the Minister to direct the Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding the construction of the said roads.

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\* Treated as laid on the Table.

**(ii) Regarding development of processing technologies for  
Rare Earth Minerals in the country**

*[English]*

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ):** The country despite having the fifth-largest reserves of rare earth minerals in the world could not develop itself as a manufacturer of rare earth metals. Geologically, the entire landmass around the Indian Ocean contains REEs in the surrounding rocks. We are blessed with some crucial rare earth minerals like zirconium, neodymium etc., which are available in plenty in monazite sands. This could contribute to Indian export markets, if utilized properly. However, most of the products that use rare earth minerals as raw materials are imported. Despite the fact that rare earth minerals having high value add potential for export growth, inadequate processing technologies have made India suffer. The Government should consider using private companies as they are nimble and better equipped to deal with the constraints of working overseas than their PSU counterparts. Slight support and encouragement from the Government would go a long way.



**(iii) Regarding Maize Export Promotion Schemes and Maize based industry in Araria Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH (ARARIA):** I feel very happy that maize is extensively cultivated in my parliamentary constituency Araria. The farmers are not able to get remunerative prices for their crops even after having a good harvest while it is known that large quantities of glucose, starch and corn flakes are made from maize. Yet, not a single maize-based industry has been established in my Parliamentary Constituency by the Government. Maize export promotion schemes should be implemented in my Parliamentary Constituency, Araria, Bihar on the ground level so that my Parliamentary Constituency can develop as a maize export hub. Along with this, maize-based industries should also be established so that the farmers may get a remunerative price for their crops and fully utilize maize as well as the youth may get employment opportunities. Thanks.

**(iv) Need to promote micro, small and medium scale enterprises**

**SHRI GANESH SINGH (SATNA):** I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Finance towards the scheme formulated by the Hon. Prime Minister under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan to promote the products and units of small, micro and marginal industries. At present, indigenous companies have been given the facility to participate in Government tenders up to Rs. 200 crore, but small units do not get this benefit. I suggest that if small units and their products are included in the Government procurement process, Atmanirbhar Bharat will be further strengthened further and these units will be successful in expanding themselves by working more efficiently. Along with this, it will also provide employment to more local people. There is a need to give them more concession in GST also.

**(v) Need to provide electricity under Pradhan Mantri Saubhagya Scheme in Nandurbar Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra**

**DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT (NANDURBAR):** Under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister, our Government has been working since 2014 to electrify all the villages across the country which haven't had electricity even after 60 years of independence. The Ministry of Energy has started Pradhan Mantri Saubhagya Scheme to ensure electricity is provided particularly to the poor people. There are 67,391 households in my Parliamentary Constituency, Nandurbar which are still to get electricity connection and there are 24,000 households that are being provided electricity through unconventional sources of energy. The Government is requested to provide electricity to these 67,391 households under the Pradhan Mantri Saubhagya Scheme and to provide electricity from conventional sources of energy to those 24,000 households which are using electricity through the unconventional sources of energy so that wide scale the implementation of Har Ghar Bijli Yojana take place.

**(vi) Need to set up a new Medical College in Chatra Parliamentary  
Constituency, Jharkhand**

**SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH (CHATRA):** My Lok Sabha Constituency, Chatra (Jharkhand) consists of three districts Chatra, Latehar and Palamu covering an area of about 8500 square kilometres and all three districts are Aspirational districts. It is the largest Parliamentary Constituency in Northeast India. There are five Assembly Constituencies under my Lok Sabha Constituency, out of which four are reserved. From development point of view, this entire region is backward and is affected by Left Wing Extremism. Majority of the population in this region belongs to Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes, Backward and Weaker Sections living below the poverty line. There is acute shortage of health services in this region.

Under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the Central Government is working to ensure the availability of one medical college for every three districts. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (Phase-4), on 01 May 2020, a proposal was sought by the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India from the Government of Jharkhand for setting up a new medical college by upgrading the already functioning District/ Referral Hospital in Aspirational district of Jharkhand state.

I demand from the hon. Minister that necessary steps should be taken for setting up of a new medical college in Chatra (Jharkhand).

**(vii) Regarding demands of farmers for legal guarantee of MSP for  
agricultural produce**

**SHRI VIVEK NARAYAN SHEJWALKAR (GWALIOR):** The demand of the agitating farmers to bring MSP guarantee law is impractical and is not in the interest of the farmers. The already constituted committee fixes the MSP for agricultural produce from time to time and it is constantly increasing too. How can a trader or consumer be compelled to buy any product from the producer at a fixed price? For example, how and to whom the Government would guarantee that a pen could not be bought for less than ten rupees.

MSP guarantee law would mean government's control over trade of agricultural produce, which is not in the interest of farmers. It would be an impractical law which is impossible to implement. The agitating farmer leaders are demanding MSP guarantee law to put undue pressure on the Government. It will encourage corruption, and the Government should not encourage it.

**(viii)Need to frame and implement Common Civil Code in the country**

**SHRI SANJAY SETH (RANCHI):** On one hand, the workload of the judiciary, administrative system and the government has increased in the country and on the other hand, Hon. Prime Minister has given the slogan of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas and Sabka Vishwas'. Coordination among them is needed. I see Common Civil Code as the only option for this coordination. Common civil code is the need of the country because there should be a common law for all the citizens in this secular country. The citizen should not follow separate laws depending upon their religious beliefs. If a country is secular, the law and order should also show the same essence. It will also give a sense of equality to the citizens regarding law and no one will be able to deride Indian law under the guise of laws like Personal Law. I request that the Government should take step in this direction and Common Civil Code should be implemented in the country.

**(ix) Need to construct ROB/RUB at level crossing no. 73 and make changes in the dimensions of railway underpass No. 74 in Jaipur Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan**

**SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA (JAIPUR):** I would like to draw the attention of Hon. Railway Minister to the issue related to railways in Jaipur. There used to be a heavy traffic jam of about 1 km at Kalyanpur level crossing (crossing no-73) between Durgapura to Sanganer, which causes a lot of trouble to public. Considering the said issue, it needs to be replaced by ROB or RUB as it is situated in the heart of the city. It will be convenient for the public. Along with this, there is a need to make changes in the dimensions (increase the width and height) of Railway underpass No-74 on Jaipur-Diggi-Malpura road as accidents occur at this location these days due to small width and height of the said underpass.

I urge upon the Hon. Railway Minister to kindly complete the said work in my Parliamentary Constituency Jaipur at the earliest.

**(x) Need to ensure credit of Kisan Samman Nidhi in bank accounts of farmers of Mahasamund Parliamentary Constituency, Chhattisgarh**

**SHRI CHUNNI LAL SAHU (MAHASAMUND):** Funds under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi are not being credited in the bank accounts of several farmers in Mahasamund Lok Sabha Constituency of Chhattisgarh. Beneficiaries are being told by the concerned officials that they have sent all the records to the Central Government and by saying so, they are not taking their responsibilities. The beneficiaries are losing their hopes after waiting for a long time.

Since this is an ambitious scheme of the Central Government, farmers should receive Kisan Samman Nidhi which will improve their financial condition. However, today the farmers in Chhattisgarh are feeling cheated by being deprived of the scheme.

I, therefore, request the Government to take up this matter seriously because there is a need to send a central investigation team from the concerned department of the Central Government to investigate the matter at the earliest so that the farmers can get the benefit of the said scheme.



**(xi) Regarding starting of a direct flight on a daily basis between Mumbai and Shirdi under the UDAN Scheme**

*[English]*

**DR. SUJAY VIKHE PATIL (AHMEDNAGAR):** The town of Shirdi is located in the Ahmednagar district of Maharashtra and is home to Shri Sai Baba, one of India's most revered saints. The temple witnesses huge footfalls and is thronged by lakhs of devotees each year, irrespective of religion, caste and creed. Despite being one of the most prominent religious centres, the issue of connectivity in absence of a direct flight from Mumbai is hampering the tourism potential in Shirdi. Currently, a passenger has to board a connecting flight via Hyderabad or New Delhi which takes somewhere between 5-10 hours even though the distance by road from Mumbai to Shirdi is 250 km. I request the Government to start a direct flight on a daily basis between Mumbai and Shirdi under the UDAN Scheme in order to promote tourism through proper connectivity and provide relief to the large number of national and international devotees who visit Shirdi.

**(xii) Regarding withdrawal of a RBI Circular regarding cooperative societies**

**SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN (VADAKARA):** Reserve Bank of India has issued a circular that warned cooperative societies about using the word ‘bank’ in their names and accept deposits from non-members. The banking regulator noted that some cooperative societies are accepting deposits from non-members/ nominal members/ associate members which is tantamount to conducting banking business in violation of the provisions of the BR Act. Such stringent regulations will impact the functioning of cooperative societies in the states like Kerala. The Union Government is trying to overcome the two favourable orders passed by the Supreme Court in favour of the cooperative sector. New regulations would affect 1,692 primary agricultural societies, 1,200 rural co-operative banks and 16 urban co-operative banks in Kerala. Since the cooperative sector is a state subject, it is another alleged attack on the federal structure of the country. Hence, the Union Government should advise the RBI to withdraw these actions against the cooperative sector.

**(xiii) Regarding inclusion of KIAL as a Haj Embarkation point**

**SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN (KANNUR):** The largest number of muslim pilgrims in Kerala come from North Malabar region. Unfortunately, there is no Haj Embarkation point in the region. Earlier, 80 percent of the Haj pilgrims in Kerala depended on Calicut International Airport. But the Government has excluded the Calicut Airport from the list of embarkation points for Haj 2022 amid the DGCA's delay in restoring the operations of wide body aircraft. At present, Cochin International Airport is the only embarkation point for Kerala, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, and Andaman and Nicobar. Pilgrims are to spend long hours travelling from North Kerala, Dakshin Kannada and Coorg to Cochin. On the other hand, Kannur International Airport has an integrated 95,000 sq m terminal building, which is the eighth largest in India, to facilitate services to pilgrims. The current runway length of 3,050 meters can operate wide body aircraft. The Government should include KIAL as a Haj Embarkation Point.

**(xiv) Regarding establishment of an office of NEERI in Karaikudi**

**SHRI B. MANICKAM TAGORE (VIRUDHUNAGAR):** I urge the Government to open a branch of National Environmental Engineering Research Institute that is NEERI in Karaikudi to assist small manufacturing units and certify crackers manufactured by small industries in the State of Tamilnadu. Sivakasi in Virudhunagar District, Tamil Nadu is well known for manufacturing firecrackers and matchbox. Since large amount of firecrackers are being manufactured here, it is called “FIRE HUB OF INDIA” with an annual turnover of Rs. 10,000 crore. There are around 1000 firework factories and around 6.5 lakh families are directly and indirectly dependent on this industry for their livelihood. NEERI having its headquarters in Nagpur is the certifying authority for crackers manufactured here. However, because of long distance, it takes time and is difficult for small manufacturing units to get certification. Therefore, I request the Government to establish an office of NEERI in Karaikudi and the same be made functional on the campus of CSIR-Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CSIR-CECRI).

**(xv) Regarding killing of elephants by a train near Madukkarai in Pollachi  
Parliamentary Constituency**

**SHRI K. SHANMUGA SUNDARAM (POLLACHI):** Three elephants were brutally killed after being hit by a train near Madukkarai in my Parliamentary Constituency. Three female elephants, an adult, a sub adult and a juvenile were crossing the railway track near Navakkarai within the Madukkarai forest range around 9 pm on Friday last week. The culprit train No: 12602 Chennai mail, operated from Mangalore to Chennai had hit the three elephants at a section which falls under Palakkad Railway Division near Marappalam Thottam. All three elephants died on the spot without any chance to revive them. All the elephants belong to the same herd. Railway authorities made arrangements to transfer the passengers to Walayar but the two loco pilots were detained for enquiry. 11 elephants have been killed in the past 5 years in the reserves forest area of Madukkarai. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change should take immediate steps to save the elephants from further loss by the speeding train.

**(xvi) Regarding development of road infrastructure in Tamil Nadu under  
Bharatmala Pariyojana**

**SHRI P. VELUSAMY (DINDIGUL):** Bharatmala Pariyojana, an umbrella programme launched by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for developing road infrastructure across country is all set to take off in Tamil Nadu, with the NHAI having floated tenders to lay 44.3 km four-lane road connecting Madurai and Natham under phase one of the flagship programme recently. The first four-lane project under Bharatmala includes 7.3 km elevated four-lane bridge connecting the Pandiyan Hotel Junction with Chettikulam and widening the existing 33.4 km two lanes into four lanes from Chettikulam to Natham on the NH 785. The estimated cost of the road works is pegged at Rs 980.4 crore. The people residing in and around the highway are unable to reach the national highway. A service road near the bridge along with the national highway can be provided to facilitate easy movement of the general public.

**(xvii) Regarding inclusion of some temples situated in Anakapalle  
Parliamentary Constituency under PRASAD Scheme**

**DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI (ANAKAPALLE):** In my Parliamentary Constituency Anakapalle, many ancient and highly worshipped temples namely Appikonda Shivalayam Temple, Panchandra Umadharmalingeswara Temple, Anakapalle Nookambica Ammvari Temple, Chodavaram Swayambhu Karya Siddhi Vinayaka Temple, Upmaka Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple and Balighattam brahmalingeswara temple exists. I request to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to take up this project under Prasad Scheme to enhance Temple Tourism.

**(xviii) Regarding appointment of sickle cell volunteers in Palghar district**

**SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT (PALGHAR):** 46 sickle cell volunteers (Health volunteers) are associated with health service for the last 13 years in Palghar district. They have been continuously in service in various health related schemes from 2008. All volunteers have been attached with the PH Level centre which numbers 46 in Palghar district. They are conducting Meetings of counselling patients, medication etc. All volunteers and actively involved in health campaigns. Palghar is a Tribal District and has many health-related issues like mother child rearing, malnutrition and epidemic crisis like COVID-19. Therefore, it is requested to appoint sickle cell volunteers by approving the annual financial provision mentioned in the proposal of Health Department, Palghar, by way of making adjustment to the existing posts.



**(xix) Regarding service conditions of employees of Jammu and Kashmir  
Cements Ltd**

**SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI (ANANTNAG):** The employees of Jammu and Kashmir Cements Ltd, a profit-making industrial unit in state sector till a few years ago have been pushed to miserable situation. The unit has been closed down and the administration is planning to sell the industrial unit. 72 employees of the unit who have been in service of the unit till their superannuation have not been paid the salary. The employees who have retired have been denied retirement benefits. The administration is under a moral and legal obligation to release earned salary and retirement benefits.

**(xx) Need to appoint students in Coal India Limited (CCL) who have undergone apprenticeship programme under skill development programme of CCL**

*[Translation]*

**SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH CHOUDHARY (GIRIDIH):** One year apprenticeship programme is organized in CCL Kaushal Vikas Yojana under Coal India Limited, in which one year training is provided to ITI and Diploma and Degree holders. But all the people are allegedly made to work in the name of training. After one year, they are laid off and again the other students are made to work one year in the name of training. Therefore, CCL should also regularize these apprentices like railway apprentices. Employment should be given to these trained people in CCL so that the production of coal can increase, which the country is facing acute shortage.

**(xxi) Need for repair and four-laning of NH - 753F in Maharashtra**

**SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE (RAVER):** National Highway 753 F connects Bhusaval and Muktainagar to Ajanta Caves and Aurangabad, Pune via Jamner in Maharashtra. The condition of the Ghat section road of 6 to 8 Kms stretch from Pahur, Ajanta Caves to Ajantagaon is very critical due to heavy rains this year. The forelaning work on this road is almost stopped for the last one or two years or it is being carried out at very slow pace and due to which the condition of this NH road is deteriorating day by day and cars, large trucks, trailers etc. are facing damage in large amount and the number of accidents have also increased. National Highway officials are also ignoring this forelaning work. I request the Hon. Minister to start the work of forelaning of the National Highway 753 F at the earliest and I also request the Hon. Minister to apprise the officials for the work of repairing of this ghat section immediately.

**(xxii) Need to provide water to Nohar-Sidhmukh area in Churu  
Parliamentary Constituency, Rajasthan from Bhakra main line.**

**SHRI RAHUL KASWAN (CHURU):** 0.47 MAF of water was released for irrigation through downstream system of B.B.M.B. for Nohar Sidhmukh area of my Lok Sabha constituency Churu (Rajasthan). Out of which 0.30 MAF water will be made available from X Nangal and the remaining 0.17 MAF water will be made available from Bhakra main line after capacity restoration of this area. The Government of Rajasthan had also sanctioned amount for the same and after restoration of full capacity, when the Rajasthan Government made a proposal in the B.B.M.B. meeting for providing water to Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana refused to provide 0.17 MAF water to Rajasthan by saying that the full capacity has not been restored yet. If this water is made available to our area, then it will fulfill the need of drinking as well as irrigation water of many people of the area and it is the need of the hour too.

I request the Government that the B.B.M.B. may be directed at the earliest that 0.17 MAF of water should be made available from Bhakra main line for Nohar and Sidhmukh area of my Lok Sabha constituency.

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*[Translation]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Now, Item No. 15. it will be discussed under Rule 193.

... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please it is not zero hour now.

... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** You tell the hon. Speaker, give it to him.

... *(Interruptions)*

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA):** Hon. Chairperson, there is a very important privilege, I had given notice for Privilege Motion and it is for the information of all the Members that all the Members are the Chairperson of the DISHA (District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee) and they take decisions in the DISHA Committee. In the DISHA Committee, since the District Magistrate is the Secretary, if the decision is not taken, our authority is violated. That's why I moved a privilege motion here. But I want to inform you and the House, which is really important that because of the enforcement of the model Code of Conduct, the District Magistrate filed a case against me after six months of election. This is going to be a big problem for democracy because no case can be filed after the model Code of Conduct is not in force. Election was over in April, but the said case was filed in October and November. If this is not stopped then there is going to be a new government in five years and then a case of Model Code of Conduct will be filed against any MP and MLA ... *(Interruptions)* Sir, please listen to me for one minute. I complained to the Election Commission and the Election Commission ordered the removal of that District Magistrate and it also imposed major penalty on him. But the state Government there is not ready to accept the order of the Election Commission. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** You have raised your point. ...*(Interruptions)*

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY:** Hon. Sir, through you, I urge that President's rule should be imposed in Jharkhand. Under Rule 56, the DoPT should sack that officer. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** I have said earlier also that item number 15, which is already being discussed, should continue. This discussion is on climate change.

Hon. Bidhuri ji.

**12.10 hrs**

**DISCUSSION UNDER RULE-193\***

**Climate change-Contd....**

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI (SOUTH DELHI):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me permission to speak on this important and globally sensitive matter.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, environment protection is a global challenge. It is a matter of pride for us that on the international front our Hon. Prime Minister Modi has been praised and appreciated for leading the subject of Climate Change. At the outset, I want to congratulate the country that it is our fortune that the people who ruled us for 150 years, today their prime minister is praising our Honorable Prime Minister Modi. I would like to tell about the statement of England's Prime Minister Boris Johnson on 07 March 2021.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, England's PM said that-

*[English]*

“I want to thank Prime Minister Modi for hosting this Conference and also for his fantastic leadership in areas such as renewable energy as we continue to fight against climate change.”

*[Translation]*

Hon. Chairperson, 'Amrit Mahotsav' is in progress on the occasion of 75 years of independence. In this 'Amrit Mahotsav' to commemorate the supreme sacrifice of the revolutionaries who laid down their lives for the country, the Hon. Prime

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\* Further discussion on climate change raised by Shrimati Kanimozhi Karunanidhi on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2021.

Minister said that we will celebrate 75 years of independence as 'Amrit Mahotsav'. Today the souls of the revolutionaries of freedom struggle must be rejoicing in heaven for sure to witness a true patriot born in India after 75 years. This is said by the Prime Minister of the people, who were driven away by us from our country. It is not only an honor bestowed upon the Prime Minister of our country, but on 125 crore people of the country. He has praised the Prime Minister of our country for this reason.

Hon. Chairperson, those people had observed. I wonder, a dynasty ruled this country for 55 out of 75 years of independence.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, they said:-

‘Is desh ko rakhna mere bacchon sambhal ke’

Ham laye hai tufan se kishti nikal ke.’

The people did not realise this before. But, those people who made this observation, is now being reflected in the 'Amrit Mahotsav' being observed on the occasion of 75 years of independence. The words spoken by them have been translated into action by our popular Prime Minister.

Hon. Chairperson, on the subject of air pollution, various countries have taken timely effective steps by making laws. ‘The Clean Act’ came into force in England in the year 1956. In the USA, ‘The Clean Air Act’ came into force in the year 1963. In New Zealand ‘Clean Air Act’ came into force in the year 1972. I would like to quote a line of our father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi Ji had said:-

*[English]*



“One must care about the world one will not see.”

*[Translation]*

Hon. Chairperson Sir, a family has been capitalizing on the name of Mahatma Gandhi Ji for 70 years. Look at the dream of Mahatma Gandhi ji, whose one sentence inspires us for sustainable development. But, for 30 years these people did not remember that. Mahatma Gandhi gave the message of cleanliness to make India clean. They did not remember to make a law on this subject for 30 years. If I talk about climate change, on the ideals of Gandhiji, these people continued to bake their bread, kept playing politics, but could not make law for 30 years after independence. There was no foresight during the Congress rule. They had no sympathy for humanity. This is a living example of that. These are the same people during whose tenure the Bhopal gas tragedy happened. About 3700 people died in it. This is the number which the government accepted and gave compensation to their families.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, CEO Warren Anderson of that company, responsible for the Bhopal gas tragedy, was released on the instructions of Rajiv Gandhi. I want to say with authenticity inside this House that Arjun Singh ji wrote this in a book. He was a big leader of the Congress. He was arrested by the police. The accused in the Bhopal gas tragedy was arrested. He was a foreigner, remained in the police custody for four hours, but was later released after a phone call from Delhi. He was sent to the U.S.A. in an airplane. So many people may not have died due to environmental pollution in the world in a single accident, but I want to talk about sensitivity.

Our Hon. Prime Minister, while being the Chief Minister of Gujarat, started the work of fulfilling this responsibility 20 years ago. He took many effective steps regarding environmental protection. I would like to request the Members of the

House that if you read the statements of the Hon. Prime Minister in the book 'Convenient Action', then many of us will become enlightened. This is the temple of democracy.

The Hon. Chairperson allowed discussion on Climate Change at the behest of the Opposition exhibiting his true democratic spirit and for this I want to congratulate the Hon. Speaker. We are not going to back down in any way from any discussion. We want to do public service with our heart and soul. We want to work to fulfill the needs of 125 crore people. Tell us, what do you want to discuss? How was the House hijacked last time? Because they know that when there would be discussion, the good work will be discussed and they will feel guilty that they could not perform. We are doing so much and are also able to talk about our achievements.

The hon. Prime Minister has done the works which had not been done till now after 70 years of independence, as the Chief Minister of Gujarat. There was a serious problem of drinking water in Gujarat before the year 2000. Poor women, pregnant ladies used to fetch water on their head for many kilometers. There was too much fluoride in the water which made people sick. When the Hon. Prime Minister became the Chief Minister, he got 2,678 km of pipelines and 1,20,769 kms of distribution pipelines installed. He got built 11,743 storage tanks for water storage. As the Chief Minister of Gujarat, the hon. Prime Minister, got installed 181 Water Filtration and Treatment Plant with a total capacity of 2900 MLPD, nowhere available in India, keeping in mind the environmental concerns.

Hon. Chairperson, this arrangement has not only made drinking water available in 171 cities and 11099 villages, along with it 70 percent population of Gujarat has been benefited. In Gujarat, before the Hon. Prime Minister became the Chief Minister, there used to be an outcry among the farmers due to drought and

scarcity of water, he took the initiative to solve that problem. As three time CM and now PM, he made 'Har Ghar Mein Nal' the prime objective. The capital of the country, Delhi is nearby. The whole world looks towards the capital. But there is such a.....\* Chief Minister sitting in Delhi, he only talks and makes such statements which are impossible to implement. He leads people up the garden path. These people had some shame that when they could not deliver they at least used to be silent. He...\* The capital of the country today does not have 70 percent water of its daily requirement, but our Prime Minister has done it.

I want to narrate another interesting incident to the House. One day, Hon. Prime Minister was passing through a bridge over the Sabarmati River. He saw some people playing cricket near the river. Seeing them playing cricket, the question arose in his mind that when the next generation would visit Sabarmati and question its importance, they would be told that its a ground not a river. When he was the Chief Minister, he was leaving from there, it came to his mind. Due to drought on the banks of the river, slums are formed because people throw garbage there. Even today, such garbage is found in many states of the country. The little water of the river that came there was polluted by it. The hon. Prime Minister then thought that how this river could be restored? There was no other river; he thought how it could be restored. The hon. Prime Minister was Chief Minister at that time, the water of Narmada river can be transported here through canal from 230 kilometers, this thought came to his mind. If I say 230 kilometers to them, they will not be able to write, I think, these people will also get confused in that. There was also a dilemma that the Sardar Sarovar Dam is not so high. If water is brought there by stopping, there will be overflow, so first of all, the Hon. Prime Minister elevated the dam there.

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\* Not recorded.

The water was supplied after the height of the dam was raised. Today, Sabarmati has been renovated in Ahmedabad as well as in the entire area. You people must have gone and seen it, if you haven't seen it, you can also see it. If it is a matter of air pollution in cities, I want to inform this House through you that to prevent air pollution in Gujarat, he has run a bus rapid transit system of one thousand buses. There were 19 million private vehicles. The system that he created reduced 4 lakh private vehicles. This reduced the pollution level in Gujarat by 14 per cent. That is what I was talking about Gujarat. Similarly, the hon. Prime Minister built Asia's largest solar park of 500 MW in 3,000 acres at Charanka, Gujarat. ... *(Interruptions)* We are telling you. You learn something. If God is still distributing wisdom, then take some wisdom. ... *(Interruptions)* What the hon. Prime Minister Modi could do, where were you... Where did you go....? Whose glory were you singing ... \*?... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Ramesh Bidhuri ji, please.

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:** Why don't you think about this country? ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to convey through you that wind energy is very important in the protection of the environment. I want to tell about the vision of the Prime Minister of the country, about whom it is repeatedly said that he is running away from discussion, not discussing, doing nothing, that he is a dictator. ... *(Interruptions)* If there was dictatorship, the issue of environment would not have been discussed in the House today at the behest of the Member of the Opposition. ... *(Interruptions)* If it were the Congress party, it would never have held a discussion. If there was ... \*, he would have sent ...\*and got everyone in, ...\*would have sent it

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\* Not recorded.

outside the gate, ... \*would have ... \* everyone ...(*Interruptions*) In the year 2002, 119 MW of power was generated from wind energy. ...(*Interruptions*) which increased to 3387 megawatt in Gujarat in 2014.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** No names will go on record. The names of those who are not members of the House will not go on record.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:** In Gujarat, it was possible only because there was Modi ji in power, so it became possible. ... (*Interruptions*)

After this, another unique initiative was taken. Child Energy Protection Teams were formed in 3600 schools. There are a lot of things about Gujarat. Many of these people will go there and get a heart attack. They didn't even know how it was done and what was it. ...(*Interruptions*)

Hon. Chairperson Sir, there was a discussion on environmental protection through several schemes like Conventional Agriculture, Swachh Bharat Mission and National Mission for Clean Ganga.. I want to bring it to their knowledge, because these people rant and rave about Gujarat, Gujarat. Who encouraged the use of LED bulbs? Why didn't that come to their mind? For ten years, they tore the Hon. Prime Minister's bills and threw them away. Have they not thought how to save electricity? Have they ever thought? They never thought. Hon. Prime Minister Modi ji thought about this. LED bulbs were made available to the poor at one third rate from the market. Today it is saving 10 billion kw horse power annually in the country. Every consumer is benefiting from Rs 160 to Rs 400 by using LED. In commerce, it is

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\* Not recorded.

called indirect profit, which may not be visible to the people. If seen immediately, it is visible.

Today every electricity user is saving Rs 160 to Rs 400 because of that bulb. LED Bulbs were introduced to save power consumption. 70 percent of the electricity in the country was generated from coal. Smoke was released from the coal, due to which the environment was harmed. Whether this thing will ever come to their mind or not, these people will go home and think about it. The hon. Environment Minister has strongly put this subject on the world stage. Bhupendra Yadav ji is our Environment Minister, I want to congratulate him for the fact that he has firmly placed India's stance on the world stage. He clearly said that the environmental crisis is not due to developing countries like India. We cannot stop our growth trajectory. We have our compulsion, we have to develop, but environment is also our priority. This is the thinking of our Prime Minister, this is the thought and somewhere the work done by the hon. Prime Minister in Gujarat must have given this information to the whole world, all over the world.

Developed countries pressurized to withdraw subsidies on LPG. The Hon. Prime Minister made it clear in front of the whole world that our responsibility is to empower the poor, the deprived, they have to be given their rights. When the issue of subsidizing LPG was put on the world stage, our hon. Prime Minister responded with great caution. Subsidy on LPG improves both the health and environment of the woman. If subsidy is not given on LPG, then people will light the stove with wood, with cow dung. While blowing the fire of that stove, lakhs of womenfolk used to die of respiratory diseases and asthma. In a day a person smokes 500 cigarettes, so much smoke does not enter his mouth, as poor womenfolk used to cook food with wet and raw wood by blowing in the stove and inhaling the smoke. To get rid of the

smoke that they used to inhale, it is our priority to give LPG. LPG was banned internationally because perhaps the subsidy on LPG would be less.

If LPG becomes expensive, people will buy less of it. If people buy less LPG, then there would be less production.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, the Government of India which is sensitive to the concerns of pollution has taken many effective steps on this issue. I want to inform the House about that too. As I have said earlier in India electricity was made from coal. Our Hon. Prime Minister has set a target to produce 50 percent electricity from renewable energy by the year 2030 and he has given this target to everyone in this country. By 2030, there should be 30% passenger cars and electric vehicles. Their target is that people use electric vehicles, so that they do not need to burn diesel and petrol.

I would like to remind one thing more. Now-a-days, you must have noticed children standing on Red Lights in Delhi with a placard- 'Pradushan se Yuddha'. I want to convey to that ...\* Chief Minister of Delhi that he should have consulted some expert. He could have told him that a vehicle when started after a minute of switching off pollutes 10 times more than an idling vehicle. There is no Red Light in Delhi where vehicles stop for more than 30 or 45 seconds. He is making the children stand there and do...\*. Red Light ON, Vehicle OFF, Red Light OFF, Vehicle ON. He has made children stand there. He is making those children and youth suffocate in pollution alluring them with small baits. Leave aside any expert, if he had consulted some Joint Secretary from the PMO Secretariat, he would have been advised that a vehicle started after switching off for thirty seconds pollutes ten

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\* Not recorded.

times more. I would like to share this information with this House with full facts and figures that this work of theirs ...\*

Sir, when we start plying 80 percent of Electric Vehicles, the country will save approximately 156 million tonnes of crude oil. The Government of India has set a target of zero emissions by the year 2070. I would like to share this information with this House, that the Members of Opposition and I am fortunate that atleast Rahul ji is listening to me here, then perhaps ...\* good sense prevails over people and they also start attending the sittings by thinking that today their leader is listening to me, otherwise he remains absent for more than half of the time. ... (*Interruptions*)

Hon. Chairperson, there is another matter of concern due to air pollution in Delhi. There will be Asthma, infection in lungs etc. due to air pollution. ... (*Interruptions*). Hon. members, let him listen to the speech ...\* he will also gain something.....\*.....become enlightened ... (*Interruptions*). Though you are not interested, he will also become wiser. ... (*Interruptions*) It is good for the country. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Bidhuri ji, please conclude.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:** Sir, air pollution causes asthma in children and elderly and their lungs also get affected due to this. Approximately nine lakh people die every year due to pollution. Insensitive ...\* Government by giving advertisements on pollution, thinks that it has fulfilled its duty, they had given them their support.

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\* Not recorded.



Birds of a feather flock together; he had sworn in the name of his children that he would never take support from the Congress Party. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please do not say unnecessary things. You say only what is relevant to you.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:** Sir, later on the person joined hands with ...\* ... *(Interruptions)*. And therefore, today's standard of AQI, I do not want to go over the figures. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, as per the research conducted by the Environmental Scientists, the main sources of air pollution in Delhi, I have to talk about Delhi as Delhi is the capital of the country. People from all States live in Delhi. People urge over telephone to come back home since the condition of air in Delhi is very bad. This is capital of the country, the country gets a bad name in the world. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Bidhuri ji, please conclude your speech.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:** Sir, that is why, the percentage of industrial pollution in Delhi is 18 percent, vehicular pollution is 35 percent, construction activities is 30 percent and stubble burning is only seven percent. The Hon., ...\* he says the neighbouring states need to do something. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The names of those who are not members of this House will not go on record.

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\*Not recorded.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:** Sir, I would like to ask the Chief Minister of Delhi as to how many times has he met the Chief Ministers of the neighbouring States? Has he ever expressed concern about increasing the geographical limits of Delhi or to relocate industries out of Delhi or to further extend the National Capital Region (NCR)? Has he made any efforts to get NCR extended up to 50 kms towards NOIDA, Rewari and Panipat? That is why; he is not sensitive on the issue of pollution. The people in power in Delhi are those having the same thinking and ideology. That is why ...\* they cite the excuse of stubble burning and create problems for others.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please conclude your speech.

... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:** Sir, there are a total of 77.56 lakh vehicles in Delhi out of which only 8.15 lakh are CNG vehicles. When this gentleman came to power in Delhi ... (*Interruptions*) at that time, approximately 6300 buses used to ply in Delhi. That too, CNG buses were procured almost 10 years ago, during Commonwealth Games. This gentleman, honorable, learned and legal expert has neither procured nor attempted to procure even a single CNG bus in Delhi.

The Government of Delhi has not taken any step on the matter of running vehicles on clean fuel. The responsibility of smooth transport system lies with Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) which is under the Government of Delhi. ... (*Interruptions*)

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\*Not recorded.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Members, the Members who wish to lay their speeches on the Table, may please lay them on the Table.

... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Shri N. K. Premachandran ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:** Sir, I am advocating for you. ... *(Interruptions)* Let me conclude, Sir. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please conclude in a minute.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:** The dust on the roads is its reason. There are only 69 vehicles to remove dust from the roads across Delhi. That's why he used to talk about the smog tower. He invested Rs.20 crore for the advertisement of the smog tower.... *(Interruptions)* A smog tower was also built there. Construction and demolition waste should be solved in a scientific way. There are only 192 vehicles in Delhi. I don't want to repeat the point of the neighboring states.

Hon. Chairperson, I will conclude in 30 seconds. According to the National Capital Region Planning Board, the ponds in Delhi have decreased by 22 percent and forests have decreased by 15 percent in the last seven years. Forest cover in Delhi should be increased by extending the lands of gram panchayats. The dignitaries of Delhi never completed it. ... *(Interruptions)* . The green belt in Delhi is decreasing. I want to say through you that the Modi government has made a name in the world for the environment. Sir, I missed a line, but you gave me the

opportunity to enlighten the ignorant people on the issue of the environment, thank you very much for that.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** I again request the Hon. Members that those who wish to lay their written speech on the Table of the House may please lay it.

*[English]*

**\*SHRI MANOJ KOTAK (MUMBAI NORTH-EAST):** I would like to place my views on a very important issue of Climate change. Actually, our today's act will save our future and our planet from climate emergency.

We all know the impacts of climate change, which are already evident in the recent past in terms of increase in temperatures, more droughts and floods, more extreme weather, rising sea levels, and ocean acidification. These changes are causing serious problems to our livelihood and well-being of people all around the world. As I am from Mumbai, I feel this problem, due to climate change, in Mumbai too.

When our Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji recently attended the UN Climate Change Conference, COP26, in Glasgow, he represented the second biggest populated country of the world, and a country who is using coal for 70 per cent of its power generation. On the other hand, the leader of the biggest emitter of greenhouse gases, the Chinese President, was not expected to attend the Conference. In this Conference, Modi ji portrayed India as part of the solution to climate change rather than the problem creator.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

Prime Minister Modi ji has been one of the world leaders who has taken a keen interest in climate change issues. Under his leadership, India has decided to adopt a more proactive, ambitious, and forward-looking approach. India is advancing on a broad front to ensure a clean energy future for its people. Recently, in COP26 meeting in Glasgow, our hon. Prime Minister, Narendra Modi ji made a pledge that India has promised to cut its emissions to net zero by 2070. He has promised to the world that by 2030 India will get 50 per cent of its energy from the renewable resources, and by the same year it will reduce total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes. Now, our Government is working in this direction under the leadership of our visionary Prime Minister. In this summit, our Prime Minister also announced that India can start using half of energy from renewable resources and can reduce emissions by one billion tonnes, 45 per cent, by 2030.

Moving towards the Prime Minister's commitment to the world, the installed capacity of solar energy in India has witnessed 18 times increase between 2014 and 2021. Now, India's current share of non-fossil sources based installed capacity of electricity generation is more than 40 per cent. Installed capacity of solar energy was 2.63 gigawatt in March 2014 and now it is 47.66 gigawatt in October 2021. It is our big achievement towards getting the goal of 50 per cent of its energy from renewable resources by 2030. India is making every effort to decouple its growth from emissions, by steadily lowering the emissions intensity of its GHG over the years. This keeps India's GHG emissions below what would otherwise have been emitted.

To address these issues of vehicular problem and its effect on climate change, the Government of India has planned to transition from new sales of petrol and diesel vehicle to 100 per cent plug-in electric vehicles (EV) by 2030. The Government is

also aiming to transform India into a global hub for electric vehicle manufacturing. In 2019, Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME) II scheme was adopted. It is important to note that FAME II policy which is the umbrella policy for India has been designed considering demand side incentives, where 86 per cent of the funding is set aside for consumer incentives for EV purchases and 10 per cent is allocated to fund charging infrastructure. Prior to FAME II scheme, in FAME I the Government had supported adoption of 2,78,000 EVs in different forms. EVs are becoming a central point for India's environment, energy and industrial policy.

So, we can say that our Government, and particularly our hon. Prime Minister, is more concerned about climate change as he is leading from front for this cause.

Thank you.

Jai Hind.

**\*KUMARI RAMYA HARIDAS (ALATHUR):** The climate changes in our country, especially in Southern States, should be investigated. As we all know, agriculture and life of the people are dependent on the monsoons. But recently, the changes in the path and period of monsoon have created floods and drought in southern States. Even in the winter season, when it rains, it is harmful for different types of crops and it causes various diseases. The Government should conduct a detailed study on this matter.

The main reason for this climate change may be attributed to the exploitation of Western Ghats. Development without considering the consequences to the nature and the environment, is the root cause of climate change.

Kerala has been witnessing floods for consecutive years. The State Government is planning to construct a K-rail Silver Line High-Speed Railway Line. This project of laying the railway line will demolish rocks of the Western Ghats. To start this line, the Government wants to acquire acres of wetland, including paddy which may affect climate change and the lives of the people. Therefore, the Central Government must conduct a detailed study and should report about the environmental problem due to this project. On the one hand, the Government announces measures to preserve nature and on the other hand, they try to implement projects to disrupt nature.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

*[Translation]*

**\*SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (MAVAL):** Climate change is a matter of concern all over the world today, every country in the world seems to be worried about climate change, in today's time, it has become common to have untimely rain, too much rise in temperature, different types of storms and unseasonal hailstorms. Climate change is also happening because of many activities carried out by humans. We will all agree with this, and scientists around the world have also said that we have been the biggest reason for various activities being carried out by humans. Among these human activities, the emission of excessive amounts of carbon dioxide due to the reckless usage of coal and petroleum products for industrialization is one of them. In addition, the ozone layer that protects the atmosphere, which prevents the Sun's dangerous radiation from coming towards us, is also gradually depleted over time.

Other factors such as population growth, reckless use of water, reckless deforestation are also the main causes of climate change. The Earth's atmosphere absorbs some of the Sun's energy. As we know, there is a layer of greenhouse gasses all around our Earth. These gasses include carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide. These gasses heat up the Earth's surface by exploiting the sun's energy, causing the Earth's climate change. Due to it the summer season is becoming longer and the winter season is becoming shorter.

In the coming days, economies of all countries including our country like the US, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Russia and the UK will not remain untouched by the impact of climate change. Due to climate change, the sea level has also increased

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.



by about several inches since the last century. And this has caused a loss of several trillions of dollars to the whole world.

When there is a change in the average weather of a particular region, we call it climate change. But today the whole world has seen a change in the weather and this climate change is affecting every country of the world and is making efforts to tackle the climate change.

Earth scientists say that the Earth's temperature is constantly rising. This change in the Earth's temperature may be significantly lower in terms of numbers. Some of the effects of climate change can also be felt in the present. Due to the rise in Earth's temperature, the glaciers are continuously melting and due to this the water level of the oceans is increasing, as a result of which the risk of various natural disasters is increasing. The risk of sinking some islands is also increasing.

There are many reasons for climate change. The shifting of the continents greatly affects the ocean currents and winds and has a direct impact on the Earth's climate. Scientists have stated that the Himalayan Mountain range is rising at the rate of one millimeter every year, mainly due to the gradual shift of the Indian subdivision towards the Asian continent.

When a volcano erupts, carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, water vapor, etc. and dust particles are emitted into the atmosphere, and they spread over the upper layer of our atmosphere, thereby less amount of sunlight coming to Earth. It also lowers the Earth's temperature.

In today's time, the population of the villages has started migrating towards the cities for getting employment, due to which the size of the cities has started to grow. Cities like Mumbai, Delhi, Bengaluru, Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad,

Ahmadabad, Pune have started increasing in size due to increase in population, many times more than the capacity of these cities. The resources of these cities are being consumed in excess. As the population of the cities is increasing, high-rise buildings are being built in these cities every day, which is reducing the water holding capacity of that place and the coolness received by the rain water is also decreasing, due to which there is a continuous impact on the environment and climate there. Apart from this, industrialization has a big hand in climate change, many types of industries are spreading poisonous gases like sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, and these gases remain in our atmosphere for many years. Trees are being cut to meet the need of the ever-increasing population. Trees are being cut for home, agriculture, and other needs, due to which the green area of the earth is decreasing, it is also one of the main reasons for climate change. Due to climate change, monsoon is changing every year and due to climate change, monsoon is changing every year and incidents like landslides, floods, droughts, unseasonal rains, hailstorms are increasing, its direct effect is also on agricultural production.

Policymakers have to provide regular scientific assessments to formulate strategies for adaptation and mitigation of climate change, its impact and possible future risks, as well as adaptation and mitigation of climate change. The IPCC assessment provides scientific information at all levels that can be used by Governments to develop liberal climate policy. The United Nations Climate Change Framework Convention (UNFCCC) is an international agreement. Its purpose is to control the emission of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The Paris Agreement is an international agreement to combat climate change. The 32-page and 29-article Paris Agreement, with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, is recognized as a landmark agreement to curb global warming.

The National Action Plan on Climate Change was launched in the year 2008. Its purpose is to make everyone aware about the danger posed by climate change and the measures to combat it. The action plan includes National Solar Mission, National Mission for Developed Energy Efficiency, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Water Mission, National Mission for Sustainable Himalayan Ecosystems, National Mission for Green India, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change.

Our country India has pledged to join the commitment to not allow the earth's temperature to rise beyond two in the 2015 Paris Agreement, and for this, efforts are also being made by us at the national level. It includes increasing the generation capacity of renewable energy from 175 GW to 450 GW, saving 2.4 crore hectares of fallow land, shutting down coal-based plants up to 10 GW, etc. are some of the steps that our country is demonstrating India's commitment to stop the pace of climate change.

Our country is a low-middle income country; there is still a lot of lack of development here. The infrastructure of the country is in great need of development. Therefore, structural and regulatory reforms are necessary first to achieve the long-term goal of climate neutrality in 2060 and to address environmental problems such as air pollution for the development of the economy. Given the country's large economy and its developing country status, we can influence the global policies, actions and standards developed by developed countries in this transition period of climate change, and which can have a negative impact on poor countries.

**\*DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:** I share my views in the discussion on climate change. Benjamin Franklin said that "When the well is dry, we know the worth of water." His words are most relevant today as climate change is a topic of discussion all over the world and today in Parliament also the leaders of all the parties are giving their stand on this. Our Prime Minister spoke for India at the Glasgow Summit, what will be our emission targets, how will we focus on renewable energy and how will India take a leading role on climate change? Our priority now should be how to achieve this goal in the stipulated time frame and secure our present and future.

Due to climate change, natural disasters like floods and droughts are becoming more severe, causing more than 90,000 crores of damages and this is the story of every year in which many people like farmers, women, children and elderly people are affected in a negative way. Discussions and dialogues are taking place in the House today and I am sure at the end of this debate we will be able to formulate a positive action plan and on this subject all the parties together should give their cooperation because this is not a political issue but an issue related to national interest and our development. Glasgow summit and COP 26 were also mentioned during this discussion and it was a matter of pride for us that Maharashtra was awarded the Inspiring Regional Leadership Award from Under2 Coalition for Climate Action and Maharashtra is the only state in the country which was awarded in Glasgow and this is the result of the policies of our Maha Vikas Aghadi Government led by Uddhav ji Thackeray and I also thank our Young Environment Minister Aaditya Thackeray ji who is proactively doing positive work on the environment and its related issues and this effort of his continues for last so many

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

years even when he was not in active politics which is a testament to his resolve and his progressive thinking on the serious topic of climate change.

The speakers before me have elaborated on statistics and policies, so I'll just focus my speech on what are the possible solutions and challenges. The most important indicators of climate change are unseasonal rainfall, floods, landslides and drought. These natural calamities in Maharashtra cause a lot of damage every year and this year Mumbai received 91.2 mm of rainfall in the month of December which is a record till date. Apart from this, during monsoon, we all know how flood situation arises in different states of Maharashtra and on the other hand there is severe drought in Marathwada region which destroys the crops and causes economic and mental stress to the farmers. The coastal area of the Konkan region of Maharashtra has seen a significant increase in the cases of landslides over the years, causing a lot of damage. I am giving examples of all these disasters because the end result of climate change is natural disasters which are becoming man-made disasters with the passage of time and this is also a matter of concern for India because we are a developing country. And to develop our economy, we have to do industrialization. I suggest to the minister that the policy measures that are being taken are fine, but apart from that, we also have to focus a lot on disaster resilient infrastructure creation.

As per data of Central pollution control board [*English*] India generated 72,368 MLD (million litres per day) whereas the installed capacity of STPs was 31,841 MLD (43.9 per cent). Of this installed capacity, developed and operationalized capacity was 26,869 MLD (84 per cent). Of the total operationalised capacity, 20,235 MLD (75 per cent) was the actual utilized capacity. In other words, out of total 72,368 MLD sewage generated every day, only 20,235 MLD is treated.

*[Translation]* It means only 30 percent sewage treatment is done which cause pollution and climate change in future. I request the Hon. Minister that we have to focus more on sewage treatment and it is my personal experience that due to industrial activity and lack of sewage treatment in my constituency Ulhas and Valdhuni rivers have become so polluted that color of water has changed and it cannot be used for drinking water purpose. I also request the Government that the fund to be given to clean river program may be increased and it may be done on mission mode. We have to build healthy, sustainable and smart city along with urban development as Norway has done it and for this the Government has to empower Urban Local Bodies and Panchayats more.

*[English]*

Indian renewable energy sector is the fourth most attractive renewable energy market in the world 1. India was ranked fourth in wind power, fifth in solar power and fourth in renewable power installed capacity, as of 2020. Installed renewable power generation capacity has gained pace over the past few years, posting a CAGR of 17.33% between FY16-20. As India looks to meet its energy demand on its own, which is expected to reach 15,820 TWh by 2040, renewable energy is set to play an important role. The government is aiming to achieve 227 GW of renewable energy capacity (including 114 GW of solar capacity addition and 67 GW of wind power capacity) by 2022, more than its 175 GW target as per the Paris Agreement. The government plans to establish renewable energy capacity of 523 GW (including 73 GW from Hydro) by 2030. *[Translation]* As per data of Central Electricity Authority there is 3,90,791 MW installed generation capacity in the country out of which 60 percent or 2,34,024 MW is generated from coal and we have witnessed how some months ago an environment of Emergency have been created due to coal

crisis and the share of renewable energy is 1,49,567 MW i.e. 38.3% percent. The country is targeting about 450 Gigawatt (GW) of installed renewable energy capacity by 2030 - about 280 GW (over 60%) is expected from solar. I congratulate the Government that to fulfill the target of 175 GW in Paris Agreement, our Government is doing great effort and soon we will increase share of renewable energy sources. I request the hon. Minister that the number of two wheeler and four wheeler vehicles is increasing and global warming and pollution increases due to emissions from these. Hence we have to focus on public transport and electrical vehicles. And I am proud while telling that Maharashtra is the first State of the nation which has launched an electric vehicle policy some months ago and I have confidence that the model can be implemented across the country so that the usage of fossil fuel and pollution can be decreased.

*[English]*

The forest cover has stabilized and has been gradually increasing over the years. The latest 'India State of Forest Report (ISFR 2019) revealed that the total forest cover of the country is 7, 12,249 square kilometres (which is 21.67 percent of the geographical area of the country) compared to 7, 08,273 sq km (21.54 percent of the geographical area of the country) in ISFR 2017. This is an increase of 3976 sq km of forest cover combined, at the national level, as compared to the previous assessment i.e. ISFR 2017.

In its August 2021 report, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), made it clear that deforestation is a direct cause of the increased presence of CO<sub>2</sub> in the air over the past decade, a rise incomparable to any other period in the past two million years. Forests are carbon sinks; they cycle damaging carbon out of the atmosphere and transform it into biomass through photosynthesis.

Afforestation can slow the impact of climate change while also addressing other environmental issues, such as barren land and soil erosion. Research from Crowther Lab showed that one trillion new trees could absorb one-third of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions made by humans. In fact, an additional 25 percent of forested area could absorb 25 percent atmospheric carbon, making a significant impact on rising temperatures globally.



**\*DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S. (DHARMAPURI):** Mr. Chairperson, Sir, climate change is something not new to the world which has precedence in previous periods also, but why it is a matter of concern now is that, since the mid-20th Century, humans have had an unprecedented impact on Earth's climate system and caused changes on a global scale. The global action on climate change is much needed and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is the main arena where the climate action policies are decided and Paris Agreement of 2015 is seen as the guiding force for both developed and developing nations where under this agreement, nations collectively agreed to keep warming "well under 2.0 Degree Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels" through mitigation efforts.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is a United Nations body that provides scientific information related to climate change, says in a latest report on Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis by the Working Group I of the Assessment Report 6 of IPCC has more High Confidence categorisations than the previous Assessment Report 5 released in 2013. The high confidence categorisation is the biggest area of concern because all 234 scientists unanimously vouch for this category. The report even says that if the world spews less amount of CO<sub>2</sub>, chances are that the planet will still get hotter by 1.5 Degree Celsius compared to 1850-1900 temperature levels. So, what we can infer from this is that keeping global warming limited to 1.5 Degree Celsius was one of the more ambitious goals of the Paris Agreement (2015). In the worst-case scenario, the temperature could rise as much as 3.3 Degree Celsius to 5.7 Degree Celsius.

There is a lot of difference between paper and ground reality. The reasons for the same are shifting the blame or keep on discussing rather than accepting the

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

responsibility of corrective actions in the field of climate change. Common But Differentiated Responsibility is the principle of the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) where the nations share common responsibility in addressing global warming but yet not equally responsible due to different economic development happening across the nations. What about the developed countries' promise on climate finance to developing countries for their historical emission of carbon? There is no clarity on Clean Development Mechanism, a form of carbon market mechanism which was decided under Kyoto Protocol and the next confusing part is mobilizing 100 billion dollars annually by 2020 is the pledge given by developed countries at 2009 COP (Conference of Parties) in Copenhagen, but what is its present status where many COP meetings are passing by, hoping that it will be sorted out quickly?

Coming to climate change effect in India, where we are witnessing its effect on India, cities like Delhi, Hyderabad, and especially Chennai where the effect of climate change is seen recently, but looking at the larger picture as climate change is a global threat to security in the 21st Century where the World Health Organisation called climate change the greatest threat to global health in the 21st Century. Climate change could push more than 100 million people into extreme poverty by 2030 by disrupting agriculture and fuelling the spread of malaria and other diseases, the World Bank said in a report. We must act to limit the future risks to the planet. Some of the effects of rapid climate change felt in India are feeling of global temperature rise, warming oceans, shrinking ice sheets, glacial retreat in Himalayas as it is acting as albedo of earth and as freshwater resources, decreased snow cover, sea level rise, extreme events of flood and drought, ocean acidification, making weather pattern less predictable as it will be difficult for pursuing agriculture etc. The cause of the current rapid climate change is due to human activities and threatening the very

survival of humankind like local resource competition, livelihood insecurity and migration, volatile food price as doing agriculture in the backdrop unpredictable weather patterns where in India 60 per cent of crop is depended on rain will impact food security, submerging of underlying areas.

With this background, we see India's National Determined Contribution which is part of the Paris Agreement and its critical analysis. Firstly, it pledged to generate an additional carbon sink of 2.5-3.0 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent by 2030 many experts say that the target may be met halfway at best. To achieve this target India has to produce an additional 25-30 million hectares of forest cover by 2030 which is an additional one-third of the existing green cover. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change fails to provide clarity on how this land will be arranged and there is a criticism that there is no effective use of remote sensing for mapping technology to track lands for afforestation in forest planning and the forest officials should be encouraged to use scientific technology in planning. The Green India Mission (GIM) which is one of the 8 missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). There is a lack of data pertaining to GIM, but a performance report of the National Action Plan on Climate Change finds that on an average GIM targets were missed by 30 per cent where lack of funding is seen as a major reason. According to reforestation the experts call for the shift from monoculture plantation, unfortunately forest departments prefer fast growing species Hence, they go for plantation, but a responsible reforestation would involve consultation with villagers to determine which species best fit the region and planning reforestation activities accordingly and much needed improvement on other contribution made in NDC.

In 2020 agreed countries should update their NDC, where India is yet to do it. Nevertheless, the hon. Prime Minister's speech during the 26<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (or COP26) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on November 1, 2021 put forth five point agenda like 500 GW of non-fossil fuel electricity capacity by 2030, 50 per cent of India's energy requirements will be met from renewable by 2030, one billion tonne cut in cumulative emissions by 2030, 45 per cent lower emissions intensity of GDP by 2030, and Net Zero emissions by 2070. Analyzing the agenda, we could infer that it can be an updated NDC, but it is not officially out, nonetheless the 500 GW of non-fossil fuel electricity capacity by 2030 can be seen as quite achievable target if we consider installed capacity alone, because in 2019, although India's installed capacity of renewable energy was 22.7 per cent of its total installed capacity, the generation from these was just 9.2 per cent. So, increasing the conversion ratio from installed capacity to generation is much needed of the hour and net zero emission by 2070 does not go well with the August, 2021 Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change conveys that for the world to limit global warming to 1.5 Degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels, global emissions have to reach net zero levels by 2050.

Setting aside the speech, the Union Government since 2014 has consistently diluting or ignoring the various environmental regulations such as trying to amend the Indian Forest Act, The Forest (Conservation) Act, and Draft Environment Impact Assessment Notification which created a major concern area among environmentalists where this law is much needed for environmental governance in the country is an irony where ambitious commitments abroad alone will not help in fighting climate crisis. It has to be an integrated approach on climate changing mitigation, adaptation and resilience measures by balancing economic development and environmental protection.

*[Translation]*

**\*SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR (NALANDA):** Today, not only India, but the whole world is troubled by the increasing pollution in the environment and the threat posed by climate change. Recently, in the Glasgow Climate pact, there has been mutual agreement among approximately 200 countries of the world on global warming that a roadmap has been prepared to limit the rise in temperature on the earth to 1.5 degree Celsius. But scientists have doubts in achieving this goal. They believe that the temperature can rise up to 2 degree Celsius or more. Due to this, ice will start melting in the Antarctic and other parts. The concern is that it is a great danger to the entire human race.

It is a fact that many cities in India are much polluted as compared to the most polluted cities in the world. Talking about Delhi, the capital of the country, one can see the seriousness of the Hon. Supreme Court about this problem. It is a fact and data shows that every year more than 1 Crore people die in the world because the air they are breathing is poisonous. We are so much intoxicated by money, power and success that if we have to sacrifice everything like water, forest, land; we will not hesitate to do it. We are making so many toxic chemicals in the name of development which is destroying the environment. High-rise, shiny buildings are being erected and we are not hesitating to destroy thousands of trees and forests. The carbon continues to be emitted. And the most powerful countries of the world have a greater share in it. Every year these powerful countries discuss the issue, but to no avail. We are ourselves becoming a threat to our future life.

The weather is getting ruined due to global warming. We are witnessing rain in winter, summer in rainy season, cold in summer, off-season rain. There is flood,

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

where it used to be drought for thousands of years. There is drought, where it used to be flood. There are natural calamities and polluted air in coastal areas. All these are the result of this. Aren't all these affecting our lives?

India's proposal of reducing the use of coal instead of stopping the use of coal in a phased manner in the COP-26 Summit has been recognized and the Government of India should be appreciated for it. Sir, I come from Bihar. Half of the population in that state lives in the grip of flood and half in drought every year. Our hon. Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar ji is very conscious about the environment. He is running a very good programme on water-life-greenery under his *Saat Nischay programme*. Commendable work is also being done on rain-water harvesting. This scheme should be implemented in the whole country. This is a model work. Second- The scheme of planting 2.5 crore saplings every year is being run by the Government of Bihar. The Government is also giving financial assistance for implementing it on private land and there will be a guarantee of employment for five years. It is running in all the 38 districts of Bihar. It is also important that out of these 2.5 crore plants, 1.5 crore plants are being planted for wood and 01 crore are for fruits. Similarly, the Bihar Government is running eco-friendly gardening and animal husbandry programmes in selected 10 districts. Along with this, the Bihar Government is also working with UNEP, under the Low-Carbon Mission. In this way, the Government of Bihar is moving towards achieving the target of 33 percent green cover in the state.

Life is precious and protecting it is in our own hands. Therefore, I suggest that the Government should work towards protecting the environment by taking common people along and ensuring the participation of all the States so that the problems of climate change in the country can be reduced. Thank you.

*[English]*

**\*SHRI SAPTAGIRI SANKAR ULAKA (KORAPUT):** Climate change is a serious issue; therefore, policies should be made to tackle this serious issue. Also, the budgetary allocations have to be done in accordance with the plans.

The Union Government has allocated a total of Rs. 2869.93 crore to the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change for the FY 2021-22. This is a 7.4 % reduction (Rs. 230 crore) from the BE for the FY 2020-21. This reduction is reflected in slashes to funding of schemes, including Climate Change Action Plan, National Mission for Green India, National Afforestation Programme, Wildlife conservation, and also Project Tiger and Elephant.

We are really disappointed with the budgetary cut, and we have also voiced concerns that the Government is not allocating sufficient funds to mitigate climate change which is a serious issue with the current Government. Only policies without budgetary allocations would not work.

I hope, the Government would take necessary steps regarding the same.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, I thank you for affording me this opportunity to take part in the discussion on climate change, that too, under Rule 193 in the light of COP26 which took place in Glasgow in Scotland where 197 countries met to decide on the actions to be taken to address the phenomena of climate change.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate the hon. Speaker for allowing us to take part in the discussion because this is a very serious and important subject as far as India is concerned especially in the light of Glasgow Conference. It is a very significant subject, thanks to the hon. Speaker as well as the hon. Chairperson.

Sir, climate change is a phenomenon which refers to a change of climate, attributed directly or indirectly to human activities, which alters the composition of global phenomena.

According to me, climate change is due to the global warming and it is having a direct link to the development process in the country. The concept of development has to be changed. The mindset regarding development has to be changed. The concept of development should meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generation to meet their own needs. That should be the concept of development. Otherwise, nothing is going to happen. The Summit or Conventions or Conferences or decisions or declarations made at the global level will never give fruitful results. So, the concept regarding development has to be basically and drastically changed. That is the first point which I would like to make.

Sir, I will come to the Conventions one by one. The hon. minister is listening and having a patient hearing of the entire debate. I am thankful to him also.



Sir, let me come from 1990 to 2021. In 1992, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change declared that any multilateral agreement must be in accordance with the large principle. What is the principle? It is common but differentiated responsibilities and liabilities. This is the basic principle which the global Conventions took since 1992.

Sir, developed and developing countries should be treated separately on the basis of their capabilities. The responsibility of the developing countries and developed countries are to be treated as per the capabilities of the nation and also what the historical polluters have done in the past. All these things should be taken into consideration in deciding this principle.

That is why it is based on the principles of equality and justice. This is the principle followed since 1992. In 1992 Rio Conference, developed countries committed to stabilise emissions to 1990 level by 2000. Has it been done? No. Sir, the rich should reduce and the poor should grow. That was the basic concept which was taken at the time of Rio Conference.

Coming to the Kyoto Protocol 1992, it was signed by 37 developed nations committed to reduce carbon emissions by an average of five per cent from 1990 level by 2008-2012. Developed countries committed to limit greenhouse gas emissions also. This is not being complied with. This is the Kyoto Protocol of 1992. The commitment has not been complied with. There, the principle of differentiation of common responsibilities and liabilities was accepted and adopted.

In Copenhagen Summit, 2009, 141 countries including USA, Brazil, China and India agreed to the global temperature rise to 2 degree Celsius above 1900 level.

Coming to 2014 Lima Conference, all the parties demanded that they can determine their contributions towards addressing climate change and will submit their national determined contributions by 2015 in the Paris Agreement. This was the commitment made in 2014.

Now, coming to 2015 Paris Agreement, it was adopted to limit the rise in global average temperature to a level of 1.5 degree Celsius to 2 degree Celsius above the pre-industrial levels by 2030. Sir, it is a very important point because the industrially-developed nations have already done the damage to this globe.

Sir, if you take into consideration the period between 1850 and 2000, the Industrial Revolution took place and the carbon emission and damage to the atmosphere and climate has already been done. So, limiting the average global temperature to 1.5 degree Celsius from 2 degree Celsius was the declaration in the Paris Agreement. The ambitious plan was not 2 degree Celsius. I think the hon. Minister will agree with me. It was 1.5 degree Celsius. That was the ambitious plan adopted or suggested or approved by the Paris Agreement.

It was also agreed in the Paris Agreement that developed countries will finance developing countries to assist them not only in the mitigation but also in adaptation. This was the commitment of Paris Agreement. What happened to the Paris Agreement? I am not blaming anybody. Mr. Donald Trump had unequivocally declared that US is not responsible for financing the developing countries and he has unilaterally gone back from the Paris Agreement and he made a statement. Due to paucity of time, I am not going to quote his speech. He said that countries like India are begging for financing from America and other developed countries. That was the speech he made at the time when he was going back from the Paris Agreement. There also we could not respond to this.

I am coming to the Glasgow Conference, 2021. I am not going into all the details. I would like to highlight just four points. The first one is, it is not mandatory for the developed nations to provide financial assistance. It is only a casual observation or a declaration. Already there is a commitment that you have to mobilise 100 billion US dollars for the developing countries for the mitigation as well as adaptation and that is to start from 2023.

In Glasgow Conference, what has been decided? It has urged the developed countries to provide and I think that the year has been extended. The second is to reduce the non-carbon dioxide greenhouse gases emissions by 2030. And the third is to accelerate the development of clean power. In the case of clean power also, we have got so many reservations. The Western developed countries are only concerned about the fossil fuel. Petrol and gas will come under the fossil fuel. But they are concerned about the coal of India and China. Countries like India are being adversely affected. Much stress has been given as far as the clean power is concerned. In clean power also, especially India is depending on coal.

And the fourth one is to phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies. These are the major suggestions which have come before the Glasgow Conference or COP26, 2021. The reason why I am mentioning all these Conferences or Conventions or Agreements from 1992 to 2021 is that there is a dilution of the basic principle. That is the point which I would like to make. From 1992 to 2021, when we reached Glasgow from Rio or the transformation from Rio to Glasgow, we can very well see that the principle of equity is diluted and, to an extent, it is lost. I would like to reiterate the principle that ‘common but differentiated responsibilities and capabilities’ has, in a way, become insignificant after the Glasgow Conference. That

has to be seriously dealt with. A developing country like India has to be very serious and we have to express our concern over this issue.

Sir, on the basis of this principle, developing countries have to be treated separately. What I am speaking is common parlance. If I am wrong, the Minister can correct me. After going through the records and documents, even the concept of developed and developing countries has been changed. It is very adversely affecting a country like India. Now, what is the new concept? The new concept is, major economy. A new observation has come into the picture. The concept of 'developed and developing countries' is being replaced by 'major economies'. What could be its impact? It means, we are now in the list of US, UK, European Union, China, and Canada. India is there in this list. These are the major economies. Suppose the differentiation between 'developed and developing countries' is being changed, in place of 'developed countries, if the term 'major economies' is coming, I would like to know whether India will be getting the assistance as per the basic principle which I have elaborated. That has also to be seriously considered. I want to know whether the Government of India is having a concern on this new development. I do admit that this is not there on the face of the record. But this has come indirectly as an interpretation. In the place of 'developed countries', it has been changed to 'major economies.'

Sir, there is a big difference between the rich and the poor. Can you compare a person living in a 27-storeyed building in Mumbai and a tribal who is living in Attapadi Adivasi colony equally? You cannot compare these two persons. The emission of carbon by a person living in a 27-storeyed building in Mumbai and the pollution which he is creating cannot be equated with the life of an Adivasi who is living in Attapadi Adivasi Colony in Kerala. They can never be similar. They can

neither be equated nor compared. That is the position. What is happening now? After this Glasgow Conference, the rich are hiding behind the poor. Further, in 1992, the carbon emission was mandatory. I have already explained that it has now become voluntary. I do appreciate the hon. Minister for raising the issue of climate justice in the Conference. But the issue of climate justice proposed by India does not find any place in the operational part of the Glasgow Conference discussion. Of course, we have raised this issue. India deserves appreciation for raising the issue of climate justice and we also support it. But if we critically examine the operational part, it is not finding any place. So, my conclusion regarding the Glasgow Conference is that it is adversely affecting the interest of developing countries.

The hon. Minister can very well explain about the issue of climate justice because he was a part of the discussion and he was leading the discussion regarding climate justice. The fulcrum of any agreement should be climate justice. This is my point. There should be climate justice for a proper global agreement. I also appreciate the position taken by the Government of India which I have already mentioned. So, equity should be the key of the agreement. The emerging world needs to meet and to contain the emission. This is the problem. We want to emerge as a developed country but, at the same time, we have to contain the emission. This is a big problem. It is not a simple thing. There should be a principle for that. What is the principle? The principle of equity should be made applicable so as to have a balance in development and also to contain the emission. I quote here: "Emission of the past affects the future. Carbon dioxide emission has a life or a residence of 150 years in the atmosphere. The present emission, according to 2019 assessment, by US is 5.2 gigawatt; it is 10 gigawatt by China; and by India it is 2.62 gigawatt. The scale of difference is very huge. Secondly, if you see US, UK, European Union, Russia, China, Australia and Canada percentage-wise, they are the historic polluters. They

are contributing 34 per cent emission. China is contributing 28 per cent emission and India is contributing only 7 per cent emission. The rest of the entire world contributes only 31 per cent. If we see the per capita emission, it is 16 tonnes in Australia, it is 7.3 tonnes in China and in India it is 1.9 tonnes. Why I am mentioning above statistics is because the inequity exists in the world. We need a framework on equity as per the prevailing scientific data according to the NDCs of various countries. The global average temperature may rise to 3 degree celsius. Sir, the global average temperature may rise to 3 degree Celsius when the safety net is 1.5 degree Celsius. It is an alarming situation.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please conclude.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Sir, I conclude with the following six suggestions. Please give me five more minutes.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please give your main suggestions quickly.

**SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:** Yes, Sir. My first suggestion is that there is no sign of any let up in the global warming. On the contrary, it is increasing. At Glasgow Conference of the parties, UNFCCC, there was no serious commitment on the part of the industrialist countries to significantly reduce the carbon emission. On the other hand, they have trivialised the treaty process by involving their corporations and promoting their voluntary commitments. India has failed in the negotiations to garner G-77 unity which we have and to prompt the industrial economies to agree to make a substantial reduction in carbon emission. The second suggestion is that we have also failed to elicit binding commitments from the historic polluters to provide financial and technological support to the developing countries to tide over the

problem created by the climate crisis. The third suggestion is that India has to be better equipped its negotiations. That is the suggestion which I would like to make to the hon. Minister through you, Sir. We must bring in the long-agreed principle of common but differentiated responsibility into the negotiations. India has to protect its carbon space for the development of the country but, at the same time, we must not allow the rich, who do most of the pollution, to hide behind the poor. The use of the carbon space must benefit every Indian not just the rich. My fourth suggestion is that we need to review our coal policy. It is also important to examine whether we need to import coal newly from Australia. My fifth suggestion is that India should strictly comply with the commitments made in COP26 regarding the increase of share of renewable energy and should come out with a concrete action plan. I do appreciate the announcement made by the hon. Prime Minister regarding the renewable energy in the COP26 Glasgow Conference. It is a good thing but the Government should come out with a concrete action plan so as to make it practicable. As far as my sixth suggestion is concerned, I also appreciate the position taken by the Government of India in the negotiation to substitute the word “phase-out” with “phase-down”. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether that has been accepted. I am not sure on seeing the documents where the “phase-out” has been replaced by the “phase-down”.

Sir, I conclude my speech by saying that if the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Report comes true, then, it is very difficult for the globe to survive. So, my suggestion is that India has to tell the world, ‘enough is enough and stop the carbon emission decisively to reverse the climate change.’

India must be in the forefront to meet the global demand, for mitigation of climate change. At the same time, we should improve our capacity for adaptation.

Sir, I will conclude my speech by quoting from the speech of Shri Harjeet Singh, Senior Advisor, Climate Action Network International, which is one of the largest groups. He said:

“This is just a very small step forward. The pace is extremely slow. We are moving in inches when we need to gallop in miles.”

Sir, we need an action today, not tomorrow. Let us work together for it. With these words, I conclude. Thank you very much.



**\*SHRI S. GNANATHIRAVIAM (TIRUNELVELI):** I would like to present my view on the discussion under Rule 193 on Climate Change.

Climate change refers to long-term weather patterns. These shifts may be variations in the solar cycle. But since the 1800s, human activities have been the main driver of climate change, primarily due to burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas.

Burning fossil fuels generates greenhouse gas emissions that act like a blanket wrapped around the Earth, trapping the sun's heat and raising temperatures. Sir, examples of greenhouse gas emissions that are causing climate change include carbon dioxide and methane. These come from using gasoline for driving a car or coal for heating a building, for example. Clearing land and forests can also release carbon dioxide. Landfills for garbage are a major source of methane emissions. Energy, industry, transport, buildings, agriculture and land use are among the main emitters.

Many people think climate change mainly means warmer temperatures. But temperature rise is only the beginning of the story. Because the Earth is a system, where everything is connected, changes in one area can influence changes in all others.

The consequences of climate change now include, among others, intense droughts, water scarcity, severe fires, rising sea levels, flooding, melting polar ice, catastrophic storms and declining biodiversity.

Climate change can affect our health, ability to grow food, housing, safety and work. Some of us are already more vulnerable to climate impacts, such as people

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

living in small island nations and other developing countries. Conditions like sea-level rise and saltwater intrusion have advanced to the point where whole communities have had to relocate, and protracted droughts are putting people at risk of famine. In the future, the number of "climate refugees" is expected to rise.

Switching energy systems from fossil fuels to renewables like solar or wind will reduce the emissions driving climate change. But we have to start right now. While a growing coalition of countries is committing to net zero emissions by 2050, about half of emission cuts must be in place by 2030 to keep warming below 1.5°C.

Adapting to climate consequences protects people, homes, businesses, livelihoods, infrastructure and natural ecosystems. It covers current impacts and those likely in the future. Adaptation will be required everywhere, but must be prioritized now for the most vulnerable people with the fewest resources to cope with climate hazards. The rate of return can be high. Early warning systems for disasters, for instance, save lives and property, and can deliver benefits up to 10 times the initial cost.

Climate change affects the social and environmental determinants of health – clean air, safe drinking water, sufficient food and secure shelter. Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250000 additional deaths per year, from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress. Areas with weak health infrastructure - mostly in developing countries - will be the least able to cope without assistance to prepare and respond.

Reducing emissions of greenhouse gases through better transport, food and energy-use choices can result in improved health, particularly through reduced air pollution. Climate change is the single biggest health threat facing humanity and health professionals worldwide are already responding to the health harms caused

by this unfolding crisis. While no one is safe from these risks, the people whose health is being harmed first and worst by the climate crisis are the people who contribute least to its causes, and who are least able to protect themselves and their families against it - people in low-income and disadvantaged countries and communities.

Climate change is already impacting health in a myriad of ways, including by leading to death and illness from increasingly frequent extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, storms and floods, the disruption of food systems, increases in zoonoses and food, water and vector-borne diseases, and mental health issues. Furthermore, climate change is undermining many of the social determinants for good health, such as livelihoods, equality and access to health care and social support structures. These climate sensitive health risks are disproportionately felt by the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, including women, children, ethnic minorities, poor communities, migrants or displaced persons, older populations, and those with underlying health conditions.

Although it is unequivocal that climate change affects human health, it remains challenging to accurately estimate the scale and impact of many climate-sensitive health risks. However, scientific advances progressively allow us to attribute an increase in morbidity and mortality to human-induced warming, and more accurately determine the risks and scale of these health threats.

In the short to medium-term, the health impacts of climate change will be determined mainly by the vulnerability of populations, their resilience to the current rate of climate change and the extent and pace of adaptation. In the longer-term, the effects will increasingly depend on the extent to which transformational action is

taken now to reduce emissions and avoid the breaching of dangerous temperature thresholds and potential irreversible tipping points.

*[Translation]*

**\*SHRI DEVAJI PATEL (JALORE):** Today I am expressing my views on climate change.

The change in the climatic conditions on the earth is called climate change. Climate change is becoming a serious problem in the last few years. There are many causes of climate change, which affect the lives on the earth in many ways. It is due to various types of external and internal reasons, which includes many things such as change in the orbit of the earth, eruption of volcano, and change in weather, there are many such reasons which result in climate change. Climate change is also affecting water system very badly, due to which the glaciers are melting and there are incidents of drought and excess rainfall. All these situations are increasing the imbalance in our environment which is adversely affecting the environment. In order to control climate change and maintain a healthy environment on the earth, there is a great need to stop the uncontrolled activities by humans. It is having the biggest impact on the climate of North and South Pole of our planet. If these changes continue to take place like this, the life in the South and North Pole will end soon. Different types of situations have arisen due to climate change. The changing weather is also affecting the rainfall pattern and due to which many places are facing many different problems like floods and droughts. Humans have to control their activities, so that the ill effects of climate change can be avoided. There are two causes of climate change.

Climate change is adversely affecting the Earth's environment. Effects on Forests - Trees play a huge role in balancing carbon dioxide on the earth. As they

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

inhale carbon dioxide and release oxygen. Many species of trees are becoming extinct due to the climate change which is posing a crisis before us. The effects on the polar regions- The North and South poles are very vital to control the climate. The changing climate is adversely affecting these. If the climate change continues like this, the life will be completely extinct in the coming time. **Impact on Water** – The climate change is also affecting water and the rainfall pattern badly which is resulting in drought and flood in many places on the earth. Many people are facing a serious problem. Some areas are inundated and in some areas there is no water to drink. The continuous increase in temperature is resulting in melting of glaciers and it is posing a serious crisis before us.

Climate change is having a very bad effect on the environment. In recent past, we have found that the climate change has occurred only due to the activities of humans which is a very bad sign. The humans need to improve their activities to control climate change so that further side effects can be avoided.

While Rajasthan is receiving uniform rainfall, the total number of rainy days throughout the year has reduced. Along with the rainy days in some areas, the total rainfall is also decreasing. Talks are also taking place at many levels in Rajasthan. Based on the study of the river basin, the researchers say that rainfall will increase or decrease in many areas of the state or will increase only in a few areas. It is also to be seen that what will be the impact on land of the change in weather. Not only this, now the temperature of Rajasthan is increasing and the temperature has increased during the summer, this also can be a reason of excess rain. Not only this, shifting of rain is also being seen. It is raining early i.e. it is raining more before August. When the ground is hot in summer, the ground retains the heat. The increase in both heat and rain to an extent can imply that all this is happening somewhat due

to climate change. Not only in Rajasthan alone, the impact of climate change is varied in different parts of the country. The impact of climate change is also seen at the local level. Because it has to be seen that how much rain falls at that particular place and how much trees and plants are there or how much water and the type of land is there. We cannot compare Rajasthan with other parts of the country but it is fact that the effects of climate change are happening everywhere. And the effect is occurring as per the nature of that place. When we say Rajasthan it means the local factors also counts. It is fact that the most of the rain comes from the sea. But a lot of rain occurs due to local trees and plants. The action plan of the State has not been prepared keeping in mind the topography of the State. The need of the local people in future has also not been taken care of. The water harvesting system is not designed keeping in mind the future needs of the place. What has taken place before and now this is happening. Although, on this basis would it be worth criticizing someone, can't be said. If the climate is changing so rapidly, isn't there a need to rapidly change the Government schemes as well? If the future is changing, the present needs to change.

Till date, lots of studies have been conducted on the subject in India but they are not local. In this regard, we can only say that by large the effects on Rajasthan can be known but what will be the effect on Jalore-Sirohi districts. I don't think such a study has been conducted.

The overall effect of increase in the temperature, the plus and minus in the rain fall, the plus and minus in the monsoon if temperature increases, the local changes with climate change like changing land use and urbanization, remains to be seen. Suppose rain fall and urbanization both are increasing in an area. So the land use will increase with increased urbanization. That land will be made available either

from agriculture land or from the forest land. If the monsoon is better, the productivity may increase slightly and the loss occurred due to urbanization on agricultural land may be compensated. And if the rainfall decreases the productivity also decreases and more land will be needed to compensate it. But one thing is certain that the climate change has an effect. Another study has been conducted on the forest grid by grid, by the Indian Institute of Science. They have divided whole India into grids and took some grids and it was studied that what change will occur in which grid. Rajasthan has surely been affected in this case.

Lastly, the way the temperature is increasing today is a matter of great concern. The number of days with temperatures above 50 centigrade has increased in every decade since 1980. Between 1980 and 2009, on an average, there have been about 14 such days every year, when the temperature has crossed 50. Between 2010 and 2019, the number of such days increased to 26.



**\*SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE (LATUR):** Today, the world is facing a serious problem related to the ill effects of climate change and it is gradually emerging before the whole world. It is presumed that due to its ill effects in the coming time, many countries of the world will lose their existence from the world map. Now it has become a serious problem and the time has come that all the countries of the world should unite and take necessary steps to deal with the problem of climate change.

There are not only natural causes leading to climate change but it is also caused by tampering with Nature by the humans. Toxic gases and ash released from volcanic eruptions have been affecting climate patterns for many years on a large scale. Due to the huge reserves of methane, greenhouse gas, buried under the Arctic, the frozen ice of the Arctic is melting rapidly. The atmosphere is also heating up with this gas. Due to cracks in the ice, methane is dissolving in water and coming in contact with the air, due to which temperature is rising in the Arctic region as well as in the world.

On the other hand, the main reason for the increase in greenhouse gases for the last two centuries is the excessive and large-scale exploitation of natural resources by humans, i.e. the earth's surface and the lower layer of atmosphere become warmer than normal due to fossil fuels, use of land and solar radiation in the presence of greenhouse gases. Water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O) and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) are the major greenhouse gases. Apart from this, methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), chloro fluoro carbon (CFC) and other greenhouse gases remain in the atmosphere for a long period of time which increases the temperature of the earth. There are many reasons such as the use of coal in power generation, excessive use of fossil

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

fuels such as diesel and petrol, industrial revolution, modern electrical equipments such as air conditioners, refrigerators, etc. which are causing climate change.

Food production has increased rapidly during the last half century due to new technologies used in the field of agriculture. But due to these technologies, greenhouse gases have increased significantly. In particular, methane and nitrous oxide have increased to a great extent. Methane gas is emitted during ploughing of rice fields. In order to get a large amount of yield, farmers use nitrogenous fertilizers in their crops. But as a result of micro-biological activities in the soil, these chemicals emit nitrous oxide.

This climate change has many ill effects on human life, such as a higher-than-normal increase in temperature. Glaciers are melting due to increase in temperature and their water is reaching the sea through rivers, due to which the sea level is increasing. Due to increase in the sea level, the coastal areas of the coastal countries will be submerged and the living beings will have to move to other places. According to an estimate, if the sea level rises by one meter, 7.5 million people of India will become homeless and 35 percent land of Bangladesh will be submerged. Due to climate change, the incidence of natural calamities such as cyclones etc. is increasing and these are adversely affecting human life.

Due to climate change, many types of calamities have started affecting human life. The ill effects of climate change can be clearly seen at present. The expansion of deserts due to climate change has become a big problem. The problem of the areas which are already facing the problem of water shortage has further increased.

Not only this, less rainfall and climate change have led to significant decline in agricultural production resulting in shortage of food grains. Due to shortage of food grains and food items, people are suffering from starvation and malnutrition.

This has led to an increase in the number of deaths. Due to climate change, many species of animals and plants are extincting rapidly. To get rid of high temperature, additional energy resources are being used which are resulting in more accumulation of gases in the atmosphere.

Like the whole world, Maharashtra is also facing an increasing risk from climate change. Climate change is adversely affecting agricultural productivity in Maharashtra, especially in the case of four major crops soyabean, cotton, wheat and gram. While on one hand, the delayed monsoon and scanty rainfall are affecting the germination of soybean and cotton, on the other hand, heavy rainfall during mid-Kharif season is leading to increase in fungal diseases and excessive growth of weeds and pests. There is a forecast of little or almost no rain in the Rabi season, leaving the crop completely dependent on irrigation. Groundwater, being the major source of irrigation will face pressure. To mitigate the effects of climate change, it is required to improve the cost of cultivation, increase knowledge of better farming practices and adopt better management practices for resource conservation.

My Latur district has been facing the brunt of Nature and climate change for decades. Due to prolonged and severe drought of the last decade, the crops here have been completely destroyed and farmers are committing suicide. On the other hand, in 2020 and 2021, the entire Marathwada, including Latur, was badly affected due to excessive rains and floods. For a fortnight in October 2020, excessive rains and floods in Latur, Osmanabad, Beed and Sholapur districts destroyed standing crops of farmers and hundreds of people and thousands of cattle died due to it. Many national highways were completely destroyed due to the flood and the transport system was disrupted for months due to it. In Latur, thousands of houses and property were washed away by floods. Crops of soyabean, tur, urad, moong, cotton

and jowar etc. were completely destroyed due to the flood. We all have to take this recently issued warning of the United Nations-backed Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) seriously, which says that if carbon emissions do not stop, the world will not survive. If we have to protect the world from dangerous climate changes, the indiscriminate use of fossil fuels should to be stopped soon. By the year 2050, most of the world's electricity must be produced from low-carbon sources and the use of fossil fuels without carbon capture and storage should be completely stopped by the year 2100. All countries should come together and take concrete action in this regard. We don't have much time. We need to reduce the temperature. For this, immediate and large-scale action needs to be taken. Developed and developing countries of the world have to solve this problem together. It's not a problem of one country or one person. It is the problem of the entire world and it has to be addressed by the entire world together.

**\*SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (SHEOHAR):** I would like to share my views regarding the ongoing important discussion on climate change.

Environment is a very important component for the development and future of any country. In our country, for centuries, various forms of forest and nature have been worshiped and conserved. Commercialization, industrialization and urbanization have adversely affected the environment not only in our country but also in the whole world. Climate change is one of the most pressing challenges the world faces today. It is not only necessary to curb it, but it is inevitable. To fulfill this goal, the world community has decided not to allow the mean temperature of the earth to rise more than one and a half degrees Celsius until the turn of the next century. In the direction of fulfilling this commitment, the COP-26 conference held in Glasgow in the past was an important milestone. India's role was important in the consensus reached and agreed upon in this conference. The solutions suggested by India were highly appreciated internationally. The real grassroots initiative taken by Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji in COP-26 is transformative not only for India but for the whole world. The hon. Prime Minister Modi ji gave the Mahamantra of Panchamrita to the world community from the platform of Glasgow. It aims to increase the country's non-fossil fuel based energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030. By 2030, 50% of the country's electricity needs will be met by renewable energy capacities.

The economy's carbon intensity will also reduce by 45 percent by 2030, while reducing total estimated carbon emissions by one billion tons between now and 2030. Under the last point, India will achieve the target of net zero emissions by 2070. The importance of these goals becomes unparalleled when it comes to climate

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

action. It is the result of the efforts being made by the Modi government in the field of climate change that India is moving towards achieving its goals set at the national level with the current policies, whereas, many countries of the world are lagging behind in it.

As of September 2021, the Climate Action Tracker's assessment was that India was the only G20 nation whose targets were in line with the global warming target. This shows the commitment of the present Modi government towards global warming. The Modi government is continuously promoting clean technologies at domestic level. The Indian government is working towards climate change reforms by investing billions of dollars in electric vehicle subsidies, ethanol blending, solar PV and battery manufacturing. Today it is due to the call and policies of Modi ji that the operation of electric vehicles is increasing in our country. India's institutional institutions are being incentivised by the central government to raise finance in relation to climate change action. Out of some of the major initiatives, recently, the Solar Mission is being scaled up vigorously.

Today the forest area is decreasing in our country. Animals and birds are becoming extinct. Many species of plants found in forests are no longer visible. Due to greed, the people of our country have exploited the forest and environment.

After independence, the previous governments did not even spare the country's forest wealth, mines and rivers. As a result of which the condition of our country is not good in comparison to other countries in terms of forest and environment. After the coming of the NDA government in the year 2014, attention has been given to forest and environment protection. In the light of new agreements to be made by the world on climate change and sustainable development, National

Adaptation Fund has been established to fight the challenges of climate change in areas like agriculture, water, forestry etc.

India's participation in the carbon market is a success story. Out of a total of 7589 projects of the Clean Development System (CDM) set up under the India Kyoto Protocol, 1541 projects are being implemented by India.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest under Central Government is making continuous efforts in animal survey and investigation. The forest management plan is also being expedited. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been established. Efforts are being made to achieve the expected success in this area through Central Pollution Control Board, Bio Medical Waste Management, E-waste Management, National Wetland Conservation Program, National Forest Plantation Program, environmental education awareness and other training programs. It has been decided to keep polluting industries in the categories of Red, Orange and Green. Our Prime Minister is always focusing on self reliance in the energy sector and reduction in imports.

Today, not only our country, but the whole world has reduced carbon emissions. The resolve of our central government is to protect the greenery. The Union Ministry of Rural Development has decided that the Green India Mission, which has been started with the objective of increasing the forest area across the country and providing employment to about 30 lakh families, will be linked to MGNREGA. The government has told the industrialists that they should make or sell industrial products keeping in mind clean water, clean air, clean energy, clean environment and more greenery at the core of heart.

I have full faith that under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, our government will solve environmental issues in the interest of the country and in the public interest. The life of an ordinary citizen will become

happy with the permanent solution of problems like pollution and climate change from our country. To achieve this target, all Indians will extend their support and everyone will grow.



*[English]*

**\*DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN (GOPALGANJ):** I would like to express my views on the important subject of Climate Change.

Since the time of Industrial Revolution in Western Europe, the concentration of greenhouse gases (GHGs) has been rising steadily in the earth's atmosphere, thereby leading to substantial increase in global mean temperatures. Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), the most abundant GHG, accounting for about two-thirds of GHGs, is largely the product of burning fossil fuels. Due to continued emissions of GHGs, there is likelihood of severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for humans and ecosystems. IPCC in its Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5° C stated that limiting global warming to 1.5 degree Celsius would require “rapid and far reaching” transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport and cities. Global net human-caused emissions of carbon-dioxide would need to fall by about 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching ‘net zero’ around 2050.

The world's five warmest years have all occurred since 2015 with nine of the 10 warmest years occurring since 2005, according to scientists from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI).

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) agreed in 1992, is the overarching international agreement aimed at stabilization of Greenhouse gas concentration in the atmosphere. UNFCCC places responsibility on developed and developing countries for actions on the basis of historical emissions and the principles of Equity and Common But Differentiated Responsibilities and

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC). It also mandates developed countries to support climate change actions in developing countries. India is a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, its Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement.

Globally, as a pivotal step to take collective action towards addressing the issue of climate change, the landmark Paris Agreement was adopted in 2015 which has brought countries together to take concerted step towards limiting the global temperature rise to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels by the end of this century. The Paris Agreement came into force on 4 November, 2016. In all, 185 parties including India have ratified the Agreement so far.

Under the Paris Agreement, India has submitted Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) with target to reduce its emission intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 per cent by 2030 from 2005 level; 40 per cent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy resources by 2030 and to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

Renewable energy has started playing an increasingly important role for augmentation of grid power, providing energy access, reducing consumption of fossil fuels and helping India pursue its low carbon developmental pathway. Efforts are leading to progressively increasing share of renewables in the electricity mix. As of 31 January 2020, 86.32 GW renewable energy capacity have been commissioned and 69.56 GW renewable energy capacity was at different stages of fruition. India is well on the way to realize the target of 175 GW by 2022.

Globally, India stands 5 th in solar power, 4th in wind power, and 4th in total renewable power installed capacity. By the year 2022, the renewable power share in

the overall electric installed capacity is expected to reach 37 per cent. If large hydro is included, the share of non-fossil fuel electric installed capacity in the electricity mix would be around 48 per cent. Mainstreaming of renewables is a critical dimension of India's 2030 vision.

I would like to say that India is among a few countries in the world where, despite ongoing developmental efforts, forest and tree cover are increasing considerably. As per India State of Forest Report 2019, the forest and tree cover have reached 80.73 million hectare which is 24.56 per cent of the geographical area of the country. There has been an increase of 5,188 sq. km. (0.65 per cent) of forest and tree cover put together, at the national level as compared to the previous assessment 2017.

India's adaptation and mitigation strategies have emphasized on clean and efficient energy system, enhanced energy efficiency, resilient urban infrastructure, safe, smart and sustainable green transportation network, planned afforestation, sustainable climate agriculture etc.

I would like to add that India hosted 14th session of the Conference of Parties (COP 14) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) from 2-13 September, 2019. India, as President of COP to UNCCD stated that human actions have contributed to accelerating climate change, land degradation, and biodiversity loss and that, similarly, strong human intent, intelligence as well as technology will be needed to reverse the damage.

International Solar Alliance (ISA) reflects India's commitment for accelerating the development and deployment of solar energy for achieving universal energy access at affordable rate. India considers ISA as an alternative paradigm for international co-operation - one that is based on collaboration and

leveraging strengths of individual countries to collectively effect change to address the biggest challenges confronting humanity - sustainable energy, energy poverty and climate change.

Recognizing that ISA has a major role in achieving Sustainable Development Goals, and objectives of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and that the ISA initiative would benefit the world at large, during the first Assembly of the ISA an Indian resolution to extend the Membership of the organization to all countries that are Members of the United Nations was adopted. As on date 85 countries have signed the Framework Agreement of the ISA. Of these, 65 countries have ratified the same.

India has been providing all out support for realizing ISA's vision and objectives. The Government of India has allotted 5 acres of land to the ISA in National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) campus, Gurugram and has released a sum of US\$ 26 Million for creating a corpus fund, building infrastructure and meeting day to day recurring expenditure of the ISA upto the year 2021-22. As per commitment, India will release additional US \$2.1 million in the year 2020- 21.

In addition, various Public Sector Enterprises of Government of India have contributed US\$ 8 million for augmenting ISA corpus fund. Apart from these, India has set aside US\$ 2 billion for solar projects in Africa out of Government of India's US\$10 billion concessional Line of Credit (LOC) for Africa. Exim Bank of India is implementing this line of credit in close coordination with ISA countries in Africa. On the 24 September 2019, on the sidelines of the 74th UN General Assembly, India announced allocation of US\$ 12 million grant, and a concessional LOC of US\$ 150 million, for Pacific Islands Developing States for undertaking solar, renewable energy and climate related projects.

Thank you.

*[Translation]*

**\*DR. SANGHAMITRA MAURYA (BADAUN):** I would like to speak on an important topic like climate change. Certainly the most important factor for a healthy life is the climate which is under constant threat due to the increase in the Global Average Temperature. Our government is working on climate, yet climate change is becoming a very serious problem since few years. There are many causes of climate change, which affect the life going on in the earth in many ways.

To control climate change and maintain a healthy environment, there is a great need to stop uncontrolled activities by humans. This is having the biggest impact on the climate of the North and South Pole of our planet. If this change continues like this, then life on the South and North Pole may also end soon. It is happening due to a variety of external and internal causes, which include changes in the Earth's orbit, volcanic eruptions, changes in weather, internal and external causes such as plate tectonics, solar radiation. Other natural causes are the sliding of glaciers, erupting of volcanoes and human-caused greenhouse effect, which we also call global warming.

Since machines are being used in maximum quantity, fossil fuels are required to run machines. The burning of fossil fuels like coal and oil releases a lot of carbon dioxide, which causes production of methane, ozone, Gases like chlorofluorocarbons, nitrous oxide. This becomes a cause of global warming.

Humans are the biggest responsible factors for climate change. The use of various instruments such as video games, lights, microwaves, TVs, washing machines, ACs. etc by humans is also affecting global warming. Due to which a different type of energy is generated in the atmosphere, due to which the heat in the

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

atmosphere is increasing. Along with the Government, all of us will have to be careful to keep ourselves safe to maintain the climate and environment, only then something good will be possible.

*[English]*

**\*SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR):** Climate change has emerged as a global challenge requiring an integrated global response along the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC).

Let me share with you that a recent report brought out by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicates that in coming decades the impact of climate change will increase in all regions and for 1.5 degrees Celsius of global warming, there will be "increasing heat waves, longer warm seasons and shorter cold seasons" while at 2 degrees Celsius of global warming, heat extremes would more often reach critical tolerance thresholds for agriculture and health. India, being a country in the tropical region is exposed to climatic risks and is vulnerable to climate change impacts on several sectors such as agriculture, forestry, health and biodiversity.

India is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), its Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement. Despite having no binding obligation under the UNFCCC, India announced its voluntary goal to reduce the emission intensity of its GDP by 20-25 per cent by 2020 in comparison to 2005 level. Under the Paris Agreement, India submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to UNFCCC outlining eight targets for the period 2021-2030, including, one, to reduce Green House Gases emissions intensity of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 33 to 35 percent by 2030 from 2005 level; two, to achieve about 40 per cent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030, and, three, to create an additional carbon

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sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

India is implementing the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which provides an overarching policy framework for climate actions in the country with following eight Missions - National Solar Mission, National Mission on Enhanced Energy Efficiency, National Water Mission, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Mission on Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem, National Green India Mission, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge on Climate Change.

India is moving forward on the subject of climate with determination and great ambition. India is at number four in the world in installed renewable energy capacity. India's non-fossil fuel energy has increased by more than 25 per cent in the last 7 years. Now it has reached 40 per cent of our energy mix. Indian Railways has set a target of making itself 'Net Zero' by 2030. Similarly, our massive LED bulb campaign is reducing emissions by 40 million tons annually. We also initiated the International Solar Alliance. We have created a Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) for climate adaptation. Today the whole world believes that India is the only big economy which has delivered in letter and spirit on the Paris Commitment.

I feel proud to say that in recently concluded COP26 summit at Glasgow, our Prime Minister presented five nectar elements, Panchamrit, to deal with climate change. First - India will reach its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030. Second - India will meet 50 per cent of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030. Third - India will reduce the total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now onwards till 2030. Fourth - By 2030, India will reduce



the carbon intensity of its economy by less than 45 per cent. Fifth - by the year 2070, India will achieve the target of Net Zero. The global community hailed these commitments of India to climate action. Finance is one of the critical enablers of climate actions in developing countries along with technology development and transfer and capacity-building support. India expects developed countries to provide the promised climate finance of \$100 billion per year support to developing countries at the earliest.

India stands committed to addressing the global collective action problem of climate change through multilateralism and resolute domestic actions. The success of multilateralism lies in the transparent, inclusive, party- driven and consensus-based nature of the UNFCCC process. India reaffirms its full commitment to fighting climate change and will work constructively and progressively with other countries in ensuring that we reach a successful outcome. Thank You

*[Translation]*

**\*SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT (LOHARDAGA):** Certainly, the whole world is facing the challenge of climate change. The country is also facing many difficulties due to climate change. Be it the ever-increasing urbanisation or the ever-decreasing forest areas, all have had an impact on the climate. Farmers across the country are facing a lot of problems due to lack of timely rainfall, very much or very less rainfall, lack of rainfall according to normal agricultural estimates.

It is also true that the Central Government is working on a large scale to deal with this situation. Be it dealing with storms on the beaches, be it the commendable job of giving free ration to the villagers in this Covid tragedy. Commendable work is being done at many levels. For this, I congratulate the able leadership of the hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji and appreciate the work done by the government.

But even today, a lot needs to be done to deal with this challenge. For this, the central and state governments need to do a lot jointly with good coordination. Efforts will also have to be made to increase awareness among the people. Today, there is a need for large scale plantation along all small and big roads in the country, in school-college campuses, along railway lines, ponds in villages and on the banks of canal-rivers. Mining work takes place in my constituency, due to which there is a lot of pollution there. The urbanised areas have the same complex problems. To deal with all such problems, at the level of society and government, scientists have to move towards the diagnosis of this problem based on research. A lot also needs to be done for purification of ground water.

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I oppose the motion moved by the hon. Member and I appreciate the work done by the Government. I am confident that our Central Government, all our scientists are working hard to deal with this challenge and its complete solution. Keeping in view the above suggestions given by me, especially in tribal dominated areas, the Government will work to take effective steps more strongly.

Thank you so much.

**\*DR. D. RAVIKUMAR (VILUPPURAM):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, thank you for this opportunity to speak about an important issue of global warming. There are two aspects attached to this. The contradiction between the developing and the developed countries. Hon. Member Shri N.K. Premachandran has presented statistics in detail on behalf of all the Members of this House.

Our Hon. Prime Minister has clearly stated our viewpoint on this subject. He has also mentioned about the fact that how far India is committed on this subject. While we talk on behalf of the developing countries, we should not only put forth the arguments against the domination of the developed countries and their irresponsible behaviour but also we should place similar arguments as regards internal domestic issues. How it has become an issue between the rich and the poor of this country. Whatever be the disaster, the poor people are the affected lot. Whether it is rain or flood or drought, the poor people are very much affected.

**12.52 hrs**

(Shri Kodikunnil Suresh *in the Chair*)

We have the Disaster Management Act which inter alia has the details about how much relief assistance is to be given to the affected persons. But this law was legislated before so many years. This amount of relief was decided in the year 2015. If a person dies due to a natural disaster, there will be a compensation of Rs. 4 lakh for the family of the deceased. This is how it was decided. Similarly, for damage of crops due to floods, the amount of compensation per hectare of paddy, was fixed before 6 years. This amount is insufficient as there has been price rise in the last 6 years. Particularly Tamil Nadu has been affected by heavy rains and floods for the past one month. If

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<sup>1</sup> English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

you take Chennai for instance, the heavy rain for 23 days in the month of November was unprecedented as it happened never before. Scientists say that climate change is the reason behind all these effects. Therefore, Tamil Nadu is one among the States affected by climate change.

Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has also written to the Union Government for immediate release of adequate funds under the Disaster Management Fund. I also met the Hon Finance Minister of the Union and requested for release of adequate funds for the State of Tamil Nadu. She has also assured to do the necessary. But adequate funds have not been released so far. I urge that the funds should be released for the State of Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu has a long coastal line. Similarly, Kerala too has a long coastal line. Scientists say that such States which have a long coastal line will be much affected due to climate change. Particularly in the South East Asian countries, the increase in sea level due to global warming will submerge several villages and towns under water. This is what the experts say.

In my Villupuram parliamentary constituency, there are 19 coastal villages. There is severe sea erosion in all these 19 villages. The villagers are requesting for sea walls to protect them from sea erosion. This is a long pending issue. Those who displace due to increase in sea level are called as climate refugees. It is estimated that there will be one crore persons who will be displaced in Tamil Nadu by the year 2050.

The Union Government should start working on the issues concerning the displacement of climate refugees such as the relief assistance and alternative arrangements to be provided to them, from now onwards. We have

to also adapt our other Schemes in consonance with global warming. Only the arguments will not be sufficient.

We are constructing several lakhs of houses under the Prime Minister Housing Scheme. We should design them environment friendly. These Houses are constructed on the basis of the approved designs. Ample light and ventilation should be provided in all these Houses to minimize the effect of global warming. If we construct houses in such a way, power consumption will be minimized.

We are very much dependant on coal for power generation. At a time when we are dependant on coal, the developed countries are putting pressure on us to restrict and control the dependence on coal. But we cannot do this immediately. It is understandable. But the Government of India are giving away these coal mines to the private players. Those private players will not be worried about global warming. They are more into profit making. When we are privatizing these coal blocks, we should also think whether we can meet the assurances given by us as regard climate change.

The Electricity Amendment Bill is to be brought before parliament by this Government. The assurances given by us as regards climate change and global warming should be considered while we bring changes to the Electricity Amendment Bill.

We should ponder over whether privatizing coal mines and giving the work relating to power distribution to private players through the amendments to the Electricity Amendment Bill, will help us to achieve the goals set up by Hon. Prime Minister on global warming and climate change.

Thank you so much for this opportunity.

*[English]*

**SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI (ANANTNAG):** Sir, all the problems of climate change or global warming stem from the mistaken belief of the humankind that humankind is the master of this planet and it has a right to exploit the resources to satisfy its insatiable lust for the comforts of life and for the resources.

Sir, in the humankind, the man is only a strand in the web of life and he cannot leave away from the web of life and use the resources only to enrich the humankind itself.

On the international front, we have not been able to negotiate a fair deal, a just deal. So, what is being demanded by the developed nations is that we should preserve our resources for them. They have plundered the resources. Now the third-world and the under-developed countries should preserve our resources and not use it for their sake and for their well-being. The fair deal would have been, as pointed out by the hon. Member who spoke earlier, to compensate the third-world and the under-developed countries for the preservation of the resources that we are now expected to preserve for them, which have already been exploited and plundered by the West.

That is not being done. At times we are very happy that we are being labelled or counted as the most developed nation, least realizing that by doing this they want to deprive us of the term of the deal that is expected to be negotiated. We cannot leave our forests and water resources unexploited only

because it helps them as they have already done it in their countries as also in countries they have colonised.

Sir, on the international front right from Stockholm to Earth Summit in Brazil to Glasgow, we do not find that kind of a deal that we, not only as India but other countries also, deserve. We are asked to maintain and make life comfortable for people who have exploited their resources. This has been one of our faultlines.

### **13.00 hrs**

What is unique about the things like climate change? These things do not respect any political boundaries. Chernobyl continues to kill people away in forests. It is not that political boundaries restrict the impacts of whatever is being done in a country. These do not respect political boundaries or not even geographical boundaries. If resources are plundered in some country, if emissions are done in some country, that is going to affect some other country somewhere else. As our country has a major say in the world affairs, my request would be that we should help in negotiating a just and a fair deal for the Third World countries.

Secondly, in Parliament, in seminars or in symposia, we use a very good language to emphasise the need to preserve our environment. But is it being implemented on ground? We continue to exploit our water resources. We know how things have gone bad in Uttarakhand, how we have over-exploited the water resources and how it has resulted in a calamity. The same is being repeated in Chenab Valley. We are over-exploiting the water resources of Chenab Valley in Jammu and Kashmir. We should be very alive that it may also



create Uttarakhand-like situation in Chenab Valley of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sir, the pollution control boards across the country have become pollution facilitating boards. The pollution control boards do not help in controlling pollution but they facilitate in spread of pollution. It is the real experience that we have. All the hon. Ministers went on a pleasure trip and sightseeing to Jammu and Kashmir this season. At the edge of Dachigam National Park, we have seven cement factories. I suspect that they are producing more cement than what they are permitted to. The emission done by these cement factories is directly impacting the Dachigam National Park and the surrounding forests.

Sir, limestone mining is being done in conservation area. We only believe in rhetoric. We speak too many things but on ground we are not serious in implementing our laws that are made by the Parliament. Nobody seems to be worried about it. I believe that the hon. Minister himself has visited the Dachigam National Park because that is home to the only species of deer in the world, known as Hangul.

Sir, in 2020, when there was no internet, e-tenders were invited and millions of tons of sand is being removed from the rivers of Pulwama without any environment clearance. I would urge the hon. Minister to check whether any environment clearance was granted to remove those mines and minerals from the rivers of Pulwama.

It was not done. Unless and until we implement laws domestically, we cannot achieve the targets. We can negotiate a better deal internationally, but unless we implement the law domestically, make our institutions, that are

responsible for the preservation of environment and lowering down the emissions, more responsive, more result-oriented and dutybound by the letter of law, we are not going to achieve the targets.

Sir, there has to be a shift to sustainable development. We cannot eat up our resources. We are bound by intra-generational equities. We have a duty to pass on to the next generation our planet and our resources at least in the same manner that we had inherited in our preserves. That is not being respected – neither domestically nor internationally. We have ended up now as the third largest carbon dioxide emitter. So, when we make a discussion on it, all these concerns are to be addressed. I would request the hon. Minister to direct the people concerned to go for the auditing of the factories that were 15 or 20 years back allowed to go for production of cement and see whether they are adhering to whatever parameters were prescribed in the permissions. Then only, we would be able to ensure it.

Let us take the example of the Dal Lake. You also had the pleasure to go to the Dal Lake. It has become a septic tank, again, because of urban run-offs and agricultural run-offs. We have not been able to preserve it the way we inherited it. So, my request would be that instead of only airing or highlighting the problems, we should also practically do something to address the problem.

Thank you very much.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DUMARIYAGANJ):** Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak on this important subject.

This is an important subject on which not only we are concerned, this House is concerned, but the whole world is concerned. People are facing these global challenges due to climate change, global warming, carbon emissions, and it is resulting in the changing of environment. While we talk about that global challenge, the whole world also has a global challenge in the form of this climate change, which is being mentioned here. The COP26 meeting took place in Glasgow. The Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi ji and our Labour Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav ji participated in this conference. Today, climate change is not just a challenge for individuals, it is a challenge for the entire humanity. Today, climate change is being considered as the biggest threat on this earth. The activities we are doing in the Earth's atmosphere, whether it is greenhouses, carbon emissions (GSC), are increasing, and are resulting in global warming. Due to the terrible consequences of this global warming, the temperature is increasing in the entire global environment today and due to that there is a severe drought at places where there was never a drought and there is shortage of water, where there was no shortage at all. It is raining in Tamil Nadu at this time, sometimes it is happening in Andhra Pradesh, sometimes it is happening in Maharashtra. In the manner in which this crisis is arising in climate change, people from 197 countries of the world gathered in the conference that started in Glasgow on November 13.

The five formulas that the Prime Minister gave to the whole world, I can say that today in that international conference or climate change conference, the hon. Prime Minister did not only give five formulas for carbon emissions, for climate

change, but also worked to give a direction to the whole world, which has been accepted by all the members. The initiative of India and of the Prime Minister was appreciated. I can say that the seriousness of India can also be understood from the fact that after the Glasgow Conference on Climate Change in November, in the session of India's highest parliament in December, where legislative business is transacted, laws have to be made, there are many important matters of Hon. members from all the constituencies, but despite this, our government or our Hon. Speaker allowed a two days debate on climate change under the Rule 193. It will send a message to the whole world that India is serious. What is our commitment in the United Nations Climate Change Conference, which was called COP-26 Declaration, where people from 197 countries came? The Prime Minister of India said that India is committed to the fact that we will do net zero emission, meaning we will bring carbon emissions to zero by the year 2070. For that, he gave a roadmap to the whole world and he said that by the year 2030, we will have a commitment that we will contribute 50 percent by eliminating our renewable energy, clean energy, green energy and fossil energy. It is definitely a resolution and a commitment in itself. There, the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change (IPCC) talked about an average temperature, to reflect why it is serious? The first Earth Summit on climate change took place in Rio in 1992, which was implemented in the year 1994. There was an international treaty or an agreement that the global collective process on the issue of climate change will take place together. Even today the Rio Convention or Rio Agreement Earth Summit is relevant. People from 197 countries participated in that. All countries participated in the convention as parties and its annual meeting is being conducted on a regular basis. The Conference of Parties has the highest decision-making authority, followed by the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 and the Kyoto

Protocol in 2005. People from 192 countries participated in it and emphasized that we will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

I would like to put up a very important point before the House. I would like to mention the Paris Agreement which was done in the year 2015. Like, the current 26<sup>th</sup> Conference held in Glasgow, the then conference of 2015 was the 21<sup>st</sup> one. The first Paris Agreement was implemented during COP-21 in the year 2016 wherein total 193 countries had participated in the conference. That conference was attended by the Prime Minister, Mr. Modiji also. First time, it was decided that an obligation be set for the developed nations to help developing nations fight the adverse effects of climate change by extending necessary financial assistance to them. During the conference, it was decided to create a fund. The whole world felt that for the first time such an agreement was made in Paris to address the concern of Climate Change. As soon as the countries agreed to create a fund of 100 Million USD, the then President of USA withdrew from the Paris agreement on completion of the conference. You can imagine about the future of the agreement from which the President of USA withdrew. But I would like to convey it to all of you that if someone has shown the feat of implementing the mandates of the agreement on this planet, then it is the Prime Minister Narendra Modi ji. As a consequence, during the current 26<sup>th</sup> COP at very first time, it has been decided to implement it. It was also decided that both developed and developing countries will work together towards combating Climate Change and for creating the fund of 100 Billion USD for the same as mentioned in Paris Rule Book, 2009 which could not have been created so far. Today, it will be the greatest achievement of Glasgow. The hon. Minister will himself explain everything that this will be the greatest achievement that the developed countries have committed again to create a fund of 100 Billion USD for the developing countries for combating Climate Change. After that achievement, we

are again discussing the matter in the Parliament. The Parliament is worried about the Climate Change. The Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which we discussed about, has mentioned in its report that the global temperature has been rising in an alarming way due to Climate Change and consequent Global Warming. The global temperature from 1880 to 2012 had risen by 0.85° Celsius. But the present report is worrisome. The IPCC has reported that the rise in global temperature from 1880 to 2019 was only 0.85° Celsius.

But this will rise up to 1.5° Celsius by the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century which will cause the global temperature to further rise by 0.85° Celsius. The way the Global Climate and the environment are changing, the consequent impact of the same has started reflecting in every country. Every now and then we come to know that some or the other country has been ravaged by flood, for example, in China, Paris and at many other places the effects of Climate Change are being clearly witnessed. But today, it has been decided that the global temperature may rise up to 1.5° Celsius by 2040. This will have more impact than that of a Tropic Cyclone. Be it melting of Glaciers or bursting of Clouds, all have direct effects on Human Health. Today, efforts are being made towards overcoming the difficulties arising out of rising temperature, be it Heat Waves, Floods or Droughts. Today, the way the Prime Minister has stated five points, *[English]* “India will increase its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030; India will meet 50 percent of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030; India will reduce the total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now till 2030; By 2030, India will reduce the carbon intensity of its economy by more than 45 percent and by the year 2070, India will achieve the target of net-zero emissions.” *[Translation]* We have turned up with such a commitment. This is not a blame game today. Our Hon. Member Bidhuri ji was absolutely right that if there is air pollution and if the Air Quality Index of

Delhi increases, it is a matter of concern as it represents health hazards in Delhi. Is this the only responsibility of Delhi Government to close the schools or to merely stop the construction works if Air Quality Index crosses the limits of 300, 375, 400 or more than 500? Can such measures improve the Air Quality Index of Delhi? Should the Hon. Supreme Court remind Delhi Government everyday of its responsibility to curb pollution? I feel that it is just a blame game wherein Delhi Government will again start blaming the stubble burning practices in Punjab for air pollution in Delhi. Punjab will then blame Delhi of air pollution. Then, I understand that if the House is debating on Rule-193, we should worry about Climate Change. When we are guiding the entire world, when our Prime Minister is leading in Glasgow and Paris, then in India also all states will have to work upon the issue of Climate Change.

Sir, today, we are discussing upon this subject under Rule-193. We will have to take note of all these things. There are Thermal Power Projects also in Tamil Nadu, their fly ashes are disposed into rivers. ... *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Chairperson Sir, I have just begun. ... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Member, please conclude now.

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** Sir, I have just started my speech. *[Translation]* I am just making a prelude. I have not come to the point yet. ... *(Interruptions)* If it happens in that way, then it will definitely increase the pollution.

*[English]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** There are 13 Members from BJP to speak.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** Sir, we prepared Biofuel Policy in the year 2018. ... (*Interruptions*) Since you are not allowing me more time so, I cannot even explain Biofuel Policy and Green Energy Policy, therefore, I am just taking their names. Ultimately, when will we start worrying about this? If we had made Biofuel Policy in the year 2018, then why are we not setting up ethanol plants? Why are we not showing commitment towards clean energy? This House has been witness to this. This House has created a history. Today, this House has given a strong democratic structure and process to the world. Under this structure and process, under the Rule-193, kindly get the debate conducted for one more day. [*English*] Now, you can extend this debate for another day also. I think that this will be very fruitful. This is not a political subject, and this is not a question of blame game. [*Translation*] If we are discussing upon some subject, then definitely this will be for saving the future generations of India.

[*English*]

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you, Hon. Member.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** Sir, I would like to thank you. [*English*] It is because you are very kind towards me as you are giving me more time to speak. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please mention your final point.



... (*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** Today, we talked about ‘One Sun, One World, One Grid’ in Glasgow. We have accepted this slogan. But how will we make this climate atmosphere friendly? I would like to appeal to the entire House that our climate should make such a friendly atmosphere so as to make our future generations feel proud of this matter that during the historical moment of taking action towards climate change, Modiji was the Prime Minister and Bhupender ji was replying to the Questions. It is needed to discuss seriously on this subject in this House. This is not an agreement, but the entire House has given out a message, which has been accepted by the entire India. Today, whether it is air pollution, water pollution, carbon emission, a message has gone to the whole country to fix these things. When can we do that? If we want to achieve our old goals related to climate change, whatever we have done, if we want to continue what we have been doing and have done, we can do it only when we have some funding in it.

Hon. Sir, I would like to say, I have many things to say, and there are many things which I would not want to say. But, I'd like to conclude by saying a few things. If we talk about what climate change *[English]* climate change is intensifying the water cycle. This brings more intense rainfall and associated flooding as well as more intense drought in many regions. These are very serious issues that I am raising here. These are not only my concerns, but concerns of the whole country. *[Translation]* so I want to say that *[English]* climate change is affecting rainfall patterns, and changes to monsoon precipitation are expected, which will vary by region. Coastal areas will see continued sea-level rise. *[Translation]* You must have

experienced it. *[English]* You are from Kerala, and certainly your State is also affected by it.

*[Translation]*

Hon. Sir, I am raising your point only. In the coastal area, so much flood is coming, coastal erosion is happening. Whatever details of the coastal area we have, I would like to thank you and would like to tell you that we have a coastal line of 7500 kilometres. ... *(Interruptions)* Let me say one thing, I want to mention it to the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs that he also has a solution in this House, he must participate in this House. Let us spend one night with the moon, turn off all these lights, we sit on the roof in the moonlight, cook food in the moonlight itself. Why are we not taking this measure? *[English]* Charity begins at home. *[Translation]* Why can't we start with ourselves? If this House decides, India will definitely be at the forefront in this.

*[English]*

**SHRI BENNY BEHANAN (CHALAKUDY):** Sir, first of all, I would like to personally appreciate the hon. Speaker for bringing up the discussion on Climate Change in the House, which is one of the greatest threats that humanity is facing today. The discussion is prolonged for two days, which has not only helped in conveying its importance among the hon. Members of Parliament but also passed on a strong message to the nation to build up a better lifestyle to fight against Climate Change and save the humanity.

Let me start with the wordings of the UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres from the COP26 concluding session in Glasgow, United Kingdom - "We are in the fight of our lives, and this fight must be won, never give up, never retreat, and keep pushing forward." The Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) submitted its Sixth Assessment report in August 2021. It showed, without doubt, that climate change is not an issue of future but climate has already changed and is changing. The phrase 'climate change' should be changed to 'climate emergency'. Reporting on the IPCC report, the BBC called it the "Code Red for Humanity" indicating the highest level of alert for humanity. Climate change is a global issue and all parts of the world will have impacts.

Climate change refers to the shifting temperatures and weather patterns, mainly due to greenhouse gas emissions that act like a blanket wrapped around the earth. Major greenhouse gas emissions are due to carbon dioxide and methane. The main emissions are from sectors like energy, construction, industry, transport, buildings, agriculture, and land use. Primarily, the emission is due to the burning of fossil fuels like coal, oil gas, deforestation and garbage landfills. The consequences of climate change are melting of glaciers or polar ice, rising of sea water level,

intense droughts, forest fires, water scarcity, intense storms, flooding and degradation of biodiversity.

In the last decade, our country faced many deadly natural calamities which had taken away several of the lives and properties of our citizens. I belong to Kerala, which is one of the most affected States due to climate change for the past several years. Kerala has been tested with rapid changes in temperature, heavy and intense rainfall resulting in flooding of several cities and villages. Cyclones such as Ockhi in 2017 has taken several lives and thousands of houses were destroyed along the coastal areas of Kerala. Unforeseen disasters like cyclones, hurricanes and high intense rains had devastated Kerala for the last several years resulting in heavy floods, cyclones, landslides, and landslips and so on. Unfortunately, human activities such as change in land use, unauthorised and illegal encroachments along coastal area, natural lake, rivers and its catchment areas, constructions on ecologically fragile areas, unscientific constructions, deforestation, illegal quarries on highly sensitive areas and change in farming and crops types are causing havoc.

According to the report published in 2021 by the IPCC, the sea level will rise and the sea will engulf the shore, and by 2130, many shoreline cities along Kochi will be submerged. We have places, such as Kuttanad, it is in your constituency, hon. Chairperson, which is even below the sea level already, and life will become almost impossible.

According to a study conducted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, the rainfall is expected to increase by 6-8 per cent along the Western Ghats by 2030. According to the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), there was a 52 per cent increase in the development of cyclone movements in the Arabian Sea from 2001 to 2019. According to a report published by the National

Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), 41 per cent of Kerala's coastal land has been degraded and 21 per cent expanded due to frequent turbulences along the seashore. Such extreme climate changes may devastate the State, the whole nation and the whole world unless we take precautionary and mitigating measures to protect our planet.

Therefore, we must act now to protect our planet, and it is our responsibility to mitigate the impact of climate change by taking measures to protect the environment, like reducing carbon emission using alternative energy resources, avoiding deforestation, avoiding illegal encroachments of seashore, avoiding all sorts of illegal mining, avoiding construction activities in ecologically sensitive areas, strictly following the land use pattern, protecting the water bodies and wet lands, protecting the water bodies from pollution, following sustainable method of construction and conserving the ecosystem and biodiversity. Even after several disasters, the governments, both, State and central, are engaged in heavy destruction of the environment, deforestation, illegal encroachments, illegal mining, totally destroying the ecosystem and the biodiversity of India in the name of development, as Mr. Premachandran earlier pointed out.

The attitude of the Governments, both the State Government and the Central Government, is totally negative and it is risking the life of the present generation as well as of the future generations. Climate change is also linked to the consumption pattern in the world. Rich countries contribute more carbon emissions per person than the people in developing countries. As Mahatma Gandhiji said "Nature provides for our needs, not greed" and it is time we started looking at our own consumption patterns to reduce our carbon footprint.

Mahatma Gandhiji believed in the least interference of human being in the equilibrium of nature. According to Mahatma Gandhiji, we should not disturb the equilibrium of the nature whatever be our action. He advised the farmers not to interfere with the natural equilibrium of the soil when they do farming. Let us start with ourselves so that the future generations do not blame us.

Therefore, I request the Governments, both the State Government and the Central Government, to withdraw the anti-environmental laws, like EIA, 2020, Forest Act and Blue Economy etc., stop the so-called development projects which destroy the mankind, and think about sustainable development in favour of growth of mankind by protecting the eco system and biodiversity instead of wealth generations for a few billionaires. As said by Vinasha Umashanker in Glasgow "Stop talking and start doing to protect our eco system".

Before I conclude, I want to quote a few lines of a famous poem of a poet, Shrimati Sugathakumari,

Oru tai nadam namaku ammakku vendi

Oru tai nadam makkalkku vendi

Oru tai nadam cheru kilikalkku vendi

It means:

“Let us plant a seed for our mother

Let us plant a seed for our children,

let us plant for lovely birds”

Let us protect the nature.

Let us plant a seed for our mother. Let us plant a seed for our children. let us plant for lovely birds. Let us protect the nature.

**\*SHRI RAJU BISTA (DARJEELING):** I draw the attention of the Government the perils of climate change facing the mountain regions, and highlight the urgent need for intervention to redress this massive challenge facing our communities.

I represent Darjeeling Lok Sabha Constituency, which is situated in the Eastern Himalayan region. Not many may be aware, but the Eastern Himalaya are one of the 32 biodiversity hotspots identified by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature). Our landscape is a repository of some of the most diverse floral and faunal species in the world. The Darjeeling Hills, Terai and Dooars region are blessed with beautiful landscape, abundant natural resources and amazing variety of people, culture, language, and traditions. Due to the natural beauty of this region, Darjeeling hills, Terai and Dooars region attract the highest number of tourists in Eastern Himalaya. This has led to massive growth in number of buildings, vehicles and other related services. However, the growth in tourism has not been met with corresponding growth in infrastructure. This has led to congestion, traffic jams, and pollutions of all varieties - air, water and noise. This problem is not confined to Darjeeling alone. In India, we have 11 mountain regions – from Jammu and Kashmir to Arunachal, from Himachal to the Nilgiris.

In the Mountain regions specifically, climate change has emerged as one of the socio-economic and developmental challenges. It is causing changes in the crops and cropping patterns, farming, agriculture, horticulture, and floriculture. It has led to drying up of traditional spring systems and water bodies, and in some places Climate Change is causing many communities to shift from their traditional lands and seek shelter elsewhere. Climate change is not an incident, rather it is a process, and even though Climate Change is a global phenomenon, but the impacts are

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

localized. No two places will get effected similarly, effect of climate change will be different on different places While most talk about "climate change," very few connect it to its effecting the form of extreme weather events.

Today, there are places that are getting two months' worth of rain in a span of two days - obviously this will lead to disaster, because the ecosystem is not attuned to receiving so much rainfall in such a little span of time. In the plains of Siliguri Terai and Dooars people are facing increasing floods, and in the hills people are facing extreme water shortages. Darjeeling is synonymous with tea, but our tea plantations are dying due to changing climate and the new diseases it brings. Darjeeling and Kalimpong produced best Mandarin Oranges, Cardamom and Ginger, today the production has gone down drastically. Farmers, Horticulturists, Floriculturists and Tea Growers are suffering alike.

Even our tourism sector has suffered due immensely. Unpredictable weather has caused massive decline in tourist arrival in our region. For instance, in October-November months of 2021, we got such heavy rainfall that the entire tourist season was washed away. In addition, multiple dams along river Teesta has caused massive rise in landslides in the region. Most worrisome is the fact that climate change is causing increasing instances of dengue and other viral diseases even in the hill region, where such diseases were earlier unheard of. However, I am sad to state that despite such severe changes, the West Bengal government is yet to wake up to the changing climate realities. Their conservation efforts are sporadic and unscientific. They never include local communities, or even elected representatives in climate change related mitigation and disaster management decision making processes. They are yet to put in place proper mitigation and management measures.



Today the mountains are witnessing rising temperatures, decreasing rainfall and increasing uncertainties. When we were young, the temperatures would hardly ever go to 30 degrees in my village. Today an average temperature of 30 degrees has become a norm. This is what scares me. We don't know how much extremities can our earth bear? I fear that if we do not take care of our environment today, our coming generations will suffer a much bleaker future. Local problems need local solutions, and this is where all the stakeholders have a responsibility to come and work together. At the international level developed nations need to bear the responsibility of sharing climate burden, by providing technological and financial support to developing nations to move towards sustainability. Developed nations need to reduce their per-capita consumption, per- capita emissions and waste drastically. Unless that happens, we won't see much movement towards addressing climate issue.

Today, India is a global leader in moving towards a sustainable future. Under the leadership of Hon. PM Narendra Modi ji, our country expanded its solar-generation capacity 18 times or 1800% from 2632 MW on 26 May 2014 to over 47.7 GW as on 31 Oct 2021. India ranks 4th in the world in terms of Wind Power Generation with nearly 40GW installed capacity. Our Government is committed to increasing India's renewable energy (RE) target to 450 gig watts (GW) as a part of a stronger climate action plan. We are not only focusing towards increase renewable energy supply, our government is working towards promoting sustainable consumption practices as well. For instance, in 2014, the government under Modi ji launched two programs to promote LED bulbs in Indian households and later named it UJALA (Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All) scheme. Under the programme, the government has replaced 36 crore incandescent bulbs in India with LEDs as of

Dec 10, 2021. This has helped save 9,565 MW of energy and reduced 3.86 crore tonnes of carbon di-oxide.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan too is addressed towards keeping our environment clean and green. These efforts will eventually help our nation emerge as the leading country addressing climate change. As I have said before, Climate Change is a global phenomenon, but its impacts are local, therefore the only way to address climate change is to address it from the local levels. I therefore, request all of you present here today to work together to bring about a positive change in the society by scaling up your efforts from grassroots to local, regional, national and then global issues. Our Darjeeling region has included in the Indian Himalayan Central University Consortium by the Niti Aayog.

I, therefore, request the government to kindly initiate in depth studies into the impacts of climate change on Himalayan Agriculture, Forestry, Tourism and other economic sectors in our Darjeeling hills, Terai and Dooars region, so that once we know the extent of the problem, we can seek their solutions.

Since our region sits in a critical geography, I feel specialized institution that can study climate change and other natural resources related issues, should be established here. I suggest, one can be established at the location where Eastern Forest Rangers College sits today.

I also take this opportunity to request for establishment of a Central University in our region, which will be critical towards studying various effects and impacts of Climate Change and related phenomenon in the region.

I thank you for your time.

**PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM):** Sir, I thank the hon. Speaker for having this discussion on climate change. I thank the hon. Minister who was the leader of the Indian delegation at COP-26 in Glasgow for sitting throughout the debate.

Before I get enmeshed in other technical details, I have certain questions to ask from the hon. Minister. Even a week before, at COP-26 in Glasgow, Indian Government did not show any inclination to announce Net Zero Target. Actually, the environment sector ruled it out in media. What prompted and what pressured the hon. Prime Minister that he did a volte-face in Glasgow and announced Net Zero Target in 2070?

Is there any credible research available to vindicate the 2070 target? Has any discussion been carried out with the States about the target?

India agreed to phase down on coal in Glasgow. But why did it not push the developed countries on phasing out other fossil fuels, like oil and gas being mostly used by them.

If India has to implement phase down of coal, several coal prosperous States including West Bengal will be more affected than others. We are just starting a coal project in Deocha Pachami. What has the Government thought to make good the potential loss to be incurred by States like West Bengal and to ensure intra-country climate equity and a just transition to environment friendly energy?

I would like to bring the Minister's attention to the problem of Sundarbans. Sundarbans is the biggest mangrove forest in the world. I would request the Minister, if he is interested, to read two books by Amitav Ghosh, the celebrated author – The Hungry Tide, and The Great Derangement – in which he had written about how human beings are destroying the world.

Sundarbans is one of the well-known climate hotspots being affected unprecedentedly by four mega cyclones in the last two years starting with Bulbul, Amphan, Yaas and Jawad. There have been a few other cyclonic impacts of smaller scale as well. This is despite the fact that people in Sundarbans hardly contribute to climate change.

When UNFCCC has agreed to start dialogue formally on loss and damage of climate change as part of the Glasgow decision, we should demand immediate initiation of such dialogue on Sundarbans and calculate the loss and damage already occurred in Sundarbans ecosystem including the loss and damage incurred by nearly five million people living in the area.

Sir, I want to ask another question to the hon. Minister which is this. “Why Glasgow disappoints”. This is the title of an article by Shyam Saran who was our principal climate negotiator for 15 years. Shyam Saran has written, “In the climate pact, there is more ambition to tackle climate change but little in terms of concrete actions”. Shyam Saran has also written, “Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken centre stage at Glasgow (we all saw his photographs laughing away with Boris Johnson of UK and the UN Secretary General) during his early high-level segment thanks to the absence of Xi Jinping. His commitment to achieving net-zero carbon by 2070 compared favourably with China’s target date of 2060. His announcements of enhanced targets for renewable energy were also welcomed. However, the favourable image wore thin by the end of the conference with India declining to join the initiatives on methane and deforestation. India’s ill-considered amendment on the phasing out of coal pushed the positives of its position off the radar”. Why did you put that amendment on coal? That is a question.

What ultimately was announced by India at Glasgow is this. We had five goals. India will achieve net-zero emissions by 2070. India will bring its non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030. India will fulfil 50 per cent of its energy requirement through renewable energy by 2030. India will reduce one billion tonnes of carbon emissions from the total projected emissions by 2030. India will bring its economy's carbon intensity down to 45 per cent by 2030 from 2005 levels.

Where is the money? It is estimated that it would cost seven lakh crore rupees to achieve these 2030 targets. So far, the Government of India has only got a fund of twenty-nine lakh crore rupees. Out of it, nine lakh crore rupees is from international sources and twenty lakh crore rupees is from its own resources. Where would the rest of the money come from? Actually, the developed countries had promised hundred billion US dollars towards the developing countries per year. But they have not done so. In Glasgow, it was noted that the developed countries have not contributed. So, I would like the Minister to state where he would get this money from.

We all know what global warming is. It is due to the emission of carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and chlorofluorocarbons in the atmosphere. Chlorofluorocarbons are emitted by your ACs and by your refrigerators working overtime. Over a period of years, they create a shield around the Earth's atmosphere. At night, heat is to be radiated out by radiation which does not need any material medium. But this shield does not let the heat escape. Heat gets trapped. So, over a period of years, global warming starts. Global warming leads to climate change. Our aim was to limit this to 1.5 degree centigrade. But it seems that this 1.5-degree centigrade rise will happen before 2030. All over the world, urgent action is needed. It is because what is happening is very serious. I will just briefly state that climate

change is causing extreme weather phenomenon, rise in sea level, fall in agricultural production and impact on human health.

We are holding very glamorous international conferences. The Environment Minister always is a representative there. In 1992, we had the Rio Summit. In 1997, we had the Kyoto Protocol. In 2009, we had the Copenhagen Summit. In 2015, we had the Paris Agreement; 196 countries contributed to the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Now, in 2021, we have the COP26 Summit. The main problem is this. A roadmap has to be announced.

I will end by saying that time is running out. Tagore had written: "*Dao firiyē sei aranya; laho nagar*". It means, give us back our forest and take away our cities.

Sir, you are from Kerala. You know that there are small island nations. All these islands will be submerged. Maldives had a cabinet meeting under water to emphasise how climate change is affecting island nations. We also have Lakshadweep close to your place. We have Andaman and Nicobar Islands. We will all be affected. What is the Government's roadmap for shifting to renewable energy? What will happen to the coalfired thermal plants?

There is a problem with renewable energy that it is intermittent. It is not continuous. Sunlight varies; water level varies; wind varies.

So, how to have a continuous power grid? The main thing is to create environment consciousness among the industries, which in our country are the biggest polluters. I was mentioning how Dachigam reserve forest is being destroyed by the cement plants.

It is true that we have to raise the standards of living of our poor people. But it is also true that we cannot do it at the cost of the environment. We must preserve

the environment, and that is why we promise all our support if the Government takes cogent, well-planned, well-thought-out steps to mitigate climate change and ensure a better future for us.

Thank you, Sir.

**\*DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT (NANDURBAR):** One of the biggest reasons apart from its health implications why air pollution is taking centre stage amongst the political narrative is because of the heavy cost it represents to the economy. As per World Bank data, lost labour income due to fatal illness from PM 2.5 pollution in 2017 was in the range of \$30-78 billion, equal in magnitude to about 0.3-0.9 percent of our GDP.

Due to its convergence with climate change, India has already put in motion many of the essential ‘sector transitions’ needed in air quality management. Our policymakers across the board are realizing the need to tap into more sustainable options. Today, India is spearheading a solar-energy revolution. Today, 60 percent of Delhi Metro’s daytime energy requirement is being met through solar power from the 750 MW Rewa Solar Project in Madhya Pradesh, reducing its dependence on coal, as well as saving over \$170 million on its energy bill over the next 25 years. This also has a large- scale impact on air pollution levels in the areas and are models that must be replicated by policymakers across the board.

Internationally too, we have been front-runners in the aim to create a sustainable country. Our hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, spoke about the ‘panchamrit’ or five nectar elements on how India plans to deal with the challenge of climate change and recommended other countries to follow. India has promised to not only become carbon neutral by 2070 but also has ambitious 2030 targets which are already on track. Not only will we increase our non-fossil energy capacity to 500GW but also meet 50 percent of our energy requirements from renewable energy, reduce the total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes and reduce the carbon intensity of our economy to less than 45 percent from now to 2030.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.



India is taking many significant steps to achieve these targets. The Government of India is envisaging a revision of its ambient air quality standards and has strengthened vehicular and industrial emission standards in recent years. A strong emphasis on expanding renewable energy, promoting electric vehicles, and supplying LPG cooking fuel to millions of households are some examples of the actions India is taking to combat air pollution.

The Government of India's National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) is a powerful step in acknowledging and resolving the problem of deteriorating ambient air quality. The NCAP has set a time-bound goal for improving air quality across the country, with a focus on around 132 'non-attainment' cities where air pollution standards are not being met. It also provides cities with an overall framework for developing air quality management plans, with guidance on policies across a range of sectors.

Recognizing the need for concerted cross-jurisdiction and airshed level action and coordination, our Parliament also approved a law in August 2021 to establish the Commission of Air Quality Management in the National Capital Region and adjoining areas.

India is also strengthening its commitments towards encouraging the use of electric vehicles by setting a target of 30 per cent EV sales penetration for private cars, 70 per cent for commercial vehicles, 40 per cent for buses and 80 per cent for two and three-wheelers by 2030. There are various schemes like PLIs, FAME II to directly subsidize the upfront cost of EV. Also, we are working to increase our Advanced Chemistry Cell battery manufacturing capacity. The Government is fully committed for cleaner fuels and the recent addition has been National Hydrogen Policy.

In 2020, based on the recommendations of the 15th Finance Commission, Government of India has also set aside about \$1.7 billion to fight air pollution over the next five years for the 42 Indian cities that have million- plus population, provided they reduce their air pollution levels by 15 percent every year. This is the world's first performance-based fiscal transfer funding program for air quality management in cities and highlights the strong political motivation that exists to mitigate this problem on a war footing.

However, there exist even more steps and interventions that need to be taken in India and need to be supported throughout the political class. Air pollution is an issue that brings together all parties as it lies above politics and it must remain the same.

We now need to work on capacity building and awareness for urban local bodies and State Governments to strengthen coordination to bridge the gap between States having high and low levels of industrialization. Cities need to look beyond their immediate jurisdiction for effective air pollution control strategies and apply a new set of tools for airshed-based management. Also, standardizing tools across India is important so that control strategies and relevant data sets can be linked.

We must understand that each one of us is a contributor to air pollution and localized city-level action is no longer sufficient. It is a threat impacting 1.3 billion people in India for whom the annual average particulate pollution level exceeds the WHO guidelines. We should look towards strengthening mechanisms of pollution from sources outside the city at the airshed level, invest wisely and have a robust and responsive framework in sync with our growing economic prowess.

It is time we heed to our hon. Prime Minister's call for a global push to adopt sustainable lifestyles. Instead of mindless and destructive consumption, we need

mindful and deliberate utilization in areas from packaging to diet. If billions of people make the correct choice, we can take the fight against climate change one step further and save humanity. Building public awareness campaigns and drives towards this effect would be a great step forward in this regard.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT (PALGHAR):** Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I would like to request the Minister that the mega projects that are executed all over India, such as big dams being built in tribal areas. Thousands and lakhs of trees are cut in the said areas. They should also think about the environment and climate in a proper way. The way tribals are displaced on a large scale from that area and due to their lack of proper rehabilitation; there is a big impact on their social structure.

Sir, today, not only India, but the whole world is troubled by the increasing pollution of the environment and the threat posed by climate change. At the 'COP-26' conference on global warming in the recent Glasgow Climate Agreement, delegates from nearly 200 countries of the world supported an announcement to help those poor countries that are struggling with the effects of climate change. The world's average sea level is expected to rise by 9 to 28 centimetres by the end of the 21st century due to the melting of glaciers as a result of climate change. It will have an adverse impact on more than half of the world's population, who live 60 kilometres from the sea. It is a great threat to the entire human race. The way the temperature is increasing all over the world and the climate is changing, the sea level is also increasing. This can have a direct impact on India, especially in the coastal areas.

Sir, in view of the condition of the major rivers of Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai city, they should be called gutters or drainages, instead of being called rivers. In my childhood, we used to drink water from rivers and wells in the area I represent, but now the situation in my Palghar parliamentary constituency has become such that big chemical factories have been set up there. Such is the condition of Thane and the area of Mumbai. There is the Mithi river in Mumbai. Earlier, the

tribals used to live in the National Park of Dahisar, they used to drink water from the well, bathe with it, but now a lot of filth has spread in the rivers there. There are around 1296 factories in my area of Boisar, out of which about 500 are chemical factories. This has had a great impact on the business of fishermen who live on the seashore.

My request to you is that we should progress, but at the same time, the Government should pay attention while giving permission to chemical factories that are there. Compared to the most polluted cities in the world, many cities of India are polluted, in which our country's capital Delhi is taking a very dangerous form. The Supreme Court has also seriously discussed this. This is true and statistics show that more than 10 million people in the world will die this year due to breathing toxic air. We are manufacturing so many poisonous chemicals in the name of development, which are destroying the environment. We are building sky touching luxury buildings, destroying thousands of trees and forests for this. Carbon dioxide emissions are not stopping, the world's most powerful countries contribute more to it.

Sir, due to global warming, the weather is being destroyed. Due to global warming and then due to erratic climate conditions, many farmers have suffered a lot in Maharashtra. There is rain in the winters, summer in the rainy season, winters in the summer season and unseasonal rain. There has been drought for thousands of years. Where there was a flood, there is drought now. The pollution of the air due to natural calamities in the coastal areas, is it not affecting our lives?

I have a request to the Hon. Minister that there is a place named Surajgarh in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra, there is an iron project. There is a company named Lloyds Metals and Earth Movers on 347 hectares. In that area, 6,000 hectares

is a forest reserve. There has been a violation of the Forest Rights Act including environment, forest conservation and biodiversity. Due to this project, the very existence of the Mandia community of the primitive tribes of the Particular Vulnerable Tribal Group there has been threatened. The Mandia tribal community is left only in Maharashtra in India.

Yadav Sahib, I know very well that you are very sensitive about tribals. This project in Surajgarh, which has 6,000 hectares of land, has affected the Mandia community, which is likely to be extinct. You can stop that project because you are an influential minister, so that is my request to you.

On the other hand, about 6,200 hectares of forest land has been acquired on account of the Sardar Sarovar Dam in Nandurbar district. Lakhs of trees have been cut there and 33 villages are directly affected. Similarly, there is a diamond mining project in Bakswaha forest in Chhatarpur district of Madhya Pradesh. A large number of trees are proposed to be cut in that project. This will ruin the lives of natural resources, tribals and animals. More than 2 lakh 15 thousand trees of about 40 species will be cut in this project. Many species of plants and animals exist there, which collectively create a healthy environment.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I would like to request through you to the Government to make a concrete policy and solve all these problems. Madhya Pradesh's issue is a very important issue, if you can stop that project, then please stop it. That's my request to you. Thank you.

*[English]*

**\*DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY (CHENNAI NORTH):** I would like to place my views on climate change, especially in the wake of COP26 held in Glasgow and I thank you for permitting this discussion. There are mixed opinions regarding climate change where one group who express concern is termed alarmists by the other group who refuse to acknowledge the evidences which are presented to the undeniable facts of the danger of climate change.

The population of the world in 1800 was about 100 crores and that of India was 17 crores. This population was reached after several thousand years of human civilization. However, by 2021, this number has reached 800 crores globally and that of India 140 crores. This population explosion has led to deforestation which has ravaged the earth and other living things evidenced by the increasing number of endangered species of botanical and zoological world. The assault on nature was further endangered by the advent of industrialization in Europe from 1760-1840. It was gloriously termed as Industrial revolution whereas this is probably to be termed the start of global destruction. Not to be left behind in the growing economic competition all third world nations followed suit in industrializing themselves. Not happy with what we were provided for by nature and our need to go faster and be cooler or warmer, we started drilling the earth like a sieve seeking coal, oil, gold, minerals, etc. The resultant use of these fossil fuels has undeniably had its toll on nature. Though several proponents advocate various theories for global warming, the fact that human activity is one of the major causes is undeniable. Studies show that there has been a rise of 1.5 degree Celsius which has resulted in rising sea water

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

levels due to glaciers melting, as evidenced by large areas of land submerged in the last few decades is alarming.

At COP26 participant countries have made bold collective commitments:

- curb methane emissions;
- to halt and reverse forest loss;
- align the finance sector with net-zero by 2050;
- ditch the internal combustion engine
- accelerate the phase-out of coal, and
- end international financing for fossil fuels, to name just a few.

Apart from these recommendations, one of the most crucial factor which need to be considered is population control. It is sad to note that while States from the South have reduced their population growth to 2.1 percent, several States in the North are still at an alarming rate of 2.7 or more. The Government should ensure that these States are encouraged to achieve the target of 2.1 per cent at the earliest. This Government instead of rewarding States for population control seems to be punishing them by their plans of delimitation of Lok Sabha MPs based on population which will make representation from the Southern States as irrelevant.

This Government has further endangered the environment by adversely amending The Environment (Protection) Act giving free access for corporate to set up industries, ports, etc. endangering land, marine life and the people. I would like to specifically mention about the proposed expansion of the Kattupalli port by Adani group with the hidden blessing of this Government which will destroy the region.

Our hon. Prime Minister has acknowledged 2070 as target for achieving net zero emissions as against 2050 which was the target set by the COP26 to all



participating countries. I doubt with the present attitude of this Government if even this extended target will be achieved.

Several of us would have gone by 2070, but the present day children, youth and their children and grandchildren and generations to come have a right to live without any threat of environmental hazard. It is our duty to ensure that we leave them a safe, healthy environment where they can live in peace and harmony.

The COP26 also discusses the monetary policy where developed nations have to pay the developing ones trillions of dollars to help achieve net zero by 2050. Humans have brought several detrimental inventions to this world. I believe that religion and economy to be the two most detrimental ideas of the lot. These two have caused loss of lives, liberty and freedom to millions. I hope that we will overcome these challenges with greater understanding of the purpose of life. A great poet from Tamil Nadu has written thousands of years ago:

PIRPPOKKUM ELLA UYIRKUM PIRANTHPINNAR  
YAADHUM OORE YAAVARUM KELIR

It means, birth is same for every living being and after birth every place is mine and all living beings are my relatives.

I hope that we all can embrace this philosophy and rise above pettiness of religion, caste, community and work to ensure peaceful global living for the future generations and also reduce the economic divide between the haves and have-nots.

Thank you, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**\*SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA (DAUSA):** I am giving you my views in writing on the discussion raised on climate change on December 8, 2021. Today, change in Nature is creating a terrible situation not only for humanity but also for all living beings of the world. Alongwith tampering with Nature by human beings, materialism in the life of human beings is also the reason for this. Research should be conducted keeping in mind the issue of balancing in nature. The earth is becoming a concrete forest rapidly. Increasing population and decreasing resources are threat to environmental cleanliness. Our country is a country of villages. Agriculture is the main source of livelihood. Emission of greenhouses and use of chemical fertilizers in agriculture increase pollution. The use of more and more plastic is increasing the pollution level. Our Government has done a commendable work of reducing pollution level by taking many measures. The successful Prime Minister Modi Ji has set a record in environmental protection by taking various measures such as imposing a ban on single use plastic, making LPG connections accessible to every house and running a tree plantation campaign. I suggest that every person in the country has to realize the horrors of climate change and make efforts to bring changes in lifestyle and contribute towards environmental protection. Juliflora tree is a threat in expansion of the forests. It should be completely destroyed and instead of it, the trees of Peepal, rosewood and Neem should be grown which purify the air by releasing oxygen. Instead of burning the stubble, it should be used as cattle feed. Burning stubble increases pollution, whereas if it is used as cattle feed, it will increase the income of the farmers. In order to check today's concern from assuming

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

ominous proportion, it is necessary to create awareness to take measures even at small levels to curb pollution. Thank you.

*[English]*

**\*DR. SUJAY VIKHE PATIL (AHMEDNAGAR):** India, under the visionary leadership of PM, Shri Narendra Modi ji, has taken numerous steps to tackle the global problem of climate change and is well on the path of decoupling its emissions from economic growth. India's cumulative and per capita current emissions are significantly low and far less than its fair share of global carbon budget. It has taken several initiatives over the past few years, including, the setting up of the International Solar Alliance, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, raising the domestic renewable energy target to 450 GW by 2030 and putting in place an ambitious National Hydrogen Mission.

The current climate of India is highly diverse, ranging from the subfreezing Himalayan winters to the tropical climate of the south. The consequences of climate change on the social systems are expected to vary in different regions of the world on account of several regional and other local factors. Therefore, different modelling studies, adaptation strategies and technology systems would be required in differing geographical and social contexts. Further, there are many uncertainties in disaggregating the effects of global warming on different agro-climatic regions due to still inadequate scientific understanding of the processes involved in the climate change. This would require developing a strong capability in basic and applied research in climate science by strengthening observational and modelling tools and systems. India is too large a country to adopt strategies based on global averages of climate change. The current levels of uncertainties associated with likely consequences of climate change in various regions of the country are significant and

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

do not enable the development of strategic action plans for different regions within the country.

Global observations suggest that climate change is well under way. At continental, regional, and ocean basin scales, numerous long-term changes in climate have been observed, including widespread changes in precipitation amounts; ocean salinity; wind patterns; and aspects of extreme weather including droughts, heavy precipitation, heat waves, and the intensity of tropical cyclones.

Prime Minister Modi has been one of the world leaders who has taken a keen interest in Climate Change issues. Under his leadership India decided to adopt a more pro-active, ambitious and forward-looking approach in the run-up to the Paris Climate summit. This is reflected in the country's INDC. It links India's commitment to ecologically sustainable economic development with its age-old civilizational values of respecting Nature, incorporating a sense of inter generational equity and common humanity. The targets India has voluntarily committed itself to are unprecedented for a developing country.

The energy intensity of India's growth will decline by 33-35 per cent by 2030 compared to 2005 base year, which means that for every additional dollar of GDP India will be using progressively and significantly lesser amount of energy. There is confidence that based on the achievements of the National Mission on Enhancing Energy Efficiency, this target will be met. India being one of the world's largest emerging economy, which already has a large energy footprint globally, this constitutes a major contribution to tackling global Climate Change. The INDC has set a target of 175 GW of renewable energy by the year 2030 on the strength of the outstanding success of the National Solar Mission. It is reported that this capacity may well be achieved 10 years in advance.

The Government may raise India's target to 227 GW for 2030. The target of achieving 40 per cent of power from renewable sources by 2030 is likely to be achieved several years in advance. The figure is already 21 per cent as of date. India is actively reducing the component of coal based thermal power in its energy mix. It is not widely known that the country has a very high cess on coal, of the order of Rs. 400 per tonne, proceeds from which go into a Clean Energy Fund. India is also committed to not building any new thermal plants which are not of the most efficient ultra-supercritical category.

India is advancing on a broad front to ensure a clean energy future for its people, drawing upon its ingrained civilizational attributes and putting in place a wide range of policy interventions under the legal framework of the Energy Conservation Act, covering 15 energy intensive industries and the Energy Conservation Building Code, covering all new urban infrastructure. 32 States of the Indian Union have formulated and begun implementing their own State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC). There is also an active and vibrant civic society which is promoting citizens' awareness of the threat of Climate Change and what each of us can do as individuals to meet this threat.

*[Translation]*

**\*SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK (SIDHI):** Today, the environment is constantly changing which is a matter of concern and to prevent this crisis, one has to start taking measures from home. We have to make full use of natural resources and energy. Today, we all should come forward in this struggle to save our lives. We all should be alert to save humanity. Due to incessant change in climate, our environment is getting polluted. Our hon. Prime Minister has addressed the COP summit at UK and said that our country needs to become self-reliant by relying on renewable energy. We have to move forward with sensitivity on the issue of biodiversity. The Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi always said that balance in Nature should never be tampered with. Various schemes have been formulated regarding climate change under the leadership of the Hon. Prime Minister. In COP-26 Glasgow, a target of net zero carbon by the year 2070 has been set. The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji has said that gradually, we have to make our lives dependent on natural sources of energy. We all have witnessed many damages in this country due to the ill effects of climate change, be it in the form of cyclones or floods. The Prime Minister has set a target to get net zero emission by 50 per cent by the year 2030 and achieve five more targets by the year 2070. There is also a target to meet 50 percent of the energy requirement of the country by the year 2030. Therefore, the country should cooperate in fulfilling all the five targets of the Prime Minister. The stubble burnt by the farmers in the fields also plays a role in climate change. Due to climate change, our weather is being greatly affected and it is constantly affecting the human health. We should consider about the Coal power plants. Today, there are many industrial units in our country which are continuously

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

affecting our environment and leading to climate change. It is high time to think how we can use natural resources for our sustenance. I thank the Prime Minister who has launched a scheme in the whole country under which people can earn profit by generating electricity through renewable energy.



**SHRI TAPIR GAO (ARUNACHAL EAST):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, thank you so much for giving me an opportunity to speak on climate change. I have been hearing in this House for two days what Modi Sahab and the hon. Minister Bhupender Sahab said and did in COP-26 summit in Glasgow regarding climate change and global warming. The discussion is not about whether we will implement it or not. It is not appropriate to discuss in favour of and against the Government in this House.

Hon. Chairperson, we human beings have become so greedy that we are destroying ourselves. We are not discussing on what we will leave in this world for the coming generation. We all know that due to global warming and climate change, sea level is rising. The lives of all human beings are getting affected due to the effect of agriculture, erosion in low lying area every year, heavy flood, impact of biodiversity and their impact on agricultural products. We know that the whole world has found a solution to this global warming.

The House should discuss the interest shown by Narendra Modi ji and Bhupender ji to take India forward alongwith the five point commitments they have made there. We should discuss about what the states will do to fulfill the commitment that has been made to be fulfilled till the year 2030 and where we will reach in the year 2070.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, in the year 1980, *[English]* when I came to Delhi as a young student leader, I have seen one R.K. Laxman's cartoon. In that, he took his children thirty kilometres away from Delhi. The children asked his father, "What is this sweet smell?" The father had to reply. "My dear children, this is not sweet smell, this is the fresh air. *[Translation]* This cartoon was made in the year 1980. Today, there is pollution even 300 km away from Delhi. Children who are born in Delhi go to the north-eastern states. There, the children look at the lighting in the sky at night

and ask their parents about it. *[English]* The friend had to tell them, “This is not light. These are the stars in the sky”. *[Translation]* Today children are not getting an opportunity to see the clear sky.

**13.58 hrs**

(Shri Rajendra Agrawal *in the Chair*)

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, every Hon. Member of Parliament and citizen should promise to observe the boundary line drawn by Modi ji in Cop-26, Glasgow. We are so greedy that we only think about living our life comfortably.

*[English]*

Chairperson Sir, I would like to tell, through you, to all the hon. Members and the countrymen, to not look upon the developed countries, to take a decision and take a pledge today what we can contribute to the society as an individual. *[Translation]* Today if an Hon. Member of Parliament buys one car, then another Hon. Member thinks of buying two cars. If our friend builds a nice house, we think of making a better house than him. *[English]* This is the reason and this is the reason why we are causing the climate change on this planet. *[Translation]* Every human has to think that what should I leave for the coming generation so that they remain healthy and happy, we have to promise this. We have to go back to the eastern age.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, I would like to tell the Minister through you that *[English]* where there are tribals, there are forests. Where there are forests, there are tribals.

*[Translation]*

We will have to learn from the culture of tribals in this scientific age also. Tribals have been living in the forests for centuries. Where there are tribals, there

are forests and where there are no forests, there are no tribals. This situation is in the name of development. *[English]* In the name of development and in the name of commercializing the environment, we have caused climate change and we have caused global warming.

*[Translation]*

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, how can India fulfil these five 'Amrit Tatva'? There is no need to observe, ask or saying anything to the developed countries like America, UK, European Union and China. *[English]* We have to start today based on what the hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has said at the COP26 at Glasgow. *[Translation]* We have to make sure, how we handle that. We have to save this environment be it any region irrespective of political parties, be it any individual irrespective of any caste and creed. Modi ji gave a mantra - 'Living style for environment'. We should discuss on how to perform this mantra.

#### **14.00 hrs**

In addition, I would like to say before you that the developed countries have done a lot of oppression on this world, due to which today developing countries and under-developed countries are facing the consequences. Developed countries have hazarded the environment. After all, how can we do it? Today we are a developing country. The Hon. Prime Minister Modi ji by giving the mantra at Glasgow has brought the developed countries stand together. This mantra will have to be followed by India and our neighbouring countries. I have great faith in Bhupendra ji, because he is an environmentalist.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, what alternative we can provide. How can we save the world with renewable energy and renewable resources? For this, what can be the

alternative offered by our country, so that the world can follow us. I want to make this point for how to follow the philosophy of Modi ji's five 'Amrit Tatva'. How can we limit fossil fuels like coal? There is a point of phase out and phase down. Replying to this, the Hon. Minister will tell about it to the House what it covers? We have got the resources. We have a proverb here. We have an animal here - musk. He roams in the river, mountain, mountain etc. Where do we find the specie of good musk, in whose navel is that musk?

What is missing in India? We can use renewable energy like wind energy. *[English]* The State of Arunachal Pradesh has a forest cover of 84 per cent. According to the Survey by the Central Electricity Authority, *[Translation]* Arunachal Pradesh can generate 59,000 MW of electricity. Where the survey was done and where the survey was not done, so much GW can be generated there too. We have to think about how we can develop renewable energy.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, now comes the topic of hydro-power, ethanol, and electricity. Today with hydro power, we can generate 59,000 MW electricity from Arunachal Pradesh and other north eastern states. With this, the whole of India can run smoothly with the electric vehicles. Just before it senior RSP leader Premchandran ji was giving the speech. If all Hon. Members start to criticise, then it will not solve any purpose. We have to find a solution, as a superlative human being. I have some points which I would like to mention.

Hon. Minister is an intellectual and quite experienced. We have to teach the people of the country from childhood. We should give information about the school program and environment protection till the university level that if the environment is not taken care of now, then how dangerous the future can be. If we do not preserve and protect our environment, then we should think now about how the life of the

future generation will be. There are NGOs, CVOs and social service organizations in the country which should create awareness among the people about the importance of environment. Where there are tribals, there are forests. We should develop this culture for protecting the environment.

Hon. Chairperson, I get more time to speak when you are in the Chair, and I hope for the same today. We have to make strict laws. We have to give freedom to the Central Pollution Board. The law related to pollution will have to be strictly implemented in every State, because we are making a lot of mistakes in simplifying life and increasing pollution. We were told in Ramayana that Shri Ram went to exile. The area in which Ram ji went, is it forest today? Ram ji has not gone by destroying that forest, we humans have destroyed that forest completely. Today we can regenerate the forest where Shri Ram went. This power is in Hon. Modi ji and so I will say in the end - It is not too late to start a good beginning. We still have time and there is need to see, how to get rid of this pollution problem by utilizing the time properly.

**\*SHRI K. NAVASKANI (RAMANATHAPURAM):** Hon. Chairperson Sir. Thank you so much for giving this opportunity to speak on an important urgent matter which is the need of the hour. Climate change has put the whole world in the grip of fear. We are responsible for this. We as human beings have a role to play. We cannot deny this. Nature has cautioned us. It has given the alert. The Report of IPCC issued in Geneva says that in future we will be forced to live even our normal life in the midst of natural disasters. On one side we have floods. On the other side we have drought, cyclone, landslide, increase in sea level, heavy rains, forest fire, etc. Nature is giving us the caution in one way or other. Even if we can see it as a normal one which we witnessed in the recent past, even though we believe that we have early warning systems with the help of scientific technologies, the Scientists, even with the help of early warning systems, were not able to predict the heavy rains and the damage caused by the floods in Belgium and Germany recently. Climate changes which we faced in July 2021 have proved that what we have predicted was not the one which has taken place. In this background, IPCC has issued a Report in Geneva titled “Climate Change 2021- The Physical Science Basis”. This Report explains the Science behind the climate change and the scientific evidence proving the role of human beings solely the reason for climate change. The crux of the matter is that as per Paris Agreement, even though all the countries control the Green House Gas emissions, average temperature of the universe will increase by 3 degree Celsius at the end of this century. Scientists say that undoubtedly the Green House Gas concentration in the atmosphere after 1750 is only due to human activities. Due to the impact of global warming on water cycle, monsoon rainfall will be very much affected. This may result in heavy rainfall and drought, at some places both rainfall and drought take place continuously. People who are affected but these changes will

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\* English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

not be able to overcome from this. Due to increase in carbon emission, land as well sea will loose its power to absorb carbon. Due to the past and future emission of Green House gases, levels of sea as well as the glaciers may not be brought to the original level as they were before. This Report discusses with utmost seriousness the issues of climate change. This Report categorically states that even though we try to reduce emissions as per Paris agreement, our normal life will be in the midst of disasters. We should be trying to reduce carbon emissions and GHG emissions, besides adapting ourselves and our living places to escape from the disasters which may strike us in future. Every small emission by us will have an impact on this universe. Union Government should plan and execute the work according to the need of this hour keeping in view the ramifications of climate change. Union Government is rather only interested in starting hydro carbon projects besides the coal and uranium mines. Moreover the laws controlling such projects are being amended and diluted by this Union Government. Science has given us a red alert about the future of Indians. The Union Government has to understand the seriousness and work constructively in that direction. While delivering at the MSSRF annual function, Hon Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Shri M.K. Stalin said that his Government thinks the climate change and its impact on humanity as a serious issue. This lecture by the Hon Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu gave hopes to us. Union Government of India should also act in a responsible manner with a caring attitude. In India, heavy rains and flood taking place in different places are teaching us lessons of life. Floods have affected the coastal districts of Tamil Nadu, particularly Ramanathapuram district in my Ramanathapuram parliamentary constituency is a coastal district which is also affected by heavy rains. Farmers and fishermen are very much affected. At the time of natural disasters, fishermen are the most affected lot. Farmers are affected due to heavy rains and due to drought without any rainfall. Due to the efficient

administration and hard work of Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Shri M.K.Stalin and the swift action by the authorities under his leadership, Chennai recovered from the impact of heavy rains. But if we are not progressing further with precautionary measures besides finding solutions to the effect of climate change, there will be a disastrous effect waiting for us. Union Government should act swiftly in this regard protecting our nature. I should highlight here my concerns about the failures of the Union Government in protecting the environment. Draft Environment Policy 2020 brought by the Union Government last year has raised concerns among the environmental activist attracting their criticism. Starting the Organizations and Industries which may affect the environment has been made so easy through this Draft Environment Policy of 2020. Union Government has taken in its hand the power to exempt certain industries out of the purview of environment protection. Therefore the country is witnessing the fact that through the Draft Environment Policy this Government portrays clearly that it is not worried about the impact of climate changes. In the name of development, tribal people are being forced to move out of forest areas.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please conclude.

**SHRI K. NAVASKANI:** I want to state a sorry state of affairs. As per a Report, by 2030, 40 percent Indians will not be able to get drinking water in India. Several cities are facing water crisis even now. They are arranging to bring drinking water from outside the Cities. We cannot easily avoid this issue. On one side, the Cities get inundated with water due to heavy rains. Such cities are also facing water crisis. If this situation continues, we cannot even think of what will happen to the future generations due to the impact of climate change. It is not only an issue concerning a party or a State or a nation. It is rather a global issue. We should work together



constructively cutting across party lines in minimizing the ill effects of climate change.

Thank you.

**\*DR. THOL THIRUMAAVALAVAN (CHIDAMBARAM):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, Vanakkam. Climate change has become a threat to the humanity. It is an international issue. It is a crisis as well as a challenge faced by the humanity. Global warming is the biggest problem which we face today. Human beings are responsible for this. Earth is the only planet with a suitable temperature and climatic conditions where human beings and other living things can live. Every human being is having the responsibility to protect this mother earth which by itself is a rare opportunity to live. It is not only the issue of India but it is also an issue of the whole world. Not only Indians are facing these challenges, but every human being across the world is facing similar challenges due to climate change and global warming. We have different seasons like the summer, winter, autumn and spring. These seasons are now very much affected resulting in natural disasters. Humanity faces natural disasters in the form of heavy rain, heavy flood, severe cyclones, landslides, earthquakes, Tsunami etc. throughout the world. Scientists have advised us about these changes in nature due to the impact of global warming. We have to contain global warming. We have to reduce the increase in temperature. This is the responsibility which each one of us have to shoulder. Not only the Government, every citizen should understand his responsibility of protecting mother earth. We should be committed to work with the international community. We should be committed to fulfill our promises and assurances which we say by participating in the various conferences at international level.

The country is aware of the fact that the recent heavy rains in Chennai have made the city inundated in flood water. It is said that Tamil Nadu occupies 12th place in national level and Chennai City occupies 7th place. Pazhaverkadu or Pulicat

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\*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Lake is in Chennai. The land area between the Pazhaverkadu lake and the sea is diminishing day by day. Research scholars state that the reason is due to the effect of sea erosion. With this background, I should say here that the Union Government is trying to sell a port at a place called Kattupalli near Pazhaverkadu lake to a private player. There will be serious consequences in future. As many as 1 lakh people living in and around the areas of Pazhaverkadu lake will be affected due to the sale of Kattupalli port to a private player. In general, the people living near the seashore, those who are totally dependant on sea, are affected very much. They are the marginalized people. Keeping in view all these aspects, the proposal to start a new atomic power plant should be given up. Kattupalli port is being developed for handing over it to a private player. I urge that such corporate friendly activities should be given up by the Union Government. I, on behalf of Viduthalai Siruthaigal Katchi (Party) and on my personal behalf, want to stress this to every citizen of this country and the Union Government that the issue of global warming should be tackled by way of cooperation with the international community. We cannot play blame game with the nature as regards Climate Change. It is a big challenge to be faced by the whole humanity in a responsible manner. We should commit ourselves to work together with the Government in tackling the issues of climate change and global warming. Thank you for this opportunity.

*[English]*

**\*SHRI S. R. PARTHIBAN (SALEM):** Climate change is one of the main environmental challenges facing the world today. India is facing several problems. Climate change is associated with various adverse impacts on agriculture, water resources, forest and biodiversity, health, coastal management and increase in temperature. Decline in agricultural productivity is the main impact of climate change on India. A majority of population depends on agriculture, directly or indirectly. Climate change would represent additional stress on the ecological and socioeconomic systems that are already facing tremendous pressure due to rapid industrialization, urbanization and economic development. This paper analyzes the impact of climate change and its various aspects in the Indian context.

Now, I would like to talk of Greenhouse Gas emission from India. Climate change arising due to the increasing concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere since the pre-industrial times has emerged as a serious global environmental issue and poses threats and challenges to mankind. Climate change is increasingly recognized as one of the potential critical factors in sustainable development trajectories and there is an emerging international literature that considers methodological issues and empirical results of studies that explore interlinkages, trade-offs and synergies between the different policy areas involved.

On agriculture and food security, a recent World Bank report studied two drought-prone regions in Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra and one flood-prone region in Orissa on climate change impacts. It found that climate change could have the following serious impacts: in Maharashtra, sugarcane yields may fall dramatically by 25-30 per cent; in Orissa, flooding will rise dramatically leading to

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

a drop in rice yields by as much as 12 per cent in some districts. With melting glaciers, flood risks would increase in the near future. In the long-term, there can be no replacement for the water provided by glaciers that could result in water shortages on an unparalleled scale. Floods and drought are thus projected to multiply as a consequence of climate change. This will lead to a huge crop loss and leave large patches of arable land unfit for cultivation.

On water resources, I would like to state that India's rich water resources are unevenly distributed and result in spatial and temporal shortages. The demand for water has increased tremendously over the years due to an increasing population, expanding agriculture, and rapid industrialization which are responsible for considerable imbalance in the quantity and quality of water resources. According to the Ministry of Water Resources, the amount of water available per person in India decreased steadily from 3,450 cm in 1951 to 1,250 cm in 1999, and is expected to decline further to 760 cm per person in 2050. By the year 2050, the average annual runoff in the river Brahmaputra will decline by 14 per cent. If the current warming rates are maintained, Himalayan glaciers could decay at extremely rapid rates, shrinking from the present 5,00,000 km<sup>2</sup> to 1,00,000 km. by the 2030s. This is also a cause for concern when considering Himalayan hydropower as a partial solution to India's energy needs, as climate change will sharply reduce the effectiveness of the planned mammoth investments.

The health status of millions of people is projected to be affected through, for example, increases in malnutrition, increased deaths, diseases and injury due to extreme weather events, increased burden of diarrheal diseases, increased frequency of cardio respiratory diseases due to higher concentrations of ground-level ozone in

urban areas related to climate change, and the altered spatial distribution of some infectious diseases.

On increased temperatures and extreme events, the impact of climate variability and change, climate policy responses, and associated socioeconomic development will affect the opportunities for and success of climate policies. In particular, the socioeconomic and technological characteristics of different development paths will strongly affect missions, the rate and magnitude of climate change, climate change impacts, the capability to adapt and the capacity to mitigate.

On sea-level rise, I would say that the coastal ecosystem will be affected by sea-level rise and temperature increases. Heavily populated mega delta regions, in particular, will be at the greatest risk due to increased flooding. The changes in the Godavari, Indus, Mahanadi and Krishna coastal deltas will potentially displace millions of people. Projected sea level rise could damage aquaculture industries, and exacerbate already declining fish productivity. There will also be higher risks of increased frequency and intensity of coastal surges and cycles.

Climate change is expected to affect the human wellbeing in many different ways such as capital, ecosystem, disease and migration. Irrespective of the importance of the issue, it is not clear how to compute the value with the current state of the art of economics. A meaningful development involves at least transformation from agricultural to a non-agricultural economy reducing the dependence on agriculture. Since most of the labour force—about 70 per cent, directly and indirectly, depends on the sector for livelihood and employment, it is when this sector is more productive and ensures food self-sufficiency that it will release the necessary labour and capital for the manufacturing and service sectors. In the context of the current debate about climate hence it is necessary to show, far

from being inactive in India, that considerable actions in am of policies, programs and projects are being taken. Technology transfer can speed up the process and additional funds can accelerate government in energy conservation.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL (NAGAUR):** Hon. Chairperson, today a very important matter like climate change is being discussed in the House and I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the discussion on this important topic.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, first of all I would like to thank the hon. Speaker for giving time for this important discussion even two days ago, even today and accepted it as a detailed discussion, which is a very important topic in today's time.

Hon. Chairperson, climate change is a serious matter. The Government will have to take concrete steps in this matter with utmost seriousness. But it is regretted that there is a lot of delay in considering the suggestions given by our environmentalists, researchers to the Government regarding climate change, due to which we have to suffer from time to time.

The IPCC has admitted in its report that the earth is warming up everywhere, be it the Himalayas or the plains. The surface temperature is rising. The duration and effect of winter is decreasing. Within the next 20 to 30 years, around 2050, these climatic conditions may become more severe. Not only can this increase the risk of rain floods and high temperatures, rather, there may be a severe reduction in winter and fog in the coming times.

Hon. Chairperson, not only that, oxygen from the vegetation available inside the oceans is also decreasing, because the amount of acidity is increasing there. Strong conditions are being created for atmospheric carbon dioxide to rise to the surface.



Hon. Chairperson, Climate change is affecting the whole world, but as I have seen, its effect is visible in the local areas of Rajasthan. As the unbearable activities of each season are increasing, sometimes it is too cold and sometimes it is too hot. Talking about the events, the most prominent effect of climate change is being seen in the form of change in monsoon. Where there used to be a lot of rain, in today's time those areas are facing drought and not getting even average rainfall. The areas that used to have deficient rains are getting heavy rainfall.

Now the temperature of Rajasthan is increasing and the temperature has increased during the summer. This is also one of the reasons why the cold that should be there in winter is not there. During summer the temperature has started to rise even more. Due to increase in temperature in Rajasthan, more rain is also possible. Not only this, the shifting of rain is also being seen. Certainly there is a need for all of us to think and on this issue, India can play a leading role in the world.

Several research reports have pointed out that carbon dioxide emissions from cement manufacturing units have been found to be contributing about 7 percent of global carbon dioxide emissions, which is more than the Carbon dioxide emissions from all trucks around the world. Cement units not only increase the temperature of the earth, but also cause soil erosion and water pollution. According to the United Nations, air pollution causes 7 million premature deaths annually worldwide.

Hon. Chairperson, on the one hand, we blame the farmers for burning stubble and hold them responsible for pollution and on the other hand no action is taken on the real causes of pollution. In this context, I would like to remind the Hon. Minister that on one hand the Hon. Prime Minister is serious about climate change. On the other hand, the factors causing adverse effects on the environment are not taken into account with responsibility. In this context, I would like to draw your attention

regarding Environmental Clearance taken by Ambuja Cement Plant unit set up in Mundwa municipal area of my Parliamentary Constituency Nagaur on the basis of wrong facts. The location of the manufacturing unit was five hundred meters from the municipal limits of the said company, but it has submitted the distance of five kilometers. Many discrepancies were found in the assessment of water availability, biodiversity, land use and land cover and harmful effect on agriculture and I had informed the former Hon. Minister Javadekar ji with complete facts from one point to the other. He ordered an inquiry, but those who did the investigation, waited till the completion of the construction of the cement unit, they waited for seven-eight months for its completion at the earliest, so that there would be no problem. The laxity was shown and the investigation report was given in favour of the company and when I informed the present Hon. Minister about the matter, he told me to take reference of the earlier investigation. After all, why is the Government not able to understand the nexus between the company and the investigators in this matter? I request that if you get it re-examined then it will definitely be in public interest. No matter how big a company is, it cannot be bigger than the Government, cannot be bigger than the rules. Along with Ambuja Company, if we cancel the Environmental Clearance of such cement units, then only a strong message can be sent, otherwise environment protection will not be possible by just spending time giving speeches here.

Hon. Chairperson, I would like to draw your attention to the crisis on the existence of animals and birds. Animals and birds are also an important link in the ecology system. In our Rajasthan's Sambhar lake, where thousands of birds were killed last time, the Central team also went from there and the Rajasthan Government also made efforts. Many crows and exotic birds are coming to this place again. We are seeing every day through newspapers and television that birds are dying there.

Sambhar Lake is a very fine and the largest salt producing lake in the country, which is near Jaipur in Rajasthan. I demand that the Government should remove all the encroachment inside that area and all the encroachments inside the affected area. Hon. Minister Sir, please pay attention to this matter. Protect those birds and also increase the beauty of the lake. The lake is going to be of great use in times to come. It is a salt producing area and is also very important from the point of view of tourism.

Hon. Minister, we will also have to take strict steps to save the protected forest area, because saving the forest area will also prove to be effective in preserving the climate. I would request you that if you have received any letter regarding permission for mining in more than two hundred mines in Beriganga protected forest area of Jodhpur, Rajasthan, then do not approve it at once, you must get it inspected once. ... (*Interruptions*) Nature nurtures us, in return, we have to give priority to the care and protection of Nature. Hon. Chairperson, I will take only a minute or two more.... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, climate change is now not just a topic of scientific discussion but has come before the general public in the form of a question of survival. It is very important for me to know the seriousness of this subject because Rajasthan is very sensitive to the future hazards caused by climate change such as irregularities of rainfall, problem of ground water, problems of desertification. A report suggests that twenty six thousand tons of Covid related waste is polluting the world's oceans.

Sir, I would also like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the increasing pollution in irrigation and drinking water coming from Punjab supplied in the whole of Rajasthan through Indira Gandhi Canal. There are liquor and beer factories of many great Congress leaders along with the clothing factories of

Ludhiana because of which too much pollution is spreading in Rajasthan and thousands of people are becoming Cancer victims.

I would like to submit that the last time when lakhs of fish were killed in Beas River, the investigation team had gone from Delhi also. There was a Congress Government there, but nothing happened in it. Action should be taken on all there, this too had become a big issue.

Hon. Chairperson, it's my request to stop this. Today, the situation is serious due to increasing pollution in the rivers of the country including Ganga and Yamuna. Rivers are not only affected by pollution, but they are also affected by changes in their path, biodiversity loss, sand mining and shrinking of catchment areas.

Hon. Chairperson, after the disasters in Uttarakhand, questions have always been raised on the large dams and power projects constructed on the rivers. The Supreme Court has also expressed concern over this. Even the Ministry of Jal Shakti of the Central Government has admitted before the Supreme Court in the year 2016 that any new power project on the Ganga in Uttarakhand is a threat to the environment.

The Supreme Court had put a stay on 24 out of the 39 power projects in Uttarakhand after the Kedarnath tragedy in the year 2013. On December 13, 2014, the Supreme Court had asked why these power projects were not being scrapped if they posed a threat to the forest and the environment. Why is action not taken against the officials who approved them? There should be no compromise with environment in the development schemes.

I think we should be serious to save the Himalayas and other mountains.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please conclude.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL:** Sir, I am concluding by stating the issue of Jaipur at last. You must have seen the Ramgarh dam in our area. Contempt of the High Court and the Supreme Court was imposed on it. There was massive encroachment in the catchment area of Ramgarh dam. The High Court and the Supreme Court are repeatedly directing to remove the said encroachment. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Navneet Rana ji, please speak.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL:** Sir, I am concluding in half a minute. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Beniwal Sahab, please conclude.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL:** Sir, my last sentence is that encroachment from Ramgarh dam should be stopped. Be there any influential IAS officer or any leader, all kinds of encroachments should be removed. That's what I demand from the Government.

**SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA (AMRAVATI):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, first of all, we should thank you wholeheartedly, because it is very important to discuss the issue of climate change in the House which is taking place in the entire country as well as at global level. The issue related to environment is a matter of concern these days. Due to the increase in pollution and the depletion of ozone layer, all the countries in the world are worried about the environment. It is a great threat to human life. The earth's temperature is increasing every day. The sun's rays coming to the ground is affecting the eyes as well as the health. The garbage and filth dumped in the rivers is not only contaminating the water, but also spreading diseases. So we should worry about this serious issue, because it can be more dangerous in the future. I would like to request the Government that it should be discussed openly with the people.

Water has become the biggest issue for us today. In 2015, an international NGO called Water Aid issued a report. It was said in this report that 80 percent of the earth has been contaminated. Therefore, the Government is requested to launch a campaign across the country through the states to save water from getting contaminated. If we talk about Delhi, the water of Yamuna river has been completely contaminated. Drinking of this water is not safe even for animals. The Mithi river of Mumbai city flows in the heart of the city. That river is full of garbage and dirt. BMC shows expenditure of crores of rupees in the name of cleaning it and it indulges in corruption in this work. We should also talk about this and find some solution. Air quality in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra is deteriorating very fast. Delhi is one of the most polluted cities in the world. Delhi is the capital of the country, where there are offices of Parliament and senior officers. Everything is here. In Delhi, schools and colleges are closed due to pollution. If someone wants to come to Delhi, he would first ask about the pollution level in Delhi. People ask whether it is safe to

live here right now or not. Their first point of discussion is whether it is good for health or not.

Sir, if we talk about Mumbai, there has also been a drastic decline in air quality there. The average air quality index of B.K.C. of Mumbai had reached 202, which is the worst situation. If the air quality index is between 100 and 200, then it is considered an average. This serious matter should also be taken care of by the concerned Ministry of the Central Government. Petrol and diesel vehicles are increasing pollution on the roads on a large scale. It is harmful to our health. This is causing various types of disease. I would like to give a suggestion to the Central Government that huge subsidy should be provided on electric, CNG and solar vehicles to allure the general public to purchase pollution-free vehicles in place of petrol and diesel vehicles.

Sir, trees and plants are the most important part of our lives. I feel today major cities are being developed and forests are being cut. There is a tribal area in my Constituency. There we force the tribals to get them rehabilitated elsewhere. That area lacks the facilities that a city has. Infrastructure for roads and metro and all kinds of facilities should be there. When the tree is cut down there, no one shows concern about it. It is very important to be concerned about this.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, through you, I would like to request the Minister to think about it. Today, there are highways, railway lines and metros in the country. Alongwith it, multi-purpose companies are being set up, multi-national companies are coming up and big buildings are being constructed across the country. We should also think about all these issues.

Sir, through you, I would like to tell that today the condition of farmers is very bad in terms of climate. Earlier monsoon used to show its presence at a fixed time

and the farmers were prepared to sow their crops in a particular month. Today, due to unstable weather conditions, it is cold in the rainy season, sunshine in the winter and rain in the sunshine. It is very important to control situations like these. Our Government is working like that. The Hon. Minister has also done much work on this.

Sir, through you, I would like to request the Minister. The Modi Government has done commendable work in the last seven years through the National Mission for Clean Ganga. Like that, through you, it is my request to the Government that there should be a mission to clean the canals connecting the villages. This should be done across the country in collaboration with the States. By doing this, our villages will also be as clean and beautiful as cities and towns.

Sir, I would like to submit that there is a tribal reserve zone, bird sanctuary and eco-sensitive zone in my Constituency ... (*Interruptions*) where the general public is not allowed to go inside but it has become a stone crusher zone. The crusher zone area is most harmful to animals and birds. We have to keep the people who operate stone crushers away from the villages and forest areas. This may keep our forest safe. It is important to protect the animals, birds and tourists who come to visit this place.

A crusher company ...\* operates in Rajora, Parsoda, Masod and Ilna of Amravati Municipal Corporation. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please don't mention any name...\*

We understood what you were saying.

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\* Not recorded.



... (*Interruptions*)

**SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:** Because of this, the water level has depleted... (*Interruptions*) I would like to draw the attention of the Government that due to this, the water level in wells has also depleted. It is very important to control this. We have to work on this by giving emphasis to this topic. Then only we can address climate change. Thank you very much.

**SHRI CHANDESHWAR PRASAD (JAHANABAD):** Hon. Chairperson, today the world is facing a serious problem. Slowly, the adverse effects of this problem are appearing before the world. Currently, the global and regional effects of climate change have become a topic of debate.

Due to the adverse effects of climate change, many countries of the world are likely to be wiped off the world map and it is happening. During the last several decades, the increase in carbon dioxide is one of the main causes of climate change. The amount of carbon dioxide is continuously increasing in the environment since the time of the Industrial Revolution in the 18th century. Large amounts of sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) water vapor, dust particles and ash are dispersed in the atmosphere due to volcanic eruptions. Due to new technologies, food production has increased tremendously during the last half century but these technologies have led to a significant increase in greenhouse gases.

Excessive use of fossil fuels is also a big reason. The environment is getting polluted due to the adverse effects of climate change. Due to climate change, the temperature is increasing above the normal level. The continuous rise of sea levels may lead to natural disasters. Due to climate change, the possibilities of various kinds of disasters on human life have increased. At present, the adverse effects of climate change can be clearly seen. The expansion of deserts has become a major problem due to climate change. More problems have arisen due to further decline of water levels in areas that are already facing the problem of water scarcity.

The hon. Prime Minister is labourious and he has given many suggestions to prevent climate change. In Bihar, hon. Nitish Kumar ji has started a scheme named Jaljeevan and Hariyali and has shown a new way to the state. In this, measures have been suggested for the conservation of nature, increasing the number of trees and

plants, water conservation plans, and preventing the adverse effects of climate change. In Bihar, awareness about the environment and climate change is being spread extensively. This model of Bihar needs to be adopted by the whole world.

Many species of animals and plants are becoming extinct due to climate change. Other energy resources are being used to overcome the high temperature, due to which more gases are being emitted into the atmosphere. The occurrence of landslides and avalanches has become common due to the melting of glaciers. Glaciers have shrunk. The areas of plants and animals have been displaced and the flowering of trees is happening very quickly. Summer temperatures are expected to rise by 20-30 °C and rainfall is expected to decrease by about 15 percent. Recently, the IPCC has warned that the world will not survive if carbon emissions are not stopped. It is important to emphasize that.

I would like to say one thing, many MPs have expressed their views in the past and said that there is a great need to spread awareness regarding this. The IPCC has stated that by 2005 most of the world's electricity must be produced from low-carbon sources. This can be done. After this, the use of fossil fuels should be completely stopped without legislation, pact, capture and storage. Science has made its point. There is no doubt about it. Now the leaders or the government should take action. We don't have much time. They have said that first of all, we need to reduce the temperature. It is necessary to take immediate and extensive steps for this. The hon. Prime Minister is engaged in solving this problem along with the developed and developing countries of the world. It has to be solved. This is not the problem of one country or one person, but it is the problem of the whole world. Therefore, the solution to this also has to be done by the whole world together. Thank you.

*[English]*

**KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA (TURA):** Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak in this very important discussion on climate change.

Sir, at the outset, I would like to acknowledge some of the commitments made by the hon. Prime Minister in the COP-26 at Glasgow. The hon. Prime Minister committed that by 2070, India will ensure that its net carbon emissions will be zero; by 2030, India will ensure that 50 per cent of its energy is sourced from renewable energy; by 2030, India will reduce its carbon emissions by a billion tonnes; and by 2030, India will also reduce its emission intensity per unit of GDP by less than 45 per cent.

Also, there were some announcements made by the Prime Minister regarding supporting infrastructure in small island countries which must be appreciated. The One Sun One World One Grid group was also announced by our Prime Minister, which was led by India and must be acknowledged. Incidentally, the third promise made in India's NDC, which is about increasing the forest cover, did not find a mention in the hon. Prime Minister's speech and that is the only target that India is struggling to achieve. In the NDC, India has promised to create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 billion to 3 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent through forest and tree cover by the year 2030.

Sir, because of the paucity of time, I would like to focus on this issue and primarily in the context of my State of Meghalaya. Seventy-six per cent of Meghalaya is covered by forest and my State is a very biodiversity-rich hotspot. Our biodiversity heritage and reputation is at par with one of the world's most unique ecosystems and it contributes to one of the most significant carbon sinks for India,

which is crucial for our country in its bid to honour the pledges made at the Paris Accord and for realizing its global environmental commitments. It is very critical for all of us to understand that our forests and our biodiversity perform very important ecosystem services for the nation and for its people.

It is also this distinctive ecological profile of the Indo-Himalayan region that places us at the frontline of the climate change, a reality that is hurtling at us without any sign of stopping. I am taking a stand today to remind us that for the North-East and for the Indo-Himalayan region, which is significantly different from rest of the country geographically, our nation and environmental capital is one of the most significant wealth that should be dictating our development and growth doctrine of the future. Because of our unique ecological status, States like Meghalaya cannot afford to have a nature negative industrial growth and we need to attune and reconfigure our economic and social mindset to green our economies.

In this regard, I would like to flag the issue of the Palm Oil Mission which was announced or approved by the Cabinet in August, 2021, which is focussing primarily on the North-East and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. In 2020, the Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education had recommended that introducing the palm oil should be avoided in areas which are rich in biodiversity, and must be done after proper consultation.

I would request the hon. Minister to kindly reconsider this and go into a proper consultation process before heading for this mission in the North-East and in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands where our biodiversity is so rich.

I would also like to speak about the concept of environment State. This is something which is a newly minted idea by the Department of Environment and Forests, Government of Meghalaya under the leadership of our Minister, Mr. James

Sangma. It advocates the idea of environment first economies and social model for Indo-Himalayan region which houses forest economies and biodiversity hotspots like us. What does an environment State mean? It means we need to innovate and be the first in the world to integrate nature in all aspects of development and growth.

North-East can be a unique green laboratory for the world. Our young population and public sector leadership envisions Meghalaya to be a world- class case study on the green frontier for India to innovate on green technologies, green jobs and green economies which need to be implemented. On a regional level, Meghalaya aspires to be a leader to create a green block committed to finding solutions to fast depleting natural assets and rampant deforestation and climate dependent livelihoods. I am told that the market for climate solutions is about a few trillion dollars and this unique economic model plus political consensus can attract global technologies, industries and businesses to flock to the North-East Region.

The Forest and Environment Department of Meghalaya is currently working on mounting many initiatives in terms of linking and evolving livelihoods that are closely related to conservation, preservation and restoring of our ecosystems and are also inventorying our natural capital. Meghalaya is also evolving a green livelihood template and looking at innovative financial means to shore up green finances for protection of our forests and biodiversity.

Yesterday, I had attended a video conference where Mr. Erik Solheim was talking about how India is going to achieve the net zero target by 2070. He said that there are four major issues that need to be looked at, which are, renewable energy, electric mobility, greening of our country, and green agriculture. In terms of renewable energy and electric mobility, the Government has many policies and I would like to acknowledge those policies. Greening, protecting and increasing our

forest cover is also something that is being done by the Government and also at many State levels where these things are being pursued. There is an initiative in Bengaluru which says, 'Save Trees', which is meant for tree plantation.

Also, when we talk about greening our agriculture, I think we need to put more focus on organic farming where North-East play a very, very important role, and the examples that the North-East has given in States like Sikkim must be scaled up.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Now, please conclude within two or three sentences.

**KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA:** I also believe that in order to glue this whole concept together, it is very important for India to shift from a linear economy to a more circular economy. I am very happy to read about the Government's policies that have been activating policies and promoting projects to drive the country towards a more circular economy. It has already notified various rules such as plastic waste management rules, and construction and demolition waste management rules in this regard.

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation in its report has said that a circular economy trajectory would bring India an annual benefit of Rs. 40,00,000 crore and it would, in addition, reduce the negative externalities. Green house gas emissions, for example, would be 44 per cent lower in 2050 compared to the current development path.

We have very finite resources and I urge the Government to include the circular economy concept into the Aatmanirbhar Bharat and in the Smart Cities Mission. Sir, I am extremely passionate about this issue. So, I will request you to please give me a few more minutes. I am about to conclude my speech.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** No, it cannot be done. You have already been given 10 minutes to speak.

**KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA:** Can I conclude with a quote by Khalil Gibran which says, “Trees are poems the earth writes upon the sky, We fell them down and turn them into paper, so that we may record our emptiness.”

The crux of this is that ... (Interruptions)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** That was the best way to conclude your speech.

**KUMARI AGATHA K. SANGMA:** Sir, the conclusion is that I think the development today has to be re-considered and we cannot follow the western model of development. We have to work towards the well-being of the people and the planet at the same time.

With these words, I conclude my speech.



**\*SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL (JALGAON):** India is the only major country to be on track to achieve its targets set out in the landmark Paris Climate Agreement, according to the UN Environment Programme Emission Gap Report. For instance, India plans to reduce the emissions intensity of GDP – the volume of carbon emissions emitted for every unit of GDP – by around 35 per cent by 2030 from 2005 levels. The country is also nearing its goal of 2015 to achieve about 40 per cent share of non-fossil fuel-based electricity generating capacity, which the government expects to be achieved by 2023; seven years ahead of schedule.

India is extremely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and significant measures are needed to build climate resilience and assist communities with adaptation. Several programmes are already underway in many parts of India, often in partnership with local financial institutions and, at grassroots level, with non-governmental organisations that are working with local communities for project implementation.

Through corporate social responsibility programmes and other initiatives, Indian industry is also promoting sustainable livelihoods and infrastructure development across the country. Additionally, there are measures that India can take to promote sustainable and inclusive growth in a less carbon- intensive manner. Many of these actions will have to be designed and implemented by industry and civil society. Recognizing the important role that non- state actors must play in shaping India's response to climate change, the Government of India is taking steps to make this an inclusive and consultative process and is inviting the participation of all communities, non-governmental organizations and the industries.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

As a populous and tropical developing country, India faces a bigger challenge in coping with the consequences of climate change than do most other countries. Climate change is a global phenomenon but with local consequences. There are both external and domestic dimensions to India's climate change policy which has been articulated through two key documents. One is the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) adopted on 30th June, 2008. The other is India's Intended Nationally Determined Commitments (INDC) submitted to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2 nd October, 2015. Essentially, the NAPCC has focus on the domestic situation. The INDC is a statement of intent on climate change action announced in the run up to the Paris Climate Change Summit held in December the same year. The NAPCC incorporates India's vision of ecologically sustainable development and the steps to be taken to implement it. It is based on the awareness that climate change action must proceed simultaneously on several intimately inter-related domains, such as energy, industry, agriculture, water, forests, urban spaces and the fragile mountain environment.

There are national missions on solar energy, enhancing energy efficiency, creating a sustainable urban habitat, conserving water, sustaining the fragile Himalayan ecosystem, creating a green India through expanded forests, making agriculture sustainable and creating a strategic knowledge platform for serving all the national missions. The NAPCC acknowledged that climate change and energy security were two sides of the same coin that India had to make a strategic shift from its current reliance on fossil fuels to a pattern of economic activity based progressively on renewable sources of energy such as solar energy and cleaner sources such as nuclear energy. Such a shift would enhance India's energy security and contribute to dealing with the threat of climate change. Thus, a co-benefit approach underlies India's climate change strategy.

The NAPCC constitutes India's response to climate change based on its own resources but it recognizes that it is intimately linked to the parallel multilateral effort, based on the principles and provisions of the UNFCCC, to establish a global climate change regime. We have to build resilience in our economy, infrastructure and social systems to deal with the increasing impacts of extreme weather events. At the same time, we have to act on mitigation measures. While taking strong and bold steps to mitigate the climate crisis, the government should also invest in preparedness, risk management and ensure measures for adaptation. This is the time when India could lead the path and give a strong message to the global community that this is the moment to rise up, scale up and speed up climate action.

**SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN (KOTTAYAM):** Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this very important discussion on climate change.

Given the rate of change in climate in our country as well as globally, we are likely to face irreversible impacts that will be a doom for the entire humanity, not only for the current generation, but for the future generations to come. Therefore, my humble submission is that remedial actions on climate change should not be limited to international conferences or declarations or statements in the media. Tangible and visible actions should come before we reach the doomsday. We all are responsible to the future generations. They should not blame us. Let us not be complacent. Increasing heat waves, droughts, erratic rainfall during the recent years are indicators. Depletion in the glaciers due to global warming has resulted in the rise of sea level. We should expect frequent and intense heat waves, extreme rainfalls and erratic monsoons as well as more and more cyclones along with other weather related calamities in the coming decades, as indicated by a report released by IPCC.

There are various multi-dimensional aspects which I wish to present to the House regarding this subject. But due to very limited time, I only press upon one issue. All the major democracies in the world conducted special sittings and sessions in their Parliaments or elected bodies to discuss this issue. I appreciate the initiative taken by this House to have a discussion on this topic under Rule 193. I also urge upon the Government to have a special session to have a discussion on this issue.

The recently concluded Conference of Parties (COP), attended by the world leaders from around 200 countries in the first week of November, 2021 held at Glasgow, Scotland, resolved to take tough measures to address the factors leading to climate change. Our hon. Prime Minister and hon. Minister of Environment,

Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav Ji and distinguished delegations were part of this declaration.

Forests are natural sink of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases which are the primary reason for climate change. There is a Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 which was enacted by this Parliament. The objective of this Act is to protect and conserve forests. We have about 19 per cent of the geographical area with forest cover in our country. In my State of Kerala, it is about 30 per cent. We could achieve the task of forest conservation through the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act. However, in Kerala, there is a perpetual human-animal conflict due to which heavy loss of human lives and damage to agricultural crops is happening frequently.

As far as some of the North Indian States are concerned, the forest cover is only 4-5 per cent. The national average of 19 per cent is maintained only due to the large forest cover in the South Indian States. At the same time, all of us are the sufferers.

It is understood that the Government is intending to amend the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 with new provisions that promotes only deforestation. In the name of infrastructure development, large-scale deforestation is intended wherein the scale of climate change will definitely escalate. Therefore, I would urge upon this House not to take any measures, which are a threat to the forests. At the same time, States like Kerala -- wherein the forest cover is much more than the national average -- the people or farmer-friendly steps are to be explored and evolved so that the equilibrium is maintained.

All of us in this House might be knowing about the CAMPA Fund. This is a Fund deposited by the people who cut trees and forests through legally- permitted means. This Fund is to be utilized for afforestation measures so that loss of forest is

compensated appropriately. On 6th of this month, there was an UnStarred Question No. 1288 and as per the answer given by the hon. Minister to it, the CAMPA Fund collected from all the States up to 07/10/2021 was Rs. 48,606 crore. But, unfortunately, the utilization of this Fund is only Rs. 9,800 crore. This Fund is to be utilized for having more and more afforestation, and if it is not being utilized, then it is going to affect our climate. This Fund is lying unutilized with the Ministry of Environment and Forest for several years. We promote cutting of trees and forest without taking any measure for compensatory afforestation. Therefore, I would urge upon the hon. Minister to provide a time bound and visible action plan on the utilization of CAMPA Fund.

Lastly, as I had stated at the outset, our actions should not be limited to conferences, discussions and declarations, but these have to be put into practice in letter and spirit so that the impact of climate change can be minimized. Thank you, Sir.

**SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA):** Thank you, Chairperson, Sir. Climate change is a global phenomenon that is the sum total of the activities caused by rampant industrialization, deforestation, emission of harmful gases and exploitation of nature in every possible way in man's greed. It is unfortunate that the developing nations like India are being blamed for changes in climate when the responsibility of degradation of environment was caused by the developed world in its relentless pursuit for profit and greed.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister, through you, to the alarming fact that as of 2015 the United States bore responsibility for 40 per cent of excess global carbon-dioxide emissions. The Group of Eight, namely, the United States, European Union, Russia, Japan and Canada is responsible for 85 per cent of such carbon-dioxide emissions, and the Global North defined as the United States, Canada, Europe, Israel, Australia, New Zealand and Japan is responsible for 92 per cent.

In absolute contrast, the Global South - which is by far bearing the brunt of climate change in the form of floods, famines, storms, and sea level rise resulting in deaths - is responsible for just eight per cent of excess global carbon dioxide emissions. Suffering is caused by the rich and developed nations and environmental colonialism by the West. Tremendous damage is caused to the world for which the developing nations are made to pay. This situation must change and the western world must own responsibility and ensure norms to reduce their emissions are followed, and then attempt to teach India about climate change.

Anyone who is criticizing India must also look at the fact that India has contributed much less to global warming than other large countries, on a per capita basis. Although its energy use and coal consumption are growing rapidly, the

country is also emerging as a leader in renewable energy. India is rapidly turning to clean energy and alternative energy and this effort by India will have a positive impact in future when it comes to reversing effects of climate change.

**15.00 hrs**

I am not going into the data as data is already available. Many hon. Members have mentioned different kinds of data. Therefore, I am not repeating the same. The data clearly states that the United States emits 25 per cent, the European Union emits 22 per cent, China emits 13 per cent, contributing to the cumulative emissions. India just contributes three per cent of emissions. The West is trying to malign India as a massive polluter. It is nothing but hypocrisy and deception.

Since climate change is a matter that affects everyone, let me bring to your attention the issues faced by the people of Puttanad and Munroe island in my Lok Sabha constituency Mavelikkara in Kerala.

I would like to draw the kind attention of the Minister, through you, to Munroe Thuruth island. In Malayalam, 'island' means 'Thuruth'. So, Munroe island is Munroe Thuruth. It is a group of eight islets over an area of 13.1 sq.km. located in Chittumala Block of Kollam District; it is a continuous settlement known globally for its unique topology and is also a major tourist attraction besides being an agrarian zone.

Munroe Thuruth island is now facing threat to its very existence due to a host of factors including ground subsidence, upward seepage of saline water during high tide events as well as flooding. These factors combined have decimated the coconut production, paddy cultivation, and aquaculture leading to a significant crisis affecting livelihood and the very survival of about 10,000- strong population. Paddy



cultivation over the last two decades have drastically declined resulting in a loss of about of 200 hectares due to saltwater intrusion and flooding.

Various reports by expert committees including, the Expert Committee Report of 2015 by the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment, the Sixth Report by the Committee on Environment, Kerala Legislative Assembly and several studies highlight the ecological disaster awaiting this Munroe Thuruth island. It is a very serious matter. We are facing a very serious crisis. Whenever there is change in climate, around 10,000 families are facing problem in this area.

So, the people of Munroe Island are affected because of global warming, climate change and uncertainties in climate. The Government needs to take immediate steps in promulgating an environmental safety and livelihood protection master plan for revitalizing Munroe Thuruthu. The Government should give compensation for the residents whose houses have been submerged, rehabilitate the residents, and protect the livelihoods at the earliest.

I would further suggest that the remedial measures including raising mangroves along the river bank and the backwaters to regulate shoreline erosion and ensuring a sufficient passage of fluvial sediments from the Kallada river may also be conceived as probable mitigating measures. Munroe Thuruthu in Kerala is equivalent to Sundarbans' Mangroves as both are affected by ground submergence, receding soil, and seepage.

I would also bring the attention of the hon. Minister through you, Sir, to the devastating floods of 2018, recurring floods, and recurring water logging that are making Kuttanad Taluk, in Alleppey district, an uninhabitable place. The people are unable to live or engage in their livelihood in such harsh conditions. The ravaging floods of August, 2018 was unprecedented on many counts in terms of destruction

and in terms of the incompetency of the State Government that aggravated the loss of life and plight by the State Government's inept response. In 983 villages, about 55 lakh people suffered the onslaught of the flood, 435 people succumbed, 14 people went missing, 2.28 lakh homes were damaged, and 59000 hectares of agrarian land got imperilled. The magnitude of the disaster is unparalleled with that of other States in the recorded history. Adding to this, for the recurring floods, both the State and the Central Government have not given a fair compensation to the State.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please conclude now. Danish ji, please listen carefully.

**SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:** Sir, there are two places in my constituency. I have already talked about Munroe Thuruthu. Another one is Kuttanad. Everybody knows that it is below sea level. From time to time, we are facing flood situation whenever the climate is changing in the Arabian Sea. In the Arabian Sea, the water level is increasing and the people are facing the problem. Still, water is there in the houses of the people in Kuttanad. I would like to request the hon. Environment Minister to take some measures to avoid the situation in Kuttanad and Munroe Thuruthu.

*[Translation]*

**SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL (BHATINDA):** Thank you, Hon. Chairperson. When we are talking about climate change, it is very important for a country that is dependent on agriculture. *[English]* Agriculture is the backbone of our country. I come from the state of Punjab and agriculture is the backbone of Punjab. Climate change directly impacts agriculture. Its most important impact is on agriculture.

*[Translation]*

As all my colleagues have pointed out, the biggest impact of climate change is on agriculture. Everyone said that the areas where there used to be drought have rain now due to climate change. The areas which used to have hail storms started to experience drought. If we talk about climate change along with Covid, it also has some impacts. What I mean to say is that Punjab has been affected by climate change. This greatly impacts an agricultural state.

Along with this, there are many other reasons as well. But we often see every year that in the month of October, the time of Diwali and harvesting season, the message is spread extensively that the farmers of Punjab have polluted the atmosphere across the country especially Delhi through stubble burning. I can talk about my state. The thing is that, whether it is Punjab or any other agricultural state, farmers have been burning their stubble for centuries. The area of Punjab or area of cultivation has not increased but for the last few years, the reason for this pollution is told to be because of the farmers of Punjab or Haryana. We need to get to the root of this problem.

The reality is that in the 1960s, when there was shortage of food grains in our country, we had to..... \* food grains from foreign countries. At that time the hard working farmers from the States like Punjab gave everything to make the country rich in food. Even today the country is rich in food grains. The largest contribution in wheat and paddy production is from Punjab and Haryana States. This small state, which has only two percent of the country's land, feeds the world's largest population. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** ... \* the word is derogatory, it may be expunged.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL:** Sir, which word?

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The word... \* is not correct for the country. Please continue, it will be expunged.

... *(Interruptions)*

**SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL:** Sir, in the year 1960, what was fed to the animals was imported into the country. ... *(Interruptions)*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** You please speak, please continue.

**SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL:** It's ok. Please expunge it. ... *(Interruptions)* To make the country rich in food grains, our farmers worked diligently and in the process of bringing green revolution, our ground water got depleted there. Today it should be seen that whether it is air, water or soil, due to the contamination of all these, even clean drinking water is not available, diseases like

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\* Not recorded.

cancer are also spreading a lot. All kinds of input cost of the farmer, like diesel rates have gone up, the rates of medicines, fertilizers, pesticides have gone up a lot and they don't even get the full MSP.

In such circumstances the farmer is compelled, because he has to plant the next crop, burn his stubble. What other options does he have? When he burns stubble, an FIR is registered against him under the new law and a fine is imposed. For the farmer who is feeding the entire country, it is the job of the Government to provide him some alternative. That alternative is not provided, but he/she is maligned of poisoning the air of the whole country. Sir, before poisoning Delhi's air, he/she himself/herself is breathing the same air, isn't it? He/she is facing the biggest loss.

I mean to say that defaming the farmers should be stopped and the alternative should be found. In my area in the year 2015, the Government had laid a foundation stone for making ethanol from stubble. Six years have passed, that stone is the same as it is, nothing has happened there. So many things can be produced from stubble. Electricity can be produced from stubble. The Government has made a lot of commitments in COP26 in Glasgow. In order to fulfill these commitments, you must think about the stubble. Instead of burdening the farmer, give him subsidized machinery like Happy Seeder, Lotter etc. Do not burden him with all these things.

In November 2021, the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change stated that stubble burning is not a major contributor to the deteriorating environment in Delhi. SAFAR - System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research also said that stubble has absolutely negligible impact on AQI. When the ministry itself is saying this about stubble and showing all this data, then why does the Government defame the farmers every time?

Sir, I would especially like to ask the Delhi Government, the Aam Aadmi Party Government, because they say something else in Punjab and abuse the farmers in Delhi that they have contaminated the air of Delhi. I demand from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to bring a white paper so that it can be known what is the reason for Delhi's pollution? The deterioration of air quality is due to so many illegal colonies and so many vehicles. The stubble is being burnt for centuries, but pollution has started spreading only a few years ago. The Supreme Court has ordered the Government to give one hundred rupees per quintal to small farmers to find an alternative to stubble burning. The Supreme Court gave the order three years ago, but till date no farmer has been given even a twenty five paisa coin. Instead of registering an FIR against the farmers and sending them to jail, why not jail the ministers, chief ministers or officers of such Governments, who are trying to defame the farmers instead of helping them. That's why I make a strong appeal today that our party has tried in every way to help the farmers, whether it is setting up *Mandis* and waiving off their electricity bills. Today, the fine is being imposed on them or they are being sent to jail for burning stubble which is not right. In the year 2019, FIRs were registered against 2000 farmers. Such burden should not be put on the farmers, because in a city like Delhi where there is pollution due to vehicles and industry, farmers of Punjab should not be blamed. The Government must pay attention on this and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change should provide the means to the farmers, so that they can manage their stubble and they cannot be blamed for pollution in the environment.

**\*SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA (PRATAPGARH):** I want to express my views on climate change under Rule 193. Today, climate change is one of the biggest problems facing humanity in the 21st century. It has created a crisis in human life. If necessary steps are not taken on time, it will be too late and our future generation will have to face serious problems. According to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, "Climate change is the change in the composition of the global environment directly or indirectly by human activities. If we want to save our future generation from the adverse effects of climate change, then we have to act and have to work on it and have to take concrete steps. As it is a matter of life and death for the next generation.

Our Government, under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, is also working in this direction rapidly. The announcements made by the Prime Minister at the recently concluded COP 26 in Britain show the seriousness of our Government towards climate change.

- Net Zero by the year 2070.
- Target to generate 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030.
- By the year 2030, the target will be to produce 50 percent of the country's total required energy from renewable energy sources.
- Reduction in carbon emissions by 1 billion tonnes by 2030.

India ranks fourth in the world in terms of carbon emissions. China, America and the European Union emit more than us. If we talk about carbon emissions per capita, then an Indian emits 1.9 tonnes of carbon, while the American emits 15.5

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

tonnes and a Russian 12.5 tonnes, which is much higher than us. Our population constitutes 17 percent of the world's total population but our share in total Carbon Emission is just 5 per cent. Being a developing country, we have to formulate our policies related to Climate Change keeping in mind our own development. We are doing our all essential works by balancing our economical interests and environment. We have set an example by declaring Net Zero Emission by 2070. We take care not only of ourselves but also of the whole world. We follow the principle of "*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*" which means that the entire world is a family.

Today, our Government is augmenting the capacity of power generation through the New and Renewable Energy sources. India's power generation capacity through the New and Renewable Energy sources has increased by 25 percent during the last seven years. Mahatma Gandhi had said, "Be the change which you want to see in the world." The developed nations of the world are escaping from their responsibilities, but India has been working incessantly towards the wellbeing of the entire world. During the Paris Climate Agreement, it was stated to create a fund of 1 Billion USD for fighting Climate Change, but the developed countries are not serious about this.

Today's youths are serious about the Climate Change, because it has started showing its adverse effects. Be it uncertain rains, increasing hot weather, rapid melting of glaciers, all these incidents are the outcomes of Climate Change. The incidences of heavy floods in recent past in the countries like - India, China and Russia are the impacts of the Climate Change only. During the past few years, the temperature in Europe raised to such a high level that all previous records got broken. The Forest Fire of Australia occurred last year caused large scale destruction to the Wild Animals and Plants. None of the spheres of life is immune to Climate Change.



From health to agriculture, its effects are witnessed by all walks of life. According to World Health Organisation, the health related issues like Malaria, Heat Stress, Malnutrition etc will increase due to Climate Change and it is estimated that more than 2,50,000 deaths may occur between the year 2030 – 2050.

The energy production through the New and Renewable Energy sources is being increased and the use of fossil fuel is being reduced by our Government. The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi founded the “International Solar Alliance” in 2015, the first meeting of which was held in New Delhi. Today, this alliance has more than 100 member countries and recently, USA became its 101<sup>st</sup> member. Countries across the globe are becoming the members of this organization and are working together for increasing the production of solar energy. Even the United Nations Organisation has recognized the significant contributions of our legendary Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. The United Nations Organisation had conferred the Prime Minister with the prestigious “Champions of the Earth” award in the year 2018.

Our Government is also working by adhering to the guidelines of National Action Plan on Climate Change. The Government is committed to inclusive and sustainable development. If we believe the International Organizations, the Climate Change will hit the weaker and poor section more severely than others and will cause the number of the “Climate Migrants” to increase. Our Government is ensuring security to the poor and weaker sections of our society and concerned about protecting the interests of the coastal population.

*[English]*

**SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK):** Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I will start with air pollution, as has been just mentioned here. *[Translation]* An order of the Green Tribunal was promulgated many years ago relating to vehicles that the vehicles that have plied for more than 10 years should be out of road. A vehicle could be used for five years more, if it is registered outside the NCR. This is a blanket ban order. There is no limitation how many kilometres the vehicles would have run, whether they are pollution free or not. Only a blanket order has been promulgated. I would like to put my opinion against the order, because, all four wheelers do not cause pollution. Some vehicles start polluting even after two to three years, but they have been exempted and a time limit of 10 years has been fixed for those vehicles.

*[English]* I think it was done without applying adequate mind on this aspect, and, in a way, one can allege that it is only to promote the automobile sector that all automobiles will be thrown away from roads after 10 years. It is a Green Tribunal order. My request to the Government is that it should bring out a new law or go to the Supreme Court for reconsideration of this order. *[Translation]* Because earlier, checking for Vehicle Pollution was carried out even in the campus of our Parliament House. *[English]* You may fix a limit. *[Translation]* How much pollution will a vehicle cause if it has not run even 1 Lakh Kilometers in 10 years? If it causes pollution, it must be removed. All such arrangements should be made to curb the increasing level of pollution.

*[English]*

The second thing which I would like to mention is, we are having incessant rains, and heavy cloud bursts. I have witnessed it, like the most people who were

there in Odisha in 1982. Hirakud Dam Reservoir was created to check flood in the Mahanadi. But this cloud burst was in the lower part of Hirakud reservoir. A huge amount of flood water came into Mahanadi. It was going to inundate Cuttack and a large part of coastal Odisha. Breaches were made and it created a terrible havoc in 1982. There was a super cyclone of 1999, which affected 14 districts of Odisha. But after that, invariably, Odisha has witnessed cyclone one year and flood next year. That is how, for the last two decades Odisha has been ravished by floods and cyclones. What do people living in Odisha say? They say, we do not have monsoon rains any more. Every time when it rains, it is the low pressure in Bay of Bengal that brings rain into Odisha. This year, particularly, we did not have adequate rain in the months of Ashada and Sravana that is the months of July and August. That is why paddy saplings were planted a little later, that is in the month of September. A large part of land was not cultivated at all. Now, when the paddy was going to be harvested, suddenly we had two subsequent heavy rainfall and cyclone which has flattened the total paddy field. The farmers are practically crying every day, and they do not know what to do.

Why I am saying this is, the climate change has a direct impact on us. This reminds me of a small book which most of the families in our villages, and some city dwellers also, have. It is called in Odiya, 'Khanar Bachan'. It is actually about a treaty which was entered into by the Princess, who got married to a Prince of Utkal. She was from the Sinhala, the present Sri Lanka. By looking at the sky, stars, and the night sky she used to tell what would be the atmosphere like, or when will rains come, and what will happen. What type of mahamari or epidemic may come? She used to predict that, and that became her curse also. Since she was predicting the future, some people got together and asked her in front of the King, that means her Father-in-Law, as to how long the King is going to live. She predicted it, and that is

how it was decreed that her term should be clipped so that she will not predict any more because whatever she was saying was becoming true. Still, treaties are there, and people read it. They also study celestial bodies.

The matter regarding 'Installed power capacity in MW' was discussed in COP26. I have got a list of the States. This is the Report of the Central Electricity Authority.

Even today, a large number of States in our country have more than 50 per cent of the capacity of their energy being produced from thermal power. There are very few States which have energy being produced from renewables, including solar, wind, bio-energy, small hydro, and large hydro.

The hon. Prime Minister has given 50 years' time that by 2070, we will come to 'net zero'. I think, it is necessary that we have to make a plan to bring down the thermal energy production, at least, the first stage, to below 50 per cent and increase the other renewable energy or the small and large hydro energy to 50 per cent.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, in simple words, climate change is a long-term change in the average weather patterns that have come to define Earth's local, regional, and global climates. As per the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 'climate change' means a change of climate which is attributed, directly or indirectly, to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and which is, in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time period. It is important to highlight that 'climate change' and 'global warming' are two different phenomena and these two terms have distinct means. 'Global warming' refers to a long-term heating of Earth's climate system observed since the pre-industrial period, that is, between 1850 and 1900.

The Conference of the Parties -- we term it as COP -- is the supreme body of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Session of COP is organised annually. So far, 26 Sessions of COP to UNFCCC have been held. The 26 th COP which was held in Glasgow from 30th October, 2021 to 13th November, 2021 related to two instruments, that is, Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement.

Before coming to that, I must talk about the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The Climate Conference, which was held in Geneva in 1990, issued a strong statement highlighting the risk of climate change. The Global Climate Action started with the adoption of the UNFCCC at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development at Rio de Janeiro in 1992. Today, the international environment treaty provides guidance to the world for governing actions to combat climate change through adoption of mitigation efforts directed to control of emission of greenhouse gases that cause global warming.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, in this House, we had discussed climate change when Shri Somnath Chatterjee was in the Chair and invariably, most of the hon. Members from different political parties, had participated in that discussion and that must have been discussed in the other House also. We have repeatedly discussed the subject of climate change. I am glad that the hon. Speaker has also allowed this House to deliberate on this subject. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, it is now 03:30 p.m.

*[Translation]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Honourable Members, it is the time for Private Members Business. Bhartruhari Mahtab Sahab is speaking and thereafter, three more Members have to speak. Let their discussions get completed, then we will proceed with Private Members Business. If you all agree to it, then we will do this.

**SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS:** All right, Sir.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** OK. Mahtabji, please continue with your discussion. *[English]*

**SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:** Thank you, Sir. However, many developing countries, including India, announced voluntary mitigation goals. India, in 2010, announced its voluntary goals to reduce the emission intensity of its GDP by 20-25 per cent from 2005 levels by 2020. We have taken a number of measures which have resulted in the decline of emission intensity of our GDP by 20 per cent between 2005 and 2016. That means four years before, we have come to the agreement or *[Translation]* we kept our promise which we had made at that time.

*[English]*

Another one is the Paris Agreement – an instrument which is legally binding for governing the post-2020 Global Climate Action. India has ratified this on 2nd October, 2016. India's historical cumulative emissions and per capita emissions are very low despite being home to more than 17 per cent of global population. I remember that as a member of a delegation from the Indian Parliament, I had participated in the Copenhagen Summit that was led by the then hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh.

Dr. Swaminathan also was in that delegation. Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi also was in the delegation. And Shri Sitharam Yechuri also was in that delegation. I was privileged to be in that delegation. Also there, India insisted that cumulative emission and per capita emission are very low in India. During that time, European Union was in sitting. It is not per capita. It should be on a different scale. Here, I should mention that this House should express its appreciation to hon. Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change for tirelessly, he and his team has worked on COP-26. The outcomes demonstrate their effort.

Hon. Prime Minister, at COP-26, expressed to intensify India's efforts to address the challenge of climate change by presenting to the world five nectar elements (Panchamrit) of climate action by India.

What are these five nectar elements? They are (i) India will take its non- fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030; (ii) India will meet 50 per cent of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030; (iii) India will reduce the total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now till 2020; (iv) by 2030, India will reduce the carbon intensity of its economy by less than 45 per cent; and (v) by the year, 2070, India will achieve the target of net zero.

These are our commitments which the Prime Minister made on an international platform. Therefore, today, there is a need for climate justice and climate friendly lifestyles to safeguard future generations and the planet from the impacts of climate change.

Singling out coal will not serve the purpose. I think that was the major point which our Minister has put forth in that Conference. India's argument that other fossil fuels used by rich nations are equally responsible for emission is logical.

Recently, we have witnessed heavy rains that have flooded major Southern cities. When climate negotiations were going on in Glasgow, Delhi declared a public health emergency on account of air pollution.

For the first time in the history of the world, more people live in towns and cities than in rural areas. In India, cities continue to experience shocks such as floods in Chennai (recently and also in 2015), heat waves (such as the one in Ahmedabad in 2010 that claimed more than 1000 lives) and water scarcity (such as in Maharashtra in 2016 when water had to be carried in on trains).

Therefore, comprehensive climate action plans need to be produced and those who run the cities have the knowhow to execute them. Before, I conclude, let me ask a question to hon. Minister.

Is it true that India will require approximately one trillion US dollars by 2030 to achieve national goal on climate change which was announced at Glasgow recently?

We can do it and that is why, I have factored in this figure. We would like to have an answer from the Minister.



*[Translation]*

**\*SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO (JAMSHEDPUR):** The world is facing a serious problem today. The adverse effects of this problem are gradually surfacing before the world. The problem is, Climate Change. It has become a burning issue at present due to global and regional effects of Climate Change. Due to its adverse effects, many countries will vanish from the world map. Hence, it has turned into a grave problem and now, all countries of the world will have to overcome the problem of Climate Change. Climate Change refers to any variation in the climate with the time, either due to Natural variability or due to human activities. Climate Change is an important and perpetual change in the statistical distribution of weather pattern over decades or millions of years. Climate Change may be confined to a special area or may take place throughout the globe. The concentration of the Green House Gases especially that of the Carbon Dioxide during the past many decades, has increased due to unchecked use of Coal and other fossil fuels in power production at Thermal Power Plants. Its concentration in the environment has been rising consistently since the Industrial Revolution in 18<sup>th</sup> Century.

The production of foodgrains has increased very sharply during the last half century because of the use of the latest technologies in the field of agriculture. But these technologies have caused rapid growth in Green House Gases, especially in Methane and Nitrous Oxide. Green House Gases are increasing due to tillage of Paddy Fields, intestinal fermentation in Cattle and use of Nitrogen Free Fertilizers. Methane Gas is released during cultivation of the Paddy Fields which adversely affects the environment.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

The possibilities of the human life being affected by various disasters have increased due to Climate Change. The impact of Climate Change can be clearly observed at present. While on the one hand, the developed countries take the natural resources as the source of consumption, luxury and development by ignoring the sustainability of Earth; on the other hand, the planet and the natural resources are viewed as Life Supporting System by the agriculture based developing countries. The developed nations have been reluctant to bear the financial burden of developing nations in their fights against the Climate Change. This conference intends to take positive action on different aspects of Climate Financing, but it is necessary to develop a clear understanding among the developed and developing nations to achieve success.

The identification of problem, its estimation and monitoring the challenges related to better coordination and management etc are necessary. For this, the entire world will have to work together and I am confident that India, under the leadership of our Hon. Prime Minister will play a stellar role in tackling the grave problem like Climate Change.

**KUNWAR DANISH ALI (AMROHA):** Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on such an important discussion. We sit and talk in the most polluted city in the country. During the winter season, there is so much pollution in Delhi that children find it difficult to breathe. We don't just talk about our place, the country we were born in, our culture is of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', the earth is one family, and that is why we should talk about the whole world. I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister for presenting India's case in Glasgow. But at the same time, we expressed our inability to cut the greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 around the world. Our government has said in Glasgow, as much as I know that [*English*] net zero emission by 2070 [*Translation*] we have probably said this. China has also become one of the most polluting countries. They have also said 2060. We have discussed many times here that we have to move forward on other sources of energy. Inexpensive electricity is being generated from other sources. We should reduce the use of coal as soon as possible. We know that solar energy and wind power plants generate electricity from about 2 rupees 45 paise to three rupees per unit. While the electricity generated from coal costs from three rupees 40 paise to three and a half rupees, which is quite expensive. But what is the reason that we are more dependent on coal? We know how a big corporate house in India bought a big coal mine inside Australia in the past. Is that the reason we are talking about relying more on the electricity produced from coal? ... (*Interruptions*) I didn't even name anyone, so what is bothering you? ... (*Interruptions*) I didn't take ...\* name. Why do they, why do they start making unnecessary noises? ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Member, don't listen to anything. Address only the Chair.

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\* Not recorded.

... (*Interruptions*)

**KUNWAR DANISH ALI:** Sir, I'm addressing you. They shouldn't be so upset, it is guilty conscience pricks the mind. ... (*Interruptions*)

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Your statements go on record.

... (*Interruptions*)

**KUNWAR DANISH ALI:** Sir, what I am saying is that today our children are troubled, those who are youngsters, children, they are not able to breathe. We have to start from somewhere. The second thing I want to say is that we have not even signed the Global Methane Pledge, I think. It is a very poisonous gas. Many times we also see there is leakage in the infrastructure of natural gases in Delhi. When you go to Meerut from Delhi, you must have noticed that in the past, near to Dasna it used to stink a lot. When I took notice of it, I came to know that there was a leakage in the underground gas. It kept stinking for months. We should work very strictly on this. Obviously, the government has to do more work, but every individual in the world will contribute to climate change and we will have to do that. I would not say much but I would like to tell that we have about 21 percent forest. Prime Minister, Hon. Minister and the Government said that we will take it to 33%. [*English*] But India did not sign the Global Leaders Statement on stopping Deforestation by 2030. [*Translation*] That means we say something and do the opposite. Despite having more deforestation, Brazil and Indonesia signed on it and we didn't do that.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I don't want to take much of your time. I would also like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister. In my Lok Sabha constituency Amroha, which also has a large part of Hapur district, the water level is in the red zone. This is also discussed many times in DISHA's meeting. Many such polluted

industries are set up in villages. There is a village named Chaudharpur in my constituency. *[English]* It is a village.

*[Translation]*

There are big chemical industries there. I think, no one would have written as much as I write the recommendation letter for cancer patients to the Prime Minister. Many people have installed ETP plants there, but they are not operated. Hon. Chairperson also knows that I have distilleries and Simbhaoli Sugar Factory in my area. There are many cancer patients in that entire area. They have installed plants, but they don't run them.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I demand from the Government, through you, that these things should be taken serious note of. We have a chemical factory named 'Teva' in Gajraula, just recently the National Green Tribunal imposed a fine of Rs 10 crore on it, but this company has not been able to deposit that fine with the district administration. I have a request to the Hon. Minister to send a high powered committee to Amroha Lok Sabha constituency and Hapur district and get it investigated as it is a threat to the lives of the people of our area. Whether we are in Delhi or in the NCR, the pollution situation is very bad.

Thank you so much.

کنور دانش علی (امروہ): محترم چیرمین صاحب، آپ نے مجھے اتنی اہم چرچا پر بولنے کا موقعہ دیا اس کے لئے میں آپکا شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں۔ ہم ملک کے قریب سب سے زیادہ آلودہ شہر میں بیٹھ کر بات کرتے ہیں۔ جب سردی کا موسم آتا ہے، تو دہلی میں اتنی زیادہ آلودگی ہو جاتی ہے کہ بچوں کو سانس لینا مشکل ہو جاتا ہے۔ ہم صرف یہاں کی بات نہیں کرتے ہیں، ہم جس ملک میں پیدا ہوئے ہیں، ہماری تہذیب و سڈیو کٹومبکم کی ہے، earth is a family کی ہے تو ہمیں پوری دنیا کے بارے میں بات کرنی چاہئیے۔ میں محترم منتری صاحب کو مبارک باد دوں گا کہ گلاسگوں میں ہندوستان کا پکش رکھا۔ لیکن اس کے ساتھ ساتھ دنیا بھر میں سال 2050 میں یہ جو گرین ہاؤس گیس ایمیشن کو کٹ کرنے کی بات تھی، اس میں ہم نے اپنی لاچارگی جتائی۔ ہماری سرکار نے گلاسگو میں کہا ہے، جتنی میری جانکاری ہے کہ net zero emission by 2070 ہم نے شاید یہ کہا ہے۔ چین بھی سب سے زیادہ آلودگی پھیلانے والے ممالک میں آ گیا ہے۔ اس نے بھی سال 2060 کی بات کہی ہے۔ ہم لوگوں نے یہاں کئی بار بحث کی ہے کہ جو دوسرے اینرجی کے وسائل ہیں ان پر ہمیں آگے بڑھنا ہے۔ دوسرے وسائل سے سستی بجلی پیدا ہو رہی ہے۔ ہمیں کولے کا استعمال جلد سے جلد کم کرنا چاہئیے۔ ہم جانتے ہیں کہ سولر اینرجی اور ونڈ پاور پلانٹ سے

قریب 2 روپے 45 پیسے سے 3 روپے پر یونٹ تک بجلی کی پیداوار ہوتی ہے۔ جبکہ کوئلے سے 3.50 سے 3 روپے 40 پیسے تک میں پیداوار ہوتی ہے جو کہ کافی مہنگا ہے۔ لیکن ایسی کیا وجہ ہے کہ ہم لوگ کوئلے پر زیادہ منحصر ہیں۔ ہم جانتے ہیں کہ پچھلے دنوں کیسے ہندوستان کے ایک بڑے کارپوریٹ ہاؤس نے آسٹریلیا کے اندر ایک بڑی کول مائن خریدی۔ کہیں اس کا تو کوئی امپیکٹ نہیں ہے کہ ہم کوئلے سے پیدا ہونے والی بجلی پر زیادہ منحصر ہونے کی بات کر رہی ہے۔ (مداخلت)۔ میں نے کوئی نام بھی نہیں لیا تو پھر کیوں آپ کو درد ہوتا ہے؟ (مداخلت) میں نے (کاروائی میں شامل نہیں) کا نام بھی نہیں لیا۔

یہ کیوں ہے کار میں شور مچانے لگتے ہیں۔ (مداخلت)

جناب، میں آپ کو ہی ایڈریس کر رہا ہوں۔ ان کو اتنا پریشان نہیں ہونا چاہئیے کہ وہ داڑی میں تنکے والی بات ہو جائے گی۔

جناب، میں یہی کہہ رہا ہوں کہ جو آج ہمارے نسلیں پریشان ہیں، جو نوجوان ہیں، جو بچے ہیں، وہ سانس نہیں لے پاتے ہیں۔ ہمیں کہیں نہ کہیں سے تو شروعات کرنی پڑے گی۔ میں دوسری بات یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہم لوگوں نے گلوبل میتھین پلیج پر بھی میرے خیال سے دستخط نہیں کئے ہیں۔ یہ بہت زہریلی گیس ہوتی ہے۔ کئی بار ہم دہلی میں بھی دیکھتے ہیں جو قدرتی گیس کا انفرا سٹرکچر ہے، اس میں لیکج ہوتا

ہے۔ آپ بھی جب دہلی سے میرٹھ جاتے ہوں گے تو نوٹس کیا ہوگا کہ پچھلے دنوں ڈاسنہ کے پاس بہت بدبو آتی تھی۔ اس پر میں نے نوٹس لیا تو پتہ چلا کہ جو زیر زمین گیس تھی اس میں لیکچج آ گئی تھی۔ وہ مہینوں مہینوں تک چلتا رہا۔ اس پر ہمیں بہت سختی سے کام کرنا چاہیے۔ یہ ظاہر سی بات ہے کہ سرکار کو زیادہ کام کرنا ہے، لیکن کلائمیٹ چینج میں دنیا کے ہر انسان کو اپنا رول ادا کرنا ہوگا۔ میں زیادہ کچھ نہ کہتے ہوئے اتنا ہی کہوں گا کہ ہمارے یہاں تقریباً 21 فیصد جنگلات ہیں۔ محترم وزیر اعظم صاحب نے، منتری جی نے اور سرکار نے کہا ہے کہ اس کو 33 فیصد تک لے کر جائیں گے۔ But

**India did not sign the Global Leaders Statement on stopping**

**Deforestation by 2030.** مطلب ہم کہتے کچھ اور ہیں اور کرتے اس

کا اُلٹا ہیں۔ جب کہ برازیل اور انڈونیشیا میں زیادہ ڈیفوریسٹیشن ہوتا ہے۔ انہوں نے اس پر سائن کیا اور ہم لوگوں نے ایگری نہیں کیا۔

محترم چیرمین صاحب، میں آپ کا زیادہ وقت نہیں لینا چاہتا ہوں۔ میں اپنے پارلیمانی حلقہ سے جڑے ہوئے کچھ مدعوں پر بھی ماننے منتری جی کی توجہ دلانا چاہوں گا۔ میرے امروبہ پارلیمانی حلقہ میں جس میں ہاپوڑ ضلع کو بھی ایک بڑا حصہ ہے وہاں پر واٹر لیول ریڈ زون میں ہے۔ اس پر کئی بار دشا کی بیٹھک میں بھی چرچا ہوتی ہے۔



کئی ایسی پولیوٹڈ انڈسٹریز گاؤں میں لگ جاتی ہیں۔ میرے یہاں ایک گاؤں چودھرپور نام سے ہے۔ It is a village.

یہاں بڑی بڑی کیمیکل انڈسٹریز لگی ہوئی ہیں۔ میرے خیال سے میں جتنے کینسر کے مریضوں کا ریکمنڈیشن لیٹر وزیر اعظم صاحب کو لکھتا ہوں شاید اتنا کئی نہیں لکھتا ہوگا۔ وہاں کئی لوگوں نے ای۔ٹی۔پی۔ پلانٹس لگا ئے ہوئے ہیں۔ لیکن ان کا سنبھالنا نہیں ہوتا ہے۔ محترم چیرمین صاحب بھی جانتے ہیں کہ میرے یہاں ڈسٹریز ہیں، سنبھولی شوگر فیکٹری ہے۔ اس پورے علاقے میں بہت سے کینسر کے مریض ہیں، انہوں نے پلانٹس لگا رکھے ہیں، لیکن وہ چلاتے نہیں ہیں۔

محترم چیرمین صاحب، میری آپ کے ذریعہ سے سرکار سے مانگ ہے کہ ان چیزوں پر سنجیدگی سے دھیان دیا جائے۔ ہمارے یہاں گجروہ میں ٹیوا نام کی ایک کیمیکل فیکٹری ہے، ابھی پچھلے دنوں نیشنل گرین ٹریبونل نے اس پر 10 کروڑ روپیے کا جرمانہ کیا، لیکن وہ جرمانہ بھی یہ کمپنی ڈسٹرکٹ ایڈمنسٹریشن کے پاس جمع نہیں کرا پائی ہے۔ میری ماتنے منتری جی سے گزارش ہے کہ آپ ایک ہائی پاورڈ کمیٹی امروبہ پارلیمانی حلقہ اور ہاپورڈ ڈسٹرکٹ میں بھیجیں اور اس کی جانچ کرائیں، کیونکہ یہ ہمارے علاقے کے لوگوں کی جان کے لئے خطرہ ہے۔ چاہے ہم دہلی میں ہوں، این۔سی۔آر۔ میں ہوں۔ آلودگی کی حالت بہت تشویشناک ہے۔

بہت بہت

*[English]*

**SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR (ARAMBAGH):** Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this very crucial discussion which concerns every single person on this planet and impacts our present as well as the future. I thank the hon. Speaker for allowing a discussion on this very important issue of climate change under Rule 193.

Before I start my speech, I would like to quote the great Albert Einstein. He said: “The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything.” The Global Climate Risk Index of 2021, an annual ranking from research group, Germanwatch, puts India among the top ten countries as most affected by climate change. In 2020 alone, India suffered its worst three cyclones, a nationwide heat wave and flooding that killed hundreds of people and forced them to migrate from one place to another.

Climate change brings about a shift in natural vegetation, thereby deteriorating the forests. Uncertainty of rain has disturbed the crop pattern. Some parts of India are even facing shrinking of water supplies, while other parts are facing rising sea level. Even in my constituency of Arambagh, a place called Goghat has already been declared as a black zone. It is a very alarming situation there.

At the United Nations Climate Change Conference negotiations in Glasgow, India strengthened its Paris target by committing to further reduce, by 2030, the carbon intensity of its economy to less than 45 per cent from the earlier target of 33 to 35 per cent, from the level of 2005; increase non-fossil energy capacity to 500 GW by 2030, formalising India’s earlier renewables commitment and reduce India’s total projected carbon emissions by one billion tonnes from now to 2030. India also

joined other nations in announcing a zero emissions target by 2070. I want to know the roadmap and the thinking of the Government on this issue.

I would like to know from the Minister as to whether the Government plans to undertake any field survey to determine, identify the total area or land available in the country for afforestation. A field survey could provide the necessary data to the State Governments to chalk out the necessary strategies for taking up the afforestation activities.

A rise in extreme weather events in India, from droughts and floods to heatwaves and hailstorms, is causing a very alarming situation. The poor people are forced to abandon their homes, land and livelihood. Many of India's poor people such as small farmers are finding it hard to cope with the situation. Heavy rain & due to the cyclone *Jawad*, has caused a large-scale damage to the standing paddy and other crops in the southern district of West Bengal.

In my Arambagh Lok Sabha constituency, the cyclone *Yaas* and flood in 2020 have already caused enough damage to the farmers. It is really a very alarming situation. There are at least four lakh acres of land in West Bengal where about ten lakh farmers grow potatoes and paddy crops. They are facing a great problem. Will the Minister elaborate what steps have been taken to address the issue of climate migration?

The allocated amount has been only 16.3 per cent, 35.8 per cent and 23.5 per cent respectively under the R&D Scheme for Conservation and Development. Underutilisation of the funds raises doubts about the achievements of the physical targets.

Before becoming Member of Parliament, I was the Deputy Chairperson in our Municipality. So, I know that this is a very alarming problem in the municipal areas.

India has recorded 56 per cent increase in the number of hazardous waste-generating industries which come from the urban areas which are being controlled by the municipalities and the local bodies. The burden of the solid waste is becoming unmanageable. In fact, 79 major protests against unsanitary landfills and dump yards have been recorded in 22 States in the past three years. At the same time, most of these industries are not properly maintaining their wastes also, though it is mandatory under the law.

With these words, I would like to conclude with the hope that the Government will take a positive initiative to save our mother earth.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI GANESH SINGH (SATNA):** Hon. Chairperson, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak on the important subject of climate change.

Climate change is a global environmental challenge. All the countries of the world have to come together to deal with this, although efforts are being made. Cop-26 summit was held in Scotland from October 31 to November 13, 2021, in which the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees has been set.

India has the lowest per capita emissions compared to the world. 17 percent of the world's population lives in our country, out of which we contribute only five percent of emissions. The Hon. Prime Minister said in the summit that not only India but the whole world has to achieve the target of 1.5 percent. China has the highest emissions in the world. India is ranked fourth, below the United States of America and Europe. The United States, the European Union, Russia, Canada, Japan are responsible for 60 percent of carbon emissions from year 1751 to 2017.

The hon. Prime Minister has given the Panchamrit formula - increase non-fossil based energy production to 500 GW by the year 2030, meet 50% of the energy requirement from renewable energy sources, reduce carbon emissions by 1 billion tonnes, bring down the carbon emitted by the economy below 45 percent and India will achieve the net zero target by the year 2070.

This Panchamrit formula given by the hon. Prime Minister is indeed a new message to the world. The use of coal should also be gradually reduced. That is why the Hon. Minister was intervening and saying that strict instructions have been issued to all thermal powers, refineries, cement industries, steel manufacturers, etc. to use the alternatives of coal. There are many side effects of climate change, which

we can be clearly seen in the agricultural sector. Somewhere there is heavy rain, somewhere there is landslide, somewhere there is cyclone, somewhere there is severe drought, somewhere there is shortage of drinking water, somewhere there is grave fire, sea level rises, snow melts, clouds bursts, devastating storms occur. It has also had a huge impact on biodiversity. Just in the month of August a report of IPCC came. That report states that the last decade was the warmest decade in 1.25 million years. Similarly, the ocean warmed the most in last 11,000 years, resulting in a three-fold increase in the sea level as compared to from 1901 to 1971. This is the biggest impact of climate change being seen. India has the best climate in the world. But, now slowly it is changing. The wonderful balance of nature seems to be deteriorating. India is home to variety of climate. But, sometimes it will rain, sometimes it will not. Sometimes there will be dry spell. When we used to go to study from our village to another village, we used to see that it used to rain on the basis of constellation during the rainy days. I remember a Hathiya constellation. For 15 days in Hathiya Nakshatra, when there was light rain along with wind, the Jowar plants used to fall. I remember it, but today everything has changed. Now it is getting hot everywhere and storms are occurring frequently. The air has become polluted, the disease is spreading. Now locust swarms are also coming to attack. I think it has an effect somewhere in Corona too. All these things are having an adverse effect on public health in the world. The WHO has also said that climate change will kill more than 2.5 million people annually by the year 2030 due to malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea and heat wave. Climate change is also having an adverse effect on agriculture. According to an ICAR study, agriculture sector accounts for 16 per cent of GDP and 49 per cent of employment. But, it is gradually decreasing. It's a matter of concern. Today many states like Assam, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh are affected by floods. In many States, at one time or

another, flood causes heavy damage. Its effect is not only in our country, but also in other countries of the world like Germany and Belgium where its tremendous effect was seen. After China, our country has the largest fruit cultivation. India ranks first in the production of pulses. Today the wheat crop has been affected a lot due to the heat. For the last two years, a major disease like tuber has suddenly arisen in the paddy crop. There has been a failure in the soybean crop in many places. Such complaints are continuously being received from the farmers' side. The apple farmers in Himachal Pradesh are also facing heavy losses. Hail storms have caused heavy damage to crops for a long time in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and other regions of Central India.

Climate change has also had a huge impact on forests. More extraction, pest infestation, locust swarms, livestock grazing and forest fires are all its ill effects. Erosion is happening due to the rising water level of rivers continuously. The topic of stubble has also been in discussion for some time now.

However, the Hon. Minister has said while intervening that a scientific use of stubble is being done in NTPC, in making bio fuel and as animal feed. A large area has been earmarked in Haryana and Punjab for making organic manure from stubble, where air pollution can be prevented by using it scientifically by saving it from the burning. This news is true.

I would like to give a suggestion to the Hon. Minister in this regard. Earlier farming was done through animal i.e. oxen, but nowadays the era of mechanization has come, so now all that has stopped. Earlier manual harvesting was practiced. We used to collect huge stocks of hay stocks and stubble and feed it to the animals. Today all animals have been abandoned. Nowadays there is no cattle in anyone's house. They are all out, so they are damaging the crops of the farmers. But the



problem for the cattle is that they do not have fodder. Gaushalas are being built, but we cannot keep more than 100 cows there. In such a situation, open sanctuaries should be made in any open place where there is a provision of water. When the wheat crop comes through MNREGA, when its stalk is left after the harvesting, then it will be good if we make straw, stubble and fodder banks in villages after harvesting it. If the stray animals are taken to the sanctuary and food is arranged for them, then this problem can be solved. Although it is being used in many places, but I think initiative should be taken in this matter. If we combine it with MNREGA, then it will have a big impact.

Similarly, in our country a large amount of wood is cut from the forests for cooking. Hon. Prime Minister has provided free LPG connections to nine crore households till date. Now food is not made from coal and wood, but food is cooked with gas, so a lot has happened in this area too, but still dry wood is cut and collected from forests. I would request the Hon. Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to find an alternative solution to this problem. Those workers, who earn their livelihood by cutting wood from forests, should be identified and alternative employment should be arranged for them, so that deforestation can be stopped. This will also help strike a balance in the environment.

Our Hon. Prime Minister has started the promotion of LED bulbs to reduce the consumption of electricity. This experiment has been very successful with good results. Solar energy has also got great importance. The initiatives being taken by the Hon. Prime Minister, Hon. Minister and our Government is a welcome step in this direction to make the environment a public concern. Climate change is a serious challenge to public health. India is in the role of protector of the Earth. In Cop-26,

Hon. Modi ji has taken a real grassroot initiative. It is transformative for the entire world.

Our country is giving subsidy on purchase of electric vehicles. Other countries of the world are not taking such a big initiative, which our honorable Prime Minister is taking. We are mixing ethanol. We are promoting solar energy. We are promoting battery manufacturing. Billions of dollars are being invested in this. The attitude of rich countries in this regard is not good. I want to say through my conversation that in the year 2009, the setting up of an annual fund of 100 billion dollars was proposed, but this target has not been fulfilled till date, by the year 2021. Poor countries have not been able to get help in stopping the change of this climate. This is also a big reason, which is being seen very effectively.

Sir, in America \$252 billion is being spent only on alcohol and in Europe \$210 billion is being spent only on cigarettes. If these things are taxed little in these countries and all the billionaires in the world whose wealth is about 13,000 billion dollars if two percent tax is imposed on them, then \$ 260 billion can be collected in just one year to save from this problem. This amount can be spent in the measures for climate change. I would like to heartily congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister and Hon. Minister that this has sent a successful message to the whole world. India is really preparing to bring down mean temperature to 1.5 degree Celsius lower, for that congratulate them heartily.

*[English]*

**\*SHRI D.M. KATHIR ANAND (VELLORE):** Climate change is posing existential threats to the world. It has become evident with extreme weather, shrinking glaciers, accelerated sea levels, and record floods that global climate change is on the verge of destroying the environment.

The earth has been continuously targeted and took the brunt of destructive activities of humans for more than a century now. Today we have reached "Now or Never" position to act against the environmental degradation and to save Mother Nature. The major cause for Climatic change is environmental degradation by mindless destruction caused by human behaviour and activities.

No other species on this earth has destroyed the environment and ecology than the Human beings.

India may face irreversible impacts of climate change, with increasing heat waves, droughts and erratic rainfall events in the coming years if no mitigation measures are put in place.

Environmentalists and Experts in Climate Change have warned India and South Asia in general, is vulnerable to climate change.

According to the Global Climate Risk Index, India is seventh on the list of countries most affected by climate change. It produces more hotter summer, more cooler winter, and more rainfall during monsoon seasons. Le Nina is generally responsible for cooler than normal winters and more than normal rainfall.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

Significant increase in Earth's temperature due to activities like burning fossil fuels (leading to carbon emission), deforestation, and intensive agriculture. The more scientific aspect of this change is Global Warming, caused by the increased concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

India ranked at 10th position in the global Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2021 released in Germany recently. This is the second year in a row that India has remained in top 10 position in the list of countries to have adopted substantial measures to mitigate climate change.

But whatever we do at present, to mitigate the climate change crisis is not at all sufficient. Our Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has promised Carbon emission free India by 2075 at Glasgow Cop26. This means, it's going to be a very long way to achieve this target. The country requires a collective effort from all sections of the society. We must strive hard to make India as one of the best country to live.

According to the Annual Climate Report 2020, the land and ocean temperature have increased at an average of 0.08 degrees Celsius per decade since 1880. This change in temperature does not only affect humans but puts wildlife and other cohabits in equal danger. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change states that this temperature rise may put 30% of species at the risk of extinction. The year 2020 was 1.2C hotter than the average year in the nineteenth century. The average land and ocean temperature globally was recorded at 0.98C in 2020, compared to 0.92C in 2019.

This temperature rise caused the ever so destructive wildfire in the U.S. state of California, burning more than 471,000 acres. In 2020, U.S. suffered a loss of over \$258 billion due to weather catastrophes. Delhi and surroundings too face the wrath

of stubble burning which has forced the government to shut down schools, colleges and even government offices and work places. This is going on for years and the Government at the Centre and concerned States have taken any efforts to stop this burning issue remains a million-dollar question.

COVID-19 proved to be a blessing in disguise in terms of climate, but that too, only for a short period. The global closure of businesses and industries was meant to reduce the carbon emission threatening the ecosystem. The Global Carbon Project predicted the fall of carbon emission by 7% by the end of the year.

However, the latest studies show that the COVID-19 has negligible effects on the environment, and the global temperatures will only be 0.01 C lower due to the pandemic. Despite this small number, the world has started to adopt green energy by focusing on renewable energy. The renewable energy share in electricity is expected to increase by 30% in 2022. In harnessing the green energy from Solar, wind, Bio mass and nuclear sources Tamil Nadu is way ahead of other States and is an inspiration to most other States in the Country. Our mercurial leader Dr. Kalaigarnar and MK Stalin has always encouraged the green, safe energy production in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu contributes more than 45% of total wind energy produced in the country and making huge inroads in harnessing Solar energy and Bio Mass energy.

Erratic rise and fall in temperatures over time are changing weather patterns and disrupting the usual balance of nature. This poses many risks to human beings and all other forms of life on Earth.

Nearly all land areas saw very hot days and heat waves during summer and post summer season and made 2020 was one of the hottest years on record. Higher temperatures increase heat-related illnesses and can make it more difficult to work and move around. Wildfires start more easily and spread more rapidly when

conditions are hotter. There is only one way to douse the ever-increasing heat. Proactive measures to reduce carbon emission and greenhouse gases. If we do not reduce the carbon emission now then we are held responsible for committing the greatest crime of destroying the life of our future generations. It's time to act now. The climate change bomb is ticking and it is the collective responsibility of the Government and people to defuse the bomb.

Changes in temperature cause changes in rainfall. This results in more severe and frequent storms. They cause flooding and landslides, destroying homes and communities, and costing billions of rupees. South Indian States, especially Tamil Nadu has suffered badly due to heavy and heaviest rainfall and flooding every November and December since 2015. The same is the case for Maharashtra. The loss is recurring and we need to stop it immediately. Otherwise, it will be a great loss not only to the two most productive and earning states Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu but to the whole country.

Another ugly result of Climate Change is increased drought. Water is becoming scarcer in more regions. Droughts can stir destructive sand and dust storms that can move billions of tons of sand across continents. Deserts are expanding, reducing land for growing food. Many people now face the threat of not having enough water on a regular basis. India is witnessing all the phenomenon and is likely to be affected by all the evil deeds.

Climate change destabilises the Earth's temperature equilibrium and has far-reaching effects on human beings and the environment.

During the course of global warming, the energy balance and thus the temperature of the earth change, due to the increased concentration of greenhouse gases, which has a significant impact on humans and the environment.

It is not scientifically possible to assign individual weather events to the current climate change, however, it can be statistically proven that global warming will increase the probability of extreme weather events.

The direct consequences of man-made climate change include: rising maximum temperatures rising minimum temperatures rising sea levels higher ocean temperatures an increase in heavy precipitation (heavy rain and hail) shrinking glaciers thawing permafrost. India is badly affected by these factors caused by the Climate Change phenomenon.

The indirect consequences of climate change, which directly affect humans and our environment, include: An increase in hunger and water crises, especially in developing countries. Health risks through rising air temperatures and heatwaves economic implications of dealing with secondary damage related to climate change. Increasing spread of pests and pathogens. Loss of biodiversity due to limited adaptability and adaptability speed of flora and fauna. Ocean acidification due to increased  $\text{CO}_2$  concentrations in the water as a consequence of increased  $\text{CO}_2$  concentrations the need for adaptation in all areas (e.g., agriculture, forestry, energy, infrastructure, tourism, etc.)

As the global climate is a highly interconnected system that is influenced by many different factors, the consequences usually result in negative feedback effects. A common example is the ice-albedo feedback, which refers to the melting of the polar caps. According to this, extensive ice surfaces have a cooling effect on the global climate, as a high proportion of radiation is reflected. As a result of the global rise in the average temperature, however, these ice surfaces begin to melt, the ice surfaces shrink and the amount of reflected radiation is reduced. At the same time,

the area of land or ocean that has a significantly lower albedo will increase, reflecting less radiation and thus intensifying the actual cause of glacier melt.

Furthermore, scientists can calculate the so-called tipping points of individual subsystems of the global climate. The higher the global rise in temperature, the more the climate system is affected, so that at a certain point, despite significant efforts, a reversal in the process is no longer possible.

Therefore, we all must act collectively and confidently to combat the ill effects of Climate Change phenomenon and rejuvenate and restore the earth to the pleasant mode. If we don't do it now, our earth will go to destructive mode and make life on earth most difficult. It is our bounden duty to be more responsible and more importantly for the Government to adhere to the Principles of Mother Nature.



**\*SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR (TENKASI):** Climate like any other physical phenomenon is not static but rather a purely dynamic kind of thing. In greater or lesser degree, it is ever changing. In fact, the growth and decline of past human civilization and other species of plants and animals as well as the formulation of future public policy regarding all elements of human life depend on the climate and its change.

Dealing with the challenge of climate change, India acts on several fronts in a focused manner simultaneously. The National Action Plan brings the development and use of new technologies, and implementation of the plan would be through appropriate institutional mechanisms suited for effective delivery of objectives of each individual mission.

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\* Speech was laid on the Table.

**16.00 hrs**

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S RESOLUTION**

**Welfare measures for anganwadi workers and anganwadi**

**helpers – Contd.\***

*[English]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Now, we take up Private Members' Business. Item no. 16: Welfare Measures for Anganwadi Workers And Anganwadi Helpers.

... (*Interruptions*)

*[Translation]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Nishikantji could not speak due to some technical issues. Earlier, he was continued, but could not speak, therefore, you please speak.

Shri Nishikant Dubey Ji.

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA):** Sir, this Bill started on 20 Mar 2020 and I was on legs. I had to speak on this subject in the month of March, but at that time I could not join the house due to some unavoidable reasons, therefore, I request you to allow me to continue this after Jagdambika Pal Ji.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Alright, Shri Jagdambika Pal ji

**16.01 hrs**

(Shri Kodikunnil Suresh *in the Chair*)

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\* Further discussion on the following resolution moved by Shri Ritesh Pandey on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2020.

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, I am very grateful to you that you have allowed me to speak on a very important subject, which is being discussed even in this session since the last session.

It is natural that it is being discussed in such a situation, when the COVID pandemic has surfaced as a challenge not before only our country but before the entire world. In 1975, it was created for the wellbeing of the rural women with the purpose of eradicating malnutrition prevalent among pregnant women and children by making nutritive food available to them so as to ensure improvement in their health status. Approximately 13 Lakh Anganwadi Workers are working through One Lakh Anganwadi Centres across the country to serve 130 Crores population. After all, what did this Anganwadi stand for? What do we mean by Angan? Even today we say that there is an “*Angan (Courtyard)*” in our house. Angan is the cardinal spot of our home. When people come at home, they reach the Angan first. We consider Angan as a shelter place. Today, the Anganwadi has been started on lines of the concept of Angan Shelter of the rural India, which has become the care centre of rural mothers and children.

In 1975, the Integrated Child Development Scheme was started by the Government of India to address the problem of hunger and malnutrition among children. These Anganwadi Centres had the prime objectives of ensuring the basic amenities in the villages and looking after the children and the mothers of rural India. Today, the Anganwadi has become the part of Indian Public Healthcare System, well imbibed into the lifestyle of Indians. It is concerned with the foundation of the Public Health. Be it the question of counseling the rural women in basic healthcare activities, contraceptives, nutrition, or the question of their education, all these works are incorporated into the activities of Anganwadi. Whether it is the question of

Nutrition or Protein contents, Vitamins, Rehydration Salts or the question of any other medicines, information related to all these subjects are rendered at the Anganwadi Centres. If we observe the report till 31 Jan, 2013, we come to know that there were sanctions for carrying out all these activities to One Lakh Anganwadi Centres and Mini Anganwadi Centres and these centres, in some way, used to provide supplementary nutrition.

Today, this immunisation work, whether it is immunisation against any Virus or any Disease, Health Checkups of the people or the Referral Services, all these are the responsibilities of the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers. Certainly, India became successful in tackling the COVID pandemic in an efficient way. You all know that the World Health Organisation is the world's apex institution concerned with health related issues. Even WHO said that the way India, as compared to European countries and USA, under the leadership of her Prime Minister, Narendra Modi Ji had dealt with challenges appearing against securing the lives of the common people and protecting the world was commendable. This is the report of WHO. Today, in India, be it the challenge of COVID or any other challenge or the question of Vaccine, certainly, the way our scientists have worked against the challenges are commendable. Basically, our Anganwadi Workers had the prime goal of creating consciousness among the rural women towards health at the Anganwadi Centres, counseling them towards the health of their children, imparting knowledge about bringing up of their children, the right method and amount of calorie intake and nutritive diet for their children. But the way the Anganwadi Workers, in the advent of COVID have worked, their responsibility has changed. They not only accomplished their duties of Anganwadi Workers but also stood by the country in the fight against Corona when evoked by the Prime Minister. They alongwith the Doctors, ASHA sisters, ANMs and Paramedics were named as "Corona Fighters"

and revered by the entire nation owing to their active role played in this fight. They were neither directly connected with them nor with Health Department, but with ICDS. Today, their Minister, Shrimati Smriti Irani is our sister. After we came to power, a POSHAN campaign has been started by our Government today across the country. I will definitely mention the result of the POSHAN campaign before you, what so ever it is appearing before us. Our Anganwadi Workers and Helpers are directly connected with that POSHAN campaign. During this COVID Pandemic, these Anganwadi Workers and Helpers have not only fulfilled their responsibilities of playing active role in POSHAN campaign or ensuring nutrition to the rural mothers and children, but also worked beyond their fixed responsibilities. It became a herculean task to contain the infection, when the migrant workers were returning from all big cities and metropolitan cities like – Mumbai, Surat, Delhi, Kolkata, etc to their home States like – Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha etc. The way the migrants were going back to their homes, and the pace with which the diseases was spreading, it was feared that if the migrant workers had reached their native places, they might become carrier of the Virus and would severely impact their entire villages. The whole world was worried about our country which has the humongous population of 135 Cores people. People were also concerned about the State of Uttar Pradesh which itself contributes 24 Crores figures to the population of our country.

It may be a point of discussion where the Virus has originated from? From Wuhan, from Laboratory or from the Fish Market. But the way COVID had engulfed all the nations of the world be it European countries, USA, South East Asian countries of Middle East countries crossing their territorial barriers, it caused standstill to the entire Globe. It caused complete stoppage to the running trains, landing of the flying planes, in-house detention of the common people including the daily wages workers and caused livelihood crisis. During that livelihood crisis, and

during that COVID pandemic, our Government was doing the job of saving lives of the people across the nation. Moreover, it was also decided not to let even a single person die of hunger or want of food grains.

Hon. Modi ji and our Government is providing food grains and free food to 80 crore people for the last two years till date. Perhaps, this is an example before the whole world. Like this, our Anganwadi workers have taken surveys of the migrant labourers who were returning to their villages along with their own duties. They went from house to house and were told that the people coming from outside had to isolate and quarantine themselves. If they are affected by the Covid virus, it is natural that they can spread the virus in their home and it can take the form of an epidemic.

Sir, amidst such circumstances and challenges of Covid, they have also played an important role. Along with their Anganwadi work, nutritious food and Poshan Abhiyan, they spread awareness of Covid not only in the Anganwadi centres of each village but went from house to house to spread awareness about Covid during the time of Covid pandemic. On behalf of the House, I would like to congratulate those Anganwadi workers and assistants. They spread awareness of Covid-19 by going door to door. They said to others that they had to adopt some measures if they wanted to save themselves from Covid. There was a health protocol for that and our Ministry of Health has been telling us to wear masks whenever we leave the house and to maintain social distancing. At least a social distance of two yards should be kept. Along with this, keep our hands clean and apply sanitizer. These are the three things to protect ourselves from Covid.

The Prime Minister and the Minister of Health called upon the entire country all the State Governments have made efforts but the actual work of spreading

awareness at grassroot level was done by the Anganwadi women workers among people in villages. In this vast country with six lakh villages, if anyone has spread awareness about Corona protocols by going to each village in the country, it is Anganwadi workers and helpers. They have definitely taken up a big responsibility and if people have come from outside, let them quarantine themselves for 21 days. That protocol was later changed to 15 days.

You must have seen what the duties of Anganwadi workers were. Pregnant women would come to Anganwadi centres and they would be recommended nutritious food to them under Poshan Abhiyan and the Anganwadi workers and helpers did all this work amidst the challenges of Covid. It was lockdown at that time and despite that and without caring about their life, the Anganwadi workers and helpers did their job by risking their lives. They started the work of Take Home Ration. They went from house to house and ensured that the pregnant women, lactating mothers and two years children come to the Centre to take their rations and they did the work related to Take Home Ration and Immunisation. You must have seen for the first time that be it the hills of Uttarakhand, valleys of Himachal or Jammu & Kashmir, the Anganwadi workers covered so many kilometers and went with the paramedical team or doctor in the North-Eastern villages in order to assist the immunization work. It is an example in itself.

Hon. Chairperson, in the beginning of the lockdown we were not sure whether immunization can be done or not because lockdown was imposed across the whole country, there was no measure against Covid, we did not have any vaccine and there was not any medical or health protocol. It is natural that under these circumstances it was decided that if we maintain social distancing, use sanitizer and wear a mask to protect ourselves, then only we can save ourselves from this pandemic. *[English]*

Anganwadi workers visited people's houses to note the weight of pregnant women and malnourished stunted children because our Primary Health Centres are very small and they were advised to not have a large gathering there. *[Translation]* An advisory was issued from the Ministry that we should not gather at any place because of Covid protocol be it in PAC or Anganwadi Centres as there was a fear of Covid spreading. Anganwadi workers and helpers went there. They did not only this but also *[English]* there was coordination among anganwadi workers, ASHAs and ANMs since the beginning *[Translation]* I would like to congratulate the ASHA workers of the Health Department and ANM and Anganwadi workers who have also established coordination but only through talking but also through WhatsApp. A group was made on WhatsApp. The Anganwadi helpers and workers started their work by establishing coordination for every household, whether it is a survey or related to cases. In spite of that, they were going from door to door. What was the condition of the people at that time? The condition was that if anyone was infected with Coronavirus in the house, people did not go to the room of that infected person. They became kind of untouchable and stayed in isolation. People gave them food from a distance and did not go to their rooms. During these circumstances, the man was not taking care of his family. If there is a Covid infected person, no one in the family has the courage to think about how they can take care of that particular person. In these circumstances, our Anganwadi helpers and workers saved the lives of others by putting their lives at risk. For this purpose, they conducted meetings in their campus. They told people to follow all the guidelines issued by the Government. Therefore, I thank them for working in such circumstances. How can we upgrade the Anganwadi workers? There is no water and toilet facility in Anganwadi centres. Our sisters are working in those Anganwadi centres. All the workers and helpers in Anganwadi centres are our sisters. They were working under



such circumstances. The Government has taken several important steps to equip Anganwadi centres.

With these important steps, work has been done to upgrade these Anganwadi centres and Ministry issued guidelines. *[English]* Ministries of Women and Child Development, Rural Development, and Panchayati Raj *[Translation]* issued guidelines that new four lakh Anganwadi centres will be set up. We have made provision in MGNREGA to construct buildings across the country to set up those four lakh Anganwadi centres. You must have seen that during Covid around thirty seven thousand crore was allocated from the Annual Budget in this House. But with the outbreak of Corona, people thought that they would not be able to go to cities for work due to lockdown. Therefore, forty thousand crores rupees have been allocated under MGNREGA so that people in villages may have jobs, there will not be any shortage of food grains, there will not be any challenges to run the household, there will not be any problems for their livelihood and work may be started there and people may get jobs. Under this, it has been decided to construct four lakh Anganwadi centres. Convergence has been made along with this. Under the ICDS scheme of Anganwadi services *[English]* revised joint guidelines were issued by the Ministries of Women and Child Development, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj for the construction of four lakh Anganwadi centre buildings across the country under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in convergence with the Anganwadi services.

It was a very big decision. We also formulated a Cleanliness Action Plan. *[English]* Under Swachhta Action Plan, Rs. 10,000 per Anganwadi centre is provided for only drinking water facilities. *[Translation]* We had expressed concern about it in our speech. The Hon. Minister had noted that there are Anganwadi

Centres in the country where Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi sisters work, but the basic facilities such as toilets and drinking water are not available there for them. The Government has taken cognizance of this. *[English]* The Government of India has decided this. Under Swachhta Action Plan, Rs. 10,000 per anganwadi centre is provided for only drinking water facilities and Rs. 12,000 per anganwadi centre for toilet facilities.

*[Translation]*

Today, our Government has made arrangements to provide safe drinking water and toilets for them. We were not only setting them to work in the Covid challenge by running a campaign, but we have also worked to fulfill their basic needs. *[English]* On the same lines, grants are sanctioned for purchase of water filter, furniture, equipment, etc. *[Translation]* From this, you can understand the sensitivity of our Government. There are 13 lakh 30 thousand Anganwadi sisters all over the country, which have now increased to 15 lakh. Today, they are working to protect small children from malnutrition across the country. They are also working to educate the rural women of those villages, who probably do not know when to get which vaccination like when polio vaccine should be administered or when diphtheria vaccine should be administered. Such arrangements were made for those women.

Not only this, have you ever thought that the Government is giving so many facilities to millions of women of the country, who are associated with villages? Earlier, when they had to give any information from village to district, they had to go from village to city or to the officials, supervisors or ADPOs in the headquarters.

Hon. Chairperson, today our Government has decided to provide smart phones to the Anganwadi workers across the country. With this, they can

immediately convey the work done by them to the senior officers. Through the phone, they can give necessary information to the PSC and CSC and call on 108 and 102 in case of emergency. They can perform all their big responsibilities immediately, whether it is to get pregnant women checked up, send them to the hospital or refer them to a medical college. They could never have imagined that they would ever get a smart phone. The Government felt that Anganwadi workers should be provided smart phones so that they can do their work efficiently.

Sir, similarly on January 13, 2021, guidelines were issued on quality assurance, roles and responsibilities of the duty holders and procedure of procurement. Till now, we were dependent on allopathy, but the Prime Minister has connected the conventional system of medicine such as Ayurveda, Homoeopathy etc. to the AYUSH system and decided that it should have data management. After all, if we are running a nutrition campaign, nutrition tracker is necessary. Unless there is data, how can nutrition be tracked? Unless there is a nutrition tracker, how will there be transparency? Today, our Government has run a campaign to provide its benefit to women and small children who are the future of India and who have the energy and excellence to make India a world leader in the countries of the world. Therefore, such arrangements were made for them. We should ensure that the supplementary nutrition we are providing them should reach them and they should not be malnourished. For this, data management should be done in this regard through supplementary nutrition tracker and this work should be monitored and has transparency, efficiency and accountability.

Sir, under the said Anganwadi services schemes, there is a provision to impart training on how to improve the services of front line workers so as to achieve the objective of the programmes of these schemes and to make it effective. They will

definitely get self-confidence and they will also get exposure because various such schemes have been made for all our Anganwadi workers in rural areas and this has happened on a regular basis. There can be many problems in children be it child hunger or malnourishment.

We launched this programme for basic health care in villages and how well we are taking that programme forward today. Today we are not only doing this in one area, but in Uttar Pradesh, where Yogi Adityanath ji is in power, he has started the ECC scheme for 'Bachpan Bal Shiksha'. Today, Uttar Pradesh is the first state ...  
*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I think I still have some time to speak. *[English]* I think that I should be allowed to speak.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** You have already spoken for half-an-hour.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** Sir, In Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath ji's Government has started 'Bachpan Bal Shiksha' ECC scheme. To implement it smoothly, we have implemented it at 1 lakh 70 thousand 896 Anganwadi Centers. *[English]* I think that you will be definitely happy to know that the UP Government has taken the initiative. *[Translation]* The Government is equipping all those centres with pre-school kits. Today, we do not want to make those children just healthy children, but we want to make them healthy, educated and a good future of India, who can compete well in the competition of the world. Therefore, it has been decided to equip them with pre-school kits. It has been decided to give them booklets. Apart from this, there will also be an evaluation card for children at those centers. With such sincerity, our Central Government and the Government of Uttar Pradesh are

working to evaluate those children from time to time. This is very helpful for growth of the children. This nutrition campaign. ... (*Interruptions*)

*[English]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Members, I am to inform that the allotted time of two hours on this Resolution has already been taken, thus almost exhausting the time allotted for its discussion. There are still six Members to speak on the Resolution. If the House agrees, then we may extend the time for discussion on this Resolution by two more hours.

*[Translation]*

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL):** Hon. Chairperson Sir, a very important discussion is going on in the House, so the time must be extended.

*[English]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Okay, the time for this Resolution has been extended by another two hours.

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** Thank you very much, Sir. *[Translation]* As I was telling you, our New Education Policy was also introduced. Why was the New Education Policy-2020 introduced? Today, the education policy of the same Lord Macaulay was going on in this country. We used to say that Lord Macaulay's education policy only produces Babus. Today, only our New Education Policy can groom and enhance the overall excellence, skill, talent, ability and learning ability in the children. I am not talking about other provisions of the New Education Policy,

but whatever is concerning the women and children of our villages must be implemented. As I just said that about 1, 70,896 Anganwadi centers are running in UP. In the same way, a scheme called 'PAHAL' has been started by Integrated Child Development Services, ICDS and that initiative is ECC manual. We have prepared that manual as per the curriculum developed by State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT).

Sir, similarly our Anganwadi workers are given training for 26 working days. In today's changing environment, their responsibility is increasing. Today Anganwadi workers are implementing schemes related to ICDS and nutrition campaign of our ministry. At the same time, they are conducting door-to-door surveys and creating awareness in this challenging time of COVID. They also play an important role in any pulse polio campaign, if conducted. If there is a census, they work in that also. The way in which all the National Programs are going on today, they play an important role in all of them. Today they have become multi skilled. Today they are carrying out all kinds of responsibilities. Such type of training is given to our Anganwadi workers that all the programs related to women and children are driven by them by either through their own Anganwadi centers or by visiting their homes. They teach how to take care of childhood, how the children can be involved with educational activities and give the knowledge, understanding, skills on how to take care of health and nutrition of the children and women. They make people aware about these three very important things. There is also a community assembly through these Anganwadi centers where there is a supervised exercise to work, so in a way people get involved in the community, make people aware, advocacy done through IEC and Anganwadi's Management and practical experience is also developed. Today the Anganawadi centers are not merely a shelter. Today it is also our endeavor that the Anganwadi center should be set up in the primary

Government schools or upper primary schools' campus. In this way, they will be interlinked. Children come to these schools for their studies. There they will also get the benefit of Anganwadi centers. This is our constant endeavor. *[English]* Now that you are extending the time for this discussion, kindly allow me to speak.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Other Members are also going to participate in this debate.

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** I will take only half an hour, I will only take another 20 minutes.

*[Translation]*

Sir, I am very grateful to you. You are very kind to me. You have given us an opportunity to speak on a very important subject. Today, through ICT, a platform has been created in the whole country. For the implementation of these Anganwadi services on that platform, a design has been prepared to receive a real time data at these centers for its monitoring. Nutrition tracker management applications are being utilized in the Anganwadi centers. Today this system has become fully transparent. That is why those rural areas are getting full benefits of the services of Anganwadi workers. Today even under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, the work of downloading the new nutrition tracker app at these common service centers (CSE or SPB) which provide technical assistance in States or Union Territories is being done. Along with this, input based training is given to the field personnel who are workers in our field.

Sir, I am saying very important things. I am saying things related to the subject, because I am associated with Anganwadis. I constantly look at their responsibilities, I am in constant touch with them. I have continuously talked about

their honorarium. I have raised their issue many times in this House in the past as well. I have raised this subject in the State also. There was a constant reference to their issue since independence, but for the first time a substantial increase in their honorarium has been done by Modi Government from rupees 3,000 to rupees 4,500. Modi government has increased this honorarium for the workers of Anganwadi centers of the country. The assistants in anganwadi centers, who used to get Rs. 2,250, will get Rs. 3,350 now. Those who used to get rupees 1,500 have been given rupees 2,250. Naturally, there has also been an increase in the honorarium.

It has also come to the notice of the Honorable Minister that there have been difficulties in some states at some places and the Anganawadi workers or assistants faced the problem of honorarium despite continuously performing their work and discharging their responsibility. But they did not care whether they were getting honorarium or not. Despite this, they considered their responsibility to be very important. They understand that they are not working for a generation; they are working for rural women who have children in their homes. In a way, they are working for two generations. They are so responsible and serious for the care of pregnant women that they make them aware about looking after the children growing up in their houses alongwith educating their mothers-in-law who are not so educated. Anganwadi worker was fulfilling this important responsibility of taking them to the PHCs and CSCs. After that, care of the newborn is taken by the Anganwadi workers alongwith helpers. The Anganwadi workers also ensure children's vaccination from birth up to the age of six. They also provide nutritional supplement to the children below the age of six years. .... (*Interruptions*)



*[English]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Please conclude. The other hon. Members also want to speak.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** I have still some important points left. If you allow, I would like to submit .... *(Interruptions)* there are children below the age of six, what to do for their additional nutrition? To regularly check and monitor the health of those women or children is also their main responsibility. To perform that main responsibility these Anganwadi workers play their role like a teacher. She works in the manner of a teacher for the children of three to five years whether it is pre-school education or their home education. What is the most important job? UNICEF has also recognized that the infant mortality rate in our country has reduced and we have achieved the target of caring for the mothers with the encouragement and support of the Anganwadi centers. You must have seen that there is Angul district, where incidents of two children took place in the Anganwadi center, I do not want to go into its details. In this way many other things have happened in Anganwadi. ....*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you, Jagdambika ji. For the rest of the time, our other hon. Members want to speak. You have already taken 45 minutes.

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** Sir, I am taking time today only. I need fifteen more minutes if you permit me. I can conclude also. I am standing on my legs.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Now, please conclude.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:** If you are repeatedly asking me to conclude, then I will conclude my point. I am talking about these Anganwadi women workers. 6.44 lakh Anganwadi workers are connected. I will say to the Hon. Minister as well that she herself is a mother, a woman, and has seen these Anganwadi workers and Sahayikas very closely. The way our Health Ministry or other Ministries have consistently taken responsibilities, whether it is Poshan Abhiyan, or health related responsibilities, they have fulfilled all of their responsibility. Let me talk about any other allocations regarding them or their services today, if you give me more time, I will say a little more. If you're asking to conclude... *(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you.

I do appreciate your interest on the subject of Anganwadi workers and helpers. At the same time, there is a time constraint.

**THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI):** Mr. Chairperson, can you give me just a minute? I will respond at the end of the entire discussion.

Sir, I have had the privilege of listening to Jagdambika Pal ji over a long period of time. He has spoken on the issue with much passion. *[Translation]* He has glorified anganwadi workers and helpers here in detail. He has apprised the House of its history, present situation and future challenges. Today, not only as a Minister, but also as a Member of this House, I want to say that *[English]* he is a senior Member and he stood on his legs for hours to speak on this subject. I just would like

to extend my compliments to him and I think the House can join me in extending our compliments.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Yes, hon. Minister, the Chair has already complimented him on this. He spoke continuously for 45 minutes on the issue of Anganwadi workers and helpers. He made a very good speech. I once again compliment Shri Jagdambika Pal ji.

**ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE (IDUKKI):** Sir, I fully support the entire content included in the Private Member's Resolution moved by hon. Member Ritesh Pandey regarding welfare measures for Anganwadi workers and helpers. At the outset, I would like to express solidarity with the community of Anganwadi workers and helpers spread all over the country.

Sir, the Integrated Child Development Scheme was introduced by late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi in 1975. Now it became the backbone of rural India as everything is connected with Anganwadi. Sir, I am not going into all the details now as hon. Member, *varishtha neta*, Jagdambika Pal ji made a great speech on the subject in detail.

Sir, the Comprehensive Nutrition Programme is being implemented through the Anganwadis. They are preparing the growth chart for our children. They are providing nutritional education. They are doing the pre-schooling. Pradhan Mantri Matri Vandana Yojana is being implemented through Anganwadis. Distribution of several welfare and pension schemes is under the control of Anganwadi workers. They are also working as the COVID-19 warriors in our villages. So, we have to salute the Anganwadi worker and helper community for their greatest contribution, their hard work, their commitment to our nation. However, Sir, as we can see, the

honorarium they get is highly insufficient. To my knowledge, an amount of only Rs.4,500 is going to them from the Central Government and the rest of the amount is paid by the State Governments.

In Kerala, they are getting Rs.12, 000 as honorarium. In addition, they are getting Rs. 500 only as performance linked incentive. The Anganwadi helpers are getting only Rs.2,150 as honorarium from the Central Government's share. The balance amount is being added by the State Government. The performance linked incentive is only Rs.250. We have to give the highest priority to development of Anganwadis and we have also to give the highest priority to addressing the concerns of the Anganwadi Worker and Helper community.

My suggestion, through you, to the hon. Minister is this. We have to increase the Central Government's share to Rs.10,000 for Anganwadi Workers. The performance linked incentive should be increased to minimum Rs.2000. Also, we have to increase the honorarium for Helpers from Rs.2,150 to Rs.5000. At present, they are getting Rs.250 as performance linked incentive. That has to be increased to Rs.1000.

We all know that they are taking care of our children as mothers. Also, they are the first teachers. So, once again, I would like to express our solidarity with the Anganwadi Worker and Helper community by taking care of their welfare measures all over the country.

As already discussed, there are 13.77 lakh Anganwadi centres in our country. Nearly one-fourth of the operational Anganwadi centres lack drinking water facilities and 36 per cent do not have toilets. In 2015, the NITI Aayog recommended for better sanitation and drinking water facilities, improved power

supply and basic medicines for the Anganwadi centres. It also suggested that these centres be provided with the required number of workers, whose skills should be upgraded through regular training.

Also, ICDS beneficiaries do register for services but because the Anganwadis lack adequate facilities, they turn to paid options. Privately-run centres come at a price, hitting low-income families the hardest.

We have to also consider that our centres, due to lack of facilities, clearly do not seem to provide the environment that encourages parents to leave children at these centres. Only a limited number of Anganwadi centres have facilities like crèche, and good quality recreational and learning facilities for pre-school education. Research has shown the significance of the playing-based learning approach in the cognitive development of children. An approach that combines an effective supplementary nutrition programme with learning techniques that makes learning interesting is the need of the hour. The success of ICDS depends upon the combined efforts of the Anganwadi Workers, ASHAs and ANMs.

I would like to make a few suggestions. Firstly, while infrastructure development and capacity building of the anganwadi centres remains the key to improving the programme, the standards of all its services need to be upscaled.

Secondly, the States have much to learn from each other's experiences.

Thirdly, the Anganwadi centres must cater to the needs of the community and the programme's workers.

Also, we have to think about their further development by giving them the greatest priority. We should think about smart Anganwadis. Nowadays, we are

living in a situation where we are trying to develop everything and become hi-tech. That is why, for Anganwadis also, that kind of a development is needed. So, 'smart Anganwadis' should be the programme for development of Anganwadis. We should think about smart Anganwadis.

With these words, I would once again like to support the entire content relating to the Private Member's resolution.

Thank you, Sir.

**SHRI HASNAIN MASOODI (ANANTNAG):** Thank you, Sir. First of all, I congratulate the hon. Member who has moved and initiated this Resolution. Secondly, I do salute the resolve of the hon. Minister who is pursuing with passion the welfare schemes for children.

We have 400 million children in our country. There are different schemes to improve their lot, and to bring some kind of relief to those who belong to the disempowered section of the society.

After Shri Jagdambika Pal has made an elaborate speech, I do not think there is any need to highlight the role played by the Anganwadi workers at the grassroots level. These centres in real sense have become the nerve centres of rural development, in a sense the role they play in every facet of rural development.

I would like to emphasise that there should be hand holding programmes at the initial stage and then we should take up capacity building. The roles they successfully play need some kind of capacity building and convergence also. There should be convergence between different verticals or different actors at the rural

level. The facilities at these centres need to be enhanced so that they can play the role envisioned by the Ministry under various ICDS Schemes.

The next point is regarding remuneration. When we gave ourselves the Constitution, we made a pledge. We made a promise to ourselves that we will ensure and strive for social justice at all dimensions. Social justice is one of the pledges that we made. At the entry level when at least Rs.17,000 to Rs.20,000 emoluments are given to Class-IV employees, it is shameful that these workers end up receiving Rs.4,500 per month. It is too meagre and deserves to be given a serious second look. They are the key actors who play a role in making people realise the principles or objectives of social justice. It is painful to realise that we are not able to do some kind of social justice to this segment of the society. My request would be, whatever resources are available, at the Central level and at State level, they should be pooled in so that we can at least give them a decent honorarium. Hon. Minister, and hon. Members will agree that Rs. 4,500 is no emolument at all.

I would say that there should be convergence. If this programme is a successful programme, why not make best use of it at the rural level. We expect that this Resolution will give some kind of a relief to these Anganwadi workers. Let us not forget the role they have played in this battle against COVID-19 pandemic. We should also not forget the role played by our health workers and ASHA workers. It would be appropriate to give some kind of relief and respite to that segment of the society which has played a vital role in the battle against COVID-19 and helped us to first set the goals and then achieve those goals. That is my request. Please, let this Resolution bring some kind of relief and the sentiments of the Members may be given importance. The way we congratulated them for the role they have played, and the overall role played by the hon. Minister, let them get some kind of a relief.

Let this not merely be a rhetoric without any practical benefits for the Anganwadi workers, helpers, including ASHA workers, and other workers at the lowest rung, who are engaged in health care system. Thank you.



**17.00 hrs**

*[Translation]*

**DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA):** Thank you, Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I have risen to talk about the resolution brought by Ritesh Pandey ji. I want to congratulate the Anganwadi and Anganwadi workers for the work they have done under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister of the country Modi ji in this Corona period. And I also on behalf of all the Members of this House want to congratulate them that they have done a great job for this country.

Secondly, the way Prime Minister has given this responsibility to Smriti Irani ji and the passion with which Hasnain Masoodi ji and Jagdambika Pal ji were speaking, associating myself with it, I can tell that Smriti Irani ji has got a big responsibility. On behalf of the House, I want to congratulate her for the tremendous work done by her since 2019 and particularly during this corona period and wish that she continues to do what she has been doing.

We talk about mortality, infant mortality, upliftment of women and also we talk about on what basis ICDS has expanded. This House has faith in late Shrimati Gandhiji and I would like to thank her for bringing such a programme in 1975. But, our culture has been a very simple culture. We have been reading since childhood. And also as Kabir has said -

*Saai itna dijiye, jaame kutumb samaay /*

*main bhi bhookha na rahoon, saadhu na bhookha jaye //*

This means that we have always believed in the culture of distribution. We believe that we should only have that much money, wealth and possessions where

we are able to feed everyone. We talk about equality. Right of Equality, about which we constantly talk and for that we talk about Article-14 and Article-21 in the Constitution. There is not much need to read Article-14 and Article-21. I want to say that what Kabir and Rahim had said and before that what the Vedas of India, the Purana, civilization and culture said, are the same thing. But several issues before independence and after independence became issues of vote bank situation in this country. If you talk about the farmer, then no one will talk about how to benefit the farmer. They will talk about how to use the farmers for vote bank politics. If we talk about religion, the Sachar Committee report proved that even after 60-70 years of independence, the Bharatiya Janata Party has not ruled for 60-70 years, the Congress party has ruled in these years. I'm not saying they haven't done anything, they tried a lot. But, if you look at the report of the Sachar Committee, which was formed during the Congress rule, then it will be known that the development of their education, the development of their jobs and the representation of Muslims in the industry are negligible. If we talk about Muslims, then you will see vote bank politics, that how to play vote bank politics with Muslims. But no one talks about how they should progress in the field of education, and in jobs. Similarly, when we talk about women and their rights, then we should see how women can progress, we should also talk about women's reservation, about their jobs, about their education and the proper development of children. But all this is only on paper. This is exactly same as all the villages need to be electrified, when I became MP in 2009 and whenever I used to go in any village, people used to say that there will not be any electricity in their village because single phase line transformers were installed in the 'Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana'. The way there was talk of giving electricity to BPL card holders, the way transformers of 9 KVA, 16 KVA and 25 KVA were installed and said that only poor people will use that electricity and rich

people will not use it. But then rich people started using that electricity in illegal manner. Due to that, all the transformers were either stolen or burnt. In the same way, when I proceed with my speech, I will tell you what exactly happened in this also.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, just before independence, Bhore Committee was formed in 1946. Because independence was around the corner and people began to feel that if not today, then tomorrow freedom would be declared. The Bhore Committee said that after independence, if there is a need to focus more on anyone, it is the children and women. When our Government was formed in the country in 1947 and late Jawaharlal Nehru ji became the Prime Minister of the country, then on the recommendations of the Bhore Committee, he started a small program.

When nothing happened in 10 years, a Mudaliar Committee was formed in the year 1959-61. That committee said that after the study of the last 10-12 or 15 years, we can say that in the last 13-14 years, for the mental development of children and to fight anemia disease in women and to eradicate malnutrition and hunger from this country the works which should have been done, have not been done. Reports are submitted and put on the back burner. In 1946, the Bhore Committee report was submitted, in 1959-60, the Mudaliar Committee report came, but no sooner the report is submitted, the work stops, that report was also abandoned.

Suddenly, the Government comes into senses and in 1975 Shrimati Indira Gandhi Ji came up with much far reaching legislation. She brought in more such legislation like nationalization of banks. In 1969, when Banks were being nationalized, she said during her speech in this House that the Credit Deposit (CD) Ratio in the Eastern India was not increasing. It was not able to cross even 30-32 percent, because of which they had to nationalize the Banks.

She had given a slogan in 1971 that we had to eradicate poverty, but we have seen the results of these two. It seems that the slogans were meant to be slogans only. The reality is this that despite the nationalization of Banks, the CD Ratio, since 1969, remained stagnant at just 30 percent till the year 2014 when Hon. Modi Ji had assumed the office of Prime Minister. If we talk about Jharkhand, the State where I belong to, Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha and Chhattisgarh, this ratio has reached 35 percent today. This was the plight of the country from 1969 to 2014.

In the same way, if we talk about “Garibi Hataao”, then the Slogan “Garibi Hataao” caused many candidates continuously win the elections and enter this House. There are many such people who have been the Member of Parliament since 2009. For example, the Parliamentary Affairs Minister Meghwal Sahab as well as Rajendra Agrawal Ji are sitting here. Hon. Chairperson, you are our senior. You have won election and reached here much earlier. You are the senior most among all of us sitting here.

In 2009, when I was fighting the election, there was only one slogan being aired at that time that we should provide them Red Card or BPL Card. The vote politics of every man and woman of every village used to run on the same line but poverty could not be eliminated. But since 2014, the way the Government changed the criteria, the way it designed the scheme for providing electricity to the people, to ensure supply of food grains to the people under Food Security Act, to provide job opportunities to the people and to ensure development of the people, on that basis, I, being a Member of Parliament can proudly say that our Hon. Prime Minister needs accolades, that at least, he brought equity in the society and gave level playing field to everyone. He bridged the gap existing between the poor and the rich, also, he

contributed significantly in ending the inequalities between the backwards and forwards and gradually put an end to poverty.

The foreign forces go on destabilizing this Government and they spread misinformation. I would like to tell you that the intellectuals across the nation and the globe and especially the media persons keep us cornering continuously on these two issues, one is newly published Hunger Index and another is GDP of the country.

Hon. Chairperson, one day I was speaking in this Parliament that GDP cannot be considered a criteria to gauge the development of a country and the time has come that the country should take decision on the anomalies associated with GDP. I have quoted many people, but the media started trolling on me by saying, “see, here comes the GDP expert. How rubbish he talks! He is nonsense. Such is the Bharatiya Janata Party”. I had not quoted any report that time. In 2008, Mr. Sarkozy was the President of France. He found that the standard of living of French people had improved. He found that they were able to feed their people in a better way, they were able to provide jobs and status of women and children in the country had improved. He found that people below Poverty Line were very few in his country. The number of people below Poverty Line in USA is too much, but the GDP of USA looks ahead of others and ours looks far less than that of theirs. Did they think about the reasons behind this? GDP is not a Bible.

Through you, I would like to say that the concept of GDP came into being in 1935-36. Does it mean that the world’s economy was not functioning without GDP before this? They constituted a Committee under the Chairpersonship of a Nobel laureate Economist Joseph Stiglitz in 2008. There was a person in the Committee namely, Professor Amartya Sen Sahab, who is often quoted by the Opposition members and I also being an economist respect him. He was also a Nobel laureate

and a member of the Committee. According to the report of his Committee, GDP should not be the criteria in any sense to assess the economy and now, the time has come that the development of a country should not be seen through the lenses of Indices developed by some other country. I quoted the report of Stiglitz Committee. This will not be discussed that the Economist Stiglitz does not know Economics. This will also not be discussed that the report of Amartya Sen Ji is erroneous but if Nishikant Dubey of Bharatiya Janata Party discusses this issue he is considered a fool, Bharatiya Janata Party is a non sense and there is a talent crunch in Bharatiya Janata Party. This Hunger Index is of that kind only.

Hon. Chairperson, I was listening to the discussions taking place in House that day when the Spanish Flu hit this country in the year 1918-19, the biggest problem arose before the country was hunger, which caused the death of a lot of people. The death due to hunger was a natural cause because we were not in a condition to produce adequate food grains and there were less means of transportation at that time. The British were so entangled in the World War that they were draining out all the assets available in India for financing their war. Therefore, so many people in India died of hunger.

Hon. Chairperson, since long you have also been in the field of Politics, can you say that has any other country spent Rs. 2.5 Lakh Crore to save the lives of their people like what was done in India under the leadership of Honourable Modi Ji? And today, 80 Crore people are being distributed with 5 Kg of food grains every month. Should Modi Ji not be thanked for that? Are we not the eyewitness that Irani Ji being an able Minister has been working with passion and been in continuous touch with all concerned authorities and officers, be it a Parliamentarian, an Assembly Member, Officers or the Chief Secretaries to ensure that people reach the Anganwadi Centres

on time, children do not die of hunger, women do not become malnourished and they do not suffer from anemia.

Even during this Corona period, if I had spoken to her five to seven times, she would always ask me whether I had convened meeting. What was the status of malnutrition in my area? Where did I participate in the POSHAN Pakhwada which was being celebrated those days? Sir, should we not congratulate her for this job? Should we not congratulate her rising above the party line, which she deserves well? I think we should avoid such vacuum and such discussions in the Parliament.

Sir, I would like to bring to the notice three – four things to the House which I had mentioned during my earlier speech that we had taken ICDS as a failed scheme and just as a slogan. I would like to quote some judgments of the Supreme Court before you about what have been done till date regarding ICDS? I congratulate Congress for starting ICDS, but I would like to quote a judgment of the Supreme Court given in the year 2009 regarding what happened with the status of women and children with this scheme. Justice Arijit Pasayat said,

*[English]*

“The grievance is made by the petitioner about the non-implementation of the direction given by this court to the Central Government and the State Government relating to the Integrated Child Development Scheme. The Scheme is meant for children of the age group of 0-6, pregnant women, lactating mothers and adolescent girls. Undisputedly, funds are released by the Central Governments to the State Governments which are required to implement the Scheme. They are not implementing it and Central Government is not taking care.”

*[Translation]*

It is the judgment of the year 2009. This judgment was pronounced because the Court made two consecutive observations in the year 2004 and 2006 that the scheme being implemented is not fulfilling the purpose for which it was launched. The Supreme Court has made consecutive observations in years 2001, 2004 and 2006 and these observations are not being fulfilled. Should we go forward with this kind of ICDS? The way Ritesh Pandey sahib has brought it in this way, have you ever seen the condition of Anganwadi workers? Has anyone ever tried to see the condition of Anganwadi helper? What kind of monitoring committee should be there? Everybody only talks.

Our senior Member Shri Jagdambika Pal ji was speaking just now. He speaks very well and he is engaged with the Anganwadis. Whoever contests the Lok Sabha elections, he or she focuses on the Anganwadi centres. It may be caused due to children, women, anemia because of mal-nutrition. You call it vote bank politics or you may say that he or she is working for the society. But how does the helper in the Anganwadi centers get selected? - In Bihar, Jharkhand or in Uttar Pradesh. We must consider it above the party angle. If we talk about giving the rights to the Panchayats by saying that the Panchayat Head will coordinate these things in the Panchayat. But have you ever seen what the Panchayats Head do? The biggest problem in preparing the BPL list that came to fore is that the right to delete and add names in the list has been given to the Gram Panchayats. The Panchayat head has to delete the names of those who have come out of below poverty line and add the names of those who have become poor. Do you think that due to vote bank politics, any addition or deletion can be done by the panchayat head? In the same way, the place of supply, the person who will supply food, is also decided by the State Governments on its



own. All the judgments I have quoted, be it the Supreme Court's judgment of the year 2001, 2004, 2006, or of the 2009, I am constantly talking about the Supreme Court here.

One thing is common in all the judgments, which is common. The common thing is that there will be no mass supply. No big company will supply such things and will not supply nutritional food. But what is happening in the States? I urge the Hon. Minister to implement the Judgment in letter and spirit without discriminating between the States. You can do it, because you are working a lot. Hon. Minister, I can understand your pain. I often talk to you and you too explain those things always. Many times during unofficial conversation, Smriti Irani ji says that if anemia is to be eradicated, the best vegetable, the best cure or the best thing is *Sahajan*, which is called drumstick.

It is called *Sahajan or Sojina* in Bihar and Jharkhand. I have planted it in my house and I have also planted it in Delhi also. If it is fed, we can control the anemia in women to a great extent. But do the State Governments, plant drumstick in any Anganwadi center, having its own building, as a local product, District product, panchayat product about which we talk. This is a good thing for the whole country, but we have to earn money, we have to do corruption. These problems develop when we do not try to stop such activities.

Hon. Chairperson Sir, there are many such things which we felt in the year 2014. The Congress Party has assumed that it will not return to power. Since 2011-12, there has been 2G case, CWG case and these things are still in court and many Members are present here and I don't want to comment on it. They slowly started formulating such policies that the next Government of 2014, the next Prime Minister will not be able to implement these policies. When he will not be able to implement

then there will be so much reaction in the country that the Government of India will have to face defeat.

Sir, there are two Acts. One of these is the Land Acquisition Act. It is there that if you have to acquire land, there is no problem in giving money to anyone. Farmers should get money; the government may belong to Bharatiya Janata Party or any other party; if they do politics in the name of farmers, there should be no problem in giving money to the farmers. But the assessment, the review, the process of land acquisition, has been delayed so much that there will be no land acquisition before one year, two years and three years. When you come to power in the year 2014, till 2018-19, none of your work will be visible on the ground. After that you would lose the election.

Sir, the other one is Food Security Act. These two were such far-reaching legislations, about which it was said that it was only vote bank politics. There was a big conspiracy to defame the coming Government in this vote bank politics, but they did not know that they were pitching against Modi ji. Sir, there is a Gorakhpuri shayari.

"ye mana ki jindagi char din ki hai,  
Bahut hote hain yar char din bhi."

Modi ji went forward with this belief. Even these five years are enough for us. If you want to do something, then do it. If we have to give justice and development to the downtrodden, backward, women, exploited, deprived, then whatever we have to do, we will do it.

What happened after the Food Security Act? I would like to quote only two things. A letter is dated 30 March, 2020. ... (*Interruptions*) Sir, it will take at most

15-20 minutes. When Smriti Irani became the Minister, she gave the instruction. As per the National Food Security Act, 2013, on the basis of its sections 4, 5, 6 and 8, it has been decided to provide supplementary food. She decided to enhance the budget. It was a big shock for them who thought that we could not do this; we have done this work also. Apart from this, all these things like the administration of Anganwadi, the UT and the role of Chief Secretary have been clarified by the Hon. Minister. I said that the Hon. Minister is passionate. If the people of Amethi did not give her a chance to come here by voting less in the year 2014, she worked so hard in Amethi for five years that finally she won Amethi seat and Amethi ....\*. This is the result of her passion. The resolution brought by Ritesh Pandey ji on January 13, 2012, has many answers. The salary of Anganwadi helpers should be increased. In today's economic situation, the entire State is dependent on the sharing of revenue between the center and the State. If the Center does not provide money to the States, does not support them, does not accept overdraft, then there are many such State Governments where there is no major industries, especially the kind of State, you and we hail from, they face a lot of problems. Therefore, I do not want to repeat what Jagdambika Pal ji has said, its pattern of increase to three thousand five hundred and four thousand five hundred, the Hon. Minister will definitely speak about it. I would like to congratulate them. The slogans of the Congress were to eliminate poverty, Food Security Act, development of children, end of exploitation of women. The work done for the ICDS with taking forward the *Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao* slogan is remarkable. What does their January 13 order states? This is not a slogan for us. Development of children is not a slogan for the Modi Government. This is not a slogan for Smriti Irani ji. It is an emotional subject for them. This is the subject which we have to pursue further. Children will be taken forward, children will be

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\* Not recorded.

healthy, women will be healthy only then this country will progress. The first one was quality assurance. I have said that the Anganwadi centers should have the kind of food that we and you eat in a normal way. The biggest problem is that there is only water in *Dal*, and rice may be with insects, there was no one to see, whether green vegetables are being served to them or not. The first order is of importance. Ritesh Pandey ji, I am reading after one year of bringing resolution by you that there should be quality assurance in it. Hon. Minister has added that take home ration should be tested by FSSAI empanelled or NABL accredited laboratory. Till date no one has thought of this. Till date no one has cared about the poor man. There is a Couplet (Doha) by Rahim:

“Rahiman ve nar mar chuke, je kahun mangan jaahin,  
Un te pahle ve mue, jin mukh niksath naahin”.

You talk about the poor, rural women and children, but you never thought about how they will get good food. You have given it in the hands of the contractor.

First of all, the same order came on January 13, 2021 in which Hon. Minister has decided about how the quality assurance will be ensured and which laboratories and certification will be there. This has happened for the first time. I can tell you that since the year 1975, after almost 46 years, rather about 50 years, under the leadership of Hon. Modi ji, *Behan* Smriti Irani ji has done this work after 50 years. I want to congratulate her in this House through you.

The second issue is of supply chain management. The supply chain of the States is not transparent, as I told you. The maximum theft has happened, many people have wrongly or rightly, somehow made factories in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. People have set up factories in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Jharkhand. What do they supply? Let me tell you how the people of Jharkhand,

Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka and North-East can have the same taste of food? For this, she has made arrangement that the supply chain management should be proper and should be done keeping in mind the local people, local women and children.

At the District level, the District Monitoring Committee should be formed under the leadership of the DM and its meetings should be held regularly. It has also been decided that what he will monitor, how often he will monitor, for example periodically, monitoring the delivery of essential stocks, participation in all meetings and what will be his work. Further the work at the State level has also been done. The biggest problem is that many things are not decentralized. ICDS scheme does not have a decentralized system. The State itself decides who will be from the State's side. The Secretary to the State doesn't have that much authority, One day, he is there, then he will be transferred. The Secretary works under a Minister, so for the first time in the State Level Monitoring Committee, she formed the State Level Monitoring Committee headed by the Chief Secretary.

Further, at the village level, he formed the Management Level Committee of Anganwadi Centers, which has Mother Group, Panchayat Raj Institutions, and Nutrition Panchayat. And about the ownership rights, who will own it at the local level, everyone used to think about the Anganwadi centers that either the CDPO or the village head, sarpanch would manage them, but she constituted a full-fledged committee to monitor it. Many times when we visit, it is seen that the Anganwadi center is closed. We have no idea why it is closed. For this, she has formed a local committee there. If four-five persons will be heading a house, they certainly will not allow wrongdoing.

Further, Shri Jagdambika Pal ji has repeatedly mentioned about nutrition tracker. I would request the Hon. Minister that when he replies, he should also state

the number of ineligible people removed by the nutrition tracker. The biggest problem in this is the Mid Day Meal Scheme. For the problem in the Anganwadi, I would also request the hon. Minister to try to improve it, this issue arises again and again in the DISHA committee as well. The children who are admitted are above four years. On taking admission in the school, those children naturally come under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme. Under this you have given a group of 0-6. Due to this gap of two years, many children are registered in Anganwadi centers as well as in Mid-Day Meals in schools. Due to this, money is spent at both the places. The middlemen, by making double entry in this way, take money from Education department as well as from ICDS.

Therefore, how much we have benefited and this country has benefited from the nutrition tracker should also be told. He also mentioned the areas where corruption used to be. Next is procurement, which is the biggest issue. The manner in which the procurement will be done, how people will procure, all these things are there in the order which has been sent to all the chief secretaries and which this Ministry is following. Then is the matter of convergence.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, in many places, there is no building. There are 18 such Departments which the Minister has converged. It was not a mere slogan for us, it was an emotion for us, if Anganwadi is to be constructed, and how will it be constructed through MGNREGA. If water is to be supplied, then what role will be played by the Ministry of Jal Shakti? If we talk about the *Swachchata mission*, Shri Hardeep Puri ji is sitting here; his Ministry will look after the work to be carried out in urban and rural areas. Similarly, other Ministries are converged by the Government. And shouldn't the Minister be congratulated for what he has done as at least someone made efforts to think about the problem. Our Government has done

all this work. In the end, I would like to dedicate a quote of poet Firaq to Hon. Narendra Modi ji and Smriti Irani ji:

*“Yahi jagat ki reet hai, yahi jagat ki neet hai,  
Man ke hare har hai, Man ke jite jeet hai.”*

I conclude my speech by congratulating the Hon. Prime Minister and Shrimati Smriti Irani Ji for whatever radical changes the Government has made today.

**SHRI RAM SHIROMANI VERMA (SHRAWASTI):** Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

Sir, there is an Anganwadi Helper to assist the worker at the Anganwadi Centre in every village under the scheme being implemented by the Government of India. The tasks of the Helper include cleaning the Centre, distributing the nutritious meals to the children, calling them from their homes, assisting in vaccination, preparing the meals etc. thus working for seven to eight hours a day. They get an honorarium of Rs. 2750/- which comes to less than Rs. 100/- a day and is way less than the minimum wages fixed by the Government of India. Sometimes, the Government terminates their services also. The Government of Uttar Pradesh terminated approximately 35,000 Helpers a few days back who were aged above 62 years. They are not paid any lumpsum amount on their termination. It has come to light that some of the States pay them some monthly amount as assistance, however nothing is being paid in Uttar Pradesh. They do not get any leave. They are employed for tasks such as vaccination etc. even on holidays. They are not paid any honorarium separately. Their honorarium is deducted on being absent due to illness or any urgent work. They do not have any medical facilities and they do not get pension etc. on yearly basis on being considered as retired.

Sir, I would like to demand from the Government to provide the status of permanent Government employees to the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers also and the honorarium of the Anganwadi Workers and Helpers should be fixed at minimum Rs. 3000/- and Rs. 10,000/- respectively. Along with that, I demand from the Government that Health Services should be ensured for all of them since they have been deployed for COVID vaccination and care for the sick recently.



Finally, I demand that these Workers and Helpers should be granted at least Rs. Five Lakh on their death after their retirement. Thank you.

*[English]*

**SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN (KOTTAYAM):** Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Resolution moved by Shri Ritesh Pandey Ji, Member of Parliament, seeking to provide various welfare measures to the Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers.

This is the first move in India to empower women and children. As we all know, it was introduced on 2 nd October, 1975 to improve the conditions of women and children in the rural areas. The Anganwadi Workers are doing an exemplary service. They are acting as mothers to the children from the age of 3-6. They act as teachers to the children. They serve the mothers and the adolescent girls to provide them with better food so that they maintain good health. They are called upon to do a lot of services. They provide services to the lactating mothers, pregnant women, adolescent girls and then again, as I told earlier, to the children from the age of 3-6.

They are also called upon to provide more services in various Departments. The surveys are asked to be conducted by the Anganwadi teachers by most of the Departments. But they are not properly compensated. They serve the humanity and the society with all will and pleasure but they are not compensated properly.

Their salary, as we all know, is very meagre. It is not even called as salary. It is called only as honorarium. The Central Government provides Rs.4,500 to the Anganwadi Workers and only Rs.2,900 to the Anganwadi Helpers. In Kerala, the Government of Kerala provides an additional amount of Rs.7,500 so that their monthly income comes to Rs.12,000. In the case of Anganwadi Helpers, it is only Rs.8,000. It is not even Rs.500 per day. So, it is a humanitarian consideration to provide them a better salary and it should be called as a salary.

My humble suggestion is that they should be given a minimum scale of a last grade employee of the Central Government so that they will get at least Rs.20, 000 to Rs.22, 000 per month to manage their families.

Secondly, the Anganwadis are not having sufficient infrastructural facilities. Many of the Anganwadis are working in rented buildings and, I can even say, in dilapidated buildings. That condition should be changed because the children are coming from the rural areas. They are at the tender age of 3-6.

These teachers and helpers take care of them. The Government should ensure that the buildings in which these anganwadi centres function should be safe enough. The rent is provided by the Central Government. To my knowledge, an amount of Rs.1000 is provided as rent in rural areas.

**HON. CHAIRPERSON:** So far as anganwadi infrastructure and buildings are concerned, our State of Kerala is far better.

**SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:** Of course, it is better.

Sir, as an MLA, I myself had provided some amount from my MLA fund for construction of anganwadi buildings. Even the Government of Kerala is also availing certain facilities for construction of anganwadi buildings provided they have at least three cents of land donated by someone. I would request the Central Government to provide better facilities in these anganwadi centres to turn them into high tech centres, as was just mentioned by the hon. Chairperson. Post COVID-19 pandemic, we have realized that it is the need of the hour.

The parents in poor families want their children to have better facilities in these anganwadi centres. Other children, who go to public primary schools, get very

good facilities. It is justifiable that the Government should provide equivalent good facilities to these anganwadi centres and improve their infrastructure.

Sir, I would like to add one more point with regard to the rent of these anganwadi centres. Many teachers and poor anganwadi workers are sharing part of the rent from their honorarium. That should be avoided. The Government should revise the rate of rent that is being provided for these buildings. In certain cases, the rent has not been paid for some time. So, the arrears in these cases should also be paid as early as possible.

Sir, there are 33,115 anganwadi centres with more than 66,000 workers and helpers. These anganwadi centres do not have sufficient infrastructure including drinking water and sanitation facilities. I would urge the Government to provide better sanitation facilities in these centres.

Sir, in addition to providing services equivalent to the lower grade Government employees, these anganwadi workers should also be eligible for ESI and other facilities which are available to other Government employees.

I would also request the Government to properly recognize the services rendered by the anganwadi teachers. During COVID-19 pandemic, most of these teachers were attending to the COVID-19 patients. Their services should not only be recognized but also be compensated properly. With these words, I conclude. Thank you, Sir.

*[Translation]*

**SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT):** Sir, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the motion brought by the hon. Member of Parliament Ritesh Pandey ji regarding the welfare measures for Anganwadi Workers and Helpers. Several Members have already spoken on it.

Hon. Chairperson, whenever I come across Anganwadi Workers or Asha Workers who are at the same pedestal, an idea immediately strikes my mind that however good schemes you make at the level of Central Government or State Governments, the benefits of the said Government schemes cannot accrue to the intended beneficiaries without the necessary systems in place and without making the beneficiaries a partner in their implementation. I consider the role of the Anganwadi Workers as crucial. 'Water should reach till the tail end'. This phrase is quite prevalent in irrigation sector. Some arrangements are needed to be made in farms for the water from any canal, tube-well or any other source to reach every point including the last corner of the field. It is only after the said arrangements are made that the water reaches every corner of the field and helps the farmers grow the crops properly. Similarly, the contribution of Anganwadi Workers is important in ensuring the delivery to the last man and to the last point. It is quite right that the scheme was launched in the year 1975 and work has been taking place since then. Taking a holistic view, everybody will concede, and it is our experience also that taking it as a great opportunity and a big challenge, the Anganwadi Workers have fulfilled their mandate and expectations including tasks which generally seemed improbable and difficult; in a much better way during the past few days with the help of the systems which were put in place under the leadership of the Hon. Minister Smriti Irani ji and guidance of the hon. Prime Minister. Their tasks during Corona

period have been like penance. Many a time, we lose sight as our focus remains limited to the cities and what transpires in the cities. The newspapers and the media also take cognizance of the incidents happening in big cities. If it happens in the Capital, it hits the headlines. The families in remote villages, which are also, on the lowest pedestal economically, do not have any facilities or suitable conditions for decent living. Working amongst them, imparting them information regarding various Government schemes and making them a partner in those systems and above all making them safe including the mothers and the children during the period of such a large scale infection was incredible when you know that even the family members avoided meeting one another fearing they might also get infected. Under such circumstances, in the entire country and in Uttar Pradesh, as I hail from Meerut, a district in Uttar Pradesh; whatever success has been achieved during the Corona infection period due to the efforts made by the hon. Chief Minister has many facets. But, the cooperation extended and duties rendered by the Anganwadi sisters in delivering those facilities to the last man in rural areas and in tackling the problems due to Corona, have been quite special and praiseworthy.

I would also like to express my heartfelt thanks to those sisters. ... *(Interruptions)* I am providing one or two small figures avoiding bigger data since I feel you will not allow me full time. ... *(Interruptions)* I will keep standing and will speak the next time. You can have a look at the large number of beneficiaries which is a result of the improvement in delivery systems. Today, the number of child beneficiaries of ages between six month to six years out of the total beneficiaries under the umbrella scheme of Anganwadi or ICDS launched by the hon. Minister under the guidance of the hon. Prime Minister in the year 2017, is 7 Crore 36 lakh and 91,025 or approximately 7.5 crore. Similarly, the number of pregnant women or the lactating mothers with infants or toddlers is 1 Crore 69 Lakh and 25,928.

Combined, these two figures add to more than Nine Crores. You should see its results. It has resulted in children getting rid of malnutrition. The ill effects of malnutrition at birth are very hard to remove afterwards. The precautions taken at birth of a child act like a foundation and the child faces less difficulty later on. Hence, such children remain free of the possible future malnutrition. Foundation of a healthy family is laid by including the mothers also in this campaign for eradication of malnutrition, making them partners and providing them better nutrition. In nutshell, these are the beneficiaries of this scheme. This scheme has some objectives for sure. The figures mentioned by me are important from the view point of achieving those objectives. The Anganwadis have got a very important role to play especially in the New Education Policy announced recently. We know that the children of our sisters in villages do not get proper education facilities many times. There is schooling and all other facilities, but when they are working women, the children are to be taken care of in the Anganwadis from beginning itself. Play Schools are available in the urban areas. The wealthy get their children admitted in Play Schools where the child keeps on playing and learning. They have got resources which they utilise. But, the provision of Anganwadi has been made in NEP also for the people in rural areas who do not have such resources. They have been entrusted with this responsibility under a precise arrangement and this also has its benefits. Gradually, their role will expand with the expansion of NEP scheme.

**17.59 hrs**

(Hon. Speaker *in the Chair*)

Our Anganwadi Workers have been complying with and working together regularly in sectors from health, nutrition, care of mothers to security and have given major contribution. They have very important role to play. As I mentioned in the beginning, Antyodaya is the aim of our Government as our Hon. Prime Minister

mentions. It means delivering water to the tail end and benefitting the last person from the view point of development by fixing the delivery system. When the Hon. Prime Minister took an oath of office in 2014, he declared that this Government will be dedicated to the poor, to the villages, to the women and to the farmers. This resolution has been expressed in clear terms by the Hon. Prime Minister.

**18.00 hrs**

Working continuously as the 'Pradhan Sevak' for the last seven and a half years, he has been providing succor to these sections of the society. The role of Anganwadi Workers in this context is very important.

**HON. SPEAKER:** Please continue next time.

The House stands adjourned to meet again on December 13, 2021 till 11.00 a.m.

**18.01 hrs**

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Monday, December 13, 2021/ Agrahayana 22, 1943 (Saka).*

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