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Wednesday, December 22, 2021
Pausha 1, 1943 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Seventh Session
(Seventeenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XV contains Nos.11 to 18)

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NEW DELHI

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**Seventeenth Series, Vol. XV, Seventh Session, 2021/1943 (Saka)
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, December 22, 2021/Pausha 1, 1943 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Honorable Members, permission to lay the matters under Rule-377 listed for yesterday and today is granted.

... *(Interruptions)*

(i) Need to declare Bundelkhand as a Natural Farm region

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL (HAMIRPUR): In view of the social and economic condition of Bundelkhand and considering the agricultural methods and availability of cow, I have raised the demand to declare Bundelkhand as a natural farm region in the past too. Recently, a National Summit on Zero Budget Natural Farming was organized by the Government and every effort is being made for the development of cooperatives in the agricultural sector.

In Bundelkhand, traditional farming is being practiced for years and this region is home to an abundance of indigenous cow progeny. Less use of fertilizers and the use of products of indigenous cow progeny, which was a sign of backwardness some time ago, is now an indicator of the unprecedented development prospects of Bundelkhand. We just need to review it. Bundelkhand is the region where the efforts are being made by the Central Government for the development of agriculture and farmers and the efforts made so far here can prove to be a model for the entire country.

* Treated as laid on the Table.

Therefore, I urge the Government to declare Bundelkhand as a natural farm region for overall development of agriculture and cattle in this region.

(ii) Need to exclude the names of people converted to Christianity from the list of Scheduled Tribes and also discontinue the benefits of reservations to them

SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT (LOHARDAGA): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the situation arising out of availing the benefits of reservation under the Scheduled Tribes quota even after converting from Scheduled Tribes to other religions in the entire country including Jharkhand State. Conversion to any other religion means that he / she does not like the tribal tradition. That is, when someone has broken ties with civilization and culture, then he/she should not claim any rights in the name of that particular civilization and culture. Reservation should be given only to those who are tribals. The right to double benefit should be abolished by identifying the people who have converted to other religions because it is a violation of the rights of the rest of the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes.

In 1968, a popular leader in Jharkhand and former Union Minister Shri Kartik Oraon had also introduced a bill in the Parliament to exclude the people of the tribal community, who had converted to Christianity, from the notified community. Today, the echo of the voice raised by him is heard again. In Jharkhand, a demand is being raised on the large scale that the tribals who have converted to Christianity under the influence of missionaries should be deprived of the benefits of the reservation. The conflict between converted and non-converted tribals regarding this issue also keeps arising repeatedly. I think this will not last for long. Claiming the rights of tribes while having converted to another religion is an injustice to the tribal society.

There is no special provision of reservation on the basis of religion in the Constitution. Under the Fifth Schedule of the Constitution, tribal people are given the benefit of reservation in the name of Scheduled Tribes and not on the basis of

religion. Therefore, I urge the Government that if any tribal person converts to Christianity, his/her name should be excluded from the list of Scheduled Tribes and the benefit of reservation should be discontinued. When only those people who belong to the Scheduled Tribes as per the law are benefited from the reservation, only then their economic and social progress will be possible.

**(iii) Need to set up a Solar Power Plant in East Singhbhum district,
Jharkhand**

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHTO (JAMSHEDPUR): Due to severe shortage of electricity in rural areas as well as urban areas of East Singhbhum district under my Parliamentary Constituency, Jamshedpur, people have to face various problems as electricity is available there only for 4 to 5 hours per day. Farmers face problems in watering their fields and other agricultural activities, students face problems in their studies and people are unable to charge their mobile phones in rural areas. It is well known that under the able leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister, electricity connection alongwith the installation of meter has now been provided to each household under Ujjwala Yojana, Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojana and other schemes. During the tenure of previous Government in Jharkhand, electricity was available to the public for about 22-23 hours. However, under the present State Government, people are not getting adequate electricity supply. About 400-500 acres of land in Chakulia under East Singhbhum district has been lying vacant for years. In view of the difficulties being faced by the people, solar power plant can be established on the said vacant land to address the issue of electricity.

I, therefore, urge the hon. Minister of Power and the Minister of New and Renewable Energy to set up a solar power plant in East Singhbhum district under Jamshedpur Parliamentary Constituency.

**(iv) Regarding declining ground water level in Gwalior Parliamentary
Constituency, Madhya Pradesh**

SHRI VIVEK NARAYAN SHEJWALKAR (GWALIOR): Most of the schemes for water supply in rural areas are based on ground water under the Jal Jeevan Mission Yojana (Har Ghar Jal Yojana). The groundwater level is depleting rapidly in almost entire country.

More than 33 villages including Barai, Rani Ghati, Aaron, Patai of Bhitwar Legislative constituency of my Gwalior Parliamentary constituency are facing water crisis due to continuously depleting ground water level. The situation is that even at the 800 feet of depth water is not found. Farmers are forced to migrate due to lack of water for irrigation. Improving the current situation of ground water and developing the sources of surface water for a permanent solution to the problem is the need of the hour.

I request the Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti that a hydrological survey team from the center should be sent to the Bhitwar area which is facing water crisis.

**(v) Need to construct an underpass at level crossing no. 257C in Misrikh
Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT (MISRIKH): There is a lot of inconvenience in traffic due to non-availability of underpass / Railway Over Bridge at Suthena railway crossing, gate number 257 C in Hardoi district of my parliamentary constituency, Misrikh (U.P.), and accidents keep taking place very often. Emergency services vehicles also have to wait for several hours there.

I would also like to submit to the Government that the crossing at Gate No. 258 C of Balamau Junction near Suthena remains closed for several hours due to shunting of trains and passing of Run through trains on Up-Down Line. The road passing through the crossing is crowded as there is main market on the road. The movement of vehicles like trucks, pickups, etc. occurs through the crowded main road of the market and due to which there is always a possibility of accidents.

Therefore, in such a situation, I request the Hon'ble Minister of Railways to take positive action for granting approval for construction of an underpass / ROB at Suthena Railway Crossing Gate No. 257 C. Thank you.

(vi) Need to provide stoppage of various express trains at Dhanera Railway Station in Banaskantha Parliamentary Constituency, Gujarat

SHRI PARBATBHAI SAVABHAI PATEL (BANASKANTHA): I, while inviting the attention of the Government, would like to submit that the Express trains passing through Samdadi-Bhildi railway section, may be given stoppage at Dhanera railway station in my Banaskantha parliamentary constituency. The details of the trains are as under: -

1. Bikaner Dadar Express (02489/02490)
2. Jodhpur Gandhidham Express (02483/02484)
3. Bhagat Ki Kothi Bandra Express (04817/04818)
4. Barmer Yesvantpur Express (04805/04806)
5. Jodhpur Sabarmati Express (04803/04804)

The stoppage of all the above trains has been discontinued at Dhanera railway station, which causes inconvenience to the passengers coming for treatment and other works from outside the area.

Therefore, I request the minister to kindly resume the stoppage of the above trains at Dhanera railway station.

(vii) Regarding development of Sannati as a world Heritage

[English]

DR. UMESH G. JADAV (GULBARGA): Sannati, a small village on the banks of the river Bhima in Chittapur taluk of Kalaburagi where historically valuable Ashokan edicts written in Prakrit language and Brahmi script were discovered at the foundation of the temple, attracts historians from across India. The discovery subsequently prompted excavations by the ASI at Sannati and the nearby Kanaganahalli which, in turn, led to the discovery of the magnificent Maha Stupa, which had been referred to as Adholoka Maha-Chaitya (The Great Stupa of the Netherworlds) in the inscriptions. More importantly, a sculpture-portrait of Ashoka seated on his throne with his queens was also discovered. It is also older than the Sanchi Stupa of Madhya Pradesh.

It is also believed that Sannati is the place where Emperor Ashoka may have travelled towards the end of his life and breathed his last. Therefore, I urge the Hon'ble Minister of Culture to kindly develop this site as a World Heritage site and also request to direct the concerned to preserve items which were found during the excavation by building world class museum. Sannati is the largest Buddhist site in India excavated by the ASI. Despite having a rich historical and cultural heritage, it's not on India's Map.

(viii) Need to establish Petro Chemicals Complex in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE (GADCHIROLI-CHIMUR): I would like to submit before the Government that Vidarbha region of Maharashtra is the most backward region of the country. The demand for setting up a petrochemicals complex is being made for long by the Vidarbha Economic Development Council (VED) and local public representatives for the development of this region. A proposal was also made to conduct a feasibility study for the construction of a petrochemicals complex in the Vidarbha region on the request of the Vidarbha Economic Development Council (VED), during the meeting of the Leader of the Opposition of the State with the then Union Petroleum Minister in June, 2021 in Nagpur city of Maharashtra. But, till now no progress has been made in this matter, as a result of it the work is still pending.

I request the Government to take positive steps to set up it by conducting the feasibility study for the construction of petrochemicals complex in Vidarbha, the most backward region of the country without any delay so that the Vidarbha region could be developed and employment could be provided to the unemployed youth.

**(ix) Need to include Maithili language in the list of languages for
conducting Central Teacher Eligibility Test**

SHRI GOPAL JEE THAKUR (DARBHANGA): Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET) is held in 20 Indian languages. The names of these languages are English, Hindi, Assamese, Bangla, Garo, Gujarati, Kannada, Khasi, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Mizo, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Tibetan, and Urdu.

Mathili language is included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution and has been included in the curriculum as a subject in class Eighth and onwards of Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) by the Government under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji in the year 2018. Maithili is spoken by a large number of people of Mithila and it shows the cultural tradition of that region. It is the local mother tongue of eight crore people living in Mithila.

After studying Maithili as a subject, the students have got the posts of officers (Collector, BDO) by qualifying Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC) exams. Special emphasis has been given on regional languages (local mother tongue) in the New National Education Policy, 2020 implemented under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji.

I would like to request the Hon'ble Minister to include Maithili language in the list of languages in which Central Teacher Eligibility Test is conducted so as to promote Maithili language.

(x)Need to remove charges on digital transaction

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): The Government has taken several steps to promote digital transaction in the country during the last few years. The practice of digital transaction has been increasing in the last few years. The amount of digital transaction during the year 2016-17 was Rs. 1004 crore which has increased to Rs. 5554 crore during the year 2020-21. It is about 39 per cent of the total transaction. But a major hurdle in online transaction is high processing and transaction charges which are charged to the customers. One per cent is being charged on the transaction made from the credit card of State Bank of India. This type of charges will naturally discourage people from making digital transaction.

I would like to request the Government to discontinue the charges levied on digital transaction to encourage digital payment continuously.

**(xi) Need to take remedial measures to check child-trafficking from
Jharkhand to various states**

SHRI SANJAY SETH (RANCHI): Jharkhand is the second largest state of the country where child trafficking cases remain higher every year. Earlier the girls of Jharkhand were sold mostly in Delhi and Haryana and now they are being sent to South Indian States to work as labourer.

I would like to tell that human traffickers resort to placement agencies for the said work. There are many placement agencies functioning in Delhi which bring the children of Jharkhand to Delhi by alluring them. These children are brought to Delhi in the name of providing good job. I would like to request the Union Government to conduct investigation regarding the validity of the said placement agencies through an independent agency. An AHTU should be set up in Jharkhand Bhawan situated in Delhi where zero FIR should be lodged. Police force should be deployed there because the children of Jharkhand are being sold in Delhi in maximum number.

A national level independent committee should be constituted for the said purpose and detailed investigation should be conducted in this regard. Human trafficking should be declared as national crime and provision should be made to take strict action in this regard.

(xii) Regarding relocation of the ashes of Lord Buddha

[English]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Kapilvastu, Siddharthanagar is the birthplace of Lord Gautam Buddha. Lakhs of Buddhist tourists visit Kapilvastu every year. The Ministry of Culture established a National Museum at Piprahwa, Kapilvastu and all the excavations of the Department of Archaeology and Kolkata University, have been kept in the said Museum. However, two ashes excavated from here are currently kept in the National Museum, Delhi, despite the fact that Gautam Buddha spent the first 29 years of his life in Kapilvastu, and hence, Kapilvastu becomes very important for Buddhist devotees. If ashes could be relocated from there to the National Museum at Piprahwa, Kapilvastu, then lakhs of tourists who believe in Buddhism will be able to visit Sarnath, Kapilvastu, Kushinagar and Shravasi as well as the ashes every year. Revenue from the foreign exchange will increase. Also, meditation is an important aspect of Buddhism, therefore, it is also necessary for Buddhist devotees to have a meditation centre near the Museum.

Therefore, I request the Government that the National Museum of India should direct the Department of Archaeology and Culture to relocate the ashes of Lord Buddha and also establish a meditation centre for Buddhist devotees.

**(xiii) Regarding construction of a Memorial in memory of 26/11 attack in
Mumbai**

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): The horror and havoc of 26/11, one of the deadliest days in the history of India has been persistently haunting the memory of all of us till today which took place 13 years ago in Bombay, the commercial capital of India. The horrific incident will continue to bash the memory of our posteriors as well. Hundreds of innocent people including foreign nationals, police army have been killed by the terrorists sponsored and directed by the Pakistan which has earned the notoriety of the breeding ground of terrorists. The gruesome incident also has left a galaxy of undaunted warriors who fought back the terrorists and neutralized them in a long gun-battle. It has left a long list of victims and martyrs as well. This year, 26/11 passed off like other normal day leaving only a few instances of commemoration. I think we should commemorate this fateful day in a befitting manner in honour of those great souls who had laid down their precious lives. I urge the Government to build a memorial in Bombay in memory of 26/11.

(xiv) Regarding upgradation of 'Anaimalai Road' Railway Station from halt station to crossing station and stoppage of all passenger and express trains at this station

SHRI K. SHANMUGA SUNDARAM (POLLACHI): Anaimalai Road Railway station located in Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu is the only railway station for Anaimalai & Valparai taluks. It is located in Pollachi - Palakkad section of Southern Railway. Valparai is a famous hill station and Anaimalai Tiger Reserve is located here. Anaimalai Maasani Amman temple (nearest railway station : "Anaimalai Road") located at Anaimalai is a famous pilgrimage centre visited by thousands of pilgrims from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh & Kerala. In the recently announced Pollachi - Palakkad Unreserved Express special train (Train no. 06731/06732), train stoppage is not provided at "Anaimalai Road" Railway Station. We request Railways to provide stoppage at "Anaimalai Road" Station for all the passing passenger and Express trains for the benefit of pilgrims, tourists and common public in Valparai & Anaimalai taluks. Also, we request to upgrade the "Anaimalai Road" Railway Station from "halt station" to "Crossing station".

(xv) Regarding road connectivity between Vathirarruppu in Virudhunagar district and Theni district

SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR (TENKASI): In my Tenkasi Parliamentary Constituency, there is a long pending demand for providing road connectivity between Vathirairuppu, Virudhunagar district and Theni district via Varusanadu forest area. If this demand is acceded to, it will benefit the people living in this area by way of minimizing their travel time besides providing better road connectivity between Tuticorin Port and Cochin Port. I, therefore, request to fulfil this demand for the benefit of the people of my constituency.

**(xvi) Regarding installation of Solar Submersible Water Pump in
Bardhaman Purba Parliamentary Constituency**

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL (BARDHAMAN PURBA): I want to draw the kind attention of the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare towards the installation of Solar Submersible Water Pump under my constituency in the state of West Bengal.

I would like to inform that farmers are facing difficulties in paying electricity bill of electrically charged submersible pump. Hence, in this regard, I have decided to install Solar Submersible Water Pump for irrigation to make farming and irrigation easy in my constituency Kalna, Katwa, Memari, Purbosthali North, Purbosthali South, Raina and Jamalpur. 75% to 85% people belong to SC, ST & OBC community. The area is full of agricultural activities also and no industries are there and agriculture is their only source of income to survive. In the above constituencies, solar irrigation pump is needed to be installed under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMKSY). West Bengal is the land of agriculture and cultivates various crops. By installing solar irrigation pump, the agriculture could be more developed and electricity could be saved. If Government grants the permission, I shall prepare and submit all necessary documents as early as I can. This decision can bring happiness and progress in farmer's life and can make them self dependent and confident as well. Once the farmer becomes strong the nation will be strong. So, it is requested to kindly provide information in details that how much subsidy could be given by the Government for installing Solar Submersible Water Pump for irrigation.

I therefore request the Hon'ble Minister to take up immediate and necessary steps regarding it and deeply consider on this serious issue and oblige.

**(xvii) Regarding pension related issues of the employees of Navodaya
Vidyalaya Samiti**

SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA (AMALAPURAM): The retired employees of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti who joined before 01.01.2004 are facing financial difficulties due to non-implementation of 1972 GOI pension. The various Parliamentary Committees set up in 154th, 184th and the 198th reports have also strongly recommended introducing GPF cum pension scheme for the employees. I, therefore, request the Central Government to take urgent steps to scrutinize the issue and take immediate steps for the introduction of 1972 GOI pension/annuity pension scheme for the settlement of the retired employees of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti who had joined prior to 01.01.2004.

**(xviii) Need to start the project connecting various places in Maharashtra
with waterways**

[Translation]

SHRI RAJAN BABURAO VICHARE (THANE): My Lok Sabha Constituency, Thane is a city situated on the banks of a bay with a population of about 11,834,886 and it faces the problem of traffic jam perennially. In view of the problem of traffic jams there, the Thane Municipal Corporation had prepared a DPR by spending Rs 7.5 crore to connect Thane, Vasai, Bhayandar, Bhiwandi and Kalyan (Dombivli) with waterways, which was presented to the then Minister of Shipping on July 17, 2016. The project was worth Rs 627 crore in which 10 jetties, 03 catamaran boats and a multi-modal hub were proposed to be built for which 100 percent grant was assured by the Central Government.

The then Minister of Shipping had revised the said project and approved about Rs 96.78 crore for 4 Jetties in Thane (Kolshet), Bhiwandi (Kalher), Dombivli and Mira Bhayandar under Sagarmala Programme, in which both the Central Government and the State Government had to provide 50-50 per cent funds but the work did not start in 2019-20 due to Covid.

I request you to give necessary instructions to the concerned department to start the work of the first phase of this project and the second phase which includes Thane-Airoli-Belapur-Mumbai city where the jetty is already built.

(xix) Regarding alleged irregularities in the implementation of reservation policy in recruitment of teachers in Uttar Pradesh

[English]

SHRI SHYAM SINGH YADAV (JAUNPUR): I want to raise a matter regarding gross irregularities in the reservation policy adopted in the recruitment of 69000 Assistant Teachers in Uttar Pradesh (Notification released on 01/12/2018, exam held on 6/1/2019) by Basic Education Department Uttar Pradesh.

In this connection, I want to raise the following points:

Candidates belonging to OBC, SC, ST, Divyangjan category having secured marks greater than general cut off should be treated as general category candidates. Contrary to this, reserved category candidates have been forcibly appointed against reserved seats even after securing marks greater than general cut off.

General cut off was 67.11 %, and OBC cut off was 66.73 %. Between this there should have been 18598 seats for OBCs according to the provision of 27% OBC reservation but only 2637 seats have been allotted for OBCs which is a reservation of just 3.86%. Similarly, against 21% constitutional reservation for SCs which translates into 14490 seats, 11265 seats were filled with SC candidates which is a reservation of just 16.60%. Therefore, 15961 OBC and 3225 SC candidates were denied reservation.

When will the report of National Backward Commission (NCBC/07/10/10/2020) be implemented which concurs with the above observation and candidates' grievances.

Thousands of students are sitting on dharna in eco zone in Lucknow for the past 6 months. When will they be heard?

**(xx) Need to revoke the decision of National Medical Commission
reducing the ceiling for appointment of non-medical teachers in medical
colleges**

SHRI M. SELVARAJ (NAGAPATTINAM): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the fact that National Medical Commission has recently issued orders for reducing the ceiling for appointment of non-medical teachers in medical colleges due to which around 6000 non-medical teachers are on the verge of losing their jobs after the new guidelines of National Medical Commission. Non-medical teachers should be an integral component in both medical teaching and diagnostics, as is practiced in many parts of the world. Instead of supporting, upgrading them, or utilizing them better, the NMC has gone for their exclusion.

Currently, several colleges are managing with non-medical teachers due to the shortage of medical teachers. For the last few years, many PG seats in the non-clinical specialties are going vacant, hence, the shortage of medical teachers is likely to continue for several years. Hence, I would request the Government to take appropriate steps to revoke the decision of National Medical Commission to help the non-medical teachers urgently.

**(xxi) Need to categorise yarn manufactured with Solar Charkha as
'Khadi'**

[Translation]

SHRI SATYADEV PACHAURI (KANPUR): I would like to bring to the notice of honourable Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, the urgent matter of public importance regarding need to accord the status of 'Khadi' to the yarn manufactured with Solar Charkha. A new technology of production of Khadi yarn with Solar Charkha has been developed with the purpose of developing the rural economy and stopping migration from rural areas to the urban areas as well as with the purpose of growth in the production of Khadi. At first in Jun 2018, the Ministry of MSMEs, Government of India had started "Mission Solar Charkha" which was implemented by Bhartiya Harit Khadi Gramodaya Sansthan (BHKGS) in Nawada (Bihar) and became a successful pilot project. Under this mission, Government of India had sanctioned 50 Solar Charkha Groups with the budget of Rs. 550 Crores. The objective of Mission Solar Charkha was to ensure inclusive development in rural India. During my tenure as a Minister in Uttar Pradesh Government, in the concept of Khadi, I had witnessed the impact of "Solar Charkha" and its importance and in the concept of Solar Charkha, I had understood the skill, standard and pace of creating livelihood opportunities especially for large number of women in rural India. Unemployment and migration are big issues in the rural areas and there are many people in the villages who are sculptors but they have to remain unemployed due to lack of better training and due to their poor financial conditions. I would like to inform the country that 500 Solar Charkha and 100 looms were installed by Kendriya Khadi Gram Udyog Ayog in Sevapuri of Varanasi (which is the parliamentary constituency of Prime Minister sir and had been the field of action of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation as well as the epicentre of the movement of Jay Prakash Narayan ji), Uttar Pradesh, the operation of which

proved successful wherein the large number of women and youth got employment opportunities. With the purpose to promote Solar Charkha, the yarn manufactured with it was categorized as 'Khadi' even by the Uttar Pradesh Government. This will be a historic decision by the Government of India to categorize the yarn manufactured with Solar Charkha as 'Khadi' on the lines of Uttar Pradesh Government and this will be helpful in stopping the migration from the rural areas to the cities and connecting people with self employment as well as will be helpful in building a new India. Therefore, I demand to the honourable Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises that the yarn manufactured with Solar Charkha be categorized as 'Khadi' on the lines of Uttar Pradesh Government under Solar Charkha Mission initiated by the Government of India with the objective to stop the consequent migration to the cities due to the rising unemployment in the rural areas and to increase the opportunities of self-employment.

**(xxii) Regarding linking of rivers and water reservoir schemes in Godda
Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand**

[English]

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Godda Parliamentary Constituency of Jharkhand is an extremely backward and Naxalism affected region of this country. Among all the problems that the tribals and backward people of the region face, lack of proper drinking water is the most acute.

The issue of drinking water problem is a huge one in this entire area. The truth is that after every one year of rainfall in the region, two years of drought follows and tubewells are not successful in this area.

Accordingly, I am writing to resolve the issues by connecting the following blocks with different rivers and water Reservoir Schemes to end this problem in the region.

Godda District :

- 1- Thakurgangti, Meharna Block – Ganga River
- 2- Basantrai, Pathargama, Godda – Sundar Jalsai
- 3- Poriyahat – Suggabathan Reservoir Scheme.

Dumka District:

- 1- Sariyahat – Punasi Reservoir Scheme
- 2- Jarmundi – Masanjor Reservoir Scheme

Deoghar District:

- 1- Madhupur, Sarwan, Deoghar Block and Town, Sonarathadi – Punasi Reservoir Scheme
- 2- Devipur, Madhupur Town and Block, Margomunda – Budai Reservoir Scheme
- 3- Karon - Sikatiya

**(xxiii) Regarding establishment of a centre of Central Institute of
Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology in Nandurbar**

DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT (NANDURBAR): The constituency of Nandurbar is a tribal dominated area and ranks low on human development index along with rising levels of malnutrition. Nandurbar lacks the facilities of standard education institutions offering professional courses. The students belonging to Nandurbar have been demanding the establishment of educational institution imparting courses having high placement rate and employability since they have to look for avenues in other parts of the country. A Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering and Technology (CIPET) is an autonomous institution under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers having 43 operational centres catering to the needs of polymer and allied industries. CIPET centre in Nandurbar will be beneficial for providing quality education and promote research & development in polymer & allied industries. CIPET has 85-90% placement record along with systematic interaction with the plastics industry. Through short & long term courses, CIPET offers a dynamic career opportunity for students with a blend of theoretical & practical pedagogy. Currently, Maharashtra has only 2 centres of CIPET & there is an urgent need for one Centre in North Maharashtra which has a lot of potential. I request the Government to sanction a Centre of Central Institute of Petrochemicals Engineering & Technology in Nandurbar to generate employment opportunities and give a boost to the local economy.

(xxiv) Need to establish a National Institute of Design and a Research Centre at Sambalpuri Textiles in Bargarh district, Odisha.

[Translation]

SHRI BASANTA KUMAR PANDA (KALAHANDI): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to my parliamentary constituency, Kalahandi, Odisha wherein two districts Nuapada and Kalahandi are there and both are aspirational districts as envisaged by the honourable Prime Minister. Because of being backward districts, these areas will take a long time in being called as developed which causes the local people to migrate to the other states for their livelihoods. But, due to Corona pandemic, the workers in a large number have returned to their homes and the Government of Odisha is unable to offer any employment to them. Odisha is well celebrated for its textiles and handloom works. There are 3 Lakhs weavers residing only in Sambalpur. Sambalpuri textiles are famous all across the country.

This is my request to the Minister ji that in view of the above context, a National Design Institute and Sambalpuri Textiles Research Centre should be opened in Bargarh district, so that these people may get employments.

(xxv) Need to declare road from Siwan to Garkha in Bihar as National Highway.

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL (MAHARAJGANJ): The road from Siwan to Garkha NH-102 via Janata Bazar, Paigambarpur, NH-331 and SH-90 under my Lok Sabha parliamentary constituency Maharjganj, Bihar is a very important and busy road. This road provides the direct transportation facilities to the people from our parliamentary constituency region to Patna, the capital city of Bihar and to Muzaffarpur, the most important business centre of Bihar. Every day, thousands of businessmen, students, Government employees travel by this road for their jobs. Similarly, this road facilitates the transportation of goods/articles from one place to another place by various types of heavy vehicles.

Hence, it is inevitable to renovate such a road by changing it into a National Highway. Therefore, I demand to the Minister of Road Transport and Highways that the said road should be declared as the National Highways.

**(xxvi) Need to set up defence equipment manufacturing industry in
Ambala Parliamentary Constituency, Haryana.**

SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA (AMBALA): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to my Lok Sabha constituency Ambala under which there are two Cantonment Boards – Panchkula and Ambala Cantt. Ambala Cantt Airforce Station is a very sensitive area with social point of view. The borders of China and Pakistan are 200 Km and 300 Km respectively from this place. Whenever the Indo-Pakistan and Indo-China war broke out, the Ambala Base has always been attempted to be targetted by the enemy side. India, under the leadership of the honourable Prime Minister has adopted the policy of “Make in India” and “Make for the World” by manufacturing defence equipments in the country and using the technology in this field. Equipments for Army has been manufactured in Ambala. Ambala is also famous worldwide for manufacturing science equipments. Now, India is working on the policy of self-reliance in terms of defence equipments.

I demand that industries should be established in Ambala to manufacture defence equipments.

(xxvi) Regarding participation of Members of Lok Sabha in programmes for implementation of various Government schemes by banks.

SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR (SHAHJAHANPUR): The information regarding programmes organised by nationalised banks in my Parliamentary Constituency, Shahjahanpur regarding centrally sponsored schemes such as Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana, Stand up India Scheme, Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), Atal Pension Yojana etc. is not shared by the banks with the local Member of Parliament. The local Member of Parliament is not even invited to attend any such programme organised by them. This is an insult to a public representative. While, there are clear instructions from the Central Government that the local MPs should be invited thus ensuring their participation also in all programmes of Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Hence, I request that a Ministry level enquiry should be conducted to find out the date-wise details of the programmes organised by Nationalised Banks situated in my Parliamentary Constituency Shahjahanpur during the last three years to promote central schemes and to find out as to in which programmes the local MP was invited and in which programmes they were not invited. Responsibility of bank officials should be fixed after such an enquiry and departmental action should be initiated against them. In addition, appropriate steps should be taken to ensure participation of local MP in future in all central schemes being run in Shahjahanpur Parliamentary Constituency through Nationalised Banks.

**(xxviii) Regarding employment potential of Jal Jeevan Mission in
Bundelkhand**

SHRI ANURAG SHARMA (JHANSI): Hon'ble Prime Minister launched Har Ghar Jal Yojana, keeping in view the problem of drinking water. Under this scheme, the goal is to provide potable drinking water in all such villages in the country by purifying water of lakes and rivers. This Jal Jeevan Mission was implemented in collaboration with States to provide domestic water connections to every rural household by the year 2024.

My Parliamentary Constituency Jhansi and Lalitpur comes under Bundelkhand region, and approximately 70 percent population of which resides in rural areas. People here have to face various problems for drinking water due to lack of resources.

The National Jal Jeevan Mission is inviting proposals from the youth, researchers, educationists, entrepreneurs and Start-ups working in this field to provide cost effective solutions and fill the knowledge gap. I want to request the Government to make efforts to link the manufacturing of equipments related to this scheme, their maintenance and setting up process with skill so that people may get new opportunities of employment and their lives can be made better.

(xxix) Regarding inclusion of some railway sections in the jurisdiction of Sambalpur Division of East Coast Railways

[English]

SHRI NITESH GANGA DEB (SAMBALPUR): Bamara, Garposh and Tangarmunda Railway Stations of my Parliamentary Constituency Sambalpur are presently coming under the Chakradharpur division of South Eastern Railways. The common people as well as railway staff of these localities are facing lots of difficulties for railway and departmental related works at Chakradharpur as this place is about 500 KMs away from Bamara. The Rourkela Jharsuguda section of South Eastern Railway, the Jharsuguda Raigarh section of South East Central Railway and all railway networks of Western Odisha needs to be included in the jurisdiction of Sambalpur Division of East Coast Railways under one umbrella for better administrative and operational efficiency of the railways. I urge the Ministry of Railways to take suitable steps in this regard during 2021 -22.

**(xxx) Need to declare and develop Ajmer - Chandigarh Highway or
Kisangarh - Hanumangarh Mega-highway as National Highway.**

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY (AJMER): The 406 km, double lane Mega Highway between Kisangarh, Ajmer and Hanumangarh on which 20- 22 thousand vehicles ply daily is being operated through Road Infrastructure Development Corporation of Rajasthan Limited (RIDCOR) since 2008. There is heavy load of traffic on this Highway and problems of fatal road accidents, loss of lives and traffic jams are being faced. Now, there is an urgent need to develop this Highway as National Highway. The Detailed Project Report (DPR) to develop the 500 km road from Ajmer to Chandigarh via Kisangarh, Didwana, Ratangarh, Hanumangarh as national highways has been prepared by the Central Government in the year 2018-19 under the Bharat Mala Project of year 2017-18; but it did not materialize. If the said Mega Highway is developed as a four-lane National Highway, then the National Highway Authority will have to pay lesser amount of compensation for the already acquired land for highway and with this, Eastern Rajasthan-Punjab-Gujarat-Madhya Pradesh will get direct connectivity. Hence, the Hon'ble Minister is requested to declare the said 500 km Highway between Ajmer and Chandigarh or the 400 km Mega Highway between Kisangarh and Hanumangarh proposed under Bharat Mala Project as National Highway and include it in the Departmental Action Plan of the coming budget year 2022-23.

(xxx) Need to take measures for welfare of farmers and strengthening of agriculture sector.

SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA (DAUSA): The officers of Department of Agriculture, Government of Rajasthan cannot undertake expansion of agriculture sitting in their offices. The administration should take up the task of motivating the farmers regarding new technology and natural farming by going straight to their fields. The benefits of Government schemes do not reach up to the farmers. The benefits cannot reach the farmers due to the alleged corruption. Hence, I request that the benefits of the schemes should also be provided directly to the farmers in their bank accounts through Jan-Dhan accounts on the lines of disbursement of Kisan Kalyan Nidhi. The farmers should be provided training by strengthening the Krishi Vigyan Kendras. The promotion of natural farming should be made comprehensive with the help of Information Broadcasting system. Arrangements should be made to procure Organic farming produce at reasonable fair prices. People will definitely become aware regarding health after listening the talk on Natural farming on 16th Jan 2021. But, it is very important to take action to broaden this awareness system to convey these ideas to an ordinary farmer.

(xxxii) Need to revive the Coast Canal in Odisha

[English]

SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI (BALASORE): Coast canal is like the lifeline of coastal Odisha. Because of heavy silting and encroachment, the area is now being inundated by floods. During the British regime, this canal was used as a waterway. I have written to the concerned Minister repeatedly for its revival and maintenance. It should be freed from the clutches of the encroachers, so that economic development of the area could happen. Farmers and businessmen can use the inland waterway which will be cheap and easy. It can also be utilized for fish cultivation, electricity generation and irrigation. Revival of the canal will give a boost to the local area development. I am requesting that adequate steps be taken in this direction.

(xxxiii) Regarding reservation for Tribals in Telangana

SHRI UTTAM KUMAR REDDY (NALGONDA): In undivided Andhra Pradesh state, the percentage of tribal population was 6 percent and hence the reservation for tribal persons was 6 percent in education and employment. After the new state of Telangana was created in 2014, the tribal population became 10 percent of the total population of the state. The TRS Government in Telangana has stated in the Telangana Assembly and outside that they have sent a proposal to the Government of India to permit 12 percent reservation for tribal persons in Telangana, after adding some more communities into the tribal community. There is no statement by the State Government or Union Government enhancing percentage of tribal reservation for the last several years. We demand that the Government of India immediately permit reservation for tribal persons in Telangana as per their population percentage.

(xxxiv) Regarding establishment of new medical colleges in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI MADDILA GURUMOORTHY (TIRUPATI): The Andhra Pradesh Government through its Nadu Nadu Initiative has tried to strengthen the public health facilities, including the existing medical colleges in the State. However, after the bifurcation of States, the absence of Large Metropolitan Cities-Tier 1 in Andhra Pradesh has made it difficult for the private sector to set up super speciality health care services.

To fill this gap, the Andhra Pradesh Government aims to establish one medical college in each Parliamentary Constituency where there are none in the public sector to increase the human resource and accessibility to tertiary healthcare for the people. For this purpose, it has decided to develop 16 medical colleges cumulatively costing 8000 crores. The State currently has only 14 Government Medical Colleges, over 25 Parliamentary Constituencies, which is less in comparison to other large states like Tamil Nadu or Rajasthan.

While the sanction for three colleges has already been granted, I urge the Government to expedite the approval and financial support for the remaining 13 Government medical colleges to be developed in Andhra Pradesh.

(xxxv) Regarding grant of additional attempts and age relaxation in UPSC examination

SHRI MARGANI BHARAT (RAJAHMUNDRY): Corona Pandemic has destroyed, devastated and disturbed every sector, including education. Due to continuous COVID duties and NDMA Guidelines medical doctors, staff and other Corona warriors are not able to prepare adequately for the UPSC exam.

Further, many students migrated back to hometowns in rural areas where they faced many challenges, like inadequate quality study material, poor internet facilities, physical/mental stigmatization, exam centre as far as 200- 300 kms in North-East, financial distress, etc. Apart from this, many aspirants were affected directly or indirectly due to loss of their near and dear ones with COVID.

I understand that Supreme Court had also directed GOI to take a lenient view in favour of students and some States like Rajasthan, Gujarat, etc., have given relaxations in their State Service Commission examination.

Hence, I request PM to consider demand of students for giving additional 2 attempts and 2 years relaxation for 2020 and 2021 UPSC Examination.

(xxxvi) Regarding financial security of ASHA workers

SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR (ARAMBAGH): Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) under the National Health Mission is the first port of call for any health related demands of deprived sections of the population, especially women and children. The condition of Asha healthcare workers across the nation has come under focus as they, on several occasions, have raised issues of unfair pay and improper working conditions. On an average, Asha workers are paid in the range of Rs 1,000- Rs 4,000. They don't receive any major benefits apart from slight incentives. Screening residents across the city for Covid-19, monitoring patients in home isolation, encouraging people to get vaccinated and carrying out Government-ordered surveys, they have been at the forefront of the battle against the pandemic for almost two years now. ASHA workers have been made to work during the COVID-19 pandemic totally disregarding their health safety and without proper compensation. They don't even enjoy financial security. At present, there are 54000 ASHA workers in West Bengal and I request the Central Government to accept the demands of ASHA Workers who have been protesting across the country and provide them financial security by giving them proper remuneration through fixed salary or increase in the amount of honorarium being given to them.

**(xxxvii) Need to expedite setting up of Ferro Alloy Project in Ramtek
Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra.**

[Translation]

SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE (RAMTEK): There are many mines of Manganese Ore India Limited (MOIL) in my parliamentary Constituency, Ramtek. Several Manganese products can be manufactured here. The foundation stone of Ferro Alloy Project was laid in Gumgaon (Tehsil- Saoner) in the year 2019. With this Ferro Alloy Project, MOIL will get recognition not only in the field of mining but also as a Mini Ratna company of the country producing alloys. This project has not picked up pace since the last three years due to which the Ferro Alloys Project is likely to be shelved. The locals as well as other people will get employment with the completion of Ferro Alloy Project and their lives will get prosperous but the Board of Directors of MOIL has not shown any seriousness regarding this ambitious project, due to which a number of hopeful local youth are disappointed. The Government is requested to direct the MOIL management to move forward the proposed Ferro Alloy Project of MOIL in Gumgaon and complete this Ferro Alloy Project expeditiously so that people may get employment and this region may see development. Thank you.

(xxxviii) Need to accord special category Status to Bihar.

SHRI KAUSHLENDRA KUMAR (NALANDA): In the report of Niti Aayog, Bihar has been described as the poorest state in the country. Lack of natural resources and sea border and high population density in Bihar are also the reasons for this. Along with this, Bihar is also a state affected by floods and droughts. The Central Government has not taken any initiative for industrial development and technical education in Bihar so far, while by giving special status to 3 Northern states of Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh and all 8 states of North-East, it paved the way for industrialization there. No initiative has been taken to set up a public sector in Bihar. At the same time, Bihar was also deprived of the benefits of the Green Revolution, due to which there could not be satisfactory development of agriculture in the state. It is necessary for Bihar to get special status, which will reduce the burden of the state in various development schemes. This will enable Bihar to pay economic subsidies and taxes. This will encourage investment in the private sector, thereby accelerating long-term growth. If Bihar is given special status, it will show the same result which was reflected by the central initiative in the 3 states of the north and states of the north-east. To encourage investment in the private sector, the state needs tax exemption, income tax exemption for 10 years and a subsidy of 30 percent for long-term industrialization. Therefore, I take forward the demand of our Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Nitish Kumar ji and urge the Central Government to give special status to Bihar on the lines of north-east states so that the development of the state and the country can move forward at a fast pace.

(xxxix) Regarding Government notification pertaining to OCI cardholders

[English]

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): Government of India's Gazette Notification on 04.03.2021 treating OCI Cardholders at par with other foreign nationals in terms of educational opportunities resulted in treating several domicile OCI children as NRIs. They will be eligible only under NRI quota or supernumerary seats and not under General Category. This has affected young professionals pursuing their academics in the country.

While I support the intention behind Notification, it would be appropriate to extend the date from which it would come into force. This will ensure that the students pursuing various courses are not disturbed and their academic career does not come to an abrupt end.

The Supreme Court in its interim order dated 30.09.2021 gave temporary relief to OCI candidates appearing in UG NEET for 2021-22 academic year. Other high courts too have reiterated this decision.

Hence, I request the Government of India to consider the order of the Supreme Court and High Courts and make necessary changes in the Notification.

11.01 hrs

VALEDICTORY REFERENCE

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, we have come towards the end of the 7th Session of the 17th Lok Sabha. This Session commenced on 29th November, 2021. A total of 18 sittings were held during this session, which lasted for 83 hours and 20 minutes. At the beginning of the Session, 03 new Hon. Members of the House took Oath on 29th and 30th November, 2021. Various important financial and legislative business was conducted in this session. During the current Session, 12 Government Bills were introduced and 9 Bills were passed. Some of the important Bills passed are the Agricultural Laws Repeal Bill, 2021, the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (Amendment) Bill, 2021, the Central Vigilance Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2021, the Delhi Special Police Establishment (Amendment) Bill, 2021 and the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021.

The Discussion and Voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants – Second Batch for the year 2021-22 lasted for 04 hours and 49 minutes and was passed on 20th December, 2021. During this Session, 91 Starred Questions were orally answered. On 20th December, 2021, the entire list of 20 Starred Question was covered.

Under Rule 377, 383 matters of public interest were presented before the House and were laid on the Table on the House by the Hon. Members. During Zero Hour, 563 matters of Urgent Public Importance were raised in the House. On 09th December 2021, 62 hon. Members sat in the House till late at night and raised their matters in the House during the Zero Hour, among which 29 women hon. Members were also present. All the hon. Members expressed their views. During the Session, 44 reports of Parliamentary Committees were presented in

the House. A total of 50 Statements were made by various Hon. Ministers including 03 Statements regarding Government Business made by the Hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. During the Session, 2658 papers were laid on the Table of the House by various Ministers. Two Short-Duration Discussions were also held in the House regarding the 'Covid-19 Pandemic' and 'Climate Change' in the country.

The discussion on 'Climate Change' has not concluded. The discussion on the 'Covid-19 Pandemic' lasted for 12 hours, 26 minutes. A total of 99 hon. Members participated in this discussion, in which they shared with the House the works done in their areas during the Covid-period. The second Short-Duration Discussion was on Climate Change, in which 61 hon. Members have expressed their views so far. This discussion has lasted for 6 hours, 26 minutes so far.

Hon. Members, it is matter of great pleasure that on 02 December, 2021, the productivity of the House was 204 per cent. The overall business productivity of the House stood at 82 per cent during the Session. In the current Session, out of the total time allotted for business, 18 hours 48 minutes were wasted due to disruptions.

Coming to the Private Members' Business, on Friday, 03rd December, 2021, 145 Bills on various subjects were introduced by Private Members during the Session. Further discussion on the 'Compulsory Voting Bill, 2019', presented by Shri Janardan Singh Sigriwal continued on 3rd December 2021, which could not be completed on that day.

Similarly, the discussion on the Private Member's Resolution with regard to 'Welfare Measures for Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers' introduced by Shri Ritesh Pandey continued on 10th December 2021 and could not be completed on that day.

Hon. Members, on 1st December, a delegation led by the Speaker of the Lower House of the Mongolian Parliament, His Excellency Gombojav Zandanshatar, watched the proceedings of the House sitting in the Special Box. His visit has given a new impetus to the diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Hon. Members, I would like to express my gratitude towards my hon. Colleagues in the Panel of Chairpersons for their cooperation in completion of business of the House.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Hon. Prime Minister, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, leaders of various parties as well as Hon. Members for their cooperation.

On behalf of all of you, I would also like to thank our friends in the Press and Media.

I also take this opportunity to compliment the Secretary-General and the officers and staff of the Lok Sabha Secretariat for their dedicated and prompt service rendered to the House.

I also thank the allied agencies for rendering their efficient services in the conduct of the proceedings of the House.

Hon. Members may now stand up as the tunes of *Vande Mataram* would be played.

11.08 hrs

NATIONAL SONG

National Song was played.

HON. SPEAKER: The House is adjourned sine die.

11.09 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned sine die.

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