Friday, March 13, 2015

Phalguna 22, 1936 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Fourth Session
(Sixteenth Lok Sabha)



(Voi. VIII contains Nos. 11 to 20)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, March 13, 2015/Phalguna 22, 1936 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[HON. SPEAKER in the Chair]

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received notices of Adjournment Motion from Sarvashri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury and K. C. Venugopal.

The matters though important enough, do not warrant interruption of business of the day. The matter can be raised through other opportunities and after Question Hour.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: I have, therefore, disallowed the notices of Adjournment Motion.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received requests from Shri P. Karunakaran and Shri K.C. Venugopal for suspension of Question Hour. But according to Rule, there is no suspension of Question Hour. Therefore, I am disallowing their requests.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: If everyone speaks at the same time, how will it work?

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Madam, it is a very serious issue. Please allow me to speak.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go in the record.

(Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: "Nobody will be able to hear anyone."

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: I know that you all have the same matter. I will allow all of you in 'Zero Hour'.

... (Interruptions)

^{*} Not recorded.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): I have given the notice. The situation in Kerala is very serious. The struggle is in connection with the corruption. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: That is a State Government issue and there is an elected Government. I have not allowed anyone to speak.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam Speaker, the State Assembly issue cannot be discussed here. It is between the Left Party and the Congress.

[English]

11.02 hrs

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HON. SPEAKER: Q. No. 241. Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal.

(Q.241)

[Translation]

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Madam speaker, "In this session, H-1N-1has been discussed at least four times, but I am very sad to say that the number of children dying every day in this country is 4 times more than the number of children dying due to swine flu."... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: No, I am sorry. I am not allowing.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Speaker Madam, immunization is a very important measure through which we can save the lives of children.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: What is happening? Please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Please sit down. No, I am sorry. Nothing is going on record. Please sit down.

... (Interruptions).*

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Let us take up Question Hour. What happened in Assembly cannot be discussed in Parliament. They have to understand that. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: No, I am not allowing. I am not allowing anybody. Nothing will go on record. Only question and answer will go on record. That is all.

... (Interruptions).*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Jaiswal, please ask your question.

... (Interruptions)

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Madam, my question to the Hon. Minister is this: You have allowed discussions in the House on significant issues like immunization, whereas H-1, N-1 flu has been discussed four times already. However, four times more children die per day from a lack of immunization than the total number of people who have

-

^{*} Not recorded.

died from H-1, N-1 flu so far. Regarding the data provided by the Minister on this critical issue, particularly concerning immunization, my question is: Why have you excluded states such as Bihar, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh—the three poorest states—from the vaccination drive? What are the criteria for selecting the 201 highly focused districts? I want to ask why these states were left out and what the criteria were for selecting these 201 high-focused districts. In the poorest states like Bihar, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh, where we have the lowest immunization rates, they have also not been included in the National Tika Express. I urge the Minister to pay attention to these poor states and inform me what the government is doing to increase immunization rates, which are currently at only 43%... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Kharge, please understand, I am not allowing this. This is a state matter. No, I am not allowing. I am sorry. It does not apply in every situation. I am not going to listen to anyone today.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, this is a very important matter. ... (Interruptions) TV channels are being attacked. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: You will raise this matter in Zero Hour.

... Interruptions

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Madam Speaker, the question that the Hon. Member has asked is a very important question. ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. Only question and answer will go on record.

... (Interruptions).*

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Surely in this House we have discussed H-1, N-1. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Venkaiah, why are you talking to each other?

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Nobody's speech, including Venkaiah Ji's speech also, will go on record. It is not going on record. Let him say anything. I have already said that nothing will go on record and only question and answer will go on record. Then, let him say. It is not the way. I am sorry.

... (Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Madam, we have given full importance to immunization. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: I will allow it in 'Zero Hour'.

^{*} Not recorded

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Madam, this immunization programme is the largest public health initiative in the world. In terms of coverage, we provide seven types of universal vaccinations, plus two additional vaccinations in specific areas. The seven vaccines are administered universally, while the other two, such as those for Japanese Encephalitis (JE) or Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES), are given in regions where these diseases are prevalent. In these areas, we conduct targeted vaccination campaigns, particularly for Japanese Encephalitis. Currently, immunization is recognized as a vital public health program because the present government considers it highly significant. In our country, approximately 90 lakh children are partially immunized, out of which 20 lakh are completely unimmunized—meaning 20 lakh children have not received any vaccinations, and 70 lakh are only partially immunized. To address this, we have launched the *Indradhanush* programme, under which 201 districts have been included in the first phase. These are the districts where immunization rates are below 50 percent. The reason for such low coverage is primarily the lack of adequate health infrastructure and logistical support in these areas. In the first phase

of *Indradhanush*, we have identified around four lakh settlements, including construction workers' sites, kiln workers' sites, and nomadic tribes, to be included in the programme. In these 201 focus districts, we will begin immunization efforts from the 7th of this month. I would like to inform the House that a meeting has been scheduled in the Parliament House Annex on Monday at 7 o'clock with all MPs from the focus districts of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh. The Health Department will discuss how they can collaborate with MPs on immunization efforts, and we will further discuss this issue in that meeting. As the Hon. Member mentioned, Bihar is not being excluded; it is very much within our focus. While focusing on the target areas, we will especially prioritize those districts where immunization coverage is below fifty percent.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Madam, my second question is, having served on the Standing Committee on Health for six years, I can say that we have consistently worked on child survival. It was one of our happiest moments when the Hon. Prime Minister, in June, announced from the Prime Minister's Office— even before the announcement by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare—that vaccines for diarrhoea, IPV, and rubella would be provided to every child. However, it has now been seven months since this announcement was made, not by

the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, but by the PMO, and yet, there has been no mention of it in this Budget and the Government should implement the same. Mr. Jayant Sinha, who worked with me on child survival, became a Minister, and I had hoped that he would allocate more funds for health. Unfortunately, even he did not allocate any grants for health. My question is, when will the vaccines for diarrhoea, IPV, and rubella, as mentioned by the Prime Minister, be included in the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP)? I seek the Minister's response on this matter.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: The government is very much aware of this issue. The entire outline is being prepared, and we will start working on it as soon as possible.

YOGI ADITYANATH: Madam, the Hon. Minister is highly sensitive to this issue, and I want to thank him for visiting the areas in eastern Uttar Pradesh affected by encephalitis. The JE vaccines being administered there have significantly controlled the Japanese Encephalitis virus, bringing the cases down to about three to four percent. However, the biggest challenge has been maintaining an uninterrupted cold chain, which has prevented us from achieving 100 percent success.

Additionally, a new virus, Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES), has emerged, causing significant fatalities. This year alone, there have been about 600 deaths. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister what steps the government is taking to maintain the cold chain and what arrangements are being made for vaccination against AES, similar to what we have for JE.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Sir, Hon. Member has raised an important issue regarding Japanese Encephalitis and the cold chain. We have been working on logistics to ensure that vaccines reach the session sites where these are administered. We identified potential issues with the cold chain at these sites and have developed an alternative vaccine delivery system to address this. We have allocated funds through the NRHM Flexi Pool and the RCH program to support this system. Efforts are being made to ensure that vaccines reach the location on time, so that ANMs can administer them. Specifically, in the Gorakhpur region, we have focused on ensuring that governmentprovided vaccines are delivered properly to the right places. This logistical effort is ongoing and requires continuous attention. Through experience, we have learned where we have fallen short and what strategies are needed to succeed, and we are committed to implementing these measures.

[English]

DR. P. VENUGOPAL: Hon. Speaker, Madam, the Government of Tamil Nadu -- guided by our beloved Leader, *Amma* -- has taken up Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy Maternity Benefit Scheme from 2011 as part of sustained effort to reduce infant mortality, the problem of low birth rate and to extend proper immunization service for the babies so born. Further, the required health services during pregnancy in the Government institutions are ensured apart from monetary assistance, which is extended to poor pregnant women.

The Government of India has allotted Rs. 9.8 crore in 2011-2012 for the immunization programme, but it was not released by the Centre. In 2012-2013 also Rs. 10.78 crore was allotted, but it was not released. In spite of this, our compassionate Leader commenced the scheme and continued with the same.

I would like to know whether the Centre would also emulate such a scheme throughout the country and provide adequate financial compensation to the States like Tamil Nadu, which are keen to continue with such novel schemes, but are facing financial crunch. I would like to know this from the hon. Minister.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: First of all, I would like to share with the hon. Members that Tamil Nadu's health practices really

deserve to be replicated in other States also. They have been doing good, and their health indicators also show this. We have also started a programme where we showcase the best practices being done, and next month we are going to have this session in Jaipur where all States are going to showcase their best practices. We also request the other States that they should follow and replicate these best practices in their own States.

As far as the funding part is concerned, certainly, the States, which are doing well, should not be discouraged, but rather they should be encouraged. I personally will take care and see to it that all funds are released to them.

[Translation]

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Madam Speaker, previously there was considerable discussion under the Calling Attention Motion regarding Japanese Encephalitis and Acute Japanese Encephalitis. At that time, I had also mentioned Bengal's dire situation and requested your assistance. However, on that day, you did not say anything about Bengal in your response. Even today, you have spoken about Gorakhpur, but we need information about Bengal because Japanese Encephalitis has affected several districts there. As per the information I have, your government is planning to

introduce the Japanese Encephalitis vaccine in 179 districts. Will you include the affected districts of Bengal in your efforts or not?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Madam Speaker, I would like to assure the Hon. Member that Bengal is also included in our high-priority list. I mentioned that I will visit everywhere personally. I have already visited Eastern UP, and I also need to visit West Bengal. I will review all the facilities there. I want to assure the Hon. Member that the districts in West Bengal are a high priority for us, and whatever facilities are needed there will be provided by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

[English]

DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE: Thank you, Speaker, Madam. I would like to ask the hon. Health Minister, through you, that our National Immunization schedule covers seven vaccine-preventable diseases, but there is no provision to cover the rotavirus diarrhoea, which is one of the most common causes for Infant Mortality Rate. Hence, dehydration and diarrhoea leads to almost more than one lakh infant deaths every year. So, is there any provision to cover Rotavirus vaccination under the National Immunisation Programme? If the Government has taken any such initiative, I would like to know the details of that.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Yes, it is under active consideration and, very soon, we will be undertaking this project.

[Translation]

SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI: Hon. Speaker, since our government came into power, we have been deeply concerned about the healthcare and well-being of the people, and the government has taken effective steps in this regard. The response indicates concern for Uttar Pradesh, and I would like to thank the Hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare for this. The question Dr. Pritam Munde raised is related to this matter. Diarrhoea caused by rotavirus leads to the deaths of one lakh children annually from serious illnesses. However, the vaccine available to prevent it is very costly in the market. I have just received information that there is now an alternative vaccine available, priced at only \$1, which is approximately 60 rupees. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether any such vaccine has been developed that costs around ₹60, and when it will be available in the market.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: I can confirm that, for rotavirus, an indigenous vaccine has been developed with the support of the Biotechnology Department and other development partners, as mentioned earlier. It is actively under consideration, and we will incorporate it into our program.

HON. SPEAKER: Shrimati Santosh Ahlawat, please ask a very short question; it's been a long time.

SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT: Hon. Speaker, I express my heartfelt thanks to you for giving me the opportunity to speak. Under the National Vaccination Campaign, there has been a revolutionary change, but through you, I would like to make a demand on behalf of all women in India. Rubella, which hinders maternity and can lead to infertility, causes women to suffer the anguish of being deprived of motherhood, and their suffuring is greater than any major accident. I request that the vaccine for rubella kindly be included in the Universal Immunization Programme.

[English]

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: It is under our active consideration, Madam.

[Translation]

(Q.242)

SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE: Madam Speaker, the steps being taken for the security of ATMs and banks seem to be mere formalities because incidents like these are consistently increasing every year. The amount being looted is also rising. In these incidents, security personnel, bank employees, and others have lost their lives. The Reserve Bank sent a memorandum to banks on April 13, 2012, stating that in places where attacks or robberies occurred, there were no security personnel deployed, and CCTV cameras were also not installed. The Reserve Bank has asked banks to review and improve the situation. I feel the bankers may believe that they will end up spending more on security than the amount being robbed. So, will the Government take any action against or penalize the banks where such incidents repeatedly occur?

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Hon. Speaker, the Hon. Member is referring to a very serious issue, and I want to assure him that our Government is taking strict action on this matter. There are currently 1.8 lakh ATMs in the country and around 1 lakh branches. If we look at how many robberies and violent incidents are happening, you'll have to agree that, with so many ATMs and branches, approximately

250-300 incidents of robbery and violence occur. With this many branches, we have to understand that some level of violence is expected. If we consider the measures proposed by the RBI, the Indian Bankers Association, and the Government to secure these ATMs and branches, they are now being implemented quickly. I am confident that these 250-300 incidents of violence will decrease further. The public will feel safer when visiting ATMs, and we are working toward ensuring that, as more ATMs and branches open, people will feel that they are well protected.

SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE: Madam Speaker, in many places, the guards deployed seem like guards only because of their uniforms. Many of them are physically weak and don't even look like guards. Will there be any standard for this? Will their character verification, physical fitness, and whether they carry arms be assessed? Will banks make arrangements for their training, and will training institutes be established for this purpose? ... (Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: Hire someone with a moustache, someone with a large moustache... (Interruptions)

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: The Hon. Member has given a very good suggestion, and we will definitely instruct the banks to ensure that their guards are strong, along with whatever else is necessary...

(*Interruptions*) Some Hon. Members are suggesting that the guards should also have a moustache, as thieves might be scared of it. Well, let's say that's a good suggestion too, and we will definitely consider it as well.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Madam Speaker, I think, the House remembers the lady who was attacked in Bengaluru when she was drawing some amount of money from an ATM. She was left bruised and was bleeding. She was fainted for three hours after the medical attendance was provided. But I was really shocked to hear the Minister stating that it is tolerable – with 1.8 lakh ATMs in this country, it is tolerable. He said in Hindi, I think, he may correct that usage. Nothing is tolerable. There has to be a zero tolerance. It has to be a zero tolerance in branches and also in ATMs because the lapses that are being found relating to security arrangements made in bank branches and also in ATMs is a very serious matter. Despite advisories sent by the RBI repeatedly during the last three, four years, not much improvement or no improvement has been made at all.

My colleague Shri Dhotre has said that the incidents are increasing year after year. The amount also is increasing year after year. In the last eight to ten months from 1st of April, 2014 to 31st of

January, 2015, more than Rs.10 crore has been looted from the Bank of Baroda. It involves bank vans and also ATMs.

HON. SPEAKER: Please put the question.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: My question is this. When the incidents are increasing year after year, despite advisories, despite putting CCTV camera, despite deploying armed guard with moustache, still the amount is increasing and the incidents are increasing. A provision also has been made that the RBI is also collating information from the Banks concerned and annual meetings are taking place. Despite all this, we would need to have a very serious answer from the Minister as to when he can make ATMs and bank branches fool proof from such robbery and attack so that confidence of the customers is restored.

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, I think my learned and senior colleague has brought out a very important point which I indicated when the previous Member also spoke. I just want to clarify something that I said. I said that it is not that there should be any tolerance for this. In fact, as I said, we are working on this in the most vigilant and most diligent manner. I said that given that we have 1.8 lakh ATMs and one lakh bank branches, it is to be expected in a vast

and large complex country like ours that there will be certain incidents. We have to expect that.

In fact, we expect that and, therefore, we have to be eternally vigilant. It is not that there should be any tolerance for it. In fact, you are exactly right, Sir, there should be zero tolerance for it. That is precisely why the RBI today is collecting this information. There are periodic follow-ups whether it is from the Department of Financial Services, whether it is from the Indian Banks' Association, whether it is the Reserve Bank of India. We are collecting these statistics and are making very sure that everything that can be possibly done, including the excellent suggestion given by the other hon. Member to have very formidable guards available at these ATMs, so that we can ensure that everybody who is going into these Branches and ATMs feels protected and feels secure in doing what is their right and their ability to do.

I want to add a few things on the data side because the hon. Member has quoted some numbers and said that the numbers have been going up. It is true that the numbers have been going up but they have been going up very marginally. In fact if you look at the number of bank branches and the number of ATMs, those have been going up in a larger proportion than actually the incidents. So, as a percentage

of the number of branches and the number of ATMs, the incidents have actually been coming down.

The other things is, we take this matter seriously I instructed officials in the Ministry of Finance to do in preparation for this question to see how we benchmark against for example Europe where of course we know that the police and security are good and there are CCTV cameras everywhere and so on. I am very happy to report that if you actually look at the percentage of incidents in our ATMs and in our Branches, it is in fact much lower than that of Europe. So, I think we should feel quite confident that the RBI, the Indian Banks' Association, and I must give credit to the States because they are responsible for police as well, have all done a pretty commendable job of ensuring the security of people using these banking services.

[Translation]

SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN: Madam, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister a few questions. My Lok Sabha Constituency has 102 panchayats. Will there be an ATM in every panchayat? The Hon. Prime Minister has announced the 'Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana,' but every panchayat still does not have a nationalised bank, and there is no ATM. Are you considering this? ATMs are not being installed due to the fear of theft?

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, I want to assure the hon. Member that we are indeed thinking about ATMs and bank branches. However, our approach has evolved. In today's time, with the help of modern technology, we will not only fulfil your demand for financial services through ATMs in every panchayat but also provide micro ATMs in every house, micro ATMs at every doorstep, through 'Banking Mitra'.

[English]

DR. SHASHI THAROOR: Madam Speaker, the same issue had been raised in an Unstarred Question on the 5th of December and at that point the Minister had indicated that there had been 147 bank robberies with Rs.28.53 crore being stolen in the last three years from 2011 to 2014. I mention this because while we enjoyed an occasion for hilarity during all the grim news of our times, this is clearly no laughing matter.

One aspect we have not discussed today, Madam, is the apparent connection between bank robberies and terrorism. It seems that some of the terror groups in this country are systematically looking to bank robberies as a means of financing their operations. For example, the recent Burdwan blasts in Bengal were directly linked to a bank robbery in Telangana.

The question I need to ask the Minister and the Government here is, are the Ministries coordinating, is there cooperation with the antiterror cells and the Intelligence Bureau to ensure that, when you talk about security in this light-hearted way that you are also ensuring that there is specific intelligence about terrorist groups targeting banks, in order to ensure that preventive security measures are beefed up in those areas that are vulnerable to potential terrorist attacks?

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, I would like to assure the hon. Member that when it comes to violence and the kinds of incidents that we are all most aggrieved about, and which hon. Member Shri Mahtab ji also spoke about, this is a question of zero tolerance. It is with that same level of utmost seriousness that we confront terrorism. In fact our Government has expressed over and over again zero tolerance for both terrorism and on matters of national and domestic security.

So I can assure him that where this kind of bank robberies are being done to encourage and to be able to promote terrorism, we will take them with utmost seriousness and we will do our level best to protect the country. As I have already indicated, the data tell us that we are doing a commendable job in terms of security as far as our ATMs and bank branches are concerned. But in a vast and sprawling

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country like ours, it is not possible to have foolproof security even though we all have a zero tolerance policy.

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[English]

MOHAMMED FAIZAL: Hon. Speaker Madam, it is evident from the answer given by the Minister that the Government of India have entered into Memorandums of Understanding with various countries like Japan, Netherlands, Maldives etc. for developing infrastructure in novel surgical equipment, laboratory equipment etc.

It is fact that the infrastructure facilities available in rural areas across the country especially in the constituency which I belong to, that is Lakshadweep, are very limited. I would like to specifically highlight an example that if an average Lakshadweepian has to undergo a thyroid test, he or she has to travel in a ship sitting for 18 hours either to Kochi or Mangalore for conducting the test. Since the Lakshadweep falls under the direct control of the Government of India, my specific question is- maybe all the Members who represent rural areas will also join me- whether the Government of India is planning to provide basic infrastructure such as novel surgical equipment, laboratories which will at least enable the general medicine doctors to conduct laboratory test to identify the diseases.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Hon. Speaker Madam, I am fully aware with the concern of the hon. Member. We all know that

there is a gap between the infrastructure and manpower, between the requirement and what we actually have. We are trying to fill in this gap and it is also a fact that rural areas are not being equipped properly and the logistics which have to be provided there require much more to be done in that direction. The Government is concerned about it and is taking care of it.

At the same time, under the NRHM we have tried to make it a programme where the planning part starts from the district level and then it is supported at the State level and funded at the Central level. So, now the planning is from bottom to top, not from top to bottom. We are trying that the rural infrastructure should be taken care of by the demands and the needs of that place and keeping that fact in view, this flexi-pool and other provisions which we have given have given much flexibility to create infrastructure. As far as manpower part is concerned, we are concerned about it. It needs little changes in rules and regulation so that we can get maximum number of manpower needed for health services about which the Government is concerned. We are working on it and we are working fast. I can assure the hon. Member that as far as his constituency is concerned, I will certainly see to it that in the rural areas, infrastructure can be taken care of and whatever funds are needed within the system are provided.

HON. SPEAKER: There is a very difficult situation in Lakshadweep. **MOHAMMED FAIZAL:** Thank you very much, Minister, Sir.

My second supplementary question is just connected with that. My suggestion is that since we have entered into agreements with various foreign countries for medical excellence and academic purposes, the doctors available in rural areas could be trained to a certain level that they can take care of specialised doctors' duties. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government has any plans to train such rural doctors to bridge the gap of specialised doctors.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Madam Speaker, the suggestion is very well taken. All these things are under active consideration. At this point of time, I will not be able to roll out what we are planning. His concern is well taken. We have to involve MCI and the Indian Medical Association; and we have to talk to all stakeholders. That is why I said we need some changes in the rules and regulations, which the Government is actively considering.

SHRI R. GOPALAKRISHNAN: Thank you, Madam.

Our hon. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has taken a lot of initiatives for the overall improvement of the health sector in Tamil Nadu. Under the World Health Organisation's loan of Rs. 670 crore, various

programmes are implemented for improving the health system of Tamil Nadu on the initiative of Amma. JICA has extended three grants of Rs. 91 crore to Tamil Nadu. JICA has also agreed to extend a loan of Rs. 1,000 crore to Tamil Nadu to improve the health system of the State. Agreements are underway with the Singapore Government to enhance the health system of Tamil Nadu. However, the international collaboration and co-operation as mentioned in the reply of the Minister does not reflect the existence of any clear-cut policy. In view of this, I would like to know whether there is any clear-cut policy being formulated by the Central Government and the details of the number of research professionals sent abroad from Tamil Nadu for training and improvement of NGOs through such collaboration.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Madam, the Question is related to the Ministry of Health, Government of India and the collaboration with various other countries. As the hon. Member has said, WHO and JICA also enter into co-operation with the States on various projects, which are certainly there in Tamil Nadu.

He has said that there is no clear-cut policy. It depends on the interaction which is going on. First of all, disease has no boundaries. Knowledge has no boundaries. It needs international co-operation,

collaboration, institutional development, and capacity building. All these processes have to be done.

A few agreements are there on research; a few agreements are there for technical know-how which we get from them. A few agreements are there for the best practices. We have also got agreements for strengthening our capacity building. As far as research is concerned or about the detection part is concerned, or about the manufacturing processes is concerned, there is a clear-cut policy on developing the health sector with co-operation with other foreign countries. Whatever best we can do in pharmaceuticals also, we do.

I have said earlier also that Tamil Nadu is doing well in health sector. There are many best practices which can be taken care of. As far as the Government of India is concerned, we are entering into agreements with various countries according to the needs of India as a whole and serving the interests of India in all nooks and corners of the country.

DR. RATNA DE (NAG): Thank you, Madam.

The health scenario is not good by any standards. The fund allocations are not sufficient for the health sector. There is a need to increase the allocation of funds for the health sector. Would the hon. Minister explain the target fixed for the health sector in the Twelfth Five-Year

Plan and how much of the same has been achieved since two years have lapsed.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Madam, it is a separate question and needs a separate notice.

HON. SPEAKER: The Question relates to international cooperation.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: One thing I would like to say is that the immunization programme is one of the biggest programmes in public health sector and we should be proud of it. It has not been started by our Government but we are doing it in continuity. Certainly, health is a State subject. States also have to take the initiative. As far as funding part is concerned, NRHM, NUHM and NHM as a whole have taken care of it. We are doing whatever best is possible in Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Health Care Centres. The best the Government can do is being done.

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Thank you, Madam, Speaker. International medical journals and domestic medical associations have identified a new strain of super bugs called NDM who have a much greater resistance and immunity to traditional antibiotics. The reason for this creation of a new strain is the phenomenon that doctors in India are over-prescribing antibiotics. This new strain can soon be a threat to our lives and a common bug like the flue or influenza can

be life-threatening. Since there is both, international and domestic concern on this issue the super bug is also named after New Delhi causing much concern amongst all of us as public representatives.

Will this Government enter into an international cooperation on this very critical issue that affects all of us and prescribe a new policy for prescription of antibiotics?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: As I said, disease has no boundaries and knowledge has no boundaries. We are ready to undergo any agreement with any country as far as the knowledge part is concerned. Certainly we know that various types of viruses are there in the environment. They mutate and change their strains also. The National Institute of Virology, Pune is taking care of it. Need not to get worried but certainly we have to be alert on it.

(Q.244)

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[English]

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Through you, Madam, I would like to thank the Minister for being very candid while answering my question. He has given me an opportunity to ask him supplementary rather than asking him about the Question. So, I must thank him.

In the Defence Budget 2015-16 the capital expenditure, which is key to acquiring new capabilities, remains virtually the same as last year. The entire increase of Rs.17,727 crore in 2015-16 Defence Budget would be consumed by revenue expenditure with manpower cost accounting for nearly half of it. Compared to this, the Stores Budget, which is key to maintenance and hence preparedness, has contributed only 17 per cent to the growth of Defence Budget. In such a situation how does the Ministry plan to come good on various arms and ammunitions deals it has linked in the recent past such as the Rafale Deal for fighter jets for which alone the initial payment is estimated at Rs.15,000 crore?

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: I think the question is loaded with a lot of assumptions. Rafale Deal is not through or finalized as of now. Even if it is finalized it will take some time before we actually ink it,

if at all it is finalized. I will not comment on it because it is in the stage of negotiation.

The main important aspect is ensuring what is critically required is acquired at reasonable price and a lot of acquisition is being looked into now in the manner of its requirement, its criticality and avoidance of duplication. One very important factor which I would like to indicate is that the Government is ensuring that all the three Forces coordinate their requirements on inclusive use rather than exclusive use. So, duplication is avoided. I also intend, as I have already stated, to get a better value for the Rupee.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Madam, they have the Defence Acquisition Council. They also have the long term integrated perspective plan. The Planning Directorates in the Service Headquarters do not even have the data banks which can provide relevant information on a specified subject. It has been there for a very long time. Most of the planners have high combat and command qualifications but little clue of modern techniques.

With regard to operational relevance and integrated defence planning what measures has the Ministry adopted for introducing these aids in our defence planning system?

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: The question is highly theoretical. I would like to clarify one thing at the beginning that the hon. Member indicated that defence budget has been increased by Rs.17000 crore. It is not so. It has been increased by Rs.24000 crore as per revised estimates. He probably might have calculated it based on budget estimates.

The DAC is a body which takes decision based on various parameters. I am pleased to inform him that this year, namely, 2014-15 the DAC has so far cleared 44 proposals which are worth around Rs.1,33,000 crore. They were critical for the capital acquisition of the Defence Forces.

As far as the knowledge and importance of various technical parameter data bank is concerned, I think we need to develop it. Some of it cannot be provided also, though it exists. Obviously, because it is a defence requirement, I cannot say how much I have and how much I do not have. But I can assure the hon. Member that we are working on the matter adequately.

[Translation]

SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV: I would like to ask the Minister that an adequate quantity of ammunition is available with the country's defence forces. Further, you said that there are some

important shortcomings in ammunition. I want to know from the Minister, in how many days the important shortcomings in the ammunition will be fulfilled, so that you will be able to support the country's soldiers with full force.

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: Our efforts are to remove the shortcomings, we have identified and fast-tracked it. I want to give one example, I cannot tell about everything in the public domain, there were shortcomings in the bullet proof jackets, and I have taken steps in this regard. [English] While the capital acquisition for the requirement is being processed, I have taken steps to acquire it through revenue route for which one time exemption and additional power has been granted to the Army from ₹.50 crore to ₹.150 crore for procuring 50000 more. Possibly, we will go for another 50000 so that capital acquisition which is stuck up for technical reasons does not become a bottleneck for actual availability.

[Translation]

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: I would like to ask one question to the hon. Minister. He said the defence forces have sufficient quantities of ammunition available, but he also mentioned some significant shortcomings in ammunition. In my parliamentary constituency, at Rajgir, Nalanda, an ordnance factory was set up by

the then Defence Minister, George Fernandes ji. It was completed, but only one unit has been commissioned, and the remaining three units have not. By when will the remaining three units become operational, so that good weapons can be made available to the country from this state-of-the-art ordnance factory? This would be helpful for the defence of the country.

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: The factory that has started in Nalanda, where around ₹800-900 crores have been spent, was supposed to receive technology transfer from the South African company Denel. Unfortunately, due to some kickbacks and other issues, Denel was blackliste. The whole factory became defunct because of that. We are making efforts to restart it. Bi-modular charge systems have to be produced there. I am personally overseeing the trial orders. The process of making picric acid there is incomplete. We have had discussions with the Ordnance Board regarding this. We will try to start production there as soon as possible.

SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL: Madam Speaker, UAVs, i.e. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, or what we commonly call drones, are being used for military and special-purpose applications by all the large and best-armed forces of the world. Their need and importance for India are very high because of the tension at the border.

I want to know from the hon. Minister, through you, to what extent these UAVs are being used in our armed forces. If they are not being used, will the Government consider inducting them?

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: Speaker Madam, I will not be able to tell the extent to which these will be used, but it is being used. All I can say is that right now we are using UAVs imported from abroad. But, DRDO has developed two to three types of UAVs. Their successful trial is underway. They will also be introduced.

(Q.245)

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL: Madam Speaker, I am very fortunate today, because I got a chance to ask my first question in this Temple of our Republic as the new MP of TMC leader Sushri Mamata Banerjee from Bardhaman Purba. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

Madam, a large number of bad loans or NPAs to PSU banks have been restructured and have dodged the NPA classification. The banks along with the borrowers resort to restructure the bad assets, even the unviable ones, into the standard category and thus report lower NPA level. This is a kind of fraud and injustice with the investors and public. So my question is whether the Government will make the public aware about any such practices of restructuring undertaken by the PSU banks through any policy measures or advisory and whether it will act against the concerned officials indulging in such fraud or misconduct.

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, I congratulate the hon. Member on his first question and I wish him much success in his endeavours to ask other such excellent questions.

He raises an important question regarding NPAs in the banking system. The truth of the matter is that NPAs, in fact, have been rising

in the last few years, largely on account of three factors. One is that, of course, there has been sluggishness in our economy which was not growing quickly over the last few years, even though growth has now picked up in our Government. Secondly, there are a large number of stalled projects, by last count we inherited about 1400 stalled projects which we are now slowly fixing and the number is decreasing but those stalled projects obviously have an impact on bank's advances and in NPAs. The third reason is of course that the global economic scenario has also seen slow growth and therefore many of our companies that relied on exports have also been hurt as a result of that. So, all these have contributed to a large number of NPAs. Now, these NPAs, in some cases, are also because of corruption or unethical practices by certain members in the banks that have actually given out loans when they should not have. Those cases are very strictly pursued. There have been very strict guidelines that have been laid out by the RBI and the CBI, in the case of our Public Sector banks by the CVC as well. We are pursuing those very vigilantly.

12.00 hrs

The actual data which I would like to mention to the hon. Member is that, if you look across the 20 public sector banks from April, 2011 to December, 2014, after conducting inquiries into the staff lapses in NPA cases, you may find that 470 employees were dismissed and major and minor penalties were imposed on 5177 and 5811 employees respectively.

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MONDAL: Madam, more than Rs. 28,000 crore worth of NPAs are of the top borrowers. In many cases, it has been seen that these borrowers either try to restructure or renew their loans or continue to delay the payment and become defaulters. They often have loans in the name of subsidiary or divert the fund to another subsidiary directly or indirectly. When it comes to recovery, banks seize the property in the name of the person who has taken the loan.

In this situation, my question is whether the Government will take any specific measures to trace the end use of loans undertaken and see how PSU banks are planning to recover such loans in total from the top defaulters.

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, RBI released, on 30th January, 2014, a set of guidelines for early recognition of financial distress and prompt steps for resolution and fair recovery of lenders. These guidelines are being vigilantly pursued. We have created a

central repository of information on large credits where we will understand exactly how these loans have been used and what can be done to recover any non-performing assets. Six new DRTs have also been created and we now have 39 Debt Recovery Tribunals so that we can go after Non-Performing Assets.

In this Budget, I would like to reassure the hon. Member, we are introducing a new and comprehensive bankruptcy code and creating a financial redressing agency so that we can pursue these NPAs and make sure that our banking system is as sound as it possibly can be.

[Translation]

SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE: Hon. Speaker, since the new liberalised economic policies have come into force in India, two and a half lakh farmers have committed suicide in the country. Farmers also take loans and big industrialists also take loans. When farmers do not have money for repayment, then they commit suicide, the same happens with small businessmen. We all know that Kingfisher etc. are given loans again and again. I want to ask the hon. Minister as to why there is so much discrimination between the farmers and the capitalists. How many capitalists have refunded the loan so far? What action has been taken against those who have not repaid the loan?

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Hon. Speaker, whether it is a big industrialist, a middle-class person or a farmer, guidelines and justice are the same for everyone. Wherever we can recover NPAs etc. we do that.

*WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

(Starred Question Nos. 246 to 260

Unstarred Question Nos. 2761 to 2990)

12.02 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

^{*} For Questions, please refer to Master copy of English version, placed in Library. You can also visit https://sansad.in/ls/questions/questions-and-answers for more information.

HON. SPEAKER: Now Papers to be laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): On behalf of Shri Arun Jaitley, to lay on the Table a copy of the 58th Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Working and Administration on the Companies Act, 1956, for the year ended 31st March, 2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1950/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Defence Services Estimates (Hindi and English versions) for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1951/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, along with Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Academy of

Medical Sciences (India), New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1952/16/15]

- (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 2013-2014.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1953/16/15]

(i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.

(6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1954/16/15]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2013-2014.
 - (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2013-2014, together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2013-2014.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7)

above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1955/16/15]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.
 - (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Nursing Council, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.
- (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1956/16/15]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Delhi

Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1957/16/15]

(13) A copy of the Outcome Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1958/16/15]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts.
 - (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1959/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): On behalf of Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1960/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coffee Board, Bangalore, for the year 2013-2014.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Coffee Board, Bangalore, for the year 2013-2014, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Coffee Board, Bangalore, for the year 2013-2014.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1961/16/15]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Centre for Trade Information, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Centre for Trade Information, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1962/16/15]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Spices Board India, Cochin, for the year 2013-2014.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Spices Board India, Cochin, for the year 2013-2014, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Spices Board India, Cochin, for the year 2013-2014.
- (6) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1963/16/15]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, Ballabgarh, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Council for Cement and Building Materials, Ballabgarh, for the year 2013-2014.

(8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1964/16/15]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.
 - (10) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1965/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): I beg to lay on the Table:-

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions):-

(i) Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Finance for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1966/16/15]

(ii) Outcome Budget of the Ministry of Finance for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1966A/16/15]

- (2) (i) A copy of the 28th Liquidator's Report (Hindi and English versions) on voluntary winding up of IIBI to the equity shareholders of IIBI (under Members' voluntary winding up) for the quarter ended 31.12.2014.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the IIBI Limited, for the quarter ended 31.12.2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1967/16/15]

(3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bharatiya Mahila Bank, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1968/16/15]

(4) A copy of the Consolidated Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of Public Sector Banks for the year ended 31st March, 2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1969/16/15]

- (5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (7) of Section 9A of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975:-
- (i) G.S.R.79(E) published in Gazette of India dated 10th February, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose definitive anti-dumping duty on Sodium Nitrite, originating in, or exported from, the European Union, China PR, Ukraine and Korea RP, pursuant to the final findings in anti-dumping investigations conducted by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties for a period of five years from the date of imposition of provisional anti-dumping duty i.e. 19th March, 2014.

(ii) G.S.R.93(E) published in Gazette of India dated 13th February, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to levy definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of graphite electrodes of all diameters, originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China for a period of five years from the date of imposition i.e. 13th February, 2015, pursuant to the final findings of sunset review investigations conducted by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties.

(iii) G.S.R.110(E) published in Gazette of India dated 18th February, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to levy definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of 'Acetone', originating in, or exported from the Korea RP for a period of five years, pursuant to the final findings of sunset review investigations conducted by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1970/16/15]

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

(i) S.O.2919(E) published in Gazette of India dated 14th November, 2014, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.

- (ii) S.O.2943(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th November, 2014, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of imported and export goods.
- (iii) S.O.3023(E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th November, 2014, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.
- (iv) S.O.3066(E) published in Gazette of India dated 4th December, 2014, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into

Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of imported and export goods.

- (v) S.O.3188(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th December, 2014, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.
- (vi) S.O.3240(E) published in Gazette of India dated 18th December, 2014, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of imported and export goods.
- (vii) S.O.3241(E) published in Gazette of India dated 18th December, 2014 containing corrigendum to the Notification No. S.O.3241(E) dated 17th December, 2014.
- (viii) S.O.3325(E) published in Gazette of India dated 31st December, 2014, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain

amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.

- (ix) S.O.17(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st January, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of imported and export goods.
- (x) S.O.167(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th January, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rates of exchange for conversion of certain foreign currencies into Indian currency or vice-versa for the purpose of assessment of imported and export goods.
- (xi) S.O.168(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th January, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.

(xii) S.O.184(E) published in Gazette of India dated 19th January, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 09/2015-Cus.(N.T.) dated 15th January, 2015.

- (xiii) S.O.237(E) published in Gazette of India dated 27th January, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 09/2015-Cus.(N.T.) dated 15th January, 2015.
- (xiv) S.O.292(E) published in Gazette of India dated 30th January, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 36/2001-Cus.(N.T.) dated 3rd August, 2001.
- (xv) S.O.293(E) published in Gazette of India dated 30th January, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 09/2015-Cus.(N.T.) dated 15th January, 2015.

(xvi) G.S.R.116(E) published in Gazette of India dated 20th February, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum including Calicut Airport and the Inland Container Depot at Melapakkam Village in the list of ports from where imports and exports are permitted.

(xvii) G.S.R.99(E) published in Gazette of India dated 16th February, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt basic customs duty and additional duty of customs leviable on Urea imported under the Urea Off-take Agreement dated 29th May, 2002, between the Government of India and Oman-India Fertilizer Company S.A.O.C. from so much of the customs duty, as is in excess of the amount calculated on the declared value of Urea as agreed under the said Urea Off-take Agreement, subject to certification by the Department of Fertilizers in this regard.

(xviii) The Customs, Central Excise Duties and Service Tax Drawback) (Amendment) Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 81(E) in Gazette of India dated 10th February, 2015.

(xix) G.S.R.82(E) published in Gazette of India dated 10th February, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 110/2014-Cus.(N.T) dated 17th November, 2014.

- (xx) G.S.R.128(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to increase the Additional Duty of Customs levied on motor spirit.
- (xxi) G.S.R.129(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to increase the Additional Duty of Customs levied on High Speed Diesel Oil.
- (xxii) G.S.R.130(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to reduce the export duty levaible on ilmenite, upgraded from 5% to 2.5%.
- (xxiii) G.S.R.131(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding two notifications, mentioned therein.

(xxiv) G.S.R.132(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 12/2012-Cus., dated 17th March, 2012.

(xxv) G.S.R.133(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 21/2012-Cus., dated 17th March, 2012.

(xxvi) G.S.R.134(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to notify "resident firm" as class of persons for the purposes of Section 28E of the Customs Act, 1962 so as to extend the scheme of Advance Ruling to Resident Firm.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1971/16/15]

(7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944:-

- (i) G.S.R.135(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 16/2010-CE, dated 27th February, 2010.
- (ii) G.S.R.136(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 42/2008-CE, dated 1st July, 2008.
- (iii) G.S.R.137(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 1/2011-CE, dated 1st March, 2011.
- (iv) G.S.R.138(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain

amendments in the Notification No. 2/2011-CE, dated 1st March, 2011.

- (v) G.S.R.139(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 6/2005-CE, dated 1st March, 2005.
- (vi) G.S.R.140(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to increase the Additional Duty of Excise levied on imported motor spirit.
- (vii) G.S.R.141(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to increase the Additional Duty of Excise levied on imported High Speed Diesel Oil.
- (viii) G.S.R.142(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain

amendments in the Notification No. 12/2012-CE, dated 17th March, 2012.

- (ix) G.S.R.143(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 10/1996-CE, dated 23rd July, 1996.
- (x) G.S.R.144(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt all goods falling within the First Schedule of the CETA, 1985 from the whole of Education Cess levaible under Section 93 of the Finance (No. 2) Act, 2004.
- (xi) G.S.R.145(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to exempt all goods falling within the First Schedule of the CETA, 1985 from the whole of Secondary and Higher Education Cess leviable under Section 138 of the Finance Act, 2007.

(xii) G.S.R.146(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 23/2003-CE, dated 31st March, 2003.

- (xiii) G.S.R.147(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding Notification No. 28/2010-CE and 29/2010-CE both dated 22nd June, 2010.
- (xiv) G.S.R.148(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No.49/2008-CE (NT) dated 24th December, 2008.
- (xv) The Chewing Tobacco and Unmanufactured Tobacco Packing Machines (Capacity Determination and Collection of Duty) Amendment Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G.S.R.149(E) in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(xvi) The Pan Masala Packing Machines (Capacity Determination and Collection of Duty) (Amendment) Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G.S.R.150(E) in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(xvii) The CENVAT Credit (Amendment) Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G.S.R.151(E) in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(xviii) G.S.R.152(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 35/2001-CE (NT), dated 26th June, 2001.

(xix) The Central Excise (Amendment) Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G.S.R.153(E) in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(xx) The Central Excise (Removal of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty for Manufacture of Excisable Goods) Amendment Rules, 2015

published in Notification No. G.S.R.154(E) in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(xxi) G.S.R.155(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 16/2014-CE (NT), dated 21st March, 2014.

(xxii) G.S.R.156(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to notify the "resident firm" as class of persons for the purposes of Section 23A of the Customs Excise Act, 1944 so as to extend the scheme of Advance Ruling to Resident Firm.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1972/16/15]

(8) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of Section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994:-

(i) G.S.R.157(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to rescind Notification No. 42/2012-Service Tax, dated 29th June, 2012.

- (ii) G.S.R.158(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 31/2012-Service Tax, dated 20th June, 2012.
- (iii) The Service Tax (Amendment) Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G.S.R.159(E) in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iv) G.S.R.160(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 25/2012-Service Tax, dated 20th June, 2012.
- (v) G.S.R.161(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain

amendments in the Notification No. 30/2012-Service Tax, dated 20th June, 2012.

- (vi) G.S.R.162(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 26/2012-Service Tax, dated 20th June, 2012.
- (vii) G.S.R.163(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015, seeking to notify "resident firm" as class of persons for the purposes of Section 96A of the Finance Act, 1994.
- (viii) G.S.R.164(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to notify the effective rate of Clean Energy Cess on goods specified in the tenth schedule to the Finance Act, 2010.
- (ix) G.S.R.165(E) published in Gazette of India dated 1st March, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain

amendments in the Notification No. 2/2003-M&TP, dated 1st March, 2003.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1973/16/15]

- (9) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 25 of the Coinage Act, 2011:-
- (i) The Coinage of One Hundred Rupees and Five Rupees Coins to commemorate the occasion of Birth Centenary of Rani Gaidinliu Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 33(E) in Gazette of India dated 15th January, 2015.
- (ii) The Coinage of One Hundred Rupees and Five Rupees Coins to mark the occasion of Centenary commemoration of Komagata Maru Incident Rules, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 697(E) in Gazette of India dated 26th September, 2014.
- (iii) The Coinage of One Hundred Rupees and Five Rupees Coins to mark the occasion of Birth Centenary Commemoration of Begum

Akhtar Rules, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 704(E) in Gazette of India dated 1st October, 2014.

- (iv) The Coinage of One Hundred Twenty Five Rupees and Five Rupees Coins to mark the occasion of 125th Birth Anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru Rules, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 767(E) in Gazette of India dated 31st October, 2014.
- (v) The Coinage of Fifty Rupees and Five Rupees Coins to mark the occasion of BHEL 50 years of Engineering Excellence Rules, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 888(E) in Gazette of India dated 12th December, 2014.
- (vi) The Printing of One Rupee Currency Notes Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 897(E) in Gazette of India dated 16th December, 2014.
- (vii) The Coinage of One Hundred Rupees and Ten Rupees coins to commemorate the occasion of 'Centenary Commemoration of Mahatma Gandhi's Return from South Africa Rules, 2014 published

in Notification No. G.S.R. 940(E) in Gazette of India dated 31st December, 2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1974/16/15]

- (10) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 48 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999:-
 - (i) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of any foreign Security) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 868(E) in Gazette of India dated 3rd December, 2014.
- (ii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Deposit) (Amendment) Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 879(E) in Gazette of India dated 9th December, 2014.
- (iii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident Outside India) (Sixteenth Amendment)

Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 906(E) in Gazette of India dated 22nd December, 2014.

- (iv) The Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Currency) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 907(E) in Gazette of India dated 22nd December, 2014.
- (v) The Foreign Exchange Management (Foreign Currency Accounts by a Person Resident in India) (Amendment) Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 913(E) in Gazette of India dated 24th December, 2014.
- (vi) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by a Person Resident Outside India) (Seventeenth Amendment) Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 914(E) in Gazette of India dated 24th December, 2014.
- (vii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Export of Goods and Services) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2014 published in

Notification No. G.S.R. 930(E) in Gazette of India dated 31st December, 2014.

(viii) The Foreign Exchange Management (Manner of Receipt and Payment) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 931(E) in Gazette of India dated 31st December, 2014.

(ix) The Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of any foreign Security) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 7(E) in Gazette of India dated 5th January, 2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1975/16/15]

(11) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 77 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985:-

(i) S.O.376(E) published in Gazette of India dated 5th February, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum notifying certain substances as 'psychotropic substances'.

- (ii) The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Amendment) Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 74(E) in Gazette of India dated 5th February, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iii) S.O.375(E) published in Gazette of India dated 5th February, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O.1055(E), dated 19th October, 2001.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1976/16/15]

(12) A copy of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Registration of Insurance Marketing Firm) Regulations, 2015 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. No. IRDAI/Reg./1/91/2015 in Gazette of India dated 29th January, 2015

under Section 27 of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1977/16/15]

(13) A copy of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (Allowances Payable to Part-Time-Members) Rules, 2014 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 596(E) in Gazette of India dated 20th August, 2014 under Section 53 of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 2013.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1978/16/15]

(14) A copy of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Pension (Amendment) Regulations, 2014 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. NB.HRMD.PPD/SA.08/2014-15 in weekly Gazette of India dated 2nd January, 2015 under sub-section (5) of Section 60 of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Act, 1981.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1979/16/15]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:-
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the National Film Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2013-2014.
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Film Development Corporation Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1980/16/15]

(3) A copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for the year 2015-2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT -1981/16/15]

12.06 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

7th to 10th Reports

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH BAIS (RAIPUR): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2014-15):

- (1) Seventh Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Thirty-ninth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Implementation of schemes for Welfare of Senior Citizens' of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Social Justice and Empowerment).
- (2) Eighth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/ recommendations contained in the Forty-fifth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Review of the functioning of National Institutes working in the field of disability' of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities).

(3) Ninth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Forty-fourth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Working of Ashram Schools in Tribal Areas' of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

(4) Tenth Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Forty-sixth Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Implementation of Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme' of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

12.06 ½ hrs

STATEMENT CORRECTING REPLY TO UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3271, DATED 1 AUGUST, 2014 REGARDING DEATH OF PATIENTS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS ALONGWITH REASONS FOR DELAY*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): I invite attention to the reply given to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3271 for 1st August, 2014 regarding 'Death of Patients in Government Hospitals'. The period mentioned in respect of deaths occurred in Kalawati Saran Child Hospital in 2014 in the Annexure referred to the reply for part (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3271 for 1st August, 2014, has been indicated as 28th July, 2014. However, this period is till June, 2014. The correct reply of the Question is laid on the Table of the House. The correcting Statement is being made as soon as inaccuracy came to the notice.

^{*} Placed in Library, See No. LT-1982/16/15

DEATH OF PATIENTS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS

3271 . SHRIMATI ANUPRIYA PATEL:

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of pathetic condition including non-availability of potable water and poor sanitation facilities in Government controlled hospitals and its associated medical institutes including All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating number of complaints/suggestions received from various quarters along with the action taken by the Government in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year, hospital-wise;
- (c) the details of the patients including children died during the above period in these hospitals, hospital-wise;

(d) whether some deaths have reportedly taken place due to medical negligence by doctors/para- medical staff and if so, the details thereof, hospital-wise;

- (e) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard, if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the action taken/being taken by the Government against such hospitals/doctors/paramedics; and
- (f) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government for providing better and modern facilities in these hospitals?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) & (b): Since Health is a State subject, no such information is maintained centrally. As far as AIIMS, New Delhi and PGIMER, Chandigarh and three Central Government Hospitals located in Delhi viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College & associated Hospital are concerned, adequate potable water is available in these hospitals.

In three Central Government Hospitals located in Delhi, proper sanitation is maintained in these hospitals by way of engaging regular and outsourced sanitary workers using manual and wherever possible mechanical means. Pest control work is regularly carried out. In case of any complaint regarding sanitation, the matter is solved on priority

In AIIMS, New Delhi, there is a decentralized system for maintenance of Hospital sanitation and hygiene under the supervision of Sister-in-charge, Ward and Nursing Officers along with Sanitation officers and all the areas of Institute are inspected regularly by the Faculty, Hospital Administration In-charge and Medical Superintendent.

In PGIMER, cleanliness is monitored by Sanitary Inspectors and Resident Doctors of Hospital Administration, round-the-clock and a report is generated on daily basis.

(c): The details of the patients including children died during the last three years and current years in respect of three Central Government Hospitals as mentioned above and AIIMS, New Delhi is given in

Annexure. Information in respect of PGIMER, Chandigarh is being collected and will be laid on the Table of House.

(d) to (f): No case of death has been established due to negligence by doctors/para-medical staff in AIIMS, New Delhi, and three Central Government Hospitals as mentioned above. The Death Review Committee is in place in the Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and LHMC and associated Hospital headed by a Senior Consultant. The cause of death is examined by the Death Review Committee to find out whether any negligence on part of the attending Doctor has happened. In case of AIIMS, various specialties Centre and Departments have their departmental Death/Mortality Review Committee. In case there is any complaint of alleged negligence etc., a medical Board/review committee comprising of specialist doctors concerned is constituted on a case-to-case basis. In PGIMER, Chandigarh, there is a Medical Grievance Committee headed by a Senior Professor with members drawn from other specialities, which conducts inquiry on complaints of medical negligence. A case of death of a patient in PGIMER, Chandigarh on alleged negligence is sub-judice.

Modernisation of existing facilities and creation of new facility in a Hospital is an on-going process and is undertaken as per the requirement and availability of resources. Projects for augmentation of capacity have also been approved in the three Central Government hospitals namely Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and LHMC and associated Hospitals. Adequate attention is given to all patients admitted in the Hospitals or visited hospitals for treatment.

12.07 hrs

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

[English]

Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 113th Report of the Standing Committee on Commerce on Action Taken by the Government on recommendations/observations contained in the 108th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2013-14), pertaining to the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): I beg to lay a Statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 113th Report of the Standing Committee on Commerce on Action Taken by the Government on recommendations/observations contained in the 108th Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2013-14), pertaining to the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT. 1983/16/15

12.08 hrs

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): Madam Speaker, with your permission, I, On behalf of Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, rise to announce that the Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 16th of March, 2015 will consist of:-

- 1. Consideration of any items of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- 2. Introduction, consideration and passing of:-
 - (a) The Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 2015; and
 - (b) The Appropriation Bill, 2015.

3. Consideration and passing of the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2015, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

- 4. Consideration and passing of the following Bills:-
 - (a) The Warehousing Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 2015;
 - (b) The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2015; and
 - (c) The Repealing and Amending Bill, 2014.

[Translation]

DR. BHOLA SINGH (BEGUSARAI): Madam Speaker, I would request to incorporate the following two issues in the next week's agenda:

- (1) Regarding renaming West Barauni Flag of Barauni Junction under East-Central Railway Zone Hajipur as "Barauni Village".
- (2) Regarding installing a life-size bronze statue of national poet Ramdhari Singh Dinkar in the premises of Dinkar Gram Simaria station under East-Central Railway zone Hajipur.

[English]

SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA (ROHTAK): Madam Speaker, I kindly request that the following issue be included for discussion in next week's Lok Sabha List of Business:-

The need for a nation-wide law to ensure standardization in compensation to dependents of martyrs hailing from all branches of the Indian Armed Forces, the Paramilitary and Central and State Police Services.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): I would request Madam Speaker to incorporate following items in the next week's agenda:-

Cashew Board: Kollam District in Kerala is the hub of cashew processing industry in India. The demand for setting up Cashew Board with headquarters at Kollam is more than three decades old. The issue of setting up the Cashew Board at Kollam may be taken up as an agenda item.

Infrastructure Development of Kuttanad: Kuttanad is an area below sea level where rice cultivation is the main occupation and income generation activity of the people. Kuttanad lies in the Vembanad Lake which is the merging ground of four major rivers of Kerala. There is lack of all-weather roads, bridges, culverts, etc., in the area and hence the people are suffering a lot. The issue of infrastructure development in Kuttanad may be included in the next week's agenda.

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL (MAHARAJGANJ): Speaker Madam, the following items may please be included in the coming week's List of Business.

1. Regarding the dilapidated condition of the roads constructed and being constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in my Parliamentary Constituency and the gross irregularites their in.

2. Regarding the power crisis that still exists and the solution to the problem as it should be made available to every household.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Madam, the following items may please be included in the coming week's List of Business:

- 1. Introduction of the Pharmaceutical Product Patents brought new business opportunities but the increase in competitive pressure has possibly induced the exit of small firms and plants from the market. It requires fresh review of the Pharma Policy.
- 2. The health sector has been growing exponentially. So, there is a need for regulation of clinical trials and comprehensive reforms in this sector.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA):

Respected hon. Speaker, I request that the following subjects may be included in the agenda for next week's business in the Lok Sabha:

1. The decision to close for repair the Calicut International Airport, the gateway to Malabar, which is one of the busiest and revenue earning Airports in India has caused untold difficulties to lakhs of passengers going abroad.

2. The miseries being faced by fisher-folk along the coastal belt of India following the implementation of Dr. Meenakumari Commission Report on deep sea fishing.

[Translation]

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR (TIKAMGARH): Speaker Madam, the following items may please be included in the coming week's List of Business:

- 1. Iron ore is abundant in the mountain ranges of the Bijawar-Shahgarh region in my Parliamentary Constituency which is under Chhatarpur district of Madhya Pradesh. Land is being acquired by many private companies in this direction. Therefore, an initiative should be taken to set up a steel factory in this area in collaboration with the Steel Authority of India.
- 2. There were about 950 ponds from the period of Chandel dynasty in Tikamgarh district of Madhya Pradesh, which catered to the needs of irrigation and maintained water levels. Out of which only 450 ponds are left now due to encroachment. Therefore, the conservation of these ponds having historical importance should be planned soon.

[English]

SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN (SRIPERUMBUDUR): I humbly request that the following item may be included in the next week's agenda:

1 A discussion on the 'Jallikkattu' in Tamil Nadu, a famous ancient 'bull sporting game' which is a part of Tamil culture so that the ban imposed by the Centre on conducting this event can be removed.

Thank you,

With regards... (Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (MALAPPURAM): Madam, where is the Finance Minister? The Cabinet Minister has to be there. I have a right to know. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: He is in Rajya Sabha.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: It is all right. Please take your seat. How can you say that? Other Ministers are there.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED: By taking permission from the House, he could go.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: It is not necessary for that. He is in Rajya Sabha. He has informed me. What are all these things? Please sit down. It is not necessary. I know about it. There are other Ministers sitting here.

Shri K. Parasuraman.

SHRI K. PARASURAMAN (THANJAVUR): I request that the following items may be included in the List of Business for next week:

- 1. Need to set up a fertilizer industry and factory based on husk and straw, i.e., waste from paddy and there are 10 districts in and around Thanjavur which mainly depend on agriculture. Thanjavur is the rice bowl of Southern India.
- 2. Need to remove the deficiencies in interest subsidy in respect of education loan leading to benefits not reaching the students.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Madam, the following two items may please be incorporated in the next week's List of Business:

- Need to discuss whether the National Commission for Backward Classes should be amended to give constitutional rights like other commissions so that the dignity of the commission can be in the public interest.
- 2 Need to discuss about the construction of the railway section from Sultanganj to Banka, Sultanganj to Deoghar and from

Bariarpur to Mananpur under Eastern Railway so that this left wing extremist affected area be developed.

HON. SPEAKER: There will be no 'Zero Hour' now.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): I wish to raise an important issue of attack of freedom of expression yesterday in Chennai. A Tamil news channel, *Pudhiya Talaimurai* was attacked by some..... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): It is State's law and order issue. How can you discuss it?

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: The news channel was attacked by crude bombs. This has happened a day after the channel was forced to cancel telecast of a programmed at the instance of Hindutva outfit. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It is not fair. Let us not try to politicize the issue. It is a State issue and it is not there in agenda also. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: As per the reports, police arrested six persons involved in the attack including the President of Hindu *Ilaignar* Sena. Jayam A. Pandian, State President of Hindu *Ilaignar*

Sena, who surrendered himself to police, has claimed the responsibility of attack. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It should not go on record, Madam. He is making irresponsible allegations. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: No, nothing will go on record.

... (Interruptions)... *

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Shri Veerappa Moily. Now, we will start Item Nos.14 to 16.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): It is not a question of the State Government. We are not attacking the State Government or telling anything about the State Government. The question is that, always such things are happening in this country, not only in Chennai. First, writers were attacked; actress was attacked; now, television channel was attacked. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Please don't generalise it this way.

... (Interruptions)

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^{*} Not recorded.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: This is not the way. It is not there in the agenda. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: You are attacking; your organizations; ... (*Interruptions*) Your Allies have not been spared; your own Party people are not spared. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I have to then say your party, your supporters. ... (*Interruptions*) If I say your party and your supporters, what is the use? ... (*Interruptions*) Madam, such things are not allowed. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: All of you start saying something. Again, they are also saying something. It is not the way. I am sorry. I will not allow this.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Without admission, we cannot discuss issues. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: If that case, nothing will go on record like this. I am sorry.

... (Interruptions)... *

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^{*} Not recorded.

HON. SPEAKER: If all of you start saying something, nothing will go on record. I am sorry.

... (Interruptions)... *

HON.SPEAKER: Now, Item Nos. 14 to 16 – General Budget.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: All these issues being raised in this fashion, will not go on record.

... (Interruptions)... *

DR. P. VENUGOPAL (TIRUVALLUR): They are certain groups which have brutally and violently attacked the media. It is condemnable. But the State Government have already taken action against these culprits. This is a State subject.

HON. SPEAKER: I know. Now, it is over.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Hon. Finance Minister is not here. Who is hearing this debate? ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: How will it work if all of you speak like this?

... (Interruptions)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: The Finance Minister should be there when the debate on Budget is being initiated. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: The Minister of State for Finance is sitting here.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Where is the Finance Minister? ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please sit down, don't teach me.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam Speaker, through you I would like to inform the hon. House that the Finance Minister has gone to the United Kingdom on the invitation of UK Government because there is an important function of unveiling the statue of Mahatma Gandhi in UK.

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: You can send another Minister. Why should the Finance Minister go for that? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Are you to dictate to us? I don't understand. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Kharge ji, please handle your Members also, it is not right to scream again and again.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam, it is the practice in Parliament. ... (Interruptions) We are over responding. That is the problem. Every time we are responding. The Finance Minister has taken the permission of the hon. Speaker and he is on an official visit to UK for an important function. The Minister of State is here. The Finance Minister will return and then reply to the Budget discussion.

HON. SPEAKER: The Finance Minister has given me a letter. Shri Jayant Sinha is attending to the financial business in the House now.

... (Interruptions)

12.21 hrs

[English]

GENERAL BUDGET (2015-16) – GENERAL DISCUSSION DEMANDS FOR GRANTS ON ACCOUNT (GENERAL), 201516 DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (GENERAL), 2014-15

HON. SPEAKER: We are now taking up item nos. 14 to 16 together for discussion. Motions moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India, on account, for or towards defraying the charges during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2016 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 35, 37, 38, 40 to 64, 66 to 73, 75 to 77, 79, 80 and 82 to 109."

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the third column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2015 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 1 to 4, 9 to 15, 17, 19, 20, 22 to 27, 31 to 34, 37, 40, 42 to 44, 46 to 48, 51, 53 to 56, 58 to 63, 66 to 68, 73, 75 to 77, 80, 83, 86 to 99, 101 to 103 and 106."

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Jayant Sinha

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI JAYANT SINHA): Madam Speaker, the Budget Session is ongoing, and on behalf of the Government, we have presented four very important documents. The first was the President's address, followed by the Railway Budget. After that came the Economic Survey, and finally, the General Budget was presented by the Hon. Minister of Finance on 28th February. If we examine these four documents, the ideology, thinking, and goals of the government become very clear. The Government's ideology is "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas", and this is reflected in the Budget we have presented. It is a Budget for everyone and for every section of the country. Every stakeholder of the country has got benefitted from it. Now, I would like to speak briefly about this Budget before the debate and discussion start. In the debate, I will touch the three key points. Firstly, I would like to highlight how we managed the economic challenges we inherited. ... (Interruptions) Secondly, I would discuss how we have revolutionized the fiscal architecture of the country. How did we make that possible? If the Hon. Member allows me the opportunity, I

will convince the country that the revolutionary changes introduced through this Budget must be recognized.

The third point I would like to emphasize is the change we have brought through this Budget for youth employment. To begin with, I want to explain how we handled the economic situation we inherited and took the country forward in a positive direction. ... (Interruptions)

12.23 hrs

At this stage, Shri Ravneet Singh and some other Hon'ble Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

The first thing is that if we try to understand the economic problem, we should understand the way the Government was running in deficit. When we talk about fiscal deficit, we use numbers, we say that 4.1 percent fiscal deficit which was very difficult, we showed it to the country by reducing it to 4.1 percent and told everyone that this is our fiscal management. We have presented you a very good example of that... (*Interruptions*) But if we look at 4.1 percent fiscal deficit, then we do not fully understand how much loss the Government was incurring, because we should understand that the expenditure of the Government is about 17 lakh crores, but the earning of the government is only 11.3 lakh crores, which means every year the Government has to borrow ₹5.1 lakh crore. Since the Government

is incurring so many losses and we have to do so much borrowings, so if we look at that, our deficit is 45 percent of the revenue collection today. This was a huge problem, which we handled and 4.1 percent fiscal deficit which was earlier a huge challenge before us, we have showed how well we can do fiscal management. We have handled it. ... (Interruptions) The second thing that we are handling, as the hon. Members had said, is NPA ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: This is not the way, please go back to your seats. Hon. Minister of Finance has sent me a letter. He has informed me. I have allowed him.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: He is the Minister of State for Finance and he is an outsider. He will be present even after his submission. Today, we are just starting the discussion on the Budget, he will do the entire noting, and that is how it happens. I have allowed him. I am sorry, no.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): This is a national Budget and the Finance Minister has to be present... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: He will come, it is not that he will stay there.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam, the second problem is NPA and as I was explaining to the Hon. Member even in Question Hour that when we came, there were about 1400 stalled projects.... (Interruptions). We have taken many projects forward by bringing them under control and handling this too, we are strengthening our banking system and taking it forward. ... (Interruptions) The third problem has been unemployment and we have brought policies in this Budget to increase employment, due to which we think that we will be able to take the employment far ahead. ... (Interruptions) All these economic problems that exited, we have been solved these problems in the last eight-nine months since our Government was formed. We have given confidence and faith to the investors and the industrialists around the world and across the country that we can run the Government very well... (Interruptions) If today, the investments are coming, these are coming from within the country or from abroad, and

as a result it increased the stock market and that has happened because we have built confidence once again. ... (*Interruptions*)

Now, I would like to highlight the second point that the 14th Finance Commission's devolution and how through GST we have taken a very revolutionary step on the fiscal architecture of the country. ... (Interruptions) That is how we have brought a revolutionary change in physical architecture of the country. ... (Interruptions) I want to explain to the Hon. Members that the devolution provided to states by the 14th Finance Commission was 32 percent... (Interruptions) This time, the 14th Finance Commission has proposed increasing it to 42 percent. ... (Interruptions) If we make it 42 percent, then Rs 1.8 lakh crore which used to be given to the Centre earlier, we have given that to the states. We have given to the states because we believe in cooperative federalism. ... (Interruptions) We believe in Team India. ... (Interruptions) Just like how Team India is playing in the World Cup today, similarly, the Team India that is working in our country also has to play and win in the World Cup. ... (Interruptions) So we created Team India, formed cooperative federalism, and in this way, we have accomplished many revolutionary things.... (Interruptions) The final point, on which I want to shed light, is the significant policies we have adopted for the

employment of youth. ... (Interruptions) Madam, this is a budget of the youth. ... (Interruptions) We have brought forth many important policies for the youth, among which I would like to specifically highlight two policies. ... (Interruptions) First is that we have paid a lot of attention to Skill India. ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 12.45 p.m.

12.29 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Forty-Five Minutes past Twelve of the Clock.

12.45 hrs

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Forty-Five Minutes past Twelve of the Clock.

(Hon. Speaker in the Chair)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I understand there is a sentiment that the Minister of Finance should be present here, but the Hon. Shri Arun Jaitley, Minister of Finance, had sent me a letter, and I have granted him leave. He will be back on Monday. He mentioned that he will be here on Monday and has authorized the Minister of State for Finance to represent him. He is not from another department; he is indeed the Minister of State for Finance. Such arrangements happen, and this has happened before as well. It was also decided that we would start today. Today, there is a Private Member's Bill. From 12 o'clock until 3:30 P.M., we will have discussions, and on Monday, the Minister of Finance will be available all day. He has gone with my permission, and I have granted it. We believe that the Minister of State for Finance is equally competent to note that this has been a practice before as well. My request to you is that we should start the discussion.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): We are not raising any questions about his efficiency or potential. He is very

intelligent, well-educated, and foreign-educated; we all acknowledge that. However, the issue here is that when there is a discussion about the National Budget, which is presented before the nation, it is very important and crucial for the Minister of Finance to be present. Parliament wants to know, and many issues require his attention. If you have given him permission to leave, and if he has gone... (Interruptions) It has always been the tradition of this House that while presenting the budget, the Minister of Finance should remain present. He may sometimes step out for the time being and come back, but that is a different matter. He is always present at the time of the reply. Sometimes, there are one or two issues that arise, so it happens. But if he has gone with your permission, I request that we take up this discussion on Monday. Now, let's proceed with any non-official business that may be before us. This is acceptable to all... (Interruptions) You see, the entire House is also empty.... (Interruptions) Therefore, I appeal to you to take up the discussion on Monday and start with whatever other subjects are there afterward.... (Interruptions)

SHRI E. AHAMED (MALAPPURAM): Madam Speaker, I would also like to speak on this issue. Why are you not allowing me?

HON. SPEAKER: Please, sit down.

... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam, I would like to humbly request the House.... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Now you will discuss on this point only.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Hon. Minister of Finance has gone out due to an international commitment.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: All the members have same feeling, I will reply for all.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam Speaker, because of the Commitment the Minister of Finance has gone and it was with your permission. ... (Interruptions) I urge my friends from the opposition bench that the work at hand is important; it's an international commitment. Secondly, he has sought permission from the Speaker before visiting. Thirdly, there are many rulings that I don't want to delve into Minister, whether Cabinet Minister or State Minister or any

Minister can do it. Those sorts of precedents were there. But I'm not going into that. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: If you discuss just sitting down, I will go inside. Someone talking from here, someone from there this approach isn't appropriate, Deepender Ji. Please sit down. You are not supposed to comment on everything sitting idle. Please understand what I am stating. Just because you are sitting does not mean you will comment on everything. Please sit down. What is this? Your leader has said so, hasn't he?

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Any Minister can represent the other Minister. That is the stated position, which has been accepted in parliamentary principles. That being the case, I would only request my friends from the Opposition to respect the decision taken by the Chair. The Minister is not going to speak but he has only just to present it, and the discussion has to start. Let us have the discussion. It was also agreed upon. Please try to understand one thing. On that only, we decided not to sit tomorrow. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Do not say that ... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Shri Kharge ji, please listen. Madam, yesterday when I intervened, with your permission, I said: "The Members are asking that the coming Saturday may be given holiday. Let us discuss have the discussion on the General Budget tomorrow up to 3.30 p.m. and then take up the Private Members' Business, again continue the discussion on the General Budget on Monday and the Finance Minister will reply at the end of the discussion." That is what I submitted. It was agreed upon by everybody. Now, again requesting, for the same of ... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Let him complete. Shri Kharge ji, I will allow you again to speak. Let the discussion go on.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Making a non-issue as an issue, I do not think it is good. They should accept this. I would request them to cooperate in conducting the House. Madam, a lot of Members would like to speak. Some Members would speak today and other Members would speak on Monday. Let us move ahead.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam Speaker, we are not challenging whatever decision that you have taken. You have got power to take that decision but they cannot take advantage under your shadow or shelter. What we discussed with our friends is this. We agreed that the discussion on the General Budget should be taken up

but he did not tell that the Finance Minister would be absent today and in his absence the discussion on the General Budget would be taken up. Has he said that? You tell me. If you have said that, then I will withdraw my words. He did not tell that. The Minister of State in the Parliamentary Affairs only informed us that the discussion on the General Budget would start on Friday and it would go up to 3.30 pm. He also said that the discussion would start on Monday at 12 o' clock, it would go up to 6 pm or 7 pm and the reply would be after that. We agreed to that. He did not inform us that the Finance Minister would not be available on Friday but kindly cooperate with us in taking up the discussion. These are the new words invented by the Parliamentary Affairs Minister. Madam, the record should be made straight. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam, there was a ruling by the Speaker also earlier; even on Finance. ... (Interruptions) I am not going into that. While discussing on the General Budget and also the Demands for Grants, there was a ruling. ... (Interruptions) I am not inventing anything. I am only requesting you, Shri Kharge ji, to cooperate with us. Shri Kharge ji, you are very senior enough to understand. ... (Interruptions) The Minister is a Minister. He is very much here. He is also capable. That has to be understood.

Secondly, because you were saying ... (*interruptions*) what is this, what is this ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Only those members will speak whom I will allow. Deepender ji, you are very intelligent, I am allowing you. But only the person whom I allow should speak. It's not as if anyone can speak whenever they wish.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: When we hear the other side, you must also be patient enough to hear us. It is unfair... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I will let you speak too, once he completes his speech. I am ready to have a discussion till 3.30 P.M. on this. Let him complete, and then I will allow you.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: No, what to do now? Whatever I have to say, you will also say that you have to say it. I will allow you. Today let me

also understand that if the speaker said something, she would have said it wrong.

[English]

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: I am requesting, now. Please understand. In the interest of the country and also time, let us proceed with the business.

Madam, in the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, at page 2, it is written:

"Minister" means a member of the Council of Ministers [and include a member of the Cabinet], a Minister of State, a Deputy Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary."

This is the ruling; it is a rule also. At page 2, they can see it also. If they do not want to accept my request, my request is, accept the rule and then proceed further.

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Ahamed.

SHRI E. AHAMED: Madam, he is speaking about proceedings of the House. The Members have to decide. This is about the financial matter; and it is a Budget Session.

On the matter of Finance, the Constitution has provided a special provision giving special powers to the Lok Sabha because the Lok

Sabha is the House of accountability. Lok Sabha is the only place where you can present the Budget.

HON. SPEAKER: I know.

SHRI E. AHAMED: The Lok Sabha has the special rights; and so, the Minister in-charge of the Finance should be here. He is accountable for everything. Whatever this House passes is the law. That importance of the Lok Sabha cannot be abrogated. That is what we say. That shall not be diluted.

Of course, we all understand the Government's precarious position. But at the very same time, the Government must also understand why they are just making this amendment of the rule just for their convenience. It is not correct. They will also have to have the smooth functioning of the House. The Opposition is also cooperating with them. We have nothing to do with that.

But I would say that there are traditions and precedents. A lot of conventions have been made in this House. Those conventions have to be respected. That is why we say why do you not feel that the Lok Sabha's importance, Lok Sabha's privileges, Lok Sabha's priorities and Lok Sabha's prerogatives have to be there?

Madam, therefore, there is a well-established convention in this House regarding disposing of the Budget. That is to be followed. What

is going to happen? Would the Heavens fall if they just postpone it by a few hours? Why do they just not agree to it? We must have a smooth functioning of the House.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I've understood your point.

[English]

SHRI E. AHAMED: Madam, we are here to cooperate with you; we are here to help you. But at the very same time, it shall not be at the cost of prestige of this House. That is our only request. We have nothing against you.

Therefore, Mr. Minister, you please agree. You should not have done it to this House just sending the hon. Minister. You may have more important things. My friend, Mr. Jaitley will never violate the rules. I know him very well. But just wait for three hours, four hours, so as to just respect the convention of this House.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: I have listened to both sides. The first thing is that I also agree, as it is mentioned in the rule that the Minister of State can also reply. He is also a Minister of State for Finance. It is not that Minister of State from departments other than Finance are sitting here

and I have allowed them. Once again, I reiterate that Hon. Arun Jaitley ji had also given me a letter. He also said that he will be there on Monday without a doubt. His letter also mentioned that: 'I authorize Shri Jayant Sinha ji. And if he is the State Minister, he is the Minister of State for Finance. Keeping all these things in mind, when the debate is about to begin, the Minister's only job is to take notes and then give them to the Cabinet Minister or to whosoever will reply. I have been seeing all this for 25 years, that's why I had allowed him. If there is any flaw somewhere that I have not conveyed, then tell me, I don't violate rules. I also believe that work should be done as per the rules.

... (Interruptions)

13.00 hrs

HON. SPEAKER: I am telling you because I have permitted Mr. Jaitley Ji. Shri Jayant Sinha is the Minister of State for Finance. He is not a minister in any other Ministry, but a Minister of State for Finance. Therefore, he is in the same capacity, hence he will be attending today. Then from Monday on, the Cabinet Minister will be there. Only he will reply. Considering all this I have allowed him. Hence, the debate started today.

Despite this, if it is not accepted by all, I have no insistence on it, but one thing to keep in mind is that the Minister of State for Finance

is present in the debate. He is the one who notes all this. This has been happening in many departments over the years. I know about the Budget also. It's not that the budget has to be passed silently and the Cabinet Minister doesn't need to be present here. Keeping all this in mind, such was allowed.

If you want no discussion on it today, then say that you do not want discussion today. I have no objection to it. But I don't think the proceeding is against the rules.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Let me complete. If you think or insist that there shouldn't be any discussion on this matter today and the minister should be here. You may consider this, but there shouldn't be such precedent. Since I am not aware of this, I did not delve into the details. However, as far as I know, this has happened before and I will bring to you such precedents.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (BIKANER): Madam, this has happened five times before... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: If you do not want a discussion today, don't have it. If you insist that the Cabinet Minister has to be present for it, then

he will be present on Monday. If you don't want to initiate the discussion on this today, then I can't insist either, because it's you who have to speak on this matter, it's you who have to participate in the discussion.

Kharge ji, if you want, the House will run, this is also true. But I would like to reiterate that I had given him permission for this. I had given permission to the Minister of Finance and had done so as per the rule also, and the Minister of State for Finance will be there. Today only the debate has to begin on this. On Monday, when the debate will continue for the entire day and when the debate will be over, the Minister of Finance will be present here himself. Thinking all such thing, I have given permission for the same, still, if you think so, you all can decide accordingly. I have no objection.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: You can make your decision. I have no objection.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Please, Tathagata Ji will speak first.

[English]

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (DHENKANAL): Madam, I would request you to please add that this will not be a precedent.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Well, it can happen if you agree to this. But I will

have to check if this has ever happened before. If you do not want a

discussion on it, it will not happen, because it is you who have to run

the House

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, we fully accept your

decision and we have as much respect for you as all the members have

for you. But the question is that we did not receive any information

from your office about this and they did not speak up during the

discussion too. If he would have said, we would have told him to have

it on Monday, when he comes. It is not that, we are not prepared for

it. Our Member Veerappa Moily ji is ready. He has been discussing it

for the past two days. It is not that we are not ready and hence it should

be discussed on Monday.

HON. SPEAKER: I am not saying that.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: We are ready to discuss this. If

Jaitley ji comes here now, we will start the discussion on it at this very

moment.

HON. SPEAKER: Where will he come from now?

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: I am saying this because it's not such that we are not prepared, therefore, we are not discussing it. This should not be matter... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I am not saying that.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: We are willing to discuss this, but let's postpone it to Monday till he arrives, and today let's discuss another topic... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Does the House want that the Budget should not be discussed today? I have given the ruling, I have allowed it and I also agree to it.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Madam, I am grateful to you and want to raise a point of order with your permission.

HON. SPEAKER: What is the rule number?

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: I want you to please look at Sections 204 and 206 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha. It is clear that Rules 204 (1) & (2) state that:

[English] "The Annual Financial Statement or the Statement of the Estimated Receipts and Expenditure of the Government of India in respect of each financial year

(hereinafter referred to as 'the Budget') shall be presented to the House on such day as the President may direct.

The Budget shall be presented to the House in such form as the Finance Minister may, after considering the suggestions, if any, of the Estimates Committee, settle."

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: All that has been done.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: It has been presented.

[English]

Rule 205 states that:

"There shall be no discussion of the Budget on the day on which it is presented to the House."

HON. SPEAKER: We have seen all that.

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Please see section 208.... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA (ROHTAK): Madam, a reference is made here about the Finance Minister only. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Deepender Ji, don't give a running commentary... (*Interruptions*) Kindly don't talk while sitting... (*Interruptions*) I want you to look at section 208 too. Section 208 clearly states that

[English] "The Finance Minister shall have a general right of reply at the end of the discussion."

[Translation]

The Minister of Finance has to reply at the end of the debate. This House will be run by rules and conventions. The Cabinet Minister has presented the budget. You will prescribe time, in consultation with the leaders of the houses, and leaders of all the parties you have fixed the time. Debate has to start. The Minister of Finance will give a reply of the debate. Let the Finance Minister or MoS reply. Today, under which rule can this debate be stopped? I want your ruling under the rules.

[English]

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam, the precedents are there and there is no doubt about it. Secondly, the Rule is very clear. Minister means a member of the Council of Ministers ... (Interruptions)

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Nobody is disputing it. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Mr. Premachandran, please have some patience. ... (*Interruptions*) Otherwise, you people only speak and we will sit quietly forever. ... (*Interruptions*) What is it? I do not know. I have also been there in the House for some time. Every time, it is being done. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): We have to raise our objections. Where will we raise our objections? ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Venugopal ji, you are doing the same thing again.
... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Okay, raise objections. ... (Interruptions) You are raising objections without rising. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Wait for a minute. Kharge ji, I would request for your help. I have always said from here that they do not sit in their seats. Alright, they come to you for your help repeatedly, so you change their seats. I don't have an objection. I am worried about everyone else. Then it is not right to speak while sitting all the time. You please cooperate with me a little. I am allowing. I have never allowed them. The entire House is witness to this. Today, I feel

compelled to say this. I have been avoiding it for so many days. This is not the way to do it.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Why are you commenting while sitting when I am allowing everyone to speak?

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, they also change their seats. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: This is not the way.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: A lot of people keep on changing their seats, they keep on changing their seats.

HON. SPEAKER: While speaking all are requested to speak from their seats only. If you like it, then it's fine. Then I have nothing to say about it.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: We can raise objections from our seat. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam, under Short Tile and Definitions of Chapter 1 in Rule 2 at page 2, it is stated that:

"Minister" means a member of the Council of Ministers [and includes a member of the Cabinet], a Minister of State, a Deputy Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary;"

So, it is very much there in the Rules. Secondly, a number of precedents are there. Thirdly, we can quote Rulings also, but I do not want to take time on it. Yesterday, it was announced that General Budget discussion will be taken up today. Now, the leader of the Congress Party is saying that they are not aware that the Finance Minister is not going to be here. Then, I thought that he may say that they have not prepared because the Finance Minister is not there. Now, he is saying that they are ready also, and for the last two days they have been discussing about it and they have come prepared for it. Madam, the point that I am trying to make is that if the Congress Party wants to initiate the debate, then let them initiate it. It is because the Speaker has already given her Ruling.

Secondly, if they have any problem because they want to speak only in front of the senior Minister, that is, the Cabinet Minister, then they can have their choice, that is, others can start today, and then Congress Party person can speak on Monday. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: No, Madam... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, this is too much. They want to kill the democracy by doing this. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL: Yes, Madam. They want to kill the democracy. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: It is the Speaker's Ruling. Who is killing democracy? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Madam, I am on a point of order. We are not against the competency of the Minister of State for Finance to give the reply or to take notes during the debate.

HON. SPEAKER: He is not going to give the reply.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: Budget is the main subject and it is the most important issue, as far as our Parliament is concerned. Not only in India, but also in other countries, people listen to the discussion that is going on.

As hon. Speaker has stated, the Minister of State can take notes and pass it on. However, hearing the speeches or words spoken by the Opposition Members or by the Treasury Benches is most important. It is entirely different from taking notes alone. It is most important that the Finance Minister witnesses the discussions that are going on.

It is true that there may be rules or precedents. However, as far as Parliament is concerned, Budget discussion is the most important thing and the Finance Minister is the main person who has to not only give the reply, but also should be a witness to the feelings being expressed. When we raise some issues with regard to the amendments, he will be able to understand them.

I do not question the competency of the Minister of State, but at the same time, what I have stated also is important.

SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE (SREERAMPUR): Madam, yesterday, when Rudy Ji came to me and gave his proposal regarding the change and said that the Congress Party and the AIADMK have agreed to it, I have also agreed to it. Very honestly speaking, I was aware of the fact that the Finance Minister would not be available. Knowing full well, I have agreed with what they have said. However, today, when the Parliamentary Affairs Minister said that if the Congress Party does not want to initiate the debate, then any hon.

Member from any other party could start the discussion, I do not agree with that. Factually, the Congress Party is the main Opposition. The discussion on the Budget should be started by the main Opposition first. Unless they start it, it is not possible for us to participate. Therefore, considering the entire situation, a decision has to be taken by everyone whether the debate will start or not. Should the debate start, in all fairness, it should be started by the Congress Party.

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): Madam, I am on a point of order. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI A. P. JITHENDER REDDY (MAHABUBNAGAR): Hon. Speaker Madam, generally, a notice is issued regarding the Business Advisory Committee (BAC), and the members of all the parties are invited. In the BAC, decisions are taken about the activities we will undertake, and time is allocated accordingly.

Rudy Ji himself goes and talks to Kalyan Banerjee, talks to the members of ADMK... (*Interruptions*). We are also the leaders of our party... (*Interruptions*). We are part of the BAC as well. Without saying anything to us... (*Interruptions*), today we find out that Saturday is a holiday. It was decided that day that we would work on Saturday. You make decisions amongst yourselves... (*Interruptions*).

HON. SPEAKER: Jithender Ji, this has not happened. Please sit down. This decision was made in Parliament yesterday. You cannot speak on every matter.

... (Interruptions).

SHRI A. P. JITHENDER REDDY: Madam, we must be consulted while taking decisions on the budget... (*Interruptions*). No one says anything... (*Interruptions*). You consult with the members of two or three parties only... (*Interruptions*).

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: It has not happened like that.

... (Interruptions).

[Translation]

SHRI A. P. JITHENDER REDDY: Madam, what is the point of calling us to the BAC? ... (*Interruptions*). What is the meaning of taking decisions in the BAC? ... (*Interruptions*).

HON. SPEAKER: This has not happened... (*Interruptions*).

SHRI A. P. JITHENDER REDDY: Members of every party should be called and have discussions with them... (*Interruptions*).

HON. SPEAKER: This has not happened. Please sit down.

... (Interruptions).

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: You will not know if you are not present...

... (Interruptions).

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Jithender Ji, please do not take this the wrong way, no private discussions took place. Yesterday, I personally suggested openly that if you all wish to have Saturday off, despite our earlier declaration the day as a working day, then we can begin discussions on the budget tomorrow. This was discussed in the House.

... (Interruptions).

HON. SPEAKER: You cannot speak while sitting down.

... (Interruptions).

HON. SPEAKER: I am addressing your point. It was not decided by speaking to one or two people. It was decided in the House. Please sit down.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Secondly, I would like to remind everyone that the term 'Minister of Finance' means 'any minister,' as stated in the rules. I did not make this up. The term 'Finance Minister' means 'any minister.' Therefore, today the matter was only to start the budget discussion. The Minister of State for Finance is also considered equivalent to other ministers, so 'Finance Minister' means 'any minister,' wherever it is written.

... (Interruptions).

HON. SPEAKER: Based on this, I gave the ruling and allowed the Cabinet Minister to speak. He has also authorised him. He is also the Minister of State for Finance. Taking all these things into consideration, we have begun the discussion. I am simply stating that this is my ruling. If you feel the discussion should only be held in front of the Cabinet Minister, let me clarify that the authorized Minister is

the Minister of State. He has the authority, and it is also in the rules that 'Finance Minister' means 'any minister.' Please consult the rule book. Therefore, I urge you to use the time wisely. This discussion is scheduled for twelve hours. If it does not happen today, we will have to sit until midnight on Monday. Allow those members who wish to discuss, and those who want to speak in front of the Cabinet Minister can do so on Monday. I am allowing that much. Why are you making an issue of this? Kharge Ji, please cooperate at least this much.

... (Interruptions).

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, this would not be a good tradition... (*Interruptions*).

HON. SPEAKER: You will neither accept the rules nor the ruling given by the Speaker.

... (Interruptions).

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: It is neither of the two things... (Interruptions).

HON. SPEAKER: I have given the ruling. I had allowed it.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: We requested you. That doesn't mean that since the Cabinet Minister is not present, anyone can speak... (Interruptions). It will not be appropriate. We are ready, and we will discuss the matter. Our point is that, as the entire Opposition agrees, and when the Cabinet Minister of Finance is present on Monday, there will be no harm in taking up the matter. Taking it up then will not cause any delay. You can take up other issues at the point of time. We cooperated yesterday. You said the Railway Budget needed to be passed, and we stayed until 7 PM. I know you and I were among the last persons, even though there weren't more than ten to twenty members present on the other side... (Interruptions). We are cooperating... (Interruptions). It wasn't during Zero Hour. ... (Interruptions).

HON. SPEAKER: You should not speak on every matter. Please stop interrupting and cooperate.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: I am addressing the Speaker Madam, as she herself was present and witnessed it. My point is that this is not a prestige issue. We have to follow tradition. Yes, you have cited the rules, and we did not dispute that. Any minister can speak, and we have no issue with that. However, traditionally, it is preferable if the Finance Minister is present. The person leading the debate should have experience in these matters — someone who has dealt with financial issues, has been in the Finance Commission, and in the Administrative Commission, and is also the chaiman of the Standing Committee. These are the things we need to consider. There is no doubt about the competency of the Minister of State. We respect him greatly. He is an excellent speaker and defends the Government very well. That is why he has brought in four to six carefully selected people. He has also brought in those who were not Members of Parliament earlier, and you know that... It is his decision. I request that we take up this matter on Monday. Only two hours remain today, and you can cover the other issues now.

HON. SPEAKER: I will ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to take up another issue. However, I believe that, having allowed this discussion, the rules and the rule book both state that 'Finance Minister' means 'any minister.' That is why I allowed it. When the

Speaker received a letter from the Cabinet Minister, he had mentioned that. If anything said by the Speaker or the ruling seems wrong, a decision can be taken accordingly.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: We are not saying anything wrong. We are simply requesting that since the Cabinet Minister is not present today, we will discuss the budget in his presence on Monday. That is our request.

[English]

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Madam, I do not want to embarrass the Speaker. I have given a deep thought to this. They seem to have made up their mind. They say that they do not have any dispute with the rules; they do not have any dispute with the precedent. They say they have the highest respect for the Speaker. But they do not want to start the debate and they do not want others also to start the debate. If that is the view, Madam, I do not want to embarrass the Speaker because it should not so happen that the Speaker is saying something and that is not happening. That is why you may please adjourn the House and then whatever has to happen will happen.

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned up to 2:30 p.m.

13.21 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

14.30 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Thirty Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

(Hon. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, 'Zero Hour'.

SHRI S. RAJENDRAN (VILUPPURAM): Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me a wonderful opportunity to represent one of the important issues of my constituency. On this occasion, I am bound to convey my heartfelt thanks to our leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. By her guidance and initiative steps, Tamil Nadu stands first in all

fields. Especially in last financial year, Tamil Nadu recorded 110 lakh metric tonnes of food grains against all climate vagaries. The Government of India has awarded best performance Krishi Karman Award during 2012-13.

Sir, Villupuram district is one of the largest districts in Tamil Nadu where 1490 Revenue villages (1099 village Panchayats) are mainly depending on agriculture. Nearly 5,62,970 farmers are engaged in agriculture. Villupuram is the largest sugarcane producer in Tamil Nadu.

Sir, in such an agriculture district, the major issue that causes worry is scarcity of fertilizer. Major area of rice crop is planted and is in need of Basal and top dressing. Two major urea production plants in Tamil Nadu are Madras Fertilizer Limited, Chennai and SPIC Limited, Tuticorin. Both units are closed as the Government of India has not extended permission for Naptha based urea production from 30th September, 2014. The best option to solve the issue is to continue the supply of Naptha to MFL till gas production starts.

Villupuram district's fertilizer requirement for December is: Urea 20,000 metric tonnes, DAP 6,000 metric tonnes, MOP 6,500 metric tonnes and Complex 10,400 metric tonnes.

In conclusion, I urge upon the Government to supply the fertilizer on war foot basis to save the rice crop and also take immediate steps to allot fertilizer to Tamil Nadu as before.

[Translation]

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT (JODHPUR): Hon.

Deputy Speaker ji, I would like to draw your attention to a matter of utmost importance. Not just in Rajasthan, but in many states across the country, there are Rural Service Cooperative Societies, also Rural Credit Cooperative Societies. Small credit as cooperative societies are formed at the Panchayat level. There are 39 lakh such societies in Rajasthan that make payments to MGNREGA workers. In addition to this, other government schemes, the PDS system, and facilities for providing small loans to small and marginal farmers are also provided through these credit cooperative societies. The distribution of urea, fertilizers, and seeds is also done through these credit cooperative societies. Credit Cooperative Societies function, but the Government does not re-distribute the administrative expenses of all the work of these societies. Since the year 2009, the Government of Rajasthan has been continuously making efforts at the ministerial and secretary levels. Several times between 2009 and

2014, there have been correspondences and discussions on this issue at the minister and secretary levels.

I, through you, would like to draw the attention of the House and request the Hon. Minister of Finance to include in the reply to the Union Budget that for the transactions conducted by such credit cooperative societies, a certain percentage or fixed amount should be allocated to meet the recurring expenses and administrative expenses.

DR. BANSHILAL MAHTO (KORBA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, today I stand to point out a particular issue concerning the welfare of farmers in this House. The percentage of irrigation facility in Chhattisgarh is not very high, still, the average coverage is close to 33 percent. The then Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Virendra Kumar Sakhalecha ji, got the Hansdeo Bango Minimata Dam constructed on the main Hansdeo perennial river of Chhattisgarh. Its reservoir is very large, and a lot of water is stored here. This is a very useful dam. It ranks fifth or sixth in terms of the country's altitude and collection. Despite the river originates from Korba district, it is getting only five to seven percent irrigation benefit. The rest of its water is used for industrial purposes, and its water flows into the Janjgir, Champa, and Raigarh districts. Three-fourths of the river flows in our district, but its water is not being used in Korba district. The

Government of Chhattisgarh is very sensitive to the fact that the water of Hansdeo Bango Minimata Dam should reach Korba district because it originates from Korba district. Three-fourths of the Hasdeo River flows in Korba district, and many irrigation facilities that can be developed there. There is a place called Ramgarh in the Janakpur area. Lord Rama entered the Dandakaranya forest from here and performed rituals on the bank of the Hansdeo River. There is a network of rivers here, so dams should be built on all of them to provide irrigation facilities. The Government must take this matter into consideration.

[English]

SHRIMATI P.K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER (KANNUR): Thank you, Sir.

I would like to express my serious disappointment that the Government has not implemented any of the announcements made in the Budget and the statements of hon. Minister Shrimati Gandhi in the House and to the Press. The UPA Government had set apart Rs. 1,000 crore every year for the Nirbhaya Fund. The present Government has also done the same. Now, Rs.3, 000 is lying unutilised. In this year's Budget also Rs.1000 crore is allotted for the same.

In the background of rape and sexual harassment cases coming out every day, it is highly lamentable that the Government is not at all serious to take action either to prevent such cruel acts or to give help and support to the victims.

Sir, hon. Mrs. Gandhi had declared establishment of one-stop-crisis centre to help these marginalised poor women. Not a single such centre has been established in our country. There are about 650 districts in our country. So, I would like to urge upon the Government to start one-stop-crisis centre in each 650 districts of our country to help these poor women. One fast track court should also be established in every State within a reasonable period. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri P.K. Biju is permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN LAL MEENA (UDAIPUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to mention Managarh Dham in Banswara district of southern Rajasthan, situated on the borders of three states—Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh. This place is famously known as Managarh Dham, and during the fight for independence, around 1,500 tribals led by Guru Govind Singh Ji were martyred there. This place witnessed a massacre even more horrific

than that of the Jallianwala Bagh. I would like to state that from the year 2003 to 2008, the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, Mrs. Vasundhara Raje, significantly contributed to the development of historical tourism and culture at the place. I request the Government to consider the demand for declaring Maangarh Dham, which is a historical heritage of the tribal cultures of Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh, as a national monument.

SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA (CHHOTA UDAIPUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by Shri Arjun Lal Meena.

Dr. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK (HARIDWAR): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, today, the Himalayas are referred to as the 'crown' of India. The Himalayas are the heritage of not only this country but of the world also. Today, they are going through a significant crisis. I understand that whether it's the life and soul of Indian culture, the issue of protection of borders, the origin of Ayush, Sanjivani herb, and Ayurveda, the water tower of Asia, the direction of environmental research, or providing life breath to the people of the country, the entire Himalayan region is bearing the brunt of disaster today, facing the onslaught of migration, enduring economic hardship, and has reached a point where the identity of hundreds of villages has

vanished. Whether it was the disaster in Uttarkashi-Rudraprayag in 1991, the one that struck the entire Uttarakhand in 2010, or the catastrophic event in Kedarnath in 2013, where thousands lost their lives, it was the biggest tragedy of this century. Even today, bodies of people are being found; thousands are missing, and many have been recovered. People are still being found wandering in various places. I want to say that the Government of Uttarakhand has completely failed. The Central Government will have to take the responsibility to some extent, especially considering the disasters that caused a loss of 12 thousand crore rupees in tourism in Uttarakhand alone and the deaths of more than ten thousand people. In Jammu and Kashmir, more than two thousand six hundred villages were affected, with an economic loss of five thousand seven hundred crore rupees. Under all circumstances, a separate policy needs to be formulated for the entire belt of the Himalayas. These tragedies are occurring due to the absence of an information system. Fifty-eight point six percent of the country suffers from earthquake hazards. About six crore people in India are affected by disasters every year. Sixty-eight percent of the land in the country is prone to drought. Whether in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, the north eastern states, or Jammu and Kashmir, the Himalayan region is facing a hundred percent risk of disasters.

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I want to say that climate change is the main reason for this, and measures need to be taken to address it. For this, the early warning mechanism should be made effective. All the required preparations for dealing with the disasters should be completed in advance. The lack of coordination needs to be addressed promptly and given full attention. Relief works that are going on at a very slow pace are causing significant damage. As a result, resources mismanaged, administration becomes inactive. and are communication and information systems completely fail. I want to say that a Doppler radar should be installed in the Himalayas. Water flow scales should be installed. Thunderstorm sensing devices should be installed. At the central level, a unit should be established to conduct effective research on this.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Anurag Thakur and Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal associate themselves with the issue raised by Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Sir, India is considered the seventh largest nation in the world which comprises of land mass of 29,73,190 square kilometres and 328 million hectares. Since the Earth rotates at the rate of 15 degrees per

hour, the Sun is at its highest point in the sky at different times in the day for different countries around the globe.

India has been persistently suffering from some anomalies in terms of time zones. India had two time zones in 1884, time zones was established in India in 1884. Originally, there were two time zones — one was Bombay time and the other was Calcutta time. India's western border and eastern border are 2000 kilometres apart from each other. However, we have only single time zone.

Therefore, I would request the House that more time zones are required for our country. You will be astonished to note that the Sun rises in Kohima at 4 a.m. whereas it rises in Mumbai two hours later. So, the office starts in north-eastern India, six hours after day-break against four hours in rest of India. Day light hours are wasted leading to higher power consumption. When we are talking of energy efficiency, we are simply wasting the power at our own peril. Even in Bangladesh, they had advanced their time by one hour in 2009. When the office goers in north-east reach their workplace at 10 a.m., their counterparts in Bangladesh complete 90 minutes of their work.

In the world, various countries are following multi-time zones. For instance, in Russia, there are 11 time zones and in America there are 9 time zones. Even the tiny nations like Micronesia and Kiribati have multi-time zones. Therefore, I would request the Government to consider having multi-time zones in our country.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: India is one and we have one time zone.

[Translation]

SHRI R. K. SINGH (ARRAH): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, my parliamentary constituency, Arrah, is a major city in the Shahabad region. The Shahabad region comprises four to five districts, with

Arrah as the main city. Arrah generates the second-highest railway revenue in all of Bihar. All-important trains between Kolkata, Howrah, Patna, and Delhi pass through Arrah, yet these trains do not stop here. Bhojpuri-speaking people from Shahabad are living in various parts of the country, whether in Delhi, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, or even abroad, such as in the West Indies. The people living in these area face difficulties every time they need to travel and have to come to Patna to catch a train. I demand from the Government that trains such as the Howrah-Haridwar Express, Patna-Jammu Tawi Archana Express, Patna-Secunderabad Express, Vikramshila Express, Patna-Indore Express, Asansol-Mumbai Express, Akal Takht Express, and Sampoorna Kranti Express should have stoppages at Arrah. This will benefit the entire Bhojpuri civilization. Bhojpuri has not been confined only to Shahabad but has spread all over the country.

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH CENTRAL):

Deputy Speaker Sir, in Mumbai, there are approximately 2,177 hectares of salt pan land, and the Maharashtra Government had proposed the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry to transfer it to the Maharashtra Government. However, legal problems are arising due to the land not being transferred yet. In 2001, the Union Cabinet also approved this transfer. If the land is handed over or transferred to

the Government of Maharashtra, the scheme of providing housing for all by the Government can be executed by 2022. There is a residential colony in Chheda Nagar in my constituency, which is on salt pan land, and the people of the colony are facing legal issues due to lack of ownership. Additionally, there is a slum area in Antop Hill. The SRA project of the State Government is also not being implemented. If the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry grants an NOC for the salt pan land, then all these redevelopment projects can be completed. Furthermore, the Mumbai Municipal Corporation has made a development plan that is based on the salt pan land. If these plots are handed over to the Municipal Corporation, it will provide facilities to the public.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (BIKANER): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak on this important subject.

Sir, I would like to state that wherever terminal buildings have been constructed, the Ministry of Civil Aviation should directed to purchase ATRs. They claim that the DGCA has privatized this, and airlines are free to make their own decisions. They will operate if they can afford it. I hail from the Bikaner Parliamentary Constituency, where a terminal building has also been constructed, as it has been

constructed in Jaisalmer. However, the Ministry of Civil Aviation states that they cannot direct any airline to start air services there. My point is, why is it not decided at the time of planning whether there will be passenger load or not? You have invested from 9 to 30 crore rupees in different locations. Terminal buildings are ready to operate in many parts of the country, but airlines claim that they are not affordable, so they cannot start operations.

I would like to urge the Government, through you, to direct the Ministry of Civil Aviation to buy ATRs wherever terminal buildings have been constructed, even if it is from Air India. It is not necessary for them to fly jets or Indigo. ATR is a small plane having seating capacity of 32 passengers, and can carry passenger loads from Bikaner and Jaisalmer. Additionally, you can connect the tourist destinations of Rajasthan, such as Bikaner, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Jaipur, and Ajmer, and reach Agra. If you purchase such small ATRs, you will attract passenger loads, and the airport buildings that have been completed and inaugurated will also get a chance to operate, utilizing the money invested by the government... (Interruptions) Anurag ji is suggesting that Shimla and Dharamshala can also be included. Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat is permitted to associate with the matter raised by Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal.

[Translation]

SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL (DHUBRI): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I am grateful to you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important topic.

[English]

I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the sensational twist in the barbaric incident that took place on 5th March in Dimapur town of Nagaland in which a man named Sharifuddin Khan *alias* Farid Khan who was accused in a rape case was lynched publicly before his crime was proved. He was dragged naked on a scooter for eight kilometres and the boy died there. According to the media report yesterday, the Nagaland Government submitted its report to the Union Home Ministry. In another paper, it is said: "Sensational twist to Dimapur lynching case, Girl went willingly with Khan, Nagaland Government to Centre."

In another newspaper, it is said: "Dimapur lynching: No rape but consensual sex, Nagaland Government tells MHA"

So, it is said that it was consensual sex in which the girl was trying to blackmail the accused for getting more money but he refuted. Then the whole drama was created. It was evident with the footages of CCTV of the Hotel that the girl went with him on her own will.

The shocking part of the incident is that he was labelled as an illegal Bangladeshi immigrant by not only the people involved in the crime but also the DGP of the State and some media units too while the fact is that he was from Bosla village of Karimganj of Assam. His father was in the Indian Air Force and his two brothers are presently serving in the Indian Army's Assam Regiment while another brother was also in the Army who had succumbed to the injuries suffered in the Kargil War in 1999. Despite having such a family background, how can a man be termed as a Bangladeshi immigrant?

Actually, it was a conspiracy to incite violence against the Assamese and Bengali speaking people especially from minority community living in Nagaland which has been going on for a few years. It is evident with the fact that the co-accused in the same case who was also locked in the same jail was not touched but Sharifuddin Khan *alias* Farid Khan was first dragged out of Central Jail, paraded naked for hours, lynched publicly and hanged on the Clock Tower in the middle of the town in Nagaland

Under these circumstances, we request the Government through you, Sir, to kindly order a CBI inquiry to find out answers of many questions which have arisen out of the incident and to book the people behind the incident under the law of the land. We know that some people have been arrested but we fear that they will be freed soon as the Government of Nagaland has been under the pressure of militant groups.

As the situation is still tense, we seek the intervention of the Central Government and a CBI inquiry into the incident.

[Translation]

DR. BHAGIRATH PRASAD (BHIND): Deputy Speaker Sir, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana of our government is a very popular scheme, under this, roads are constructed on local paths only. As a result, crooked roads are built in the deep pockets of the villages and in the process the cost of road construction also increases and inconvenient and dangerous conditions are created for vehicular movement. In the construction of these roads, there is no provision for land acquisition for private lands to build straight roads, as a result, the administration carelessly builds roads in zig-zag shape on the existing roads and their quality is also left to the trust of the contractors.

I request the Hon. Minister of Rural Development that from the point of view of traffic, it is necessary for these roads to be straight and traffic-friendly. Therefore, wherever necessary, about 20 percent of the budget amount should be ensured for land acquisition, due to which money will be saved by building straight roads and the roads will also become convenient and accident-free in future and the administration will also be able to understand its responsibility and build roads suitable for quality traffic. Thank you.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, I am a retired teacher. Today, the All India Federation of University and College Teachers Organisations (AIFUCTO) is holding a *dharna* at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi to protest against the Government's step-motherly attitude towards university and college professors' long pending demands and to highlight their career problems. Due to the inordinate delay in the concurrence of the Ministry of Human Resources Development for the UGC decision on the notification regarding modification in UGC regulations passed by the 497th Commission meeting held on 10.1.2014, the benefits of career advancement scheme are not being given to them. It is pending for a year.

15.00 hrs

Besides this there is a drastic reduction in the Budgetary allocations for the Ministry of Human Resource Development year by year. This year the Budget for education has been slashed by 16.5 per cent. The Government is not considering their demand to constitute a Pay Revision Committee as the college and university teachers are not covered by the Central Pay Commission. The Government is not even ready to hear their demands or give them an appointment to meet the Minister of Human Resources Department.

I urge upon the Government to immediately call the Federation, the only all-India organisation for the college and university teachers, for a discussion and to take immediate steps to give the necessary concurrences, sent by the UGC to MHRD. Otherwise, the college and university teachers may go on an indefinite strike. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, I am having a list of 30 Members. At 3.30 p.m. we are starting Private Members' Business. So, within that time we have to complete. If you cooperate by speaking only for half a minute or one minute, I can cover the entire list. Otherwise, some of the Members may not get the opportunity because after 3.30 p.m. I cannot allow anyone. So, please cooperate.

SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL (JAYANAGAR): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

Sunderbans is the world's largest continuous mangrove forest. It is known for its Royal Bengal tiger. Sunderbans is also famous for its honey. It is produced in large cluster of natural beehives. The honey collectors locally known as *moul*i are mostly living in Gosaba, Hingalgunge and Basanti blocks of Sunderbans. They collect honey from the dense forest by putting their lives at risk. For collecting honey, they have to spend huge amount of money. As they are economically unsound, they take money from moneylenders, locally known as *mahajans* by paying high rates of interest. The moneylenders take a good share of honey which was collected by them. They are forced to sell the honey to the moneylenders at a low rate, which is painful.

If the Government allots funds and take some safety measures, then they can save their lives and reduce their hardships. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Come to the point straightaway. Do not elaborate it.

Dr. Satya Pal Singh. Please complete within a minute.

DR. SATYA PAL SINGH (BAGHPAT): I will finish it within two minutes. It is a question of history.

[*Translation*]

Deputy Speaker Sir, the spark of the first freedom struggle of 1857 started in Meerut and had fierce clash between the British government and the farmers of my Lok Sabha constituency Baghpat under the leadership of Baba Shahmal Singh. This in itself is a unique example in the history of independence. Where there was no king, nor was there any question of protecting any kingdom. Baba Shahmal Singh attained martyrdom along with about 385 farmers, 27 people were hanged, and 26 villages were declared rebellious. I demand from the Government of India that a grand memorial should be built in the name of Baba Shahmal Singh at his birth village Bijraul or his martyrdom site Barka.

[English]

*SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM (NAMAKKAL): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir, Betel leaves are produced to the tune of Rs. 5000 crore from more than 10 lakh betel leaf farms. We are dependent on natural herbs to cure even the new diseases of modern times. Betel leaves, which have medicinal values to cure diseases like cold, cough, elephantiasis, white patches on the skin of the human body, obesity, heart diseases and indigestion, are cultivated in the districts of Tamil Nadu along Cauvery river belt. Leaf rot disease and powdery mildey are some of diseases that affect the cultivation of betel leaves. There is no research centre for betel leaves in India. Betel leaf growing farmers face losses due to inadequate research and ignorance to export and export and use of technology.

I therefore urge that the Union Government should set up soon a betel leaf research and development centre in Paramathivelur of Namakkal district along Cauvery river belt.

Thank you.

^{*} English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

[English]

SHRI K. PARASURAMAN (THANJAVUR): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of our hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways to this important issue.

The following roads and bridges are very much damaged in my constituency. Rebuilding of the Grand Anaicut-Cauveripattinam Road, reconstruction of high level bridge across the river Vennar at km 5/10 Thirukattupalli-Sengipatti-Pattukottai Road, reconstruction of bridge at km 22/2 of Pappanadu-Makukkur-Perugavalthan Road, widening from the single line to intermediate lane and strengthening of km. 0/0-16/8 of the left bank of Vennar Palliagraharam-Kalancherry road including the long pending, long demanding Thanjavur-Pattukottai-Aranthangiwork, (SH 29) protective Karaikudi-Kallal-Kalayarkoil-Maravamangalam-Ilayankudi-Paramakudi-Mudukulathur-Sayalkudi road are important ones. The State Highway (SH 29) is connecting important districts of Thanjavur, Pudukottai, Sivagangai, Ramanathapuram etc. and arterial road of inter-State cities of Tamil Nadu. It has also port connectivity and is running along the coastal area. This road is having a total length of 248.2 km. There is very heavy traffic flow. Hence upgradation of the

State Highway to National Highway is necessary. I would request the Government to do the needful. Thank you very much.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shrimati Neelam Sonkar – not present. [*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Sir, as per government orders, it is mandatory to make arrangements for public facilities like toilets, drinking water etc. at petrol pumps. Petrol pump owners are showing gross negligence in providing these public facilities. During the last one month, I visited about a dozen petrol pumps located on National Highway No. 24 between Delhi-Hapur and National Highway No. 58 between Delhi-Meerut. Toilets were built at these petrol pumps, but at most of the places they are broken, dirty and not fit for use. Due to this, the passengers passing through these highways, especially women, face a lot of inconvenience. The health of passengers starts deteriorating when they get stuck in the traffic jams that often occur on these highways.

Sir, today cleanliness drive is being run in the entire country as a national resolution. Toilets are being built at public places, houses and schools. Not only the indifference of the petrol pumps towards this campaign is worrying, but the working system of the oil companies is also extremely worrying.

I request the government through you to run a special campaign to get the toilets built at petrol pumps checked, to make separate toilets for women and to ensure their regular cleaning.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Pushpendra S. Chandel is allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shri Rajendra Agrawal regarding toilet facilities for women at petrol pumps.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (KARIMNAGAR): Thank you, Sir, for calling me to raise this important issue.

My submission is about the establishment of a Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth in Telangana State. In the undivided State of Andhra Pradesh, there was this institution in Tirupati. Telangana has a rich legacy and culture of Sanskrit. The great medieval Vijayanagar-era Sanskrit commentator Mallinatha Suri, who was known as 'Vyakhyana Chakravarti' hails from Kolachalam village of Medak District, Telangana State. India is known for its culture of tolerance, openness and acceptance. The establishment of a Sanskrit Vidyapeeth would ensure that the study of this rich body of knowledge continues in this region.

Therefore, I request the Government to facilitate the establishment of a Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth in the temple town

i.e. Vemulawada in Karimnagar District or Yadagirigutta in Nalgonda District may be considered.

[Translation]

SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR (KAUSHAMBI): Sir, in Mau, which is called the Manchester of Purvanchal, the dignity of a teacher was torn apart by brutes. A teacher was raped and murdered in the school premises of Haldharpur police station in Gulauri Gram Sabha. When her family members approached the police station to file an FIR, their FIR was not registered. Their application for FIR was torn and thrown away and after getting the application written on own free will, the police filed FIR and started the investigation.

I request the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs of the country and the Women's Commission to intervene immediately in view of the seriousness of the issue.

SHRI HUKUM SINGH (KAIRANA): Sir, there is a scheme of urban development under JNNURM scheme and one of its subschemes is UIG. Which is being implemented in seven cities of Uttar Pradesh viz. Lucknow, Kanpur, Agra, Allahabad, Varanasi, Meerut and Mathura. The Union Government has not yet released 10 percent of the fund of this scheme. Due to its non-release, all these schemes

are being adversely affected. A monitoring committee was formed for this. The monitoring committee also said that the work is going well. After this the date was given but despite giving the date the fund has not been received till date. I request that the fund be released immediately. Along with this, I have two suggestions.

The cost of maintenance of assets created under the projects approved under JNNURM should also be included in the project cost and funds should be released by the Union Government accordingly. The cost of the project is increasing due to delays in receiving instalments of funds from the Union Government. According to the current system, the state government has to bear the increased cost of its own resources. Therefore, the increased cost should be borne by the Union and State Governments on a proportionate basis.

The cost of acquisition of land required under the projects should be included in the project cost and should be borne on pro-rata basis. The cost of development of necessary infrastructure i.e. bus depots, workshops, junctions etc. under the Urban Transport Sub-Plan of JNNURM program should be funded by the Union Government.

[English]

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (INNER MANIPUR): Just now I have gone and addressed thousands of teachers in the higher education

sector who came to Parliament on foot; they were stopped there. Their demand is, they wanted the approval of the Minister of Human Resource Development to the UGC's decision on the 3rd amendment of UGC Regulations; and also the UGC Regulations for Ph.D. In response to my question given by the HRD Minister on 17th December, 2014, the matter was said to be under consideration. Nothing has happened on this till now.

It has been informed that for the first time since 1962, AIFUCTO has been denied even an appointment with the hon. HRD Minister, though series of requests for appointments were sent. Even the letters sent by AIFUCTO were not acknowledged, and not replied.

Hence, I would like to appeal, through you, to the hon. Minister that the Government should call the teachers assembled at Jantar Mantar immediately, and sit with the representatives so that they can solve the problem in the best interests of higher education.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY (BUXAR): Deputy Speaker Sir, thank you very much. I would like to draw the attention of the House towards a very sensitive and burning issue. The day before yesterday, in my Parliamentary Constituency, Buxar of Bihar, a policeman was burnt alive inside the police station. This is very

heartbreaking. A chowkidar named Madan Yadav was burnt alive. Not only this, there was a police station at 300 metres distance from there but no one reached there for three hours. This incident happened because they used to extract money from the truckers. However, when the truck ran over six people and killed them madly, dozens of people were injured. ... (Interruptions) It was an example of jungle raj of police administration in Bihar. No policeman reached there for three hours. What kind of state is this? Sushasan Babu runs bad governance in Bihar and Bihar has turned into a jungle raj. The whole of Bihar is burning. Today there is no one to save Bihar. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Janardan Singh Sigriwal and Shrimati Veena Devi are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI ANJU BALA (MISRIKH): Deputy Speaker Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak during Zero Hour. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards Sandila town of my Lok Sabha Constituency Misrikh where the spinning mill and sugar mill are closed. The Union Government should seek answers from the Uttar Pradesh Government as to why

these are closed. The reason why employment arrangements for the labourers working in the closed spinning mill and sugar mill located at Sandila were not made? I demand from the Government that both these mills should be restarted and alternative employment arrangements should be made for the jobless workers there. Thank you.

[English]

SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM (KANCHEEPURAM): Sir, Indian Railways is the largest railway network in the world, and the backbone of our country's economy. If there is any increase in the tariff of the railways, it would have a direct adverse impact on all the sectors – agriculture, food, industry, etc. Hon. Railway Minister may please note that in India, Railways is not a commercial organization. We should not be concerned about whether Railways makes profit or loss but we should ensure that it should not be a cause for worry for the people and the economy.

My leader, hon. Peoples' Chief Minister, *Puratchi Thalavi Amma* has also stated that Railways being the service sector, it should focus more towards convenience of common man and safe rail journey. I would request the hon. Minister to ensure more Sleeper Class coaches in Passenger Trains. In the end, I would request the Railway Minister

to operate more local/EMUs from Kancheepuram, my parliamentary constituency, to Sriperumbudur for the benefit of the people.

[Translation]

SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV (MADHUBANI):

Deputy Speaker Sir, for MBBS admission in medical colleges, 50 lakh rupees, 75 lakh rupees are openly charged and for PG admission, 1 crore rupees to 2 crore rupees are charged. I tried to secure a MBBS seat for my daughter in many medical colleges. When so much money was demanded from a person like me, what would happen to the common man of India? Therefore, the Medical Council of India Act should be amended, the Constitution should be amended, they should be jailed, raids should be conducted by CBI and the directors of all the medical colleges should be arrested to find out why they indulge in such fraud and why are they doing so much injustice in the country? ... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Rajesh Ranjan, Shri Ramsinh Rathwa, Shri Rajesh Ranjan, Dr. Ravindra Babu, Shri A. T. Nana Patil, Shri Shivkumar Udasi, Shri P. P. Chaudhary, Shri Ram Prasad Sarmah, Shri Rajendra Agrawal and Shri Virender Kashyap are

permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, National Waterway 3 is an important inland navigation route from Kollam to Kottapuram. Inland Waterways Authority of India under the Ministry of Shipping is coordinating the task for developing and administering National Waterways. The development of inland waterways is dragging due to delay in implementation of the project. Early completion of the development is necessary for reducing the heavy road traffic in Kerala. The method adopted for execution is not sufficient for the timely completion of National Waterway 3.

Hence, I urge upon the Government of India to initiate urgent action for the timely completion of National Waterway 3 from Kollam to Kottapuram.

[Translation]

SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL (BHIWANDI): Deputy Speaker Sir, from my Bhiwandi Lok Sabha Constituency, which is 40 kilometres away from Mumbai, people go to Mumbai, Panvel for jobs, but shuttle trains run from Mumbai to reach there, shuttle trains also run from Panvel.

I request the Ministry of Railways through you to run local trains from Mumbai to Bhiwandi and from Panvel to Diva. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Indo-Bangladesh border needs to be secured. Our border with Bangladesh runs through the States of West Bengal, Assam, Tripura, Mizoram and Meghalaya. It is a porous border. The two countries have no natural barriers and just a handful of pillar marks is the dividing line for most part of the border. Three issues have come up which have led to a hoard of problems. The first is the illegal immigrants encouraged by vote seeking politicians on this side of the border, the second is the influx of millions of Bangladeshis which has threatened the ethnic identity of the indigenous population and the third is because of porous border, there is illegal trade of cattle, narcotics and weapons. The Parliament approved a plan to fence the border as part of the Assam Accord. But nothing much has been done in this direction.

So, I would urge upon the Government of India to come out with a factual position on border fencing in the Indo-Bangladesh border and to take steps jointly with Bangladesh to check illegal movement of people and cattle.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ram Prasad Sarmah and Shri Shivkumar Udasi are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab.

[Translation]

SHRI NANA PATOLE (BHANDARA-GONDIA): Deputy Speaker Sir, in Bhandara-Gondia district of Maharashtra, where it is important from the point of view of tourism and *waiger prakalp* on a large scale. The training centre and runway at Gondia have been built by the Airport Authority by spending crores of rupees. Even today it is running at a loss. I had said that arrangements for flights from Gondia to Mumbai and from Gondia to Delhi should be made from there, so that facilities can be available to four states Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, and Andhra Pradesh. Certainly, even Air India can make a profit from that. Thank you.

[English]

*SHRIMATI R. VANAROJA (TIRUVANNAMALAI): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker Sir, Vanakkam. Tamil is spoken in Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka. Tamil has been accorded official language status in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Tamil is also spoken in some foreign countries. It is also accorded the status of one among the official languages in some countries of the world. It is a long pending and unanimous demand that Tamil should be Court language in the Hon. High Court in Tamil Nadu. English has been accorded the status of official court language in the Hon. Supreme Court and Hon. High Courts of several States as per the Constitution of India. But Hindi is also used as a Court language in States like Rajasthan, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Hon. Makkal Mughalvar Puratchithalaivi Amma has stressed that Tamil should be declared as the offical and Court language in the Hon. High Court in Tamil Nadu.

In order to ensure justice reaching the common man, the local language should be used in the Courts of those areas. I therefore urge upon the Union Government through this august House that the

^{*} English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Constitution of India should be amended and Tamil should be made the Court language in the Madras High Court.

Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI NEELAM SONKER (LALGANJ): Deputy Speaker Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. I, through you, want to speak about my area, Lalganj. In Lalganj, which comes under the Azamgarh district, 50% of the population still live without electricity. Today, human life has become completely mechanical, and energy has become essential to life. In such a situation, human life has become paralyzed due to the lack of energy. The life without electricity certainly puts all of us to shame.

I want to tell the Honourable Minister of Power, through the House, that a power station should be established in Lalganj.

[English]

SHRI VINCENT H. PALA (SHILLONG): Sir, aviation connectivity is the poorest in the Northeast. In every airport, you need at least the VOR, the ILS, phone connectivity and the refuelling centre. Shillong Airport the only airport in Meghalaya where VOR has been installed but it needs to be activated. ILS has been purchased; it is dumped in Kolkata. So, that has to be transported to Shillong. And the phone connectivity is required; otherwise it is even difficult to take out the boarding pass. So, I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): Deputy Speaker, NH-14 passes through Beawar, Pali, Pindwara, Sojat city. This has divided the city into two parts and common people have to face a lot of problems in going from one side to the other. There is an urgent need for an underpass there.

I will request the Hon. Minister through you that it is very important to have two underpasses there.

[English]

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Sir, Part 6 of the Constitution of India, Chapter 3, says regarding the State Legislatures. I am not saying anything about the State List. But what has happened in Kerala is almost equivalent to a Constitutional breakdown. The Finance Minister, instead of delivering his speech and presenting the Budget inside the Legislative Assembly, has made a speech outside the Legislative Assembly. ... (Interruptions)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Virender Kashyap

... (Interruptions)

DR. A. SAMPATH: Amidst the media persons, he has done it. It is Constitutional violation. Article 202 says about the annual financial

statement as to how the annual financial statement should be made. So it is a violation of the Constitution. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

... (Interruptions)...*

[Translation]

SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP (SHIMLA): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I want to raise a problem of the Baddi Industrial Area of my Shimla Lok Sabha Constituency... (Interruptions) I would like to bring to your attention that there are no health facilities in our Kala Amb industrial area... (Interruptions) There is only one health dispensary there. As a result of that thousands of labourers working there are not getting health facilities. Therefore, I demand from the Union Government that an ESI Hospital should be opened in Kala Amb Industrial Area.

[English]

SHRI P.R. SENTHILNATHAN (SIVAGANGA): Sir, earlier, Karaikudi in my Sivaganga Constituency had direct rail link to Mayiladuthurai. The train service is not in operation now because of the much delayed gauge conversion work between Karaikudi and

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^{*} Not recorded.

Thiruvarur. Adequate funds may be allocated to complete this project. Thirumayam is an important historical place. All the Rameswaram-Chennai trains must have a stoppage at Thirumayam. Manamadurai-Chennai Silambu Express, Varanasi-Rameswaram Express, Bhubaneswar-Rameswaram Express, which are operated now twice a week, may be converted to daily trains. Similarly, Puducherry-Kanyakumari Express train which is operated once in a week may be converted to daily train. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH (TEZPUR): Sir, I want to raise a very important issue regarding Water Resources Department in Assam.

Sir, 70 per cent fund is given by the Government of India for control of flood and erosion in Assam. But the fund is misused and misappropriated. During rainy reason only they start the work. They swallow the fund, misuse the fund and the public do not get any relief. The people are harassed. They have lost land and paddy crop. So I would request the Government of India to institute a CBI inquiry into the corruption there.... (Interruptions)

DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH (BARGARH): Thank you Deputy Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I would like to raise a very important matter related to my Constituency Bargarh.

Jharsuguda is one of the oldest railway stations in Odisha but still there is not much development. I want to focus my demand on construction of a railway over-bridge at Choukipada. It is a long pending demand of the people because a number of vehicles are going by this way. I would further demand another railway over-bridge at Jaganath Nagar at Barpali in the District of Bargarh.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN (MADHEPURA): Sir, I would like to speak about the Kishanganj branch of Aligarh Muslim University. The UPA Government had allocated a branch of Aligarh Muslim University to Kishanganj, which was very significant and important for Bihar. The Bihar government acquired 224 acres of land and handed it over. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) worth two thousand crore rupees was to be made, out of which a DPR worth 600 crore rupees was created, and a DPR worth 137 crore rupees was submitted. However, no work has started yet. Admissions had begun, with 52 students have taken admission in the B.Ed program and 10 students have taken admission in the MA program, but no teachers have been recruited so far. I urge you to note that this branch is extremely important for the region, including Bengal and Bihar.

Through you, I demand from the Government that it should fulfill the commitment of two thousand crore rupees and construct a building for the branch of Aligarh Muslim University.

[English]

SHRI NAGENDRA KUMAR PRADHAN (SAMBALPUR): Sir, there are ten medium and major irrigation projects in Odisha assisted by AIBP and FMP. Unfortunately, for the last two years, not even a single rupee has been sanctioned in favour of those projects and due to which the State is not in a position to release any fund.

Therefore, I would urge upon the concerned department, through you, to provide the earmarked assistance for the year 2013-14 and 2014-15.

[Translation]

SHRI DADDAN MISHRA (SHRAWASTI): Sir, I am thankful for giving the opportunity to raise the demand for reconnecting Shrawasti through air service in this august House as the efforts to connect Shrawasti, the world-famous pilgrimage site of Lord Buddha, with air service have been stalled.

Among the many important pilgrimage sites associated with the life of Lord Buddha, Shrawasti holds great significance. The Buddhist Circuit Air Service, announced on October 10, 1997, at Amausi Airport in Lucknow, in the presence of the then Governor and the then Union Minister of Tourism, aimed to connect all these pilgrimage sites. It was not possible for foreign tourists to reach Buddhist Circuit other than via Sarnath and Varanasi by air. With the construction of airstrips in Kushinagar and Shrawasti, the Buddhist Circuit has added a new chapter in tourism.

[English]

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as you know, the summer vacation has already been started. There are thousands of female passengers who are coming from Gulf countries to Kerala and going from Kerala to Gulf countries simultaneously. Now, the Air India and other foreign airlines have increased their fares without any valid reason.

Sir, I would like to request the hon. Minister, through you, to take some initiative to reduce this hike in passenger air fare because it is not justifiable.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Deputy Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to draw the Government's attention to the sugarcane, a cash crop of the country. The Indian Sugar Mill Association has admitted that sugarcane payments worth 14.5 thousand crore rupees are pending nationwide. Farmers in Tamil Nadu are owed 1,200 crore rupees, in Karnataka 1,600 crore rupees in Karnataka and 3,100 crore rupees in Uttar Pradesh. The Sugar Cane Commission promised to give interest on the payments, but farmers are not even receiving even the principal amount. They are unable to pay their children's school fees, support their elderly parents, or marry their daughters. This is a serious crisis for farmers across the country. Through you, I urge the government to address this issue, as it is related to the entire nation.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal, Shri A.T. Nana Patil, Shri Shivkumar Udasi, Dr. Pritam Gopinath Munde and Shri Daddan Mishra are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Jagdambika Pal.

If the House agrees, we can extend the time of Zero Hour by 10 minutes to complete the list. After that, we can take up the Private Members' Business.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, Shri P.K. Biju.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a very important issue. We have given a proposal for the upgradation of the Oncology Department of the Thrissur Medical College into a Regional Cancer Institute. In the presence of the Health Minister, I would like to urge upon the Government to upgrade the Thrissur Medical College into a Cancer Institute and also give some special support to the Government Medical College.

Sir, around 4,000 to 5,000 patients visit this medical college for their treatment, particularly for radiation treatment for cancer. Otherwise, they have to travel 200 kilometres to Thiruvananthapuram or 200 kilometres to Calicut. So, I would like to urge upon the Government to upgrade the Thrissur Medical College into a Regional Cancer Institute.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. A. Sampath, Shrimati P.K. Shreemathi Teacher, and Shri P. Karunakaran are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri P.K. Biju.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI (SANT KABIR NAGAR): Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the 'Skill Development Scheme'. I represent Sant Kabir Nagar Lok Sabha constituency and in the districts of Sant Kabir Nagar, Ambedkar Nagar, Gorakhpur, Maharajganj, and Siddharth Nagar, only 20 percent of the target for the 'Skill Development Scheme' has been achieved.

Through you, I urge the Government to immediately monitor and investigate the delays and ensure that the targets are met, and the unemployed youth are trained, and get opportunities through the 'Skill Development Scheme'.

SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARSWATI (SIKAR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I have been elected from Sikar Lok Sabha Constituency of Rajasthan. Through you, I wish to draw the Government's attention towards Sikar. People of the area grow onions. Lakhs of tonnes of onions are grown, but due to the lack of government procurement, onions are being sold at Rs. 3-4 per kg. I request the Government of India to begin government procurement of onions so that farmers can receive remunerative prices, and people in other parts of the country

can also get onions at reasonable prices. This is my humble request through you.

SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA (ROHTAK): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to bring the government's attention to the news about FCI halting the procurement of wheat in Haryana and Punjab. Last year, FCI procured 80 lakh tonnes of wheat from Haryana, and it was estimated to procure 90 lakh tonnes this year.

Meanwhile a committee named Shanta Kumar Committee was constituted in August on the issue of FCI which gave a report on 21 January to the Prime Minister in which it recommended that wheat should not be procured from surplus states like Haryana and Punjab. Subsequently, on 18 February, a letter from the General Manager, North FCI, Shri Paliwal sent a letter in which it was stated that FCI should cease wheat procurement from Haryana. And only 50 percent of wheat will be procured in Punjab. I believe this is very unfortunate. The Government should act immediately and ensure that FCI purchases the entire quantity of wheat from the farmers of Haryana.

YOGI ADITYANATH (GORAKHPUR): Deputy Speaker Sir, the condition of cattle in the country is very poor, especially in western Rajasthan, where there has been low rainfall this year. Thousands of

cows are dying in Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jodhpur, and other places.

Through you, I request the Government of India to revive the schemes for cattle conservation and promotion that were initiated by the previous NDA government. There is an urgent need to enact laws for cow protection, promotion, and a complete ban on cow slaughter across the country.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal, Shri A.T. Nana Patil, Shri Shivkumar Udasi and Shri P.P. Chaudhary are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Yogi Adityanath.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKHAN LAL SAHU (BILASPUR): Sir, I have been elected from the Bilaspur Parliamentary Constituency of Chhattisgarh. The people of the 'Satnami Samaj' of the area belong to the Scheduled Caste. The 'Guru Ghansidas Central University' was established in 2009, named after a saint revered by the entire community. However, due to the non-appointment of the Vice

Chancellor of the university for the past one year, the entire education system has collapsed.

Through you, I urge the Government to immediately appoint a Vice Chancellor for the university.

When the university was functioning under the State Government, there was a condition to regularize 109 employees, but till date, they are still employed as daily wage workers.

Through you, I request the Minister of Human Resource Development to regularize them.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST): Sir, the Government has proposed to form a new Air Navigation Service Corporation. The Airports Authority of India was created by an Act of Parliament. We believe that forming the Air Navigation Service Corporation will negatively impact the employees of the Airports Authority of India. Through you, I request the Government to reconsider this decision of forming the Air Navigation Service Corporation in order to protect the employees of the Airports Authority of India.

SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA (BANDA): Deputy Speaker Sir, through you, I would like to draw your attention towards a very important issue. Premium for the crop insurance is taken from farmers

every year. This insurance compensates them for losses due to natural calamities such as hail storm and frost. If the loss is shown to be less than 50 percent, they do not receive any compensation. Frost and hail storm usually fall simultaneously, but there's a rule that assessment is done tehsil-wise and block-wise. If it's within the tehsil, compensation is given; otherwise, it is not. If the damage is 50 percent in the block, compensation is provided. This rule should be amended, and compensation should be given for the actual amount of loss, similar to regular insurance. When Hon. Rajnath Singh ji was the Agriculture Minister, he implemented a rule that an average of three years should be considered.

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL (HAMIRPUR):

Deputy Speaker Sir, I represent the Hamirpur Parliamentary Constituency in Uttar Pradesh. I believe that my constituency may be the only one in UP which is the district headquarters of Hamirpur and where, despite having a 100-kilometre long stretch of railway line, does not have a railway station. Instead, the nearest station is 12 kilometres away in the interior, in the neighbouring Kanpur district. A survey of the Durga temple was conducted by the Railway Ministry long ago. If a railway station is built there, at least 50-60 thousand

people from the entire constituency will have affordable train facilities to Delhi and Kanpur every month. It is a backward area, and the people there are suffering from drought. Providing a railway facility will ease transportation and greatly benefit the struggling farmers of Bundelkhand, and it will also increase the revenue of the Railways.

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (SHEOHAR): Deputy Speaker Sir, I represent the Sheohar Parliamentary Constituency. I want to speak about declaring Kanti Path as a national highway. The district of my constituency has been neglected in terms of development since independence. It is surprising that even today, many villages in this district remain isolated from the district headquarters, Sheohar, and the major city of North Bihar, Muzaffarpur. People have to travel about 45 kilometers to reach the city for medical treatment or other needs. The situation worsens during the rainy season. Many lives are lost in absence of proper treatment due to the road being cut off from the city.

Therefore, through the House, I urge the Government to address the problems faced by the people of this backward region in Sheohar and East Champaran districts by constructing a new national highway from Sheohar to Kanti, Muzaffarpur via Mushari Bazar, Narha

Panapur, and Rajepur. This will not only provide facilities to the people but also enable the development of the region. Thank you very much.

[English]

SHRI KARADI SANGANNA AMARAPPA (KOPPAL): Thank you so much for giving me time to speak on this important topic.

Sir, mining is banned and the matter is *sub-judice* which resulted in lack of coal in the thermal power stations of Bellary, Raichur and also in Chhatisgarh. The production of electricity is adversely affected due to lack of coal. States like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha etc. have acute power shortage. Therefore, I request the Central Government to provide coal to carry on the production of electricity by the aforesaid thermal power stations.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Shivkumar Udasi is permitted to associate with the matter raised by Shri Karadi Sanganna Amarappa.

[Translation]

SHRI LAXMI NARAYAN YADAV (SAGAR): Deputy Speaker Sir, as many as six lakh workers in my area are likely to be unemployed due to an order of the Ministry of Health and Family

Welfare, Government of India. Changes were made in the notification under the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 and as a result industry owners are closing down their industries resulting in massive unemployment and six lakhs workers are becoming jobless. I urge the Minister of Health and Family Welfare to take immediate steps in this direction and withdraw the notification.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House will take up Private Members' Business.

15.41 hrs

MOTION RE: SEVENTH REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI (HAVERI): I move:

"That this House do agree with the Seventh Report of the Committee on Private members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th March, 2015."

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Seventh Report of the Committee on Private members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 11th March, 2015."

The motion was adopted.

15.42 hrs

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS - Introduced

(i) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2014 *

(Amendment of article 1, etc.)

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH (GORAKHPUR): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

[English]

15.42 ½ hrs

(ii) REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Substitution of new section for section 70)

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA (KENDRAPARA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo – not present.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

[English]

15.43hrs

(iii) OLD AGE PENSION BILL, 2015*

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of pension to old age citizens.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of pension to old age citizens."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

[English]

15.43 ½ hrs

(iv) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Insertion of new article 21B)

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

[English]

15.44 hrs

(v) INSURANCE AGENTS WELFARE FUND BILL, 2015*

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for constitution of the Insurance Agents Welfare Fund for the welfare of insurance agents and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for constitution of the Insurance Agents Welfare Fund for the welfare of insurance agents and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA: Sir, I introduce** the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

^{**} Introduced with the Recommendation of the President

[English]

15.44 ½ hrs

(vi) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Insertion of new article 16A)

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part- II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

15.45 hrs

(vii)INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Substitution of new section for section 272)

[Translation]

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL (PASCHIM CHAMPARAN): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part- II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

15.45 ½ hrs

(viii) FOOD SAFETY AND STANDARDS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Amendment of section 3, etc.).

[Translation]

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL (PASCHIM CHAMPARAN): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part- II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

15.46 hrs

(ix) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Amendment of articles 123 and 213)

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part- II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

15.46 ½ hrs

(x) UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE FOR GRADUATES LIVING BELOW POVERTY LINE BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI (EAST DELHI): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of unemployment allowance to graduates living below poverty line and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of unemployment allowance to graduates living below poverty line and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part- II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

15.47 hrs

(xi) PLAY SCHOOLS (REGULATION) BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI (EAST DELHI): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to regulate the functioning of play schools and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to regulate the functioning of play schools and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.47 ½ hrs

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part- II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

(xii) HINDU ADOPTIONS AND MAINTENANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Amendment of section 18).

[Translation]

SHRI C. R. PATIL (NAVSARI): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act, 1956.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI C. R. PATIL: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

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^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

15.48 hrs

(xiii) HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME FOR DISABLED PERSONS BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY (MAHARAJGANJ): Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the health insurance scheme for disabled persons and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for a health insurance scheme for disabled persons and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

15.48 ½ hrs

(xiv) PROHIBITION ON FORCED RELIGIOUS CONVERSION BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL (JALGAON): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for prohibition on religious conversion by use of force, allurement or fraudulent means and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for prohibition on religious conversion by use of force, allurement or fraudulent means and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 13.3.201

15.49 hrs

(xv) UNIVERSAL PAYMENT OF DEARNESS ALLOWANCE BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL (JALGAON): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of dearness allowance to all persons who are not being paid dearness allowance and whose annual income from all sources does not exceed rupees five lakh per annum and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for payment of dearness allowance to all persons who are not being paid dearness allowance and whose annual income from all sources does not exceed rupees five lakh per annum and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

[Translation]

SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce** the Bill.

15.49 ½ hrs

(xvi) NAXAL AFFECTED STATES DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL (JALGAON): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Council to be known as the Naxal Affected States Development Council to formulate and monitor implementation of development plans and schemes for balanced and all-round development of naxal affected States and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Council to be known as the Naxal Affected States Development Council to formulate and monitor implementation of development plans and

^{**} Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

schemes for balanced and all-round development of naxal affected States and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.50 hrs

(xvii) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Amendment of article 24).

[Translation]

SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL (JALGAON): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 13.3.2015

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI A.T. NANA PATIL: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.50 ½ hrs

(xviii) TOURISM PROMOTION CORPORATION OF INDIA BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for establishment of a Tourism Promotion Corporation of India to promote and develop tourism in the country and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for establishment of a Tourism Promotion Corporation of India to promote and develop tourism in the country and for matters connected therewith."

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.51 hrs

(xix) MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC CLEANLINESS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD): Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for proper handling and disposal of household waste by prescribing norms and fixing duties on citizens with regard to maintenance of public cleanliness and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for proper handling and disposal of household waste by prescribing norms and fixing duties on citizens with regard

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

to maintenance of public cleanliness and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI: Hon. Deputy Speaker, I introduce the Bill.

15.51 ½ hrs

(xx) +-THE DOMESTIC WORKERS (DECENT WORKING CONDITIONS) BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for decent working conditions for, and regulation of terms of service of, domestic workers and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for decent working conditions for, and regulation of terms of

service of, domestic workers and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI: Hon. Deputy Speaker, I introduce the Bill.

15.52 hrs

[English]

(xxi) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Insertion of new Article 371 CA)

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (INNER MANIPUR): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

The motion was adopted.

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: I introduce the Bill.

15.52 ½ hrs

(xxii) SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE OF BIHAR BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV (SIWAN): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Bihar for the purpose of promoting the welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Sections of people and for the development, exploitation and proper utilization of its resources.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Bihar for the

^{*} Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

purpose of promoting the welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Sections of people and for the development, exploitation and proper utilization of its resources."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV: Hon. Deputy Speaker, I introduce** the Bill.

15.53 hrs

(xxiii) THE PALLIATIVE CARE (EDUCATION AND TRAINING) BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV (SIWAN): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for recognition of palliative care as an integral part of health care system of the country, education and training in palliative care in medical

^{**} Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

colleges and institutions, treatment facilities in hospitals and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for recognition of palliative care as an integral part of health care system of the country, education and training in palliative care in medical colleges and institutions, treatment facilities in hospitals and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV: Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.53 ½ hrs

(xxiv) SLUMS AND JHUGGI JHOPRI AREA CLEARANCE BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV (SIWAN): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for clearance of Jhuggi-Jhopri clusters and slum areas and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for clearance of Jhuggi-Jhopri clusters and slum areas and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV: Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.54hrs

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

(xxv) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Insertion of new article 279A)

[Translation]

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV (SIWAN): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI OM PRAKASH YADAV: Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo – Not present.

15.54 ½ hrs

(xxvi) CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Amendment of the Schedule)

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

15.55 hrs

(xxvii) TAILORING WORKERS (WELFARE) BILL, 2015*

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for certain welfare measures for tailoring workers and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for certain welfare measures for tailoring workers and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN: I introduce the Bill.

15.55 ½ hrs

(xxviii) SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE STATE OF JHARKHAND BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH (CHATRA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Jharkhand for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes of citizens and for the development, exploitation and proper utilization of its resources.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for special financial assistance to the State of Jharkhand for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes of citizens and for the development, exploitation and proper utilization of its resources."

The motion was adopted.

^{*}Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH: Sir, I introduce** the Bill.

15.56 hrs

(xxix) ORPHAN CHILD (WELFARE) BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (DAMOH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for welfare of orphan children and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for welfare of orphan children and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

^{**} Introduced with the Recommendation of the President.

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.56 ½ hrs

(xxx) PRIVATE VEHICLES (EXEMPTION FROM TOLL) BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (DAMOH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to exempt owners of private vehicles from payment of toll on national highways.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to exempt owners of private vehicles from payment of toll on national highways."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.57 hrs

[English]

(xxxi) TELEVISION BROADCASTING COMPANIES (REGULATION) BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (DAMOH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to regulate the closing down of broadcasting channels by television broadcasting companies and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to regulate closing down of broadcasting channels by television broadcasting companies and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.57 ½ hrs

(xxxii) INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Amendment of Section 376)

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (DAMOH): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.58hrs

[English]

(xxxiii) NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR STUDENTS BILL, 2015*

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for constitution of a National Commission for Students and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for constitution of a National Commission for Students and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

DR. A. SAMPATH: I introduce** the Bill.

15.58 ½ hrs

(xxxiv) INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Amendment of Section 375)

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{**} Introduced with the Recommendation of the President

15.59 hrs

(xxxv) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Amendment of Section 66A)

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Information Technology Act, 2000.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Information Technology Act, 2000."

The motion was adopted.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.59 ½ hrs

[English]

(xxxvi) GAZETTED OFFICERS OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT (COMPULSORY MILIATRY TRAINING) BILL, 2015*

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI, AVSM (GARHWAL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory military training for all able-bodied gazetted officers of the Central Government and for matters connected therewith.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for compulsory military training for all able-bodied gazetted officers of the Central Government and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI, AVSM: I introduce the Bill.

16.00 hrs

(xxxvii) PROVISION OF SOCIAL SECURITY TO SENIOR CITIZENS BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL (MAHARAJGANJ):

Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for social security to senior citizens and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for social security to senior citizens and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I introduce the Bill.

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

16.0 ½ hrs

(xxxviii) RURAL LABOUR WELFARE FUND BILL, 2015*

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL (MAHARAJGANJ):

Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a rural labour welfare fund for the welfare of the rural labour employed in the agriculture and other rural occupations and for matters connected therewith.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a rural labour welfare fund for the welfare of the rural labour employed in the agriculture and other rural occupations and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL: Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I introduce the Bill.

16.01 hrs

[English]

(xxxix) ELECTRICITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

(Amendment of Section 135)

SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI (SULTANPUR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Electricity Act, 2003.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Electricity Act, 2003."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI: I introduce the Bill.

16.01 ½ hrs

(xl) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015*

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

(Insertion of new Article 220A)

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY: I introduce the Bill.

16.02 hrs

(xli) CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2015 *

^{*} Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part -II, Section2, dated 13.3.2015

(Amendment of Article 124)

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY: I introduce the Bill.

16.03 hrs

[English]

SENIOR CITIZENS (PROVISION OF GERIATRIC AND DEMENTIA CARE) BILL, 2014 – Contd.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before we take up the Provision of Geriatric and Dementia Care Bill, 2014 for discussion, I want to inform the House that two hours' time allotted for discussion on this Bill is almost over. As there are six more Members to take part in the discussion, we have to extend the time for further discussion on the Bill. If the House agrees, the time for discussion on the Bill may be extended by one hour. Now Shri C.R. Chaudhary may continue.

[Translation]

SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY (NAGAUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I sincerely thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. The Senior Citizens (Provision of Geriatric and Dementia Care) Bill, 2014, has been brought by Hon. Bhartruhari Mahtab. I rise to speak in support of this Bill. The fact remains that in the country, approximately 10 crore people are in their sixties. Out of that, around one crore people have completed 80 years of age. They need proper healthcare and emotional support. In this bill, very good provisions have been made as to how they will be taken care of, especially those who suffer from

geriatric diseases and dementia, who lose their memory and forget things. We commend the learned MP for introducing the excellent Bill that you have proposed to address their needs.

16.04 hrs (Shri Hukum Singh in the Chair)

I have some points to say about this Bill. The first point is that, as Hukmdev Narayan Yadav ji once stated, the elder people are the nation's legacy and must be upheld. I am also one of them, and I fall under the category of senior citizens. I thank Mahtab ji for introducing this Bill. I would like to emphasize that our children have an obligation to upheld this legacy. The second responsibility is of the Government, and the third is of society.

The first responsibility lies on their offspring, whom they have brought up throughout their lives. They raised their children by working as long as they could. The first responsibility lies with their children. They need to be educated about their duty. Offspring often refuse to take care of their parents, and that is why the Government of India had enacted a law making it mandatory for people to take care of the elderly persons in their family. I want to share an anecdote. Once I took part in a university function. I narrated a story to the students there. It is a very relevant story. A family lived in a village. The head of the family became an official in the city, and he moved

there with his family. The father of the man was old, so he took him along. For some days, all the member of the family used to eat together at the dining table, but one day his father accidentally dropped a glass tumbler. This made his daughter-in-law angry. He shifted his father in a small room, and his food was served there as well. After the glass tumbler was broken, he was given food in wooden bowls. One day, the man's young son was working with a piece of wood. When the father asked his son what he was doing, the youngster said, "I'm making the wooden bowl you made for my grandfather, for you, so I can feed you the same way." Children need to be educated in this manner. At this stage, they need to be educated to have respect for their parents. They should have a high regard for their parents. Failure to do so will lead to the breakdown of our Indian cultural system, which provides the best care for our parents. Regardless of whether their parents are suffering from dementia or another illness, children's first responsibility is to look after them.

The second responsibility lies with the Government. Hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare is sitting here. Mahtab Saheb has made very good proposals. But I will go further in detail. You have said that every district headquarters should have a geriatric unit or a unit for the care of dementia patients. Recently, a survey was

conducted where elderly people said that there is no hospital within two or three kilometres, and if they go to any hospital at the subdivision level, there is no such geriatric unit. There are no medical specialists or general physicians to treat dementia. I would like to submit that the facility for geriatric and dementia treatment should be available at the CHC level, if not at the PHC level, and there should be medical officers who have expertise in treating these patients. There should be a provision for medicines at the PHC level also, so that elderly people do not face any difficulties. We will have to build capacity for that purpose. I request the Hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare to kindly keep such courses in the graduate level. Such courses should be included in MBBS education so that students who are going to become doctors after graduation have good knowledge about geriatrics and dementia. Similarly, they should receive good training in nursing colleges or centres. Thirdly, community health workers, like ASHA workers, should be trained through capacity building so that they can handle these old persons having dementia or other diseases. This will ensure their proper care. I would like to request this to the Hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare. If there is any case of delivery in a village, ASHA workers take care of it immediately. Why so you not make such arrangements

for senior citizens also? Be it a worker, an attendant, whoever is the health worker, he requires money.

I would also like to refer to a survey. Recently, the Hon. Finance Minister, in his Budget speech, mentioned that there are approximately one crore people who have crossed 80 years of age, and the majority of them belong to BPL families with lower income and are downtrodden. Therefore, the Government should make provisions for such people, like taking them to the hospital and paying for their attendant. There should be some provision so that they can be taken care of well. Nobody can survive without money. When the offspring do not take care of their elderly parents, the Government is duty-bound to support them. Therefore, this should be incorporated into capacity building. Special packages should be arranged for those who are senior citizens, or who are suffering from dementia or geriatric diseases.

I agree with Mahtab ji that there should be medical colleges in every district. At present, only a few medical colleges exist in the states, but I would request the Minister of Health and Family Welfare that Government medical colleges should have special care units and wards to treat geriatric and dementia patients. Facilities will be

provided for these individuals if the Minister of Health and Family Welfare and the Health Department give this enough consideration.

I would like to thank the NDA Government. I say this because only the NDA Government will be thanked for this. When Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji was the Prime Minister, the National Policy for older people was formulated on 1st January, 1999. In that policy, elderly persons were classified that who will be known as elderly, and a national policy was made to take care of those whose age was stated to be 60 years and above. I would like to thank the present Prime Minister Modi and the Finance Minister that the present Budget also has certain good provisions in this regard. It is excellent that provisions have been made for senior citizens such as old-age pensions and other benefits. Likewise, the budget has allocated over Rs. 300 crore for the establishment of care homes for them. In this sense, the NDA government has always looked out for the elderly people whenever it has come into power. This is all about the Health Department. The Government should do something for them.

The third responsibility lies with society also. If the family members of an elderly person do not care or even the Government fails to provide care for him, society also fails to provide for him. I would like to say that community leaders will need to engage in

capacity building to take care of the elderly people. I have seen that whenever such an opportunity arises, we all get involved in it. Still, we need to involve more and more people from society. NGOs should also share this responsibility. NGOs receive large sums of funding from various Government agencies. Therefore, NGOs should also share this responsibility by setting up Day Care Homes or Mobile units for such people. I have observed that excellent mobile units that are functional for everyone and operating in places like Cochin and other similar locations. Society will have to do a lot of work in the old-age homes or day care for elderly people.

People think only about themselves. Let me tell you one story. Once, a baby fish asked the fish, "Why do we live only in water?" The mother fish replied, "Because earth is meant for the selfish, not for fish." That means there is no land for fish. Through this House, I wish to ask everyone in society to take care of the elderly people. It is important to convince and motivate their children to take care of the elderly, particularly those suffering from dementia and geriatric diseases. This Bill that has been brought forward is a welcome step.

Most of the provisions of this Bill have already been implemented by our Government in some form or the other, whether it is old-age pensions, through the health department, the old-age policy, or

Pradhan Mantri Bima Yojana. Such provisions have been incorporated under one scheme or another. I think our Government is doing a lot of work for elderly people. Therefore, I believe that Mahtab ji will not need to emphasize his Bill much. In any case, the Government acknowledges the importance of this issue. The Government also pays close attention when one of our colleagues, who is the greatest debater and Member of Parliament, speaks. Therefore, I would request the Government that the Hon. Member should not need to bring a private Bill; the Government should do it itself. I hope our Government will pay 100 percent attention to this issue of elderly people. Thank you.

[English]

*SHRIMATI P. K. SREEMATHI TEACHER (KANNUR): Since this is a most touching subject, I think it would be appropriate for me to speak in my mother tongue, Malayalam. The bill gives importance to geriatric and dementia care. This Bill has been very appropriately introduced in the House by Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab and I congratulate him.

Geriatric care is a widely discussed subject in our country. The subject is also becoming a great challenge for our society. Today across the country we are discussing how we can meet this challenge in the best possible manner. The subject has come up before the House, at this very opportune moment. Pain and palliative care is also a related subject. Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab has included pain and palliative care with geriatric care, under this comprehensive Bill. The Health Minister, is also present in this House, I would like to request him that this private member Bill should be introduced as a Government Bill, and passed in this House, so that we can have a legislation that will take care of the welfare of the aging and suffering citizens of our country.

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^{*} English translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.

Two sections of our country, deserve utmost consideration. One is our children, and the other is our aging generation. Both need care affection, love and protection. All of us will eventually age. But in earlier times, there was the joint family system and all over the country the trend now is to become nuclear families. No one has time, for any one. The younger generation will be busy in their own affairs. Therefore, there is no one to take care of the elders. And if the aged are afflicted with Alzheimer's or Parkinson, diabetes or related ailments, then the treatment they get is worse than that meted out to animals. This is a harsh reality. The aged are chained to the bed, when others go out to work. There is a law that protects the dignity of the aged. Senior citizen's protection act is there. But atrocities against the aged are perpetrated in secrecy. Some of the aged are blind, some have amputated feet and cannot move.

No one is there, to administer them medicines or give them food. But more often it is not only time but the mindset for serving the elders that is lacking.

Recently, I saw an extremely aged person. Who was a widower, and his son and daughter in law were working. If the husband dies, the wife can somehow survive, but husbands are helpless without the support of their wives.

So these helpless loners suffer isolation, undergo depression, and some are even driven to take the extreme step of committing suicide.

Sir, in developed countries, and socialist countries, the consideration they show to their children is also extended to the aged.

These countries, give, food, entertainment facilities, and medical and social support to the aged. They are entitled to a lot many facilities.

It is not that we haven't given our aged any facilities. But it is not enough. We need a legislation. Just as the children are protected by law, the senior citizen's right, to get care and protection should be ensured by law.

This is the responsibility of the Government. The helpless and the bedridden, should not be treated like vermin. They need to be cared and protected.

The pain and palliative care department should be made functional in hospitals to work towards this end.

When I was the Health Minister in Kerala, the pain and palliative care Bill was passed in the assembly.

It was not specially meant for the old, but was intended to take care of anyone afflicted with terminal diseases and who needed attention.

Now we need to ensure the same for the old. A lot of exploitation happens, in the name of old age care. The Government should monitor the old age homes, and see what care the aged gets.

There should be accountability, so that even the private old age homes, are giving proper care to do what they are paid for. Otherwise, the old are vulnerable to exploitation.

The caring of the aged, and the extremely aged, those who have crossed ninety years and more; is a very big challenge before us.

These aged ones, should not suffer mental and physical neglect. We should see them as 'Old is gold'. Our parents and ancestress are our greatest wealth. The mindset of the society should change, so that they get love, care, respect, which they deserve.

Therefore, this Bill is a most appropriate Bill. We should make it more inclusive by adding other aspects of pain and palliative care and pass it as a Government Bill.

So senior citizen protection law, should be implemented which will take care of all the aspects of care and protection of the aged. I

once more thank Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab, for giving an opportunity to discuss this very appropriate Bill. I whole heartedly support this Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I rise in support of the Bill brought by the Hon. Member Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab ji, which is about dementia patients and their effects. Mahtab Sahab thinks out of the box and since I have had the opportunity to work with him for six years, I feel that he thinks beyond and ahead of time. In this nation, everyone, including the Government, individuals, and leaders bring up youth while discussing any aspect of life. There will be discussions about jobs for the youth, skills, and adjustment, as well as about inspiring young people with goals, but nobody in this nation is currently thinking about the elderly people. A common and serious illness affecting the elderly people is dementia, sometimes known as Alzheimer's. This disease along with other disorders is not discussed. That's why I would like to congratulate him as he thought about prevention is better than cure i.e. those who think ahead are always happy. They always experience contentment and serenity from God. ... (Interruptions)

Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, it has been apparent to me since I have been elected to the House that there has been a conversation about villages, poor people, farmers, education, health, and poverty. We all create a ruckus to discuss here, but when the discussion starts, very

few people are seen at the time of discussion. If you point out the mistakes of the Government, it would be said that you should not use phrases like "this is the Government's mistake," "the Government did this," or "this is its mistake. As a Member of Parliament, I firmly feel that shame, and whenever I visit or interact with people in rural areas, I experience intense shame. It is evident that they are asking for Indira Awaas, a red ration card, and medical assistance. If I am dwelling at Delhi residence, maximum patients travel Delhi to get treatment from AIIMS; among them are those who cannot even afford to pay for their tickets. I think it is concerning for people like us, public representatives like us, that after 67 years of independence, people like us still have to do this, and I always feel ashamed of it. The saying goes that - Satyam Briyat, Priyam Briyat, Na Briyat Satyam Apriyam. I am against these notion that "what was spoiled at birth, can't be improved now." One should always speak the truth.

Hon. Chairman Sir, there is a very good poem composed by Suryakant Tripathi Nirala and he was associated with my family, his father was a wrestler in my relative, he used to fight in the royal family of Mahisadal and he was related to my family. His poem is that - "chaat rahe hai joothi pattal, kahin sadak per khade hue, aur jhapat lene ko unse kutte bhi hai adei hue." Today, Hon. Mahtab Ji has

brought the issues of the villages, the poor, farmers, and their conditions are still in the same predicament. Hon. Chairman, I was just reading Mahatma Gandhi. There is a lot of discussion on Mahatma Gandhi. He has written in his book - My Experiments with Truth that -

[English]

"When every hope is gone, 'when helpers fail and comforts flee,' I find that help arrives somehow, from I know not where. Supplication, worship, prayer are no superstition; they are acts more real than the acts of eating, drinking, sitting or walking."

[Translation]

I think this Bill has brought similar arrangements for those people. The Government of India has a practice that a report is received, a committee is formed, and then the committee's report lost somewhere. It is not that Hon. Mahtab Ji would have thought about it for the first time, it must have been thought of before also. Because who is suffering from dementia in this country? According to the WHO research, the poor people are suffering from dementia. This phenomenon is observed in the poor nations across the globe,

including India, Pakistan, Cairo, Egypt, Cameroon, and other small nations. The cases of this disease are being witnessed in the area from where Mahtab Ji and I originally hail. We are witnessing these cases in Odisha, Jharkhand, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, where there is abject poverty. Alzheimer are dementia are the diseases that are more common in persons who are not getting enough food, protein, or calories in their diet.

So the issue is more important for people like us. A report was prepared regarding dementia, it was published in the year 2010. The report claims that if there is one place in the world where the number of dementia sufferers is increasing the fast, it is India. This is the report of the year 2010 - The Dementia India Report, 2010. It has been said in the report that dementia to be given national priority for we have the maximum number of dementia patients here. As Hon. C.R. Chaudhary Ji was saying that we have as many as ten crore elderly people in the country now, so I think that by the year 2050, this figure will touch around twenty-five crore. The number of youth and the elderly people are rising in the same proportion. At least ten to fifteen percent people are suffering from dementia. It implies that 1.5 to 2 crore people will be suffering from minimal dementia and Alzheimer.

It was recommended that since it is increasing the most in our area, it should be a national priority. Till date, the Government of India has not given it a national priority. The first and foremost question, why hasn't this report, which was completed in 2010, become a national priority as we are dicussing it today in 2015?

Second, he mentioned the people who are being impacted by this, stressing that dementia has an effect on each individual as well as on families and society at large. The individual is the one who has lost his memory, who is not able to walk, who has developed Alzheimer, you should understand that he has developed Parkinson's disease. If his hands are shaking, his legs are shaking or he is forgetting things, then he is either kept in a corner of the house, because sometimes if a guest comes, we feel that we will be defamed. What will people say about which family this man belongs to? They start keeping him in the house like a prisoner. When he goes to the family, there will be any family function, be it a wedding, *Chhathi*, or even *Shraddha*, even then he will not be allowed to go near people because we don't know what they might say.

Third, many people in society start considering him mad because he suffers from amnesia. Sometime he will one thing, another time he will start talking about his childhood, people will start stoning him.

When this responsibility lies on all three, it requires a cost. That is why it was said that there should be a national priority for funding for dementia research. Till date I don't think there has been any funding for this. The treatment of one man requires approximately sixteen hundred to seventeen hundred dollars. About Rs. 15 to Rs.20 thousand crore will be spent in this country today considering the number of patients today. This means that a family will have to spend at least Rs. 70 to 75 thousand on one patient. How will a person who has no monery even for food, spend Rs. 70 to 75 thousand? When they have no money with them, they do not take care of them, do not get them treated and they remain cut off from family and society. Research on the most affordable treatment options is necessary because, as of yet, the Government of India has not formulated any policy in this area. Apart from that they do not have access to health and social care services. His third point is to improve dementia identification and care skills because patients need skill development on how to care for him. What kind of ailment is it and how will it be taken care of? For example our former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, if he is ill then the whole country is worried about his health. Adhir Ji, from your side P. R. Das Munshi J is ill. He is being taken care of. Care is being given because the whole country is worried about him, he is a reputed

person of the country. Such people are taken care of, but the Government or the state or the society has not done anything till date to take care of the poor people. The committee has given its recommendation that there should be arrangements for their social care and develop a community support, which requires a societal awakening on the part of its citizens. As you are aware, people still have faith in traditional healers and these practices continue until now. The exorcism has not ended, some take the patient at the tomb, and some to the temple, at many places even people go to the temple for treating the snake bite. Similarly, when this type of illness manifests, initially it is unknown if it is in its first, second, or third phase; nevertheless, once it reaches all three stages, it is in its third phase that people become aware of it. During the initial stage, it appears as though someone is inebriated, that someone is consuming cannabis, that someone is drinking alcohol, that someone is taking opium, that someone is taking hashish; initially, they act in this way. In the second stage, family members attempt to hide him at home by claiming that it is not a serious illness. By the time the patient is in the third stage, his health has deteriorated to such a point where there is no longer any treatment available. For this, community development appropriate treatment are required; they are not in need of visiting any

traditional healer. What's after that there will be an increase in demand for support services. Which I said. The committee have said all these things in the recommendation about what is going to happen and said that develop a new national policy and legislation for people with dementia. This is a recommendation, but till date nothing has been done about it. This should be followed by a guaranteed career support package. This is most important because it was said that

[English]

"Lack of awareness among professional, family and community, policy-makers and agencies to the needs of persons with dementia has led to dementia care being absent or delivery piecemeal in an inefficient fashion in India. More investment and careful planning will be needed to maximize the quality of life of a person with dementia and to accomplish that in an efficient manner with available resources..."

[Translation]

For this you should understand that they recommended for Guaranteed Career Support Package. A career support package is required. People like us do not need career support package, neither do other people, but if you understand that no one will give him

employment then what will this poor guy do and no one even thinks about him. You are talking about providing employment to one person in the family, but what will be the career support package? Can they make beedis, can they make wicks in small-scale industry, and can they make crackers? You stop using him. You believe that he is useless, so if individual, family, and community development is neglected, you realise that a situation will arise in which we will be extremely disturbed because one man has the power to destroy this nation. You also realise that society will suffer, but people will likely ignore it.

Without giving a very long speech, I will only say that when Bhartruhari Mahtab Ji brought this Bill, the Global Action Against Dementia of WHO, WHO Ministerial Conference was held in Geneva on 3-4 March 2015. This has happened after the introduction of this Bill. I don't know whether Mahtab Ji mentioned this or not, but when I saw it recently, I saw that he asked whether there should be a moving forward path of progress. In that conference, he said ensuring early diagnosis. So my first question to the Government is what arrangements have we made in the WHO conference held ten days ago as to how it will be identified. He said this as the first point. The second point he said is optimizing physical health, cognition, activity

and well-being. What is the Government of India doing in this regard? Thirdly, he said - Detecting and treating behavioural and psychological symptoms, what is the Government of India doing in this regard and fourthly - Providing information and long-term support to caregivers. These four goals have been set by WHO. After this five-six points have been mentioned for all the countries. The first point says developing a prioritized research agenda involving major relevant constituencies. Second, Increasing public investments in research relevant to dementia. Thirdly, improving the incentives for private investment. There is a lot of talk about FDI, private-public partnership, so he said that private investment in innovation related to dementia and fourthly he said that including optimizing the path of drugs from research to the market, because research is going on, then how it can be brought into the market? Encouraging international cooperation, establishing networks and strengthening the national capacity to conduct research and encouraging WHO Collaborating Centres to incorporate research into their plans and facilitate collaborative research through bilateral and multilateral collaboration and multicentre projects.

[Translation]

These are the recommendations of WHO and I think the Government of India will definitely consider it. I will again conclude by quoting Gandhiji because of the dementia and negationism in this country. The thing in India is that people discuss about caste and other trifles a lot, but till date I could not understand that Mahabharata was written by Ved Vyas, he was the son of a maid. In the same way, Maharishi Valmiki wrote Ramayana, everybody knows who was he and who wrote the Constitution of India, which we discuss. That is why we are above this caste system. When you speak on village, poverty and farmers, Ramkripal ji, please tell me about the village or house that existed 15, 20, or 25 years ago and had toilets. At that time all the women and men used to go to the fields. ... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Nishikant ji, Please conclude.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: I want to conclude. In this he has written that I will try to create such a constitution which will free India from every kind of slavery and dependence and if need be, they may even be afforded right to commit sin. I will try for such India in which even the poorest of the poor will feel that this is their country. Hon. Chairman, you gave time, while concluding my speech, I thank Bhartruhari Mahtab Sahib and urge the Government of India to ask those who did politics in the name of Mahatma Gandhi and have done

nothing. If we can do something in the name of Mahatma Gandhi for this country and especially for the people suffering from dementia, then it would be a right step for the elderly people and for this country.

With these words Jai Hind, Jai Bharat.

[English]

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): I must appreciate my esteemed colleague, Shri B. Mahtab who has brought this legislative document in order to bring this to the attention of the Government for the welfare and security of our aged population.

It is often said that old wood is best to burn; old wine is best to drink; and old horse is best to ride. As a similar corollary, we must say that old population is similar to gold as they can radiate the knowledge, the wisdom, the ethics to their successors. So, we ought to protect our aged population by all the resources available with us. We should not treat our aged population as a burden, rather they should be treated as our asset. Our aged population is a treasure trove of experience, a treasure trove of knowledge; if we can borrow something from them, I think, society would prosper. But the fact is that till date, the aged population are not being treated as they deserve. Naturally, they are facing innumerable problems.

India is a country which is undergoing a demographic transition. At present, our population is 123 crore; birthrate – 20.22 per thousand population; death rate – 7.4 per thousand population; life expectancy – 68.89 years. Life expectancy will be increased to 73 years by 2050 and 81 years by 2100. Naturally, India is destined to hold a large aged population in future. The problem is, developed countries have already taken various preemptive measures in order to secure their welfare and other amenities but in India, the demographic transition is taking place in such a way that in the near future, there is every possibility that we will be caught by surprise.

It is because now-a-days we are simply focussing on demographic dividends. It is a fact that 50 per cent of our population is around 25 years of age and 65 per cent of our population is below 35 years of age. By 2025, the average life span of our population will be 29 years. But if we do not take appropriate measures right now for the sake of our older generation, I think, we will not be discharging our responsibility in a proper manner.

Sir, nothing new has been found in this piece of legislation because the intent, tone and tenor of this legislation has been demonstrated in the nomenclature namely, Senior Citizens (Provision of Geriatric and Dementia Care) Bill is known to us. More often than

not, in this House we discuss the problems of our geriatric population, the problems of our aged population who suffer from various infirmities, various physical problems, social problems, financial problems etc.

In the year 1982, the United Nations adopted the First International Plan of Action on Ageing in Vienna and it took until 1991 for the United Nations General Assembly to adopt the UN Principles for Older Persons (Resolution 46). Its five main themes are independence, participation, care, self-fulfilment and dignity.

Sir, in our country, in 1999 we have formulated an integrated plan for old people. It is enshrined in article 41 of our Constitution that the State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing the right to work, to education, to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement and in other cases of undeserved want.

The problems faced by the old people are economic problem, physiological problem, housing related problem and problem of abuse. It is shameful to note that around 81 per cent of our elderly persons face the problem of verbal abuse while 53 per cent of them face neglect followed by material abuse and 23 per cent face physical abuse.

Sir, the National Council for Older Persons was constituted in our country in the year 1999 and again the Council was reconstituted in 2005 for the implementation of the National Policy on Old Age Pension and an Action Plan on Ageing Issues was conceived. In the year 2007, we have passed, in this Parliament, the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act.

The Act provides for maintenance of parents/senior citizens by children/relatives obligatory and justiciable through Tribunals; revocation of transfer of property by senior citizens in case of negligence by relatives; penal provision for abandonment of senior citizens; establishment of Old Age Homes for indigent senior citizens; and adequate medical facilities and security for senior citizens.

Policies, schemes and programmes for the welfare of the elderly are still available with us to encourage individuals to make provision for their own as well as their spouse's old age, to encourage families to take care of their older family members, to enable and support voluntary and non-Governmental organizations to supplement the care provided by the family, to provide care and protection to vulnerable elderly people, to provide adequate health care facility to the elderly, to promote research and training facilities to train geriatric caregivers and organizers of services for the elderly and to create

awareness regarding elderly persons to help them lead a productive and an independent life.

Sir, I am referring all this because there is no dearth of Acts, laws, schemes and other legislative proposals. But the fact is, nothing has been implemented in such a way that can satisfy our older, aged population. Even the Twelfth Plan has enshrined the consolidation, expansion and strengthening of the various programmes into comprehensive coordinated system to fulfil the aspirations of these vulnerable sections of society. It was proposed that a National Policy on Senior Citizen will be formulated and implemented during the 12th Five Year Plan period focusing on the various priority areas of the welfare of senior citizens.

What I am proposing is setting up a National Commission for Senior Citizens to look into their grievances on priority for redressal and ensure that services and facilities meant for them are provided. I also propose establishment of Old Age Homes for Indigent Senior Citizens with integrated multi-facility centre of varying capacity in 640 districts of the country through State Governments, setting up of a helpline and District level helplines for older persons, setting up of Bureau for Socio-Economic Empowerment of Senior Citizens at

district level, creation of National Trust for the Aged, issue of Smart Identity Cards for senior citizens.

[Translation]

There was talk of dementia here. When a dementia patient goes out, he should have a smart card, an identity card and his medical report attached in his pocket. If he is lost somewhere then it will be helpful in bringing that lost person back. Every dementia patient should have an identity card along with their medical prescription attached.

I would also propose health insurance for senior citizens and a national institute on ageing. They need decent pension. They need decent home. They need decent behaviour from society. Today there is no awareness among the people about dementia. A lot of people know nothing about dementia. Sometimes even the family members of dementia patients do not know, we should get information. What is the size of the undocumented dementia population? I don't know whether the Government has any details about it. I want every panchayat to be sensitized for our aging population and dementia population.

[English]

Sir, lastly, I would quote Swami Vivekananda. He said:

"Feel for the miserable and look up for help – it shall come. I have travelled twelve years with this load in my heart and this idea in my brain. I have gone from door to door of the so-called rich and great. With a bleeding heart I have crossed half the world to this strange land, seeking for help. The Lord is great. I know He will help me. I may perish of cold or hunger in this land, but I bequeath to you, young men, and this sympathy, this struggle for the poor, the ignorant and the oppressed."

Thank you, Sir.

[English]

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Sir, I firmly support the Bill presented by our hon. Member Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab ji in this House. I would also like to congratulate him on taking up this important issue. Generally, we discuss many other issues in this House but we have not taken such issues for consideration. He has taken so much pains in bringing before this House such an important issue and we should respect him.

Sir, senior citizens are a part of our life. The stage of senior citizen is a stage of our life just like childhood and youth. When we are in the stage of childhood or youth, we are getting better treatment from

society and from family. But when we get older, we do not get such kind of treatment or facility. That is the main issue that this society has to consider. It is not the question of senior citizens alone. We can see mentally retarded and physically disabled people in many families. They are also not taken care of by their own families. In a society like ours senior citizens, mentally retarded people and physically disabled people have become a major issue and we have to consider that.

Many of our hon. Members have already given their suggestions as to what we can do for them. At the end of this discussion, the hon. Minister or the Government may ask Mr. Bhartruhari Mahtab ji to withdraw this Bill. We all know that very well. But this time that should not be the practice as far as this issue is concerned. We know that the Government is not going to pass this Bill but they should accept this Bill. They should come forward with a similar Bill containing similar provisions because this issue has become the most important issue. It is not the question of health care of senior citizens alone. The hospitalization or giving medicines are a part of our health system.

As far as Kerala is concerned, we have a very good network of palliative care system. We have this system at panchayat as well as at

district level also. I have given four ambulances from my own MPLADS fund to such centres. These palliative care centres are run by volunteers. Sometimes they are under some NGOs or sometimes under the panchayats. When we go to the houses of poor families, we find that a number of people are not able to go to the hospitals. These volunteers go to every house every week or twice in a week and take all the responsibility of these people. Sometimes, people may not be able to say about their conditions to the panchayats or to the volunteers because it is a complex issue for them. But when we visit their houses twice or thrice, they themselves come forward and tell these volunteers or panchayats about their problems. What they need is the psychological treatment or a suitable mental atmosphere because they are alone.

As stated by one of our hon. Members, we are not utilizing the potential of our older generation because there the question of their retirement comes. After the age of 60 years, they lead a retired life so they may not be able to go to any other place. At the same time, what we have seen is that the experience that they have acquired in their life is not utilized because they have become senior citizens. Of course, we can consider them as senior citizens but their experience has to become a part of this society. As we consider the young children

and others a part of this society, likewise, we should also consider our senior citizens as a part of this society. That issue has to be taken care of.

The other suggestion that I would like to make is that they should get adequate pension for themselves. The main issue is that they are not getting sufficient money.

17.00 hrs

Even in the rich families, when persons become old and retire, they cannot expect much from their family. So, adequate pension should be given to these old and retired people so as to enable them to purchase medicines, etc.

These old people should have other facilities such as cultural facilities and library facilities. We have a system in Kerala that there are special places built for them. All older people can come to this place, read books and also watch TV programmes. That is also refreshment as far as their mind is concerned.

The third one is regarding their transport facilities, which has become the most important issue. I would suggest that the Government should give free transport facilities to all senior citizens and disabled persons because they are not able to get transport facilities in the other way.

These are some of the issues which the Government has to address, and the Government should give adequate relief to all senior citizens and disabled persons.

With regard to mentally retarded and physically disabled persons, they are also having a lot of problems. These two subjects – issues of senior citizens and issues of mentally retarded and physically disabled persons – are also covered in the same Bill. The mind-set of our society has to change. Even those who are wealthy, they are not able to take such people to hospitals or give them medical treatment. Even people feel that if any marriage has to take place in their house and if such mentally retarded and physically disabled persons are in their houses, they do not want to expose such people. There were many such examples. We can see such examples in cinema also. So, social consciousness in regard to these issues is most important.

I fully agree with the views expressed by Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab ji in his Bill. Instead of merely requesting Shri Mahtab ji to withdraw his Bill, I would like the Government to accept his Bill and bring it as a Government Bill.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, I have to inform that three hours' time allotted for discussion of this Bill is almost over. As there

are three more Members to take part in the discussion, we have to extend the time for further on the Bill.

If the House agrees, the time for discussion on the Bill may be extended by an hour.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The time for discussion on the Bill is extended by an hour.

Now, Shri Sharad Tripathi.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI (SANT KABIR NAGAR): Hon.

Chairperson, Sir, the Bill which has been brought by our learned Hon. Member Mahtab ji has been defined as Demantia. Both the cause and the solution of an issue should be discussed. The solution is being discussed since the day Hon. Mahtab ji presented the Bill. Several Hon. Members also provided figures regarding the proportion of Europe and India in this regard. The main symptom of the disease that has been diagnosed is that when the brain cells start dying due to some pressure, the disease emerges which causes the imbalance of the protein called CGHS, which becomes the cause of the disease called NEON. The most pressing topic of the day is why this disease is

occurring. Hon. Mahtab ji stated that this disease is more common among elder people and the possibility of causing it among them is growing day by day. I would like to say that in the survey conducted recently in America that this disease has been reflected among 15 to 16 percent in the youth. The most important reason behind this is the emerging social structure. Social structure means that today when a person suffers from depression, he becomes a victim of this disease. You have been a very senior Member, you are also known as a farmer leader. Earlier in the village, the elders were looked after regularly, there was a social belief that whatever decision the village elder used to pronounce sitting under the Peepal tree, all the people were bound to accept it, there was so much reverence. At that time, it served as the Court of justice, the panchayat of the period, and it was accorded social recognition. Today, numerous Courts have been established in our country. We may attribute the onset of this disease to the administrative system, and we can also hold the bureaucracy accountable. We, the elected representatives, are here, and once we return to our constituencies, we are inundated with paperwork. From morning until night, documents continue to arrive. However, where are we to address or deliver that problem? Do we bring it to the attention of the Hon. Minister, or do we address it to the administrative

officers? Some people approach the representatives. Many individuals aged 45 and above, 50 and above, 60 and above, are running to the tehsil for pensions. Some are running for elderly pensions, some for other jobs. Every day, they rushes to the office, but if they does not have the arrangement of paying the fee, they becomes depressed and remain at home, worried about whom they should complain to. They also do so through the representatives.

17.07 hrs (Hon. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Today, the accountability of administrative officers towards the representatives is zero. Every day, we are compelled to grapple with this issue. The problem begins here, leading to a state of despondency for the individual. Through a survey, it has emerged that this disease is also arising through radiation. Among the ages of 45 and 65, the radiation emitted by mobile phones is also playing a role in exacerbating this disease. Today, such a system has emerged where every youth remains constantly engaged on the internet or Facebook, and is affected by the radiation emitted from it. Today, towers are being installed in an unregulated manner without any survey, which is also a factor contributing to this disease. There should also be an assessment about the impact of the radio frequency waves emitted by

the towers being installed in various locations, and how they are affecting individuals. This matter should also be discussed in this Bill. A new topic has just emerged. There should be establishment of old age homes for the elderly people. Hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare is also present here. We come from rural villages.

The plight of the elderly people today is quite lamentable, as the youth today, driven by the desire to progress, are so consumed by their problems that they are unable to pay attention to them. Slowly, he is falling prey to that illness. I wish to return to the fundamental issue of where the disease originates. The administrative system has seen only two Administrative Reform Commissions established in the 67 years since the country's Independence. What action was taken on it did not come before the country. I wish to assert emphatically that our administrative system should be scrutinised, as people are suffering due to its shortcomings during this period of illness. Our request is to establish a Committee specifically tasked to conduct study both the causes and solutions. Our Government has established the mantra of Yoga worldwide, which will certainly aid in combating this disease in the coming times.

[English]

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to congratulate my learned colleague, Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab for bringing a nice Bill, which deals with the aged persons not only of our country but also of the universe.

The matter, which has been brought about by learned colleague should be the thought of the Government. I hope after the valuable discussions of all the hon. Members, the Government will think over it that this Bill should not remain a Bill of Private Members' Bill. This will become a Government Bill in the coming days.

Sir, in ancient India, the system of medicine have 8 parts. One of those was Jera/Rasayano which deals with the geriatrics. We, the people of 21st century, are not thinking about the old aged persons. Thousands of years ago, before the birth of Christ, it was discussed among the people and it is mentioned first mentioned in Ayurveda in 1500 B.C.

Sir, we are here. Our hon. Health Minister is also here. In one of the surveys, it is said that the diseases which are being faced by the old aged persons can be prevented and the survey said that 40 per cent can be prevented if we take care of the old age persons.

Sir, throughout the world, there are 63 specialized hospitals which look after only the geriatrics. It is my humble request to our Health Minister. A good number of hospitals should be there in our country. In the Bill, it is said that in each and every district, there should be a hospital or a unit. In every hospital, there should be more than 200 beds. I hope our Government should think over it.

Sir, at present, only 10 per cent of the populations are senior citizens. But it is found from the survey that by the year 2050, near about 32 crore 40 lakh people will become senior citizens.

Sir, I hope that the Government will over think over this thing. In our country, there are 55 per cent widows who depend upon others. They have to be looked after. In the case geriatric people, 73 per cent of them are illiterate and they have to live on physical labour and one-third of the geriatric people come under BPL category. Ninety per cent of them do not have regular source of income. Many die of cardio-vascular attack. Nearly 10 per cent die of respiratory disorder and ten per cent die of tuberculosis.

In the 60th National Sample Survey which was done in the year 2004, it has been said that among the 1000 rural people, there are 313 men and 760 men. In urban area among the 1000 people, 297 are men and 757 are women.

They have no person to look after them.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA: Sir, I am concluding.

So, in this case, we have 12,000 hospitals with seven lake beds. I hope the Government should consider this private Bill and convert it as a Government Bill.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the Hon. Minister, Shri Vijay Sampla to make his brief intervention.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, this Bill has been brought by Mr. Mahtab. I observe that the Bill pertains to the Ministry I oversee, hence I wish to draw attention to certain points. The Hon. Member has mentioned points that mark a good beginning. The concern for the elderly people is a concern shared by all of us, and the Government also includes itself in addressing their concerns. The Government is taking care of their concerns. They have stated that there should be proper care for the elderly people and facilities should be available in hospitals. Paragraph No. three states that each hospital should have facilities for them, separate arrangement of beds should be available, and there should be day care centres for senior citizens. I would like to say that the provisions for the care, nourishment, and welfare of parents and senior citizens are mentioned in the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. It specifies the hospital's responsibility and mandates assistance from Government, Semi-Government, or Government-Supported hospitals to provide facilities for senior citizens. It outlines the responsibilities of children who are set to inherit and manage their property, ensuring they are

held accountable for their welfare. If they fail to do so, provisions for penalties are included in the Bill for them. I am mentioning this because we are addressing other issues alongside the problems of senior citizens and parents, whether it's chronic illness, dementia, or Alzheimer's. When providing facilities to the elderly people, these provisions can also address the issues faced by senior citizens. The provisions of law for them should be at the SDM level. There should be legal assistance to fix responsibility at the SDM level for them because those designated to inherit their property will also need to care for them.

The Hon. Member has suggested establishing old age homes. The Government has already provisioned in the Bill, as stipulated in the legislation, that all such responsibilities are fixed with the State Governments. Each State Government will establish old age homes in a phased manner within their reach and will follow as deemed necessary, commencing with at least one such facility in each district, capable of accommodating a minimum of 150 senior citizens.

For elderly, there already exists legislation pertaining to their accommodation, which has been incorporated therein. In their old age Orientation Programme, which has been operational since 1992, the primary objective of this scheme is to provide proactive facilities such shelter, food, medical care, caregiving, and recreational as opportunities for elderly individuals, while also enhancing their quality of life through encouragement, as stipulated therein. Under this scheme, whether they are State Governments, NGO, Panchayati Raj Institutions, or local bodies, the Government provides 90 percent financial assistance to enable them to serve elderly individuals. It includes old age homes, day-care centres, mobile medical vans, relief and care homes, continuously operational care homes, physiotherapy clinics, helplines, and information centres, for which they receive grants from the Ministry of Social Justice.

I would like to say that the concerns of Shri Mahatab ji are already being addressed by the Government. I understand their concerns are valid, and since the Government is already working towards this, I do not believe there is a need for a new Bill specifically for this.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now Dr. Satya Pal Singh may speak for two minutes because the Minister is going to reply at 5.30 p.m.

[English]

DR. SATYA PAL SINGH (BAGHPAT): Sir, I thank you very much for giving me time to speak on this Bill.

At the outset, I would like to congratulate hon. Member Shri Bhatruhari Mahtab for two reasons. First, he has thought and brought a Bill about the senior citizens. Second, I have got an opportunity to speak. Otherwise, I am not getting the opportunity to speak in Parliament. I am sure that Deputy Speaker Sir will allow me to speak for few minutes because I will be touching some fundamental points about health.

[Translation]

This has been the history of this country, which Mahatma Gandhi spoke about in Ram Rajya.

" Daihik Daivik Bhautik Tapa,

Ram Rajya Kahu Nahi Jata."

There was no ailment of any kind there, neither physical nor mental. What was the reason for this? Within this country, there existed holistic thinking; narrow-minded thinking did not exist. Today, as specialisation progresses, if a disease manifests in the leaves, we seek its treatment rather than searching for its root cause. If accidents occur

on the road, ambulances should be deployed on highways to swiftly transport patients to hospitals. However, we do not engage in considerations regarding how accidents on the road can be prevented. This is not a matter concerning cosmetic treatment. We enact laws for children, the elderly people, adults; enactment of legislating for every section is not a panacea. In our country, the law has already established this, what is the need for it? Firstly, it was mentioned that Hon. Ministers stated that in 2007, a new law was introduced stipulating penalties for those who neglect parental care. It's an unfortunate matter. We talk about building old age homes. If we educate our children in schools and colleges that our parents are like gods. "Matri Devo Bhava: Pitru Devo Bhava (Mother is god, father is god)." This is the culture of this country. If this is instilled in the minds of children, there would be no need to build old-age homes, nor there a necessity to invest crores of rupees into it. If this is communicated to children and society, a holistic health policy implemented in this country, would not be necessary. "Sharira Vyadhi Mandiram." Today, children, youth, and the elderly people are unwell; diseases are prevalent everywhere. The greater the number of hospitals and doctors, the higher the prevalence of diseases. There is no shortage of hospitals to seek treatment.

The era of specialists is arriving everywhere. Somewhere we have committed wrong. The Hon. Minister is present in the House. I request that tunnel-minded thinking will not lead to constructive outcomes. As per the report of the WHO India will become the world capital for diabetes, heart, kidney patients by the year 2025. As diseases continue to rise, we are moving away from addressing fundamental issues and instead of focusing on matters that are causing disruption. We do not currently inform children about what is required to maintain a healthy lifestyle in schools and colleges. What type of diet one should follow, and how one should live? Thousands of years ago, the Bhagavad Gita stated: Yukta āhārah vihārasya, yuktā chestyā karmāsya, yuktā swapnābodhasyah, yogo bhavatih duhkhah. If our diet is balanced, our physical activity is balanced, and our sleep patterns are balanced, then a person can stay away from sorrows and I will just take two minutes. In today's times, there is a diseases. requirement for specialists and medication for every matter. I will just quote Shri J.R.D. Tata. He wrote a Foreword to one health book. He mentions there:

[English]

"If you fall sick, go to the doctor, get his prescription and pay his charges because the doctor has to survive. Take his

prescription, go to the chemist, purchase the medicine, and pay the bill because the chemist has to survive. Bring the medicines to home but do not take it because you have to survive."

[Translation]

Without medicines, can we survive or remain healthy? What kind of policy should we have? In our scriptures, it is stated: Pragyāḥ aparādhohī mūlam sarva rogaņam. If our children are informed that there are inconsistencies in our thinking and understanding. We should rise early in the morning. What should we eat? I was reading a report on dementia, which stated that those who eat non-vegetarian food are mostly affected by it. We should conduct research on this subject. If you go to the Internet, you can find out that in America, every year, around one million Americans are turning vegetarian not because of any religious or spiritual reason, but they are turning vegetarian because of medical reasons. On the one hand, we advocate against driving after consuming alcohol. When a person drives under the influence of alcohol, he can cause an accident and harm himself and others. On one hand, our policy dictates this, while on the other hand, we manufacture alcohol. I just wanted to request the Minister our country does not require any new law regarding our health policy;

what we need is improvement and trust in our existing policy. Thank you.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, you have to complete your speech within three minutes because at exactly 5.30 p.m., the Minister will give the reply.

[Translation]

SHRI ASHWINI KUMAR CHOUBEY (BUXAR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, God has bestowed upon humanity this physical form. We acknowledge that this body is composed of the five elements—earth, water, fire, ether, and air. The body is made up of these five elements. I wish to congratulate Mr. Mahatab for bringing this Bill for the elderly and senior citizens. I will present my concise views before the House. I desire to highlight to you, the entire nation, and the world the true state of affairs in our society. When I was the Health Minister in the Bihar Government, I once travelled to London for a study. In London, I visited a ward for the elderly people where shelter arrangements were in place. Our colleague seated beside me has rightly stated that there is no need for such shelter arrangements here. But where is society heading today, as we consider our elders as burdens? Tomorrow, we also shall be elderly people. Yesterday, we were children. Today, we are parents, and in the future, we will also become grandparents, thus aging ourselves. Today, it is a matter of great concern in our country that we are moving towards Western culture. Our culture is being destroyed. Some of our former speakers have rightly stated that for the well-being of the body and the enhancement of its faculties, certain afflictions must be addressed.

One such affliction is dementia, which I observed in the London shelter. Out of 370 individuals, only two were afflicted. When I asked them, they said that their sons had brought them there and left them. There was a lot of pain in their words. They were deeply restless, hence now the old age home is transitioning from being an old age home to a Gold Age Home. There is a need to establish Gold Age Homes in every household. If we honour our parents and elderly, their respect will certainly increase. Regarding the disease that the entire House is deeply concerned about—dementia—Ayurveda has also aptly described it. Its origins may date back thousands of years, and its diagnosis has been available since that time. We are forgetting Yoga, Ayurveda, and Homeopathy. Allopathy is beneficial and necessary for surgery, but alongside Allopathy, let us not forget Ayurveda and Homeopathy. Ayurveda is very beneficial for this disease. I urge you and the Government, Hon. Health Minister, present in the House, to provide clear directives across the nation and at the State levels that geriatric wards be established assuredly. Alongside this, facilities offering Ayurveda, Homeopathy, and Allopathy should also be made available.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, the esteemed and experienced Hon. Member, Shri Bhartrihari Mahatab, had introduced this Bill and it was discussed upon. In total, 20 Hon. Members have discussed this Bill. Firstly, I would like to thank Mr. Mahatab for bringing a matter of great importance as a Private Member's Bill here, and drawing our attention to this issue. Furthermore, I would like to express my gratitude to all twenty members for their highly valuable contribution. Excellent suggestions have been put forward by them, and concerns have also been raised. It is very commendable that [English] mostly the young Members were speaking about the old-age people. That shows how much our representatives are concerned about the aging people. As a representative, this issue has been rightly taken up by all the Members. So, I must thank them for taking up this important issue. [Translation] In our society, parents are often regarded as equivalent to God. Respect for our parents, our elder people has been very much ingrained in our social system. That is why, we have been respecting them in our own way. We have endeavoured to act by viewing him as a deity, but with the passage of time, many changes have occurred.

Consequently, our understanding of various subjects has also evolved. The family, which was once a strong institution, has experienced significant dilutions over time. In the past, we had joint families, but now they have transitioned into single and smaller families. There has been a change in lifestyle, and consequently, with ageing, multidimensional problems have emerged. It is not only the health factor but also the social factor, the life-style and other factors put together that are giving this problem a different dimension. All these factors together are giving this issue a serious dimension. Therefore, health problems are an aspect that we will strive to resolve. As an Hon. Member mentioned, we use mobile phones. We live amidst vibrations, and what kind of vibrations they are, a study is currently underway on them. Similarly, the subject includes tension, the topic of eating, the topic of sleeping and all these things have had an impact on lifestyle. Initially, the issue we faced was communicable diseases. After Independence, we fought with communicable diseases. But now we are bearing the burden of non-communicable diseases equally. If we consider from a lifestyle perspective, hypertension, diabetes, and cancer are increasing. There is an inherent connection between these and lifestyle factors. Our tensions, our compulsions, and the way we

live our lives, including our diet, also have an impact on these. Therefore, it is necessary to adopt a holistic approach to this matter.

Often, when we discuss numbers, there is no doubt that the number of cancer patients is increasing the most in India, and the number of patients with diabetes and hypertension is also on the rise. Similarly, the number of patients with Alzheimer's and dementia will also increase and is increasing. This is also because, considering our population, the numbers will naturally increase, although it's not excessively large. When we examine disease rates globally in relation to population, they are increasing in accordance with international standards. Nevertheless, I am concerned about this matter.

I wish to assure the House through Mr. Mahtab and all the 20 Hon. Members who participated in this discussion that we are considering this matter very seriously and making efforts to address it.

The United Nations initiated the 'Principle for Older Persons' initiative. They issued a proclamation for ageing in the Assembly in 1991. Subsequently, all respective Governments endeavoured to advance it with thoughtful consideration. Here, the Ministry of Social Justice, under the leadership of Mr. Sampla, has also discussed it as a nodal ministry. In 1991, the National Policy on Older Persons which seeks to assure older persons that their concerns are national concerns

and they will not live unprotected, ignored and marginalised, was enunciated.

This policy came into effect in 1999. The proclamation was first made in 1991, and in 1999, the Ministry of Social Justice endeavoured to initiate the National Policy on Older Persons. In the enunciation of this, Sections 33 to 47 outline how these aspects were incorporated and what are the aspects which have to be taken into consideration so that the elder citizens cannot remain unprotected. Keeping that perspective in mind, this work was undertaken. Mr. Mahtab's statement was that those who are amending are disregarding, children disregarding parents should be taken as an offence. Keeping this in mind, in 2007 under the Maintenance and Welfare of the Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment provides for maintenance and welfare of the senior citizens by the children and the other stakeholders. Meaning, we also made it legally binding for people. In the year 2007, this Act was brought forth, in which maintenance of the senior citizens by their children is an act has to be taken care of.

Continuing further in Section 4(iii), it states, the obligation of the children to maintain his or her parents extends to the needs of the parents, either father or mother or both as the case may be, so that

such parents may lead a normal life. This was the protection clause which was given. And Section 24 gave the power that provides that punishment for abandonment and disregard of senior citizens can be up to three months imprisonment and Rs. 5,000 fine. It means that even a three-month jail term could be possible if we disregard it, if we do not take care of our parents. Alongside this, Ministry of Social Justice initiated a scheme called as Integrated Programme for Older Persons, which is from 2008. This scheme is for giving assistance to Panchayati Raj institutions, local bodies and NGOs and voluntary organisations for this purpose. If someone is neglecting his/her parents in some village, provisions have been made for empowerment through NGOs and the Panchayat System. One issue that is of very serious concern to you is that disregarding dementia patients, it should be considered as an offence. So, that part has been taken care of by the Government

We are also progressing forward on this issue.

You have placed another subject that is very important about the opening of the geriatric care units and promotion of the geriatric medicine education training and survey of dementia patients. All these provisions have been included in your original Act. I would like to mention that we in the Health Department initiated this National

Programme for Health Care of Elderly (NPHCE) 2010. This is a step forward which has been taken in 2010. It is not very far off but only in 2010 we have undertaken it. The programmes that we have implemented in this regard, that is setting up of regional geriatric centres in medical colleges, setting up of geriatric unit at district hospitals, establishment of rehabilitation unit at Community Health Centres, support to Primary Health Centres, training of provision of human resources, monitoring and supervision and IEC-Information, Education and Communication. These are the aspects, these are the components which have been taken care of in this regard. To address this, we have made efforts to provide rehabilitative services for elderly people. As of now, it is in 104 districts which is in 22 States and 2 Union Territories. We are also making efforts to further develop geriatric units which will go to 221 districts and in the 12th Five-Year Plan, a total of 325 districts are to be covered with geriatric care centres. That is what is in the process, 104 districts at the moment and 221 districts in coming times. In this regard, the facilities and services that we are providing include- regular dedicated OPD services on a daily basis by consultant physicians will be organised in the district hospitals. Geriatric ward with 10-bedded hall has to be provided in district hospitals along with facilities of laboratory, investigation and

provisions of medicines of geriatric medical health care. So, this is what we are going to give in the geriatric care unit. Similarly, there will be dedicated days for geriatric patients at community health centres twice a week. That is what we are going to do at CHCs. At PHCs, what we are trying to is, providing for geriatric clinic by trained medical officer and OPD for elderly will be run by medical officer who will be imparted training in geriatric health care. That will be done weekly. That is what we have planned and what we are trying to do.

You mentioned that we do not have a survey on this matter. We do not know what the position is. You have also said in your Bill that it has to be taken care of. For that, Longitudinal Ageing Study of India has been initiated by Indian Institute of Population Sciences with the assistance of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. It involves linking the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the National Institute on Aging, the National Institute of Health, and the United Nations Population. All these organisations have come together. We are conducting a survey to determine the health profiles, to ascertain the profile of the ageing people, what are the areas where interventions are needed and according to the priority what interventions are needed. That has to be taken care of. This is why, we have taken up

this work. Very soon, after having the health profiles and having the reports of the survey, we will be prioritising accordingly and we will do in a manner as much as possible.

As far as the question of training is concerned, which surely includes regional geriatric centres, the regional geriatric centres will be there, there will be two national centres also. We have started one in AIIMS and another in Madras Medical College.

The regional geriatric centres that will be established, they are going to have 20 beds each. These district hospitals which are the regional geriatric centres are 20 in number. In addition to the National Geriatric Centre, there will be 20 regional geriatric centres, so, it will come to 400 beds. If each centre has 30 beds, the total capacity across them will be developed to 600 beds. Alongside this, in addition, AIIMS and Madras Medical College are going to impart training also to post-graduates. Therefore, there will be two post-graduates with MD Degree will be produced by the regional geriatric centres each year. In the same manner, we will expand this initiative further, and we are committed to enlarging the component of our training, advancing it further.

As for the issue of dementia, it is also covered under the National Mental Health Policy training programme. We are prioritising

dementia within this framework and considering how best to provide support and health perspectives and whatever infrastructure has to be created will be taken care of. In the coming times, we will accelerate to further the progress, and this mental health programme will be expanded to cover all 241 districts of the country, and in this we will cover neurological diseases including dementia. The National Mental Health Programme, 1982 of my Ministry focuses on prevention and treatment of mental and neurological disorders. The district mental health programmes at present cover 241 districts. This is what we are going to start and we are going to do.

Specialised treatment for dementia is also being provided in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences; the Post-Graduate Institute, Chandigarh; NIMHANS, Bengaluru; and the Regional Centres.

Similarly, our regional centres will also provide for dementia, with arrangements being made for specialised treatment. Altogether, these initiatives are efforts from our health department, which we have endeavoured to undertake. And the four specific points that you have initiated in your Bill, first that it should be an offence and secondly for the training component, thirdly, we will increase the number of beds. fourthly, we will enhance research in this area, alongside increasing manpower for training. We have included all these

provisions in our health programmes. We have tried our best. I can only assure that in this direction the intensity is not going to be reduced but it may be increased. It is because this issue is on an increasing trend, and along with this increasing trend, our Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Modi Ji has also stated that people are considered elder citizens after the age of 60, but for those aged 75 plus we will have to take a special drive and we will have to take a special programme and policy. Under special policies in the Health Sector, we are looking at what type of treatment do people above 75 years of age need and what infrastructure they need and how we are going to provide for it. We are paying special attention to this. In the coming times, we will give it a significant place in our health policy and will place it in the public domain. After receiving its responses, we will add it.

I would tell Shri Mahtab that the Government is very serious on this issue. We totally share our concerns with him. Much is to be done and that is why I would only like to say that the Government expresses full agreement with you, and I have presented a brief overview of the work we have done on this matter, and we intend to further it. Therefore, I request that while keeping the Government's intention in mind, Hon. Mahatab Sir is requested to withdraw his Bill and provide

me the opportunity to accelerate this further. I hereby make this request.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Today, I am really thankful to all the Members, starting from Hukmdeo ji to Shri Nadda, Minister for Health, including Sharad ji, Nishikant ji, Karunakaran ji, Shrimati Teacher who was a Minister herself in Kerala and many-many Members who have actually participated in this debate.

Here I would just like to mention, Sir that the greatest danger that we face today is not from the strangers on the dark streets or violent men who might break into our houses. The sad truth is, the highest perils of brutal and persistent violence lurk within the intimate spaces of our homes and those who are close to us. That is what has actually irritated me to a great extent.

The Help Age India, which has made a lot of survey on this aspect has made a very stunning finding; every second elderly person, whom they had actually met for their research, spoke to testify to suffering abuse within their families. India is home to, as we have said, more than 100 million elderly people today. Their number is likely to increase three-fold in another three decades. The abuse elders report is common across several classes. It is not only restricted to the poor but also to the rich and also in the cities, not only in the villages. Four

in ten old people testify to verbal abuse; three to neglect and a third to disrespect and one in five recounts enduring such abuse almost daily. Six in ten report the daughter-in-law, and almost equal number of son, as the major sources of abuse against them. Just 7 per cent daughters are abusive of their parents and there are no grandchildren in the list. This is the report which will come ultimately of the survey that you are going to do. Grand children always love their grandparents.

India was a place, 'was a place', where we had people living together in a composite family. That is how the respect was shown to elders and care was taken of the children. Because of the nuclear family and the tradition of that family is breaking, we are facing this problem which was said, is a livelihood problem. In many villages, I hope Shri Sangla is visiting villages so also you, Sir, I have seen desperately poor households migrating for work into the cities leaving their old parents behind to beg or invisibly die of hunger. I try not to judge them. Their parents mostly do not as well, as because of their desperation of what their children want, they do not tell to others. They live their life to themselves in dignity and in a way what they feel is dignity to them. Our self-image in India is of a people who lay less in store by material pursuits and uphold the institution of the family. India is changing as has been told. Everywhere we are

witnessing it. The only thing is that we have to recognise it. Landscape is changing and landscape of human relations is changing both in urban and rural areas. Roughly 6.5 per cent of India's population suffer from some form of mental illness. Mental health treatment carries a social stigma and because of this stigma, as Mr. Nishikant mentioned in his statement is associated with mental illness and the older people suffer more. Care is available only in a very few cities.

The Hon. Minister has just mentioned that these are all forthcoming. Tell me sincerely, what is the position in this year's Budget? Do you not need more support? We will be with you. The Ministry of Health needs adequate support from the Government. What has happened? This is one of the major problems which this country is going to face.

I would not dwell more into that aspect but personally I would say, as I had mentioned in my Bill, that there are two aspects. One is the social aspect and one is the health care aspect. Tamil Nadu has done yeoman's service. Here I would just quote one instance. In Tamil Nadu where the scheme is being privately run by an NGO, many elderly are benefiting, beaming with self-assurance and some are recovering from withdrawal symptoms. The organisers of the voluntary scheme operating in 30 villages collect Rs.400 per month

from donors to feed one old person with a known meal every day. You may calculate it at national level. We are providing Mid-Day Meal to the children so that they can come to the schools and study. There are many older persons in villages and even in cities who need mid-day meal. My suggestion would be that the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment need to take care of this and think about it.

Similarly, as I had suggested, there is a need for day care. When the husband and wife go to do a little bit of job to earn their livelihood, they leave the parents behind. They need care and attention. In cities, we can form that type of care and in Panchayats also we can form that type of care centres. That was my intention. But I am really happy and obliged that at least this attention has been drawn for the senior citizens. I am yet to enter that stage but before I enter that stage, I should be prepared mentally and physically. I need the society to be aware, and the Government so also the elected persons to be aware.

With these words, as the attention of the Government has been drawn and as the concern of the Minister and the Government has been expressed in this House, I hope in very near future major steps would be taken, I seek your permission to withdraw the Bill.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As Shri Mahtab has said, in Tamil Nadu the elderly people are given free meals. Apart from that, even

though the Central Government gives Rs.200 per month as pension, the State Government is giving Rs.1000 per month to senior citizens. This is what he and all other Members want.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Sir, I withdraw the Bill.

18.00 hrs

[English]

COMPULSORY VOTING BILL, 2014

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up item no. 63.

Shri Janardan Singh 'Sigriwal'.

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL (MAHARAJGANJ):

Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to propose:

'That the Compulsory Voting Bill, 2014 be considered.'

I express my gratitude to you for granting me the opportunity to discuss the Compulsory Voting Bill, 2014 and also for allowing me to speak on it.

India is the world's largest democratic country. Over time, its vitality has steadily increased. The Election Commission of India is an independent constitutional institution. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Janardan Singh 'Sigriwal' you can continue your speech next time.

18.01 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, March 16/Phalguna 25, 1936 (Saka).