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Eighth Session

(Sixteenth Lok Sabha)



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NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, April 29, 2016/Vaisakha 9, 1938 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[HON. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER**Congratulations to the Scientists and Technologists of
ISRO on successful launch of Seventh Navigation Satellite
System***[English]*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, our country successfully launched the seventh navigation satellite of the series, the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS-1G) through Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C33) from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh on 28th April, 2016. With this launch, India would successfully establish its own navigation satellite system.

We are extremely proud of this accomplishment by our space scientists.

The House conveys its congratulations to the Scientists and Technologists of the Indian Space Research Organisation and wishes them success in all their future endeavours.

11.02 hours***ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS****(Q. 81)***[Translation]*

SHRI NANA PATOLE: Madam Speaker, through you, I want to put a very important question before the Government. The Government has enacted a new comprehensive legislation, the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Taxation Act, 2015, which has come into effect from 01.07.2015 specifically to deal more effectively with the issue of black money stashed abroad. I have raised the question with the intention to show how agriculture income is being over reported. In the past, it was mainly businessmen who were underreporting for tax evasion, and that's still going on today. The Hon'ble Minister of Finance also highlighted that incidents of tax evasion are occurring by showing fake agriculture income. At present, some farmers in the country reported their agriculture income in millions or in billions during the financial 2011- 2012, 2012-2013 and evaded tax, this incident of tax evasion has been called as tax fraud. This is being pointed out as a way of money laundering. My question is, what measures have the government taken to prevent tax evasion, which is a fraudulent crime against the country? Through the House, I want to know in the public interest whether the government has investigated such criminal cases at the central and state levels so far? If yes, what is the state-wise breakdown of the accused? ...*(Interruptions)* How many people among them have been legally prosecuted and punished?...*(Interruptions)*

* 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: He will be given a chance to ask second supplementary question. Please sit for now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, as the Hon. MP himself said, he has raised a very important issue. I want to assure Hon. Members through you that the steps we are taking against tax evasion, I would say, are revolutionary in nature. There are three to four aspects of this problem that I would like to explain comprehensively. First off, we need to recognise that we can definitely boost tax collection, and we have also seen an increase. If we want to increase tax collection, simply expanding the tax base isn't enough. We have to work on improving compliance, remove the deficiencies and prevent the tax evasion. Many people raise the point that only 3 or 4 percent of the people are paying taxes today. This is a misconception. I want to present some figures before you. During the previous government, there were about 5 crore taxpayers, which has now increased to 5.8 crore. If we look at 5.8 crore taxpayers, we should not view them in context of 1.25 billion countrymen. We should think how many households can pay tax. There are around 25 crore households. There are 18 crore rural households where agricultural income is not taxed, about 1 crore rural households are actually in position to pay tax. There are nearly 7 crores urban households at present, out of them more than half of the households cannot pay tax. If we look at the addressable taxpayer population, how much could it be? Today, if you ask experts, they will say that about 4-6 crore people are eligible taxpayers in this country, 5.8 crore people have come into the tax net, if there is a gap, it is mostly in small farms,—about 50% eligible small farms are paying tax, and rest 50% are not paying any tax. Our focus is on them so that tax evasion could be prevented. Whether it's direct or indirect taxes, our focus is to increase tax base as well as strengthen the compliance. Significant actions are being taken. For instance, prosecution rate has increased significantly. If one compares search and seizure action taken during the present

government with that of previous government, significant increase will be noticed. Nowadays, instead of jumping straight to prosecution for direct tax evasion, we're opting for compounding, which has actually raised our collections by about 30%. If we talk about indirect tax, then the increase in central excise and service tax is about 66% and customs duties are also on rise. There has been increase in gold smuggling in the country; and more than 600 prosecutions have been launched for violation of Customs law. Whether it is to prevent tax evasion, to bring more people in tax net, or ensuring compliance, our government is taking stringent actions to address these issues.

SHRI NANA PATOLE: Madam Speaker, I would like to the notice of the Hon'ble Minister the reply given by the Minister of Agriculture to the Unstarred Question, Question No. 168 in 2015, in which it was told that the National Sample Survey Organisation carried out a survey in some States. The result showed that the monthly income of farmers in Maharashtra was around Rs. 7000, Punjab Rs. 18,000, and Bihar Rs. 3500. Now, there is my simple question. I do not go into whether the survey conducted through the National Sample Survey Organisation is also not entirely accurate or not. If farmers are supposedly earning millions of rupees, then why are so many committing suicides? Some farmhouses, some big businessmen, and even some politicians are involved in this fraud. They hide black money by reporting higher agriculture income. Against how many such people the government has taken action, because it boosts GDP? Farmers do not receive the benefits they should, and are committing suicide on a large scale. That's what I really want to ask the Hon'ble Minister. Let the Hon'ble Minister respond to this.

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, the Hon. MP is absolutely right; we all agree that we need to increase expenditure in rural areas. The Budget also shows that more funds are being invested in rural areas. To increase that expenditure, tax collection needs to be increased. The Hon. Member's opinion is

that tax evasion is being done by reporting agricultural income. Income is being concealed under the guise of agriculture income.

Madam Speaker, I want to assure him that if you look into the SECC data, you will find that the monthly income of 91.7 percent of rural household holders is less than Rs. 10 thousand, and their agricultural income is even lower. Now, we know through income tax data that agricultural income around Rs. 15 thousand crore is being declared every year. We have conducted extensive investigations into this matter, including thorough searches and seizure operations, as well as numerous investigations. We conclude that agricultural income does not appear unusually high. In the country, there's talk in the country about a lot of money being hidden through agricultural income, but we don't perceive it that way.

Madam, you have to remember that the expenditure of this Government is about 18-19 lakh crores, out of which Rs. 15, 20 or 30 thousand crores is not as significant. There are areas like foreign black money, domestic black money, or trade-based money laundering where we are focussing on compliance activities. Our opinion is that these areas have high potential for tax evasion. Tax evasion on agricultural income is likely to be significantly low. This is opinion is also shared by our experts and investigators.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel – not present

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: Hon. Speaker Madam, the reply given by the Hon'ble Minister covers tax evasion along with money laundering...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You have been an MP before as well. You are not expected to behave like this. If you want to ask a question, just say so, and I will allow

you to ask a supplementary question. But raise your hand, speak, and I'll definitely give you time to ask a supplementary question, but it's not the right way to stand in the middle of the proceeding and making noise. If you continue like this, I won't allow you to speak. Please mind you're the manners first.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel – not present

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: Hon. Speaker Madam, the reply given by the Hon'ble Minister includes tax evasion along with money laundering...*(Interruptions)*...

HON. SPEAKER: You have been an MP before also. You should not behave like this. If you want to ask a question, you just say, and I will be allowed to ask you a supplementary question. But raise your hand, speak, and I'll definitely give you time to ask a supplementary question, but it's not right to stand in between and create noise. In this way, I won't allow you to speak. Understand the manner, please.

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: Madam Speaker, the answer of the question given by the Hon'ble Minister Sir talks about tax avoidance, money laundering, both internal and external. Therefore, I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister ,as you mentioned about external and internal money laundering and the parking of scam money, currently, new revelations have come to light, such as the leaks from the Panama Papers and the existence of tax havens. From these, it was discovered how a son of a former Hon'ble Minister invested income of his father in companies like Sequoia Capital who bought 30,000 shares of Vasan Healthcare worth's. 100 crore at Rs. 7500 a unit from Advantage Strategic Consulting, and four different people executed wills in the name of his granddaughter...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You better to ask your question.

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister Sir that Income Tax Authorities and ED have conducted some investigation in all these

cases. There have been some reports in the media about this matter. Like our Ministers in Maharashtra at that time ...(*Interruptions*)...*, an action was taken, he went to jail.... (*Interruptions*)...

HON. SPEAKER: You can't take names name like this. His name cannot be taken here. You're smart, why do you take someone's name when you know you shouldn't? The name won't go on record.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Hon. Speaker Madam, in response to the question of the Hon. Member, I would only like to tell that in all such cases which are coming to the notice of the Income Tax Department, the Department is issuing appropriate notice in accordance with the Income Tax Act and all other ancillary laws to each of them, and the Department is taking action according to these laws.

Madam, as far as the Hon. Member enquired about an individual case, I said earlier in the House, there is section 138 in the Income Tax Act which stipulates that any information about any proceeding cannot be made public until unless the case against the accused is finalised in the court. Therefore, the law itself made difficult to share information of an individual case. But whatever legal action is required in the mentioned case, are being taken by the Income Tax Department. Regarding Panama Papers also, notices have been given to everyone whose names figured in it and full information is being collected.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Madam Speaker, in the reply itself, instructions black money has been given regarding in recent past. As per the

* Not recorded.

direction of the Supreme Court when the UPA was in power, the first decision this Government had taken was for constituting the Special Investigation Team. Two former judges of the Supreme Court are in charge of this Special Investigation Team on Black Money under the chairmanship and vice-chairmanship of two former judges of the Hon. Supreme Court of India.

It has been around two years since the setting up of SIT. As far as I believe it is not a permanent body which will continue to exist and there was certain mandate before the Special Investigating Team. [Translation] After getting information about black money, will the SIT give suggestion to the government on what action should be taken against the unaccounted money stashed in the country as well as in foreign accounts? I want to ask whether the SIT has given any suggestion or report to the government or the Supreme Court regarding unaccounted money, tax evasion, money parked outside?

[English]

Secondly, has SIT suggested what new law is to be enacted which will minimise the creation of black money in the country?

SHRI JAYANT SINHA: Madam Speaker, we have received a wide set of recommendations from the SIT, which, of course, the Hon. Member has noted was constituted and which was one of the first actions of this Government. The recommendations have been included and efforts have been undertaken through the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, which was passed in this august House and which, of course, has resulted in a certain level of compliance. There has been a series of investigations and it is because of that set of disclosures which we got through HSBC as well as through the International Committee of Journalists and most recent has been the Panama Papers, as Hon. Finance Minister has indicated, notices have already been sent out. So, as far as actions undertaken on foreign

black money are concerned, we have benefited greatly from the suggestions that they have provided.

As far as domestic black money is concerned, a number of suggestions have been provided there including the disclosure of PAN Card for Rs. 2 lakh, restrictions on real estate, which we have implemented, fair market value assessment on certain transactions both for real estate as well as listed and unlisted assets. Then, of course, disclosure requirement themselves have been stepped up in income tax returns. So, you can see that SIT is doing a very commendable job in terms of providing us a number of suggestions on what we can do to address foreign and domestic black money and the stock of black money that exists in this country plus the flow the black money which we are also compressing.

(Q. 82)

SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving me this opportunity. The Minister has given a very elaborate reply regarding the question that has been pushed. I thank the Minister for his reply. But in the entire reply I see that there is a coordination gap between the States and the Centre.

To stop the practice of medication like freely available OTC medicines prescription by chemists, fertile ground for wrong dose combinations, development of microbial resistance etc. , the ban on Fixed Dose Combination (FDC) drugs by the Union Government is a welcome step because it is preventing the people from being more exposed to side effects. It would result in some inconvenience in the beginning but at a later stage it would be highly beneficial.

I feel that in the answer there is a lack of coordination between the State mechanism and the Union Government. I wish to know from the Hon'ble Minister, through you, Madam, whether there is a special mechanism being worked out by the Union Government to work in coordination with the States because the States give licences for manufacturing units whereas final product licence has to be given by the Union Government or the Central Drug Department. I would like to know from the Minister whether there is a mechanism that is being formulated by the Union Government in coordination with the State Governments so that we produce qualitative drugs.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Madam, what the Hon. Member has said is correct because at one point of time due to lack of coordination this situation came where the State licensing authorities started giving licences, which was primarily the duty of the Central Drug Control and the Director General of DCGI. The DCGI is the sole agency which has to give the licences. It is because of the coordination between the two that the Central Drug Controller

Organisation came into action and these drugs were found out and licences for 344 fixed dose drug combinations were cancelled.

At this point of time, we are also trying to strengthen the State Drug Control Authority and for that, a comprehensive programme has been made and approximately Rs. 1,700 crore are being spent on this where we are going to strengthen it and see to it that we work in coordination with each other.

It is because of the coordination only that this result has come now. Further, we will have more coordination.

SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA: I would like to thank the Hon'ble Minister for his reply.

Secondly, because of this ban on FDC drugs, in the rural and tribal areas, there will be a scarcity of drugs which are available there. Anyhow, the matter is *sub judice* as of now, but is there a mechanism to provide fresh drugs to the health centres in the tribal and rural areas so that the ultimate people do not suffer?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: We are taking care to see that the people do not suffer. Frankly speaking, there are drugs available other than these drugs and they are very much in the market. The alternatives are there. So, they are not going to suffer as far as this aspect is concerned.

I would say that these drugs were needed. Every FDC is not wrong. FDCs are required for malaria, HIV, tuberculosis and other diseases including diabetes, but there are FDCs which are harmful to the patients and for that only, we have cancelled the licences for 344 drugs.

[Translation]

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI: Hon. Madam Speaker, through you I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister what special efforts are being done to ensure the safety of consumers as asked in part 'D' of Question 82. A research conducted

in Britain shows that sodium bicarbonate is used as food preservative in all canned foods. The research has revealed that the use of sodium bicarbonate is contributing to a 70 percent increase in fatal diseases like cancer.

I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister what alternative chemical will he suggest instead of it

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Hon. Speaker ji, the question of the Hon. Member is quite different from the original question. His query is related to the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India. Whatever the Hon. Member has asked we will definitely try to look into his concern.

[English]

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Hon'ble Minister on issuing this gazette notification on 10th March of this year prohibiting the manufacture for sale, sale and distribution for human use of these 344 FDC drugs.

As per the reply, the Government had taken necessary steps while issuing this gazette notification. As per the reply, earlier a committee was constituted and ultimately, out of 1,200 such drugs only 344 were identified and this gazette notification was issued.

As per the reply, various manufacturers have filed writ petitions in various courts across the country. Because of the stay orders issued by different High Courts, this issue cannot be resolved and the gazette notification, which was issued by the Government, will not come into force. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister whether they are filing any petition before the Supreme Court in order to transfer all these cases and let one court hear and dispose of this case as early as possible. I would like to know from the Minister whether such steps are being taken or not.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: This is a good suggestion and we can certainly consider it, but we are taking all legal recourse which is needed. This suggestion is also well taken.

DR. MRIGANKA MAHATO: Madam, it is found that for a long time, a fixed dose combination drug is effectively and randomly used by the practitioners, but it has also been found that after using it over a period of one, two or three years, it is harmful to the humans.

My suggestion to the Minister is that some sort of orientation programme should be done by distinguished professors and pharmacologists of central institutions like AIIMS or medical colleges so that those doctors who are practising in the periphery get knowledge of these Fixed Drug Combinations which are harmful in order to ensure that they are not used in future.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: The suggestion is well taken.

(Q. 83)*[Translation]*

SHRI NITYANAND RAI: Madam Speaker, this is a very important question. We can all be safe only when the country is safe. Looking at the attitude of India's neighbouring countries, it seems that India should be self-reliant in its defence production. The current global turmoil creates uncertainty about who may be a friend or foe, and when. India's policy is to eradicate terrorism and elevate its glory.

The response given by the Hon'ble Minister through you to the House is somewhat unclear. My question is, has the country achieved self-reliance in defence production? The minister replied that we are making efforts. The minister has made commendable efforts, and we also want to thank him for it. However I'm curious—based on what's being done, when can we actually expect to be self-reliant? Could the minister provide clarity on this?

[English]

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: I would like to reply to the Hon. Member by saying that achieving 100 per cent is not possible because the Defence requirements have two basic constraints. One, it is very small in number. So, sometimes, economically, it may not be possible or desirable also to manufacture certain components, particularly electronic components in very small number. If you have to manufacture them, the cost would be too high. So, certain components need not be manufactured here when they are particularly available in the open market. Instead of that, we can buy them and keep them in stock, if required, for a period three or five years. In this regard, we have taken many steps and we have built up the stock level of items which are required in small number.

As far as basic technologies and ammunition are concerned, we are trying to achieve self-sufficiency. If a general guess is allowed, I would say that

achieving about 70 per cent self-sufficiency is a very high level of self-sufficiency because certain sectors, like aviation, have a developed global supply chain.

[Translation]

SHRI NITYANAND RAI: Madam Speaker, we are on the path towards self-reliance. Only 30 percent remains; let's hope that we will achieve self-reliance very soon.

My question was whether the government has set any targets for the import of defence equipment for the current year and the next two years. The Minister has responded to this. One more thing 'Make in India' given priority and project with provisions not exceeding Rs. 10 crore for government funded and Rs. 3 crores for MSMEs. There is a slight difference. For fixing targets, Rs. 13 crores alone is sufficient. However, once the target is fixed and identified, what is the government's plan to achieve it?

[English]

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: Madam, first of all, I would like to inform the Member that if he sees the figures, which he has before him, about reduction in actual purchases from foreign vendors, it has come down from 52.47 per cent to 36.30 per cent over the last three years.

I would also like to indicate to the Hon. Member that these are the actual purchases which have happened. The orders which have been issued during the last three years show that we have improved the value of Indian vendors from 46 per cent to 64 per cent besides increasing the quantum of orders also. This is as far as the actual purchases that are happening are concerned.

As far as the concept that you have raised, I think, there is a slight misunderstanding about what he is raising. In order to encourage local, medium and small industries, we have come out with the latest DPP 2016, which also

provides for Make in India projects. There are two Make in India projects. Make-I is the Government financed projects. The government gives him money up to 90 percent and gives a guarantee if it is developed properly and approved within two years, we will procure it. There is another category where industries can themselves come forward saying that they will develop this product. That is Make-II where the Government does not fund the development but the Government gives guarantee of purchase if it is done properly by them. They have to bear the expenses. In the case of Make-I projects, a limit of Rs. 10 crore has been set up for giving the project on priority to small and medium scale industries. [Translation] Ten crore rupees is not the total value. If the development cost is over to Rs. 10 crore, then government support will be given. Make-2, which is to be made by the industry itself, will have a project of up to three crore rupees, then it will be reserved for small scale.

[English]

SHRI ABHIJIT MUKHERJEE: Madam, I thank you for giving me the chance. In fact, I would ask a supplementary question to the Hon'ble Minister . Do we manufacture sufficient rifles, maybe of SLR, AK-47 and AK-57? Is there any inter-changeability of bullet for ammunition? I would like to know whether the same bullet can be fired by other machines. Are we self-sufficient in that?

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: He should ask a separate question because it is a very wide question. But I can say that we manufacture INSAS rifles. We have improved versions of it. There are various types of rifles and guns. Even otherwise also, if the Hon. Member writes to me, I will give him the detailed information.

As far as bullet is concerned, I think, a particular bore bullet can be used by different guns.

[Translation]

SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA: Madam Speaker, although modern weapons are being purchased for defence, yet border areas pose a problem to national security. I want to bring to the notice of the Hon'ble Minister that after the 1971 war, the land of the farmer in border areas was acquired for fencing the border but till now the farmers have not received the arrears of their compensation, I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister through you when this dues of the farmers will be cleared.

HON. SPEAKER: Your question does not relate to the original question.

SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA: Madam Speaker, this question is still related to Defence.

I want to ask the Minister when the outstanding money of the farmers concerned will be paid.

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: If the Hon. Member could ask an area specific case, I may be able to give reply because the entire border is more than 15 thousand kilometres long.

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: Madam, I asked this question to the Hon'ble Minister before—and I am going over it again. I come from the Nalanda, Parliamentary Constituency in Bihar. During the government of the hon. Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a state-of-the-art ordnance factory was established in Rajgir. Only one unit of it has been started, and three units have not yet begun. Hon'ble Minister also promised last year that he would look into it and get it started as well. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister when he will get all four units of the factory started?

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: Madam, there are not only four, but more units. I will not go into the details of the project. But I will say that the project has begun to advance. Tenders or RFPs have been issued for procurement to address the deficiency, different units have different targets. My memory is still green that all machines should have operational by 2019. But we have not

stopped. We have started producing from that unit. The rest of the goods which are not being manufactured there, have been brought from units elsewhere and the BMC (Bimodular Charge) units have started being manufactured there. I am pleased to say that first production of first batch 1900 units have been supplied to the Army on March 31; and the Army has approved units and placed the bulk order of 50,000 units. We want to immediately reach a production of two lakh in a year. After the machinery is built, its capacity will be eight lakh units.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Hon. Speaker Madam, there is no second opinion that our country has to be self-reliant in the field of defence. But it is also being seen that our neighbour is rapidly moving forward in the arms race since this government came into power two years ago. On one hand America is selling F-16 to Pakistan, on the other hand, China is selling arms to Pakistan.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You please come to the question. You are not supposed to give a speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: What strategy does the Government have to maintain our control on neighbouring country in the arms race? Considering how the arms race is intensifying, it is crucial for our government to take charge of the situation. In the past, we ignored Pakistan as an insignificant, but now it is emerging from that confinement and participating in arms trade with various nations.

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: Madam, the hon. Member should ask a fresh question in this regard, and then I will give a detailed reply. Currently, the discussion is on how to increase defence production in our country itself.

(Q. 84)

SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY: Hon. Speaker Madam, an approval for construction of AIIMS in various parts of the country under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana, was given in the year 2014-15. Acceding the demand of the MPs and considering the situation of Uttar Pradesh, the establishment of AIIMS in Gorakhpur was also announced. Two years have passed since its announcement, and the Minister has recently responded that the state government has yet to meet certain conditions required for Gorakhpur AIIMS.

I want to ask the Minister although two years have passed since then, yet situation is pretty tense there. People have made our life hell; and the demand is getting louder. Therefore, I would like to ask the Hon'ble Minister about the conditions that the Government of Uttar Pradesh has not yet met. When will the funds be provided for construction? Though Gorakhpur has central position and is a suitable place for AIIMS as the people from Bihar and Nepal also are also working here. At the same time, I want to give information to the Hon'ble Minister that if there are problems in arranging land in Gorakhpur, then 634 acres of NTC land is lying vacant in Maharajganj district. If he could take that into account, it would be beneficial. Can he consider that, it would be good? So, I would appreciate an answer from the Hon'ble Minister.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Hon. Speaker Madam, connectivity and availability of land are two significant issues in setting up of AIIMS, Gorakhpur. We have written a letter to the state government in this regard. The state government has given its reply on both these issues. The land identified by the state government lacks clarity. We sent another letter to the Hon. Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh the day before yesterday, requesting clarification about the identified land, so that we can proceed with the work. As far as the

question of funds is concerned, there is no issue regarding it. The day clarity is achieved on this matter, work will commence from that very day.

SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY: Madam Speaker, ten thousand patients are getting treatment in AIIMS, Delhi OPD every day. Six AIIMS—Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur, Raipur, Patna, Jodhpur, and Rishikesh have been made functional just a few days ago—where on average fifteen thousand to seven hundred and fifty patients are visiting OPD daily. If these presently functioning AIIMS have modern facilities similar to those in AIIMS, Delhi, the patient will not have to travel to Delhi for treatment. I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister when will these six AIIMS be equipped with modern facilities similar to those in AIIMS Delhi?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: This work is progressing rapidly. Institutions take time to grow. We are opening AIIMS with the faculty equivalent to that of AIIMS-Delhi. Therefore, a lot of care is being taken in faculty recruitment, so that the brand name of AIIMS is not diluted. We are going very fast. As far as infrastructure is concerned, it has been built. Most of the staff has been recruited, and remaining staff are being recruited. Interviews are constantly taking place. We are not diluting standards. We will bring in capable faculties.

SHRI NINONG ERING: Hon. Speaker Madam, AIIMS-like hospitals are being opened all over the country under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana. The North-Eastern States, be it Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur and Sikkim, have health centres and medical colleges. May I ask the hon. Health Minister why Arunachal Pradesh does not have such facilities. Last time also, I raised this subject under rule 377. There is a place called Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh where 200 acres of land is available. Surveys have been conducted, and submissions have also been made. The people of Arunachal Pradesh are lack healthcare facilities, I would appreciate it if the Hon'ble Minister could inform

us about the work will be done for setting up medical colleges or AIIMS like institute in my state?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: We will definitely work in this direction because the Hon. Prime Hon'ble Minister has a special focus on the North-East States, which we are aware of. Therefore, we are progressing in a phased manner.

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Hon. Speaker, first and foremost of all, I want to thank the Hon'ble Minister. Recently, a new AIIMS has been established in Bhopal as well. Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, the current Foreign Minister and I were members of the previous governing body. At that time, we raised the issue in writing that this project has marred with serious corruption. This is a significant project in the country, that requires serious attention, but no attention was paid to it at that time. I would like to thank the Hon'ble Minister for ordering an investigation into the corruption allegation once the issue was brought to his attention. The corruption allegation is being investigated.

Hon'ble Minister just mentioned the acute shortage of faculty being faced. Once the faculty equivalent to that of AIIMS, Delhi is obtained, the new AIIMS will be operational. I think there is a need for immediate action on this. There is heavy load of patients on AIIMS in Delhi, along with that, all MPs also face burden of patients. AIIMS in Bhopal as AIIMS in Delhi is in the middle of the city. You know this. Though it has been built on a good location; the patients visiting AIIMS are not getting proper treatment. Therefore, I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister that the amount of Rs. 820 crore, allocated for AIIMS, should be utilised properly. I want to know how much time it will take to have required faculty, machinery, and equipment of prescribed standards in this AIIMS.

SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR: All the work has also been completed in Patna's AIIMS, still there are no doctors.

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: There were some administrative problems in Bhopal's AIIMS. We have resolved those issues. The process of appointing a new director is underway. A Deputy Director is also being appointed there, and along with this, we have expedited the recruitment process there as well. The work of AIIMS Bhopal will progress rapidly.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: Sir, what about Patna AIIMS?

SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: The issue of Patna AIIMS also is covered in the above reply.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri P. K. Biju – not present;

Shrimati Jyoti Dhurve.

(Q. 85)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE: Hon. Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to put a question on an important subject.

AYUSH is the ancient health system of India which comprises many practices like Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy. It is our government led by the Hon. Prime Minister of this country has taken India and India's ancient yoga system into the spotlight. Epidemic and vector-borne diseases, maternal and child health care problems, and occasional community health problems terribly hit forest areas, Dalit areas, or Scheduled Tribe areas. AYUSH is a system that is ancient, and people in these areas always take advantage of their health from ancient methods. The concept of AYUSH Gram has been adopted by our Government, in which every village and block has to be selected for adopting the way and practice of the AYUSH lifestyle for their healthcare need. Will the Hon'ble Minister tell the present status of this selection process, and when will the selection process be completed? How does our Government plan to implement this programme to ensure that AYUSH to those venerable tribals, forest dwellers, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes at the grassroots level?

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Hon. Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member has raised a very important issue. The Ministry of AYUSH is seriously trying to implement it. Two issues have been raised by him. Our Ayush Gram scheme has started, focussing on school children, tribals, and other people. We've asked the states for their proposals, and they have begun to submit their proposals. We have initiated the scheme to provide treatment for school children, tribal people, and those who do not have access to medical facilities. I want to mention that we have launched this scheme in six states where we are integrating all medical

systems; we are going out in to the districts to check people for non-communicable diseases. If someone needs any medicine, they will be provided medicines or referred to a hospital on the basis of requirement. So far, we have covered six districts in six states. The effort of the Ministry of AYUSH is to reach every village, every home in this manner.

HON. SPEAKER: Do you have a second supplementary question?

[English]

SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE: No.

HON. SPEAKER: Okay, it is not necessary.

Dr. Tapas Mandal.

DR. TAPAS MANDAL: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The modification of recruitment rules for AYUSH doctors has been pending for a long time. My question to the Hon'ble Minister is this: When will the Ministry take up the matter on a priority basis to implement the modification of recruitment rules for AYUSH medical doctors?

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Madam Speaker, under the National AYUSH Mission or the National Health Mission, recruitment of all AYUSH doctors for Primary Health Centres or Community Health Centres or for District Hospitals has been started. I think at least more than 20,000 doctors have been given an opportunity in our National Health Mission, and the recruitment is still process is going on. We want that there should be an AYUSH doctor at every Primary Health Center, Community Health Center, and District Hospitals. We also want to have a separate department for AYUSH at every District Hospital, and our efforts to recruit more number of doctors continue.

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR: Madam, it is due to the efforts of the respected Hon. Prime Minister that Ayurveda, Yoga, Siddha, Naturopathy, and

Panchakarma have gained a lot of recognition. It is the result of the efforts of the Prime Hon'ble Minister that Yoga has gains an international recognition, many nations have adopted it and International Yoga Day is celebrated at global level. They believe that they can be global leader by promoting their traditional medicines and improving the standards and quality of medicines through scientific research. Today, Ayurvedic practices are not only popular in our country but also gaining popularity in many countries worldwide. A significant number of people from various nations come to Kerala for taking medical treatment through Ayurveda and naturopathy.

Though lot of efforts are being made for the advancement of allopathic medicine, but if someone looks at the condition of Ayurvedic hospitals across the country, these hospitals hardly seems to leave any impact on the people. I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister what steps will be taken to enhance cooperation with the state governments in promoting ayurveda and to modernizing and well equipping these hospitals.

SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK: Hon. Madam Speaker, our Ministry has started the AYUSH Mission; we've combined all the existing schemes from the Ministry of AYUSH into this mission. When it comes to renovating or upgrading government hospitals, we provide the necessary funds to the state governments. There are specific criteria for upgrades, and whatever financial support the state governments request for upgrading their district hospitals, we make sure to deliver accordingly. For all the governments that reached out for funding, we've fulfilled their requests. I am happy to say that we have spent about 97 percent of this year's allocation.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Rayapati Sambasiva Rao - Not present.

Shri Dushyant Chautala.

(Q. 86)

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA: Madam Speaker, as per the reply given by the Minister, it has been said that the capacity of FM transmitters in Hisar will be increased from six to ten megahertz. There is a Doordarshan Kendra built at a cost of crores of rupees. I have been constantly demanding that the Kisan Channel, a Government of India run programme, should be relayed from Hisar as a Veterinary and an Agriculture University are located in Hisar. I want to know from the Minister, through you, whether the government will take steps for relaying the Kisan Channel from Hisar through Doordarshan and upgrading that Doordarshan centre?

COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.): Madam Speaker, this question itself is an important question because Doordarshan and All India Radio broadcast both domestic and international news across the country through simple means. The Hon. Member has a question about Kisan TV. I would like to bring in his notice that Kisan TV makes its agriculture programs by visiting different areas, and similar programs can be produced on your area or Krishi Vigyan Kendra as well. Presently, the FM transmitter there is currently relaying programs of Prasar Bharati. However, in the future, this center could start airing such programs from there as well.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Madam Speaker, I, through you, would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister why Doordarshan is not seems as appealing as private channels these days? People have a misconception that if something is aired on Doordarshan; it is going to be news about the government in power. It's very good that highly sensitive news isn't shown on it. As my colleagues were saying that Doordarshan broadcast programme on farmers, agricultural schemes, or some other programmes. The majority of the people living in rural areas still tune to Doordarshan despite of various private channels

for watching these programmes. What is the reason that whenever any channel becomes government-run, it is labelled as a government channel and dismissed? Does the government has any plan to make it more appealing? Is there a plan to make it more engaging? Because honestly, when you've got a headache or you're feeling stressed, switching from those other private channels to Doordarshan can be really calming. Will Doordarshan ever get back that charm and appeal it used to have?

COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.): Madam Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank the Hon. Member for correctly assessing how news is broadcast on Doordarshan. She pointed out that only the news and the complete news are what we watch on Doordarshan. It is also true that we need to further strengthen our capabilities. Many modernization methods are being implemented for this purpose. Studios are being digitized. High-definition cameras are being introduced. New technology is being implemented in studio equipment, satellite transmission, terrestrial broadcasting equipment, etc. At the same time, regional news units are being formed. This is very important because news since news happens all over India, not just in Delhi. Therefore, the regional news units are being further strengthened. The selection process for officers and specialists is being improved. Their salaries are being increased. Along with that, a new policy is being introduced to enhance our entertainment segment, which will include selling more slots for shows. This means we'll see more professional programs and better producers getting involved. The modernization process is definitely moving forward!

SHRI MANOJ TIWARI: Madam Speaker, I also extend my thanks to Doordarshan for showing such news. But I want to know the annual budget of the Kisan Channel, and how much budget is needed to strengthen it further?

COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.): Madam Speaker, the simple answer is that Rs. 26 crore was given to the Kisan Channel for the year

2015-16, and allocation has been fully utilized. There won't be a shortage of funds. Funds are used in two parts: first, to modernize the equipment to boost the manpower of Kisan TV, and increase its resources. Secondly, the production cost of the programs is accounted for. Regarding both, I would like to say that their programs will be made better, and there will be no shortage of resources for that.

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Madam Speaker, generally, everyone in this country says that Hindustan lives in villages. The Kisan Channel has been started by the Government of India to showcase the voices of farmers. I want to know from the Minister of the Government of India, can we any provision asking other channel to allocate some times for rural sports played by the rural folk or youths?

Secondly, I want to express that I have no objection to any sport, but I do have some serious issues with how the Government of India handles things in this area. The Cricket players often think that they are created by God itself, rest, players of the rural players' are created by demigods. The kind of promotion needed to boost rural sports. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Do you want rural sports to be telecast on the Kisan Channel?

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH: Yes, Madam Speaker, rural sports, which are recognized in the Olympics, should be promoted. Cricket is not an official sport in the Olympics. Will provisions be made to broadcast those rural sports which are recognized in the Olympics, which enhance the country's prestige on all channels?

COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.): Madam, the Hon. Member has raised a very pertinent question. I would like to inform the Hon. Member that a Kabaddi league can be started, and we will also try to broadcast that Kabaddi league on Doordarshan Kisan. Along with that, all the reality shows

conducted so far have been city-based, but for the first time, we conducted a reality show of folk songs on DD Kisan. We organized a reality show on DD Kisan showcasing the kind of songs and music prevalent in villages.

HON. SPEAKER: It seems that **there is** good demand Kisan Channel.

COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.): There was also a question about whether we can persuade other channels. In my opinion, this is a market-driven exercise, and I would like to inform the House that several channels have started many programs such as 'Dekha Dekhi Rural India,' 'Gramin Bharat,' and various programs focused on farmers on the line of DD Kisan.

***WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

Starred Question Nos. 87 to 100

Unstarred Question Nos. 921 to 1150

*** 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.

12.00 hours**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

[English]

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

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Madam, Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table: -

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of Section 469 of the Companies Act, 2013: -

(i) The Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Appointment of Chairperson and Members, holding of meetings and provision for offices and officers) Rules, 2016 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 26(E) in Gazette of India dated 14th January, 2016.

(ii) The Companies (Meetings of Board and its Powers) Second Amendment Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 971(E) in Gazette of India dated 15th December, 2015.

(iii) The Companies (Audit and Auditors) Amendment Rules, 2015 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 972(E) in Gazette of India dated 15th December, 2015.

(iv) The Companies (Incorporation) Amendment Rules, 2016 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 99(E) in Gazette of India dated 22nd January, 2016.

(v) The Companies (Share Capital and Debentures) Amendment Rules, 2016 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 290(E) in Gazette of India dated 10th March, 2016.

(vi) The Companies (Incorporation) Second Amendment Rules, 2016 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 336(E) in Gazette of India dated 23rd March, 2016.

(vii) The Companies (Share Capital and Debentures) Second Amendment Rules, 2016 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 358(E) in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2016.

(viii) The Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) (Amendment) Rules, 2016 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 365(E) in Gazette of India dated 30th March, 2016.

(ix) The Companies (Accounting Standards) Amendment Rules, 2016 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 364(E) in Gazette of India dated 30th March, 2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4565/16/16]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of Section 470 of the Companies Act, 2013: -

(i) The Companies (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2016 published in Notification No. S. O. 1226(E) in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2016.

(ii) The Companies (Removal of Difficulties) Second Order, 2016 published in Notification No. S. O. 1227(E) in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4566/16/16]

(3) A copy of the Appellate Authority (Allowances payable to, and other terms and conditions of service of Chairperson and members and the manner of meeting expenditure of the Authority) Amendment Rules, 2016 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 337(E) in

Gazette of India dated 23rd March, 2016 under Section 30B of the Chartered Accountants Act, 1949.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4567/16/16]

(4) A copy of the Notification No. G. S. R. 328(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 22nd March, 2016 making certain amendments in the Notification No. G. S. R. 490(E) dated 13th July, 2007 under Section 40 of the Company Secretaries Act, 1980.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4568/16/16]

(5) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 63 of the Competition Act, 2002, as amended by Competition (Amendment) Act, 2007: -

(i) The Competition Commission of India (Procedure for Engagement of Experts and Professionals) Amendment Regulations, 2015 published in Notification No. A-12015/1/2015-HR/CCI in Gazette of India dated 27th June, 2015.

(ii) The Competition Commission of India (Procedure in regard to the transaction of business relating to combinations) Amendment Regulations, 2015 published in Notification No. F. No. CCI/CD/Amend/Comb. Regl. /2015 in Gazette of India dated 1st July, 2015.

(iii) The Competition Commission of India (Procedure in regard to the transaction of business relating to combinations) Amendment Regulations, 2016 published in Notification No. F. No. CCI/CD/Amend/Comb. Regl. /2016 in Gazette of India dated 8th January, 2016.

Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i) & (ii) of (5) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4569/16/16]

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table: -

(1) A copy of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under Section 14 of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990: -

- (i) Annual Report of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4570/16/16]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi, for the year

2014-2015.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4571/16/16]

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA): Madam Speaker, 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 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Academy of Medical Sciences (India), New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4572/16/16]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Medical Council of India, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4573/16/16]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Board of Examinations, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the

Government of the working of the National Board of Examinations, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4574/16/16]

- (7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 93 of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006: -

- (i) The Food Safety and Standards (Food Standards and Food Additives) (Amendment) Regulations, 2016 published in Notification No. 1-10(1)/Standards/SP(Fish and Fisheries Products)FSSAI-2013 in Gazette of India dated 15th January, 2016.
- (ii) The Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) (Amendment) Regulations, 2015 published in Notification No. F. No. 1-99/1/SP/contaminants/FSSAI/2009 in Gazette of India dated 12th November, 2015 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. F. No. 1-99/SP(contaminants)/FSSAI/2009 (English versions only) dated 12th February, 2016.
- (iii) The Food Safety and Standards (Contaminants, Toxins and Residues) (Amendment) Regulations, 2015 published in Notification No. F. No. 1-99/4/SP(Contaminants)/FSSAI/2014 in Gazette of India dated 12th November, 2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4575/16/16]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO**

INDERJIT SINGH): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions): -

- (i) Outcome Budget of the Directorate General Married Accommodation Project for the year 2016-2017.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4576/16/16]

- (ii) Outcome Budget of the Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme for the year 2016-2017.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4577/16/16]

- (iii) Outcome Budget of the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) for the year 2016-2017.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4578/16/16]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table: -

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata, for the year 2014-2015.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4579/16/16]

(3) A copy of the Homoeopathy (Post Graduate Degree Course) M. D. (Hom.) Amendment Regulations, 2015 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. No. 12-11/2010-CCH(Pt.) in Gazette of India dated 28th March, 2016 under sub-section (2) of Section 33 of the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 together with a corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. 12-13/2006-CCH(Pt. V) dated 28th March, 2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4580/16/16]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA): Madam Speaker, 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 Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015.

(ii) Annual Report of the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2014-2015, 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 4581/16/16]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 27 of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999: -

- (i) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Issuance of Capital by Indian Insurance Companies transacting Life Insurance business) Regulations, 2015 published in Notification No. F. No. IRDAI/Reg. /22/112/2015 in Gazette of India dated 23rd December, 2015.
- (ii) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Issuance of Capital by Indian Insurance Companies transacting Life Insurance Business) Regulations, 2015 published in Notification No. F. No. IRDAI/Reg. /21/111/2015 in Gazette of India dated 18th December, 2015.
- (iii) The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (Inspection and Fee for Supply of Copies of Returns) Regulations, 2015 published in Notification No. F. No. IRDAI/Reg. /2/114/2016 in Gazette of India dated 19th February, 2016.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4582/16/16]

(4) 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. 284(E) published in Gazette of India dated 8th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to levy definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of 'Phenol', originating in, or exported from the European Union, Singapore and Korea RP for a period of five years, pursuant to the final findings in anti-dumping investigations conducted by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties.

- (ii) G. S. R. 285(E) published in Gazette of India dated 8th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to levy anti-dumping duty on imports of 'polypropylene', originating in, or exported from the Singapore for a period of five years, pursuant to the final findings in anti-dumping investigations conducted by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties.
- (iii) G. S. R. 295(E) published in Gazette of India dated 11th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 27/2014-Cus. , (ADD) dated 13th June, 2014.
- (iv) G. S. R. 305(E) published in Gazette of India dated 15th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to impose definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of 'all kinds of plastic processing machines or injection moulding machines, also known as injection presses, having clamping force equal to or more than 40 tonnes, and equal to or less than 3200 tonnes, used for processing or moulding of plastic materials", originating in, or exported from Chinese Taipei, Philippines, Malaysia and Vietnam for a period of five years, based on final findings in anti-dumping investigations conducted by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties.
- (v) G. S. R. 360(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to levy definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of '2-Thyl Hexanol', originating in, or exported from the European Union, United States of America, Korea RP,

Chinese Taipei, Malaysia and Indonesia for a period of five years, pursuant to the final findings in anti-dumping investigations conducted by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties.

(vi) G. S. R. 362(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to levy definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of Tyre Curing Presses also known as Tyre Vulcanisers or Rubber Processing Machineries for tyres, excluding Six Day Light Curing Press or curing bi-cycle tyres, originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China for a period of five years from the date of imposition *i. e.* 29.3.2016, pursuant to the final findings in anti-dumping investigations conducted by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties.

(vii) G. S. R. 359(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to levy provisional anti-dumping duty on "Glazed/Unglazed Porcelain/Vitrified tiles in polished or unpolished finish with less than 3% water absorption", originating in, or exported from the People's Republic of China for a period of not exceeding six months from the date of publication of notification, pursuant to the preliminary findings in anti-dumping investigation conducted by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties.

(viii) G. S. R. 363(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum

seeking to impose safeguard duty on imports of “Hotrolled flat products of non-alloy and other alloy Steel in coils of a width of 600mm or more’ for a period of two years and six months at specified rates pursuant to the final findings of investigations conducted by the Directorate General of Safeguards.

- (ix) G. S. R. 146(E) published in Gazette of India dated 5th February, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum notifying the 132 countries, mentioned therein, as developing countries for the purposes of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 .
- (x) G. S. R. 1010(E) published in Gazette of India dated 29th December, 2015, together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding the customs Tariff (Transitional Product Specified Safeguard Duty) Rules, 2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4583/16/16]

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

- (i) The Customs (Import of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty for Manufacture of Excisable Goods) (Amendment) Rules, 2016 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 306(E) in Gazette of India dated 15th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (ii) G. S. R. 344(E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 12/2012-Customs, dated 17th March, 2012.

- (iii) G. S. R. 383(E) published in Gazette of India dated 31st March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 69/2011-Cus. , dated 29th July, 2011.
- (iv) G. S. R. 147(E) published in Gazette of India dated 5th March, 2016, together with an explanatory memorandum has been issued align it with the Export Import Policy 2015-2020 and with the intent of reducing regulatory interface and promoting the ease of doing business.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4584/16/16]

(6) A copy of the Point of Taxation (Second Amendment) Rules, 2016 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 370(E) in Gazette of India dated 30th March, 2016 under sub-section (4) of section 94 of the Finance Act, 1994.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4585/16/16]

(7) A copy of the Central Excise (Removal of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty for Manufacture of Excisable and other Goods) (Amendment) Rules, 2016 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 307(E) in Gazette of India dated 15th March, 2016 under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise Act, 1944.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4586/16/16]

(8) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under Article 151(1) of the Constitution: -

- (i) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Civil) (No. 54 of 2015)-Audit on the Preparedness for Implementation of National Food Security

Act, 2013, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, for the year ended March, 2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4587/16/16]

- (ii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Civil) (No. 8 of 2016)-Report on Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Audit of Scheme Rules, 2011 (Social Audit Rules) for the year ended March, 2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4588/16/16]

- (iii) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (No. 6 of 2016)- Performance Audit on Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof, imitation jewellery, coins (Chapter 71 of CTH), Department of Revenue-Indirect Taxes-Customs, for the year ended March, 2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4589/16/16]

- (iv) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Civil) (No. 7 of 2016)- Performance Audit Implementation of Passport Seva Project for the year ended March, 2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4590/16/16]

- (v) Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India-Union Government (Railways) (No. 53 of 2015)-Railways Finances for the year ended March, 2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4591/16/16]

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

- (i) Appropriation Accounts (Part I- Review) of the Indian Railways for the year 2014-2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4592/16/16]

- (ii) Appropriation Accounts (Part II- Detailed Appropriation Accounts) of the Indian Railways for the year 2014-2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4593/16/16]

- (iii) Appropriation Accounts (Part II- Detailed Appropriation Accounts {Annexure-G}) of the Indian Railways for the year 2014-2015.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4594/16/16]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING [COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)]:

Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table: -

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Children's Film Society, India, Mumbai, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Children's Film Society, India, Mumbai, for the year 2014-2015.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4595/16/16]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata, for the year 2014-2015.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4596/16/16]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, 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 Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, 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 4597/16/16]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, for the year 2014-2015, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Film and Television Institute of India, Pune, for the year 2014-2015.
- (8) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4598/16/16]

(9) A copy of the Notification No. S. O. 681(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 7th March, 2016, notifying Additional District Magistrates as authorised officers to exercise the powers conferred upon them under the provisions of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 except in respect of sections 5 & 6 within the local limits of their jurisdiction issued under Section 2 of the said Act.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 4599/16/16]

12.02 hours**MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA***[English]*

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

- (i) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Appropriation Acts (Repeal) Bill, 2015, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th May, 2015, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 27th April, 2016, with the following amendments: -

ENACTING FORMULA

1. That at page 1, line 1, for the word "Sixty-sixth", the word "Sixty-seventh" be substituted.

CLAUSE 1

2. That at page 1, line 2, forthe figure "2015", the figure "2016" be substituted.

THE SCHEDULE

3. That at page 2, line 34, be deleted.
4. That at page 11, line 53 be deleted.

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendments be communicated to this House.'

- (ii) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Repealing and Amending (Third) Bill, 2015, which was

passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th August, 2015, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 27th April, 2016, with the following amendments: -

ENACTING FORMULA

1 That at page 1, line 1, for the word “Sixty-sixth”, the word “Sixty-seventh” be substituted.

CLAUSE 1

2. That at page 1, line 3, for the bracket, words and figure “(Third) Act, 2015”, the word and figure “Act, 2016” be substituted.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE

3. That at page 2, lines 21 and 22 be deleted.

I am therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendments be communicated to this House. ’

(iii) “In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 28th April, 2016 agreed without any amendment to the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order (Amendment) Bill, 2016 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th March, 2016. ”

(iv) 'I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill 2015, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 10th December, 2015, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 28th April, 2016, with the following amendments: -

ENACTING FORMULA

1. That at page 1, line 1, **for** the word "Sixty-sixth", the word "Sixty-seventh" be **substituted**.

CLAUSE 1

2. That at page 1, line 3, **for** the figure "2015", the figure "2016" be **substituted**.

CLAUSE 2

3. That at page 2, line 3, **for** the figure "2015", the figure "2016" be **substituted**.

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendments be communicated to this House. '

Madam Speaker, I lay on the Table the Appropriation Acts (Repeal) Bill, 2015, the Repealing and Amending (Third) Bill, 2015 and the Industries (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2015, as returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments.

12.03 hours

FINANCIAL COMMITTEES (2014-15) - A REVIEW

[English]

SECRETARY GENERAL: Madam Speaker, I begot lay on the Table a copy each in Hindi and English version of the 'Financial Committees (2014-15) - A Review'.

12.03 ½ hours**STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND
CULTURE****231st and 232nd Reports***[English]*

KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH (PRATAPGARH): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture: -

(1) The Two Hundred Thirty-first Report on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(2) The Two Hundred Thirty-second Report on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of Ministry of Tourism.

12.03 ¾ hours

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE**

95th Report

[English]

SHRI THANGSO BAITE (OUTER MANIPUR): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table the 95th Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Health and Family Welfare on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Ministry of AYUSH.

12.04 hours**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Madam Speaker, with your permission, I rise to announce that Government Business during the week commencing Monday, the 2nd of May, 2016 with consist of: -

1. Consideration of any items of Government Business carried over from today's order paper.
2. Discussion and voting on Demands for Grants (General) for 2016-17 under the control of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism;
3. Discussion and voting on Demands for Grants (General) for 2016-17 under the control of the Ministry of Housing and Poverty Alleviation;
4. Guillotine of outstanding Demands (General) for Grants (General) for 2016-17 at 6.00 p. m.;
5. Introduction, consideration and passing of the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2016.
6. Consideration and passing of the Finance Bill, 2016;
7. Consideration and passing of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Bill, 2015; and
8. Consideration and agreeing to the amendments made by Rajya Sabha to the following Bill, as passed by Lok Sabha: -
 - (i) The Appropriation Acts (Repeal) Bill, 2015; and
 - (ii) The Repealing and Amending (Third) Bill, 2015.

[Translation]

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO (JAMSHEDPUR): Hon. Madam Speaker, I request you to include the following issues of public importance related to my Parliamentary Constituency in the List of Business for next week:

1. Rakha, Chapadi, and Kendadih mines are under the Musabani block in Jamshedpur are currently non- operational due to the lack of an NOC from the Ministry of Forest and Environment. This area is primarily dominated by tribals categorised as most backward and ST communities, and area is affected by extremism. The people here are forced to migrate due to drought, unemployment, and poverty. Similarly, several other mines, such as Kishangarh, Pathar God, and Chandrapur, which are lying closed due to non-auction of copper. The re-starting operations in all these mines would provide employment for the people and, at the same time, generate revenue for the State Government.

2. The survey work for laying the new railway line from Chandil-Patmada via Bandowan to Jhargram (West Bengal) should be completed without delay. A new rail line should be laid from Budamara in Chakulia block under East Singhbhum district of Jharkhand State to Bangriposi (Odisha) via Baharagora, and work on the Kanda-Namkum railway line should also be started immediately. Construction of a ROBs (railway overbridge) between Badagobindpur and Chhota Govindpur, and near the Asanbani station Cabin should be expedited, and the work on Jugsalai overbridge should be completed promptly.

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (MAVAL): Hon. Madam Speaker, the following topics may be included in the List of Business for next week:

1. A special economic package from the Ministry of Tourism and Culture for the maintenance of the ancient historical Karla and Bhaja

caves, as well as Lohgarh, Tikona, Rajmanchi, and Bisapur forts under my Parliamentary Constituency.

2. Roads are constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, but the work has been halted midway in Maharashtra as the contractors not receiving their payments on time and the condition of these roads is now deteriorating. The matter of providing funds again to complete the pending work under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana should be included.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN (SUPAUL): Hon. Speaker Madam, the following topics may be included in the List of Business for next week:

1. About 80 percent of the people in the country are suffering from various diseases, such as kidney, heart, diabetes, anaemia, and other serious ailments due to deficiencies of Vitamin D and B-12, which is very dangerous. Therefore, strict rules should be made to raise awareness among people about these diseases, their investigation, and treatment.

2. The Government of India establishes Kendriya Vidyalayas in every district headquarters for providing quality and affordable education. There's still no Kendriya Vidyalaya in my Parliamentary Constituency, Supaul! Therefore, it is necessary to establish a central school in Supaul immediately.

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (SASARAM): Hon. Speaker Madam, please include the following two topics in the List of Business for next week:

1. Rohtasgarh Fort holds an important place among the ancient and vast hill forts of India. Rohtasgarh Fort is located on the Vindhya Mountains, 45 km southwest of the Gaya-Mughalsarai rail section and Sher Shah Suri Path, Dehri-on-Sone. It is 55 km from Rohtas headquarters. It is situated on the Kaimur Range at an altitude of 1,800 feet above sea level. Spread over a circumference of about 28 miles, this

fort still has Sarai Mahal, Rang Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Panchmahal, Phool Mahal, Ainamhal, Rani Ka Jharokha, Man Singh's Court, Throne Room, Hathia Pol, Vivah-Mandap Chaurasan, Rohitashv, Ganesh Temple, Hanging Ghar, etc. It has about 950 large rooms and 9,000 small rooms. It has been designed scientifically so that sunlight can easily reach all the rooms. At present, it is also a pilgrimage center for tribals, where a grand celebration of tribal society is held every year. Therefore, Rohtasgarh Fort should be developed and declared a tourist site of national importance.

2. The proposal to construct a dam on each side of Suara River, under Kaimur district of Bihar is pending with the Central Water Commission, Government of India. The construction of this dam will provide water for irrigation thousands of acres of land. Therefore, keeping public welfare in mind, the Central Water Commission should review the proposal promptly and ensure immediate construction of dams. It is certain that it will provide water for irrigation to thousand care of land.

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (MEHSANA): Madam, please include the following topics in the List of Business for next week:

1. People prepare food for various occasions, out which about thirty percent goes waste. Today, almost 33 crore people in nine states of the country are on the verge of starvation, yet no one is paying attention. Only France has enacted a law on this matter. A similar law should be enacted in India.

2. A policy should be made for the proper respect and maintenance of statues of great personalities (national leaders, litterateurs, revolutionaries, scientists, etc.). Thank you.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (HINGOLI): Madam, I demand a discussion in the House on the following two important issues in the List of Business for next week:

1. The situation arising from the investigation carried out by the Pakistani Investigation team subsequent to the Pathankot attack and the demand for a discussion regarding the Government of India's failure in foreign policy with Pakistan.

2. The birth anniversary of Guru Saint Sevalal Maharaj of Banjara Samaj on February 15 should be declared a national public holiday.

SHRI OM BIRLA (KOTA): Madam, I would like to move the following proposals for inclusion in next week's List of Business:

1. The need for formulating a necessary action plan to dispose of a large number of cases pending in courts across the country.

2. The need to set up special security forces/task forces to effectively prevent stampedes and other types of accidents at during religious events and fairs across the country.

SHRI C. R. CHOUDHARY (NAGAUR): Madam, I request you to include the following issues in the List of Business for next week:

1. More than 22 crore accounts have been opened under the Hon. Prime Minister's Jan Dan Yojana. Pensions of senior citizens, NREGA payments, and other direct benefits will be transferred to these accounts. However, banks have fewer branches in rural areas. Therefore, to benefit the people, there is a request to consider opening more bank branches in rural areas.

2. The Nagori breed of cows is known for producing strong calves rather than milk. These calves grow into bulls and are used for

agriculture, carrying loads by dragging bullock carts. There is ban on the export of the calves up to the age of three years outside Rajasthan, so farmers are neglecting Nagori cows, and their numbers are decreasing, which is concerning. Therefore, this matter should be considered urgently.

SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE (BETUL): Madam, I, through you, wish to draw attention of the House to the following issue:

1. Keeping in view the shrinking forest areas, the forest committees having Scheduled Caste women should be constituted for expanding the forest cover.

2. Poor people in rural areas, who belong to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe, do not have food coupons for everyone in their family. A campaign should be initiated to issue food coupons for all of them, and a target should be set for this.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN (MADHEPURA): Madam, the following topics may be included in the List of Business for next week:

The fundamental source of Dalit liberation has been the philosophy of Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar. On October 29, 1942, Dr. Ambedkar submitted a lengthy memorandum on Dalit rights to the Governor General of India and highlighted that out of a total of 1,171 contractors in the CPWD; only one was a Dalit contractor. This tendency still persists today. Whether it is basic education, technical education, or medical education, the rights of Dalits and the deprived are being suppressed everywhere, which goes against what our Constitution stands for. Therefore, we need a system of reservation for Dalit, the underprivileged, and other weaker groups in all areas, including contracts, to help them improve economically, educationally, and socially. It's crucial that strict rules are put in place to make sure this system is followed honestly.

The continuous commercialization of education by private educational institutions across the country, which collects money from poor yet meritorious students under the guise of donations, development, and re-enrolment, must be stopped immediately. All private educational institutions and coaching institutes across the country should be closed; and the government educational institutions need to be strengthened and improved. The recommendations of the Kothari Commission and the Muchkund Dubey Committee—regarding equal and compulsory education—should be implemented without delay.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have received notices of Adjournment Motion from Sarvashri Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav, Jitender Chaudhury, Rajesh Ranjan, and Prof. Saugata Roy on different issues.

The matters, though important, do not warrant interruption of the business of the day. The matters can be raised through other opportunities.

I have, therefore, disallowed all the notices of Adjournment Motion.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Please allow some discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Madam Speaker, I am extremely grateful to you for permitting me to speak on an urgent and a specific point of great public importance.

Recently, in 2010, the Central Government had proposed that there should be a common test for MBBS and BDS admissions to medical colleges across the country, but the Apex Court rejected it. Now, the Supreme Court revisited its decision and took a historic decision and ruled that admission to MBBS and BDS seats in private as well as government medical colleges will be through a common test, which will be conducted by the CBSE and the Medical Council of India. The decision was taken yesterday, and a schedule has been decided, and the first National Eligibility Test will be held on May 1. Six and a half lakh students are expected to take the exam. Those who have not filled out the form are being given the opportunity to do so, and a second test for such students will be held after three months, on July 24, and it is expected that two and a half lakh candidates will appear in that exam.

Madam Speaker, it is a very serious matter as the students who applied for MBBS and BDS have to take the test tomorrow following the Supreme Court's decision of yesterday. They might not be mentally prepared and could be under a lot of stress. Secondly, there is another set of students who will have three months for preparations. Why can't both tests be held on same day? This way, everyone will get equal time for preparation. The result is expected on August 17, and admission to MBBS seats to be completed by September 30 across the nation. It would definitely help to avoid these multiple exams. I request the government, through you, to combine both the proposed National Eligibility Entrance Tests—one and two—on July 24, so that the results can be announced on August 17, together. This will give all the students an equal chance to prepare.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Gopal Shetty, Shri Sudhir Gupta, and Shri Sharad Tripathi are permitted to associate themselves with the point raised by Shri Jagdambika Pal.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Rajeev Satav ji, you have also given notice to raised the same issue.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (HINGOLI): Madam, Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this important subject. Madam, the decision of the Supreme Court came yesterday, and 80 percent of the students from Maharashtra are going to be affected by it. So far, all the exams were held on the basis of 12th grade. Right now, after the yesterday's decision of the Supreme Court, the test is going to be held on the basis of 11th and 12th grades both. The State Government's stance was that it should be implemented after 2018, to give us two years so that children can have time to study. Unfortunately, the Hon. Supreme Court did not accept our stand.

Madam Speaker, my request to the government, through you, is that if the Central Government files a new petition to postpone the implementation to

2018 that would really help. If this is not possible, give us at least three months time. Let's hold the exam on July 24 for all students, this way, we can save a whole year for the children who would otherwise waste it. Moreover, 80 percent of the children come from villages, and if no adjustment is made, only the urban children will benefit, causing injustice to rural areas. The Central Government itself needs to appeal to the Hon. Supreme Court on this matter

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Shankar Prasad Dutta and Shri Mohammad Badruddoza Khan are permitted to associate themselves with the issue raised by Shri Rajeev Satav.

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT: Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on an important subject in the Zero Hour.

Yesterday, the Hon. Supreme Court gave a decision which is going to impact the students who aspiring to enter the medical or dental profession. Instead of the CEAT exam, now they have to appearing the NEET exam in the states. The state has scheduled its exam for May 5th. Since I became a Member of Parliament, I've been bringing up the point that for Class XII students, especially in primary and secondary education, we have different boards: SSC, ICSE, and CBSE. The CBSE board has a tougher standard compared to the other two, and the syllabus differences pose a lot of challenges for students when they prepare for these exams. Previously, the states were conducting CET and deemed universities were holding CEAT separately. With the new changes, the time available for preparation has been reduced. Even if the exam is scheduled for July 24, students cannot adequately prepare for it because the CBSE standard is different. There are two key points: first, students used to have the option to take the exam in their mother tongue. They could write the exam in Marathi, Gujarati, Malayalam, Telugu, Tamil, Bengali, and other languages. Now, that facility will no longer be available. The CBSE has said

that due to the limited time, the exam will be conducted only in Hindi and English. It is being opposed strongly across the states.

I request the HRD Ministry, through you, to approach the Hon. Supreme Court. While we appreciate the decision, it should be implemented from 2018 onward to relieve the students of the tension they are currently facing. I am telling a fact, students are in a lot of distress and need to be reassured. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, Shri Vinayak Bhaurao Raut, Shrimati Bhavana Pundalikrao Gawali, Dr. Pritam Gopinath Munde, Shri Rahul Shewale, and Shri Shrirang Appa Barne are permitted to associate themselves with the issued raised by Shri Arvind Sawant.

DR. YASHWANT SINGH (NAGINA): Madam Speaker, I have been elected from the Nagina Lok Sabha seat in Bijnor district of Uttar Pradesh. This constituency is close to the border of Uttarakhand, and it is a reserved constituency. I do not know what jinx this constituency has, because it never seems to catch the attention of the Central Government. Aside from a few railway stations and post offices, the Central Government has not developed any significant facility. Therefore, it cannot be claimed that this seat receives any attention from the Central Government. This area is primarily agricultural, but there are no storage or food processing facilities. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You must focus on the Kendriya Vidyalaya. Please stick to the topic for which you gave notice.

DR. YASHWANT SINGH: Madam Speaker, I apologize. There is no Kendriya Vidyalaya or Central University for the children in my area. Even if we get admission coupons, we have to recommend the children to schools border areas. There is no private university here either, which makes it difficult for students to access education.

I appeal to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, through you, to sanction a Central University and a Kendriya Vidyalaya in my area. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel is permitted to associate himself with the matter raised by Dr. Yashwant Singh.

DR. UDIT RAJ (NORTH-WEST DELHI): Madam Speaker, I wanted to raise two points, but one has been almost resolved—the paperless government, the government’s effort for digitization is picking momentum. Secondly, since January this year, I have written 1,940 letters. These letters are detailed and focus on addressing public grievances. Most of the time, I do not even receive a response, and there are four common outcomes: first, they do not get a reply; second, a response is received stating that the letter has been received; third, I am informed that the matter is under consideration; and fourth, a reply comes stating that they cannot deal with it at all. ...*(Interruptions)* I write these letters myself. Today, the situation has deteriorated. Back when I was not an MP, my letters seemed to get better results. Now, out of the 500-600 replies, I received, not even 4-5 are positive—most are in negative. Bureaucracy is taking things too lightly.

I recall what the hon. Prime Minister said, “While we are fighting with each other, officer’s area having good time.” This is indeed the case. A mechanism should be developed to track these letters...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please summarize. You mean that you are not getting the reply of the letter.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. UDIT RAJ: Madam, when we write letters, there should be a system to keep track of them...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please, do not shout. This is not the way.

...(Interruptions)

DR. UDIT RAJ: Madam, I have been a commissioner, and my wife is also a commissioner. We have no personal grudge with the bureaucracy, but for a public servant, accountability is necessary. ...(Interruptions) A system should be in place. A Minister should check himself whether a reply to a letter has been sent or not—this should be tracked. Without such a system, we have become powerless. This problem has been around for decades. ...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Okay, you have made your point.

...(Interruptions)

DR. UDIT RAJ: In 1996, when I was Additional Commissioner (Income Tax), a forged letter from a fake Hon. Member was used against me. I was transferred because of this letter. When I later investigated, I found that someone had written a fake letter. Despite being in a senior position, I was transferred because of the letter. Today, such things hardly impact even the clerical staff. This illustrates the difference...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Sudheer Gupta, Shri Sharad Tripathi, and Shri Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate themselves with the matter raised by Dr. Udit Raj.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Madam, there is a Protocol Committee of the Parliament which goes into this type of complaints. If there is some complaint from respected Members, that complaint can come.

HON. SPEAKER: He should give it. He knows it very well. They have given before also. I know it.

SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY (MALKAJGIRI): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to speak on a serious issue facing the youth of the country, that is, rise of student suicides due to exam pressure. As you know, yesterday the results of the

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) entrance exam were announced and some students who had put in hard work may be disappointed if they did not score the rank they desired. To all those students, I would like to ask to stay positive and stay strong.

Madam, this is a truly shocking statistics that India's suicide rate is the 12th highest in the world. Our country, unfortunately, is home to the highest number of suicides among people in the 15 to 19 age group, as per a note from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in 2014. We ourselves have read news reports frequently that tell us about educational pressure faced by students who end up committing suicide, whether it is Class 10 or Class 12 exams or sometimes even 8th standard results.

Speaking on this issue in Rajya Sabha last year, Hon'ble Minister Smriti Irani also addressed the issue of stress among students and mentioned that over 8,000 students committed suicides during 2014 in the country.

Given the seriousness of the matter, I urge upon the Health Minister to kindly take up this issue and call for a panel of experts to examine it closely. The key point is that suicides are preventable and effective interventions can decrease a person's tendency to have suicidal behaviour. Maybe a measure like national suicide prevention plan or psychological counselling or other guidelines can be created which can be followed by all institutions, parents and society. This can help save lives, especially, that of precious children who are the future of this country. Thank you once again, Madam Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA: Madam Speaker, two days ago, Kabir Khan, the producer of *Bajrangi Bhaijaan*, *Ek Tha Tiger*, and *Phantom*, went to Pakistan to attend an international conference. Some Pakistanis protested at Karachi Airport. I request the Government of India that if any artist goes to Pakistan on

the invitation of the Government of Pakistan, then their safety should be ensured, and incidents like this should definitely be reported to the Government of Pakistani.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, and Shri Sudheer Gupta are permitted to associate themselves with the issue raised by Dr. Kirit Somaiya.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH (AURANGABAD): Madam Speaker, the crisis of drinking water has been hitting large parts of the country. The reason for this is scarcity rainfall; secondly, improper use of surface water; and thirdly, massive exploitation of underground water by factories in some places.

HON. SPEAKER: In fact, both these issues will be discussed, so you keep your point in a bit.

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH: Madam Speaker, about 20-25 districts of Bihar as well as several part of the country are facing crisis of drinking water in the summer season. No long-term plan has been formulated to tackle this problem. While the government cannot make any law for rainfall, at least it can ensure better use of available water. The Ganga and the Son rivers flow through Bihar. We can divert that water to the surrounding parched districts. Aurangabad and Gaya are plateau districts and growing water crisis has thrown people of these districts in panic. The Newspapers are reporting this crisis every day. A large cement factory has been set up in the Aurangabad area which is guzzling huge quantity of water, and it has resulted in water crisis in our city. I, through you, request the Government of India to come up with long-term and concrete plan to solve the drinking water crisis instead of leaving it all to the State Government.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Sudheer Gupta are permitted to associate themselves with the issue raised by Shri Sushil Kumar Singh.

As you are also speaking on the same topic, so speak briefly. A detailed discussion is going to be held on this.

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL (HAMIRPUR): Madam Speaker, I will not take much time of the House. I come from the Bundelkhand region. Whatever topic the respected Member has raised, we can speak on it. It feels bit like we are celebrating some festival or function, while someone at home is left hungry and thirsty. That's how I see our discussions here—we can talk about anything, but I truly believe that farmers issue is pretty crucial right now. Here, we are facing severe distress due to water scarcity. There is no village with proper water management. The scene there is very horrifying. I have many photographs; I even took time to talk to the Rural Development Minister. Not only in my Parliamentary Constituency, but water pumps should be constructed in every village of the entire Bundelkhand for ensuring water supply. I want to submit, through you, to the Government of India, that we are not giving money for any other work from the MPLAD Funds.

Hon. Speaker Madam, we are allocating only for drinking water there. The way, the bureaucracy works in Uttar Pradesh Government does not seem to be right. You know, the hand pumps that we or the bureaucrats install at our homes usually cost around 30 to 40 thousand rupees. But when they come from the MP Local Area Development Fund, they end up costing Rs. 72 thousand. This is how the money is being misused. The second thing, hand pumps are not allocated to us. If I name all the villages that we have, it will take more time of the House, so I am not taking them here. There is not a single village or town which does not grappling under the severe water crises. Therefore, I request the Government of India, through you, to give 2000 hand pumps to each MP from the Bundelkhand regions.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, I suggest that MPLAD funds should be spent on the ground water recharging system. There is something called a

recharging system. Give it some thought and spend the MPLADS fund on that. This will bring the water level up. Now, continue.

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL: Hon. Madam Speaker, our region falls under dark zone area. You mentioned for paying attention to the recharging system; that is correct. This will bring the water level up.

Madam Speaker, I would like to ask for better management of our surface water. In our region, over 7,200 ponds were dug around 1,000 years ago. If those ponds had been properly maintained, we wouldn't be struggling with water shortages in Bundelkhand today. Thank you so much for allowing me to share my thoughts.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Daddan Mishra, Sharad Tripathi, Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Ajay Mishra Teni, and Shri Sudheer Gupta associate themselves with the topic raised in the House by Hon. Member Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel.

SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN (BISHNUPUR): Madam Speaker, I thank you very much for giving me time to speak. I was observing that the ruling and the opposition parties blame each other. Had we thought 20 or 30 years ago, that we have to buy water? No matter how far one goes, one will find village after village hit by water crisis. It is a grave problem. When I was coming here, I saw that large crowd was gathered for drinking water and result in jam on the road. The biggest issue is that one litre of water has become costlier than diesel today. If you go to a five-star hotel and buy a one-litre bottle of drinking water, you will get it for Rs. 120. In this way, water has become costlier than diesel.

HON. SPEAKER: Please don't make a long speech. Just convey your suggestions to the Government.

SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN: Madam Speaker, I am an MP from a Maoist affected area. Three rivers pass through my area: one is Damodar, the other is Dargeshwar, and the third is Shilamoti. If dams are built on these three rivers, it

would provide significant relief to the tribal communities and agricultural laborers in the area. Moreover, this work should be done promptly taking as an emergency measure. Additionally, this task needs to be carried out quickly as an urgent action. Since the same issue will occur again next year. Therefore, we would like to request the Hon'ble Minister to arrange for water as soon as possible.

SHRIMATI MEENAKSHI LEKHI (NEW DELHI): Madam Speaker, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the House to a very important subject. If India has to achieve sustainable goals, then it will have to work on population control sooner rather than later. According to the recent health budget of the Central Government, only 4 percent has been spent on family planning. It was decided in the London summit held in 2012 that about \$2 million, which is about Rs. 3,500 crore, would be provided for both universal health coverage and family planning. However, during the last decade, we have seen 54% fall in achievements due to a lack of funds. Owing to our less expenditure, we are not able to achieve our target. Out of the total expenditure of family planning, only 1.4 percent is spent on spacing methods. I hope that the Budget 2016-17 will take note of this, better technology will be used in its planning and implementation, as well as appropriate measures will be taken from a health perspective. I also hope that the required action will be taken against those states which are not participating. Madam Speaker, thank you very much for giving me time to raise this important issue in the House.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, and Shri Sudheer Gupta associate themselves with the issue raised in the House by Hon. Member, Shrimati Meenakshi Lekhi.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Hon. Speaker, Madam, I am raising a matter of urgent public importance during 'Zero Hour'.

The facts that I have got have been brought to light by the Association for Democratic Reforms. These relate to the Audit Report of political parties.

In August, 2014, the Election Commission issued guidelines for transparency and accountability of national political parties. The guidelines were meant to make existing legislation in this matter clearer. In November, 2014, the Commission reiterated the guidelines for the national parties and stated that failing to follow the guidelines may compel action under the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment Order).

Of the national parties, BJP, CPI (M), BSP, CPI and NCP have submitted their audit reports. The Congress has not submitted their report so far. The income of the BJP was Rs. 673 crore in 2013-14 and Rs. 969 crore in 2014-15 respectively. The Indian National Congress had an income of Rs. 598 crore in 2013-14.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You are not presenting its report. Please tell what you want.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Madam, please listen. But the strange thing about the income of the political parties is that most of their total income is from unknown sources like voluntary contribution. Madam, 82.5 per cent of total income of INC is from unknown sources like sale of coupon. Similarly, 73 per cent of total income of BJP is from unknown sources like voluntary contribution; 75 per cent of total income of national parties is from unknown sources. Then, 53.8 per cent total income of CPI (M) is from unknown sources like voluntary contribution. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Prof. Saugata Roy, what do you want to say? Please be brief.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Saugata Roy ji, don't discuss among yourselves. Whatever you want to put forward, put it in the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Madam, I am making a very brief submission.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Please, continue your submission. There are too many parties, so don't talk about everyone.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: The CPI (M) raised RS. 417 crore from 2005 to 2011 and took money from promoters, developers, resort companies and hoteliers. So, it is not possible for the common people to know what the unknown sources are. In the interest of transparency, the national parties should be asked to reveal their unknown sources. These facts have been brought to light by Association for Democratic Reforms. ...(Interruptions) I have said nothing unparliamentary. What are you objecting to? I have only quoted what the Association for Democratic Reforms has said that these parties do not submit their audit report. ...(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: I am not objecting. [Translation] I am saying to keep your submission in brief.

...(Interruptions)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: My submission is short. The submission is just one-page long. Will you still object?

HON. SPEAKER: You make your point.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Saugata Roy ji, you please conclude by addressing the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: I demand that all these unknown sources be made known by INC, BJP, and CPM etc. What are these unknown sources? Who have given money to them? We want to know. *...(Interruptions)*

Thank you.

SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH (TEZPUR): Madam, I am going to raise a very important and sensitive issue relating to my State Assam. The atrocities and harassment faced by Hindu Bengalis and Gorkhas in Assam are increasing. The Hindu Bengalis are termed doubtful voters and foreigners in spite of the notification issued by the Government of India on 9th September, 2015. Till today, the Government of Assam has not implemented this notification.

The Hindu Bengalis are kept in detention camps. Their small children and mothers are not left out. So, I would, therefore, request the Home Minister that the Hindu Bengalis and Gorkhas, who are termed doubtful voters and foreigners, should be given full protections. Gorkhas have their own contribution in the country for fighting internal and external aggression against any enemies. So, they cannot be termed as foreigners. They are the indigenous people of the country and they are also sons of the soil.

So, I would again request the Government of India and also the Government of Assam to give protection to the Hindu Bengalis and the Gorkhas in Assam.

Thank you, Madam.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel, and Shri Sudheer Gupta are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ram Prasad Sarmah.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Shyama Charan Gupta.

Your issue is related to water. You should finish your point in one line, because this has to be discussed in detail.

SHRI SHYAMA CHARAN GUPTA (ALLAHABAD): Madam Speaker, border of Bundelkhand in Uttar Pradesh begins from Shankargarh, Allahabad, which falls in my Parliamentary Constituency. Kheri, Lendiari, Koraon, and Shankargarh in my Constituency, situated on the Vindhya hills, have geographical conditions similar to those of Bundelkhand. At present, water is being supplied through tankers. I request that the arrangement for water supply similar to Bundelkhand should be made to meet the water needs of both the local population and livestock in my Constituency.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Sudheer Gupta and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Shyama Charan Gupta.

SHRI AJAY MISHRA TENI (KHERI): Hon. Speaker, this is a very important subject of my Lok Sabha Constituency. An overbridge on Sitapur Road is being construction in the middle of Lakhimpur city, as well as railway has closed level crossing gat No. 120 for gauge conversion work in my Lok

Sabha constituency, Kheri. These activities have divided the town into two parts. The residents of the town are facing a lot of inconvenience since the city is small and the construction is ongoing along the main road. One side hosts all the educational institutions, banks, hospitals, tehsil, kotwali, municipality, courts and main markets. Conversely, other side has girls' school, colleges and a large number of residential institutions. Since Lakhimpur town is also the district headquarters, so the people across the district come here and are also facing a lot of trouble.

In view of the above situation, I demand from the Government, through you, the railway level crossing gate number 120 on Sitapur Road in Lakhimpur city should be kept open for traffic by making necessary security arrangements to facilitate the convenience of the residents of the city, the people of the district, and the students.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Sudheer Gupta, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Ajay Mishra Teni.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV (BANKA): Hon. Speaker, there is immense potential for tourism in Bihar. Especially, the sites connected with Buddha, Jain Mahavira, and many other natural tourist places are promising. These sites reflect the cultural and natural heritage of Bihar. These places are located in Bihar. A number of tourist circuits have also been sanctioned in Bihar, in which lakhs of people travel on foot from Ganga Ghat of Rajgir, Bodhgaya, Banka, Mandar Parbat, Kamariapat, Sultanganj, Vikramshila, Bhim Dam, Tildiha, Riti Kund, Sita Kund, Lachwar, Ashok Dham, Singrishi, Sultanganj to Jharkhand. The Government of India announced funding for the development of these tourist places, but the funds have not been provided till date,—just announcements that fade away.

I would like to draw the attention of the Government that funds should be provided for the maintenance of the tourism sector of Bihar.

[English]

DR. KULMANI SAMAL (JAGATSINGHPUR): Madam Speaker, I am thankful to you for allowing me to speak on the matter relating to establishment of new medical colleges in existing five districts and referral hospitals in Odisha.

Madam, a proposal was made by the Government of Odisha in 2014 to establish five medical colleges in five districts and referral hospitals at a cost of around Rs. 2500 crore having the share of 75: 25 between the State and the Centre. In this regard, the Government of India has released only Rs. 55 crore in three phases till date. However, the construction of the college buildings and other infrastructure is yet to be completed due to financial crunch. The Government of Odisha, as per the plan, has decided to start the academic session in 2017-18. Hence, all the arrangements in this regard are supposed to be completed by the end of 2016. So, I request the Government of India to expeditiously sanction the balance share of fund at the earliest for completion of construction of the said college buildings along with installation of other infrastructure so that the academic session in these medical colleges could be started in 2017-18.

SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE (NASHIK): Madam, I want to raise the issue about the arbitrary attitude of private Airport Authority who runs the Government Airport.

Madam, Mumbai airport is run by GVK, a private company and the rights of time slots to take off and land the aircraft are exclusively given by the GVK.

The Government PSU airline, Air India, has applied for time slot to GVK to connect Mumbai with two tier cities like Nashik, Hubli and Pune from 1st May, 2016. But the GVK rejected the applied time slot saying that they do not

have time slot at Mumbai Airport instead of giving the time schedule which is available with them at Mumbai Airport. Air India would have applied as per the time slot available. The Private Airport Authority that is GVK allot the time slot to private Airlines because they get more money and they do not get any charges from the Government PSUs airline, Air India, for small aircraft below 80 seaters.

The Government policy is to connect two tier cities with metro cities for better development of our country and also to give preference to connect Religious Circuit. Nashik is well known as a religious place. But because of such rights given to the private companies and their exercise of arbitrary attitude, the Government policy will fail and also the Government PSU airline, Air India will have to shut down.

Hon. Speaker, Madam, through you, I want to request the Civil Aviation Ministry that either to quit or control on such private companies' arbitrary attitude, some reserved time slot for the Government PSU airline may be given. Or, either the rights may be given to the Air Traffic Control Authority of the Civil Aviation Ministry to approve the time slot, which the Private Airport Authority may charge and collect as decided. Also, direct the authority to approve the available time slot applied for by the Air India from 1st May, 2016 for connectivity of Nashik, Mumbai.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Arvind Sawant, Shrimati Bhavana Pundalikrao Gawali, Shri Shrirang Appa Barne, Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Hemant Tukaram Godse.

[Translation]

Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal.

I'd appreciate it if you could speak in short.

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK (HARIDWAR): Madam Speaker, Haridwar, a paradise on Earth in my Parliamentary Constituency, is the gateway to Uttarakhand. It also hosts Maha Kumbh and millions of people as *Kanvadia* also visit this place. It also attracts millions of tourist across the country and abroad. Despite all these things, the railway infrastructure in Haridwar is very poor. People are constantly demanding that metro rail should be started from Haridwar to Rishikesh. There is railway crossing at Laksar and Roorkee, where thousands of commuters get stuck. An underpass should be built at those crossings; and an overbridge should be built in Dhandera Roorkee. No railway line to connect Garhwal and Kumaon has been constructed till date, which means; those traveling to Kumaon from Garhwal have to go all the way through Uttar Pradesh. Thus I request that a railway line connecting Haridwar, Kotdwar, Ramnagar and Haldwani should be laid.

HON. SPEAKER: Don't put the demands to the Railways. Read what you have given in writing.

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK: Madam Speaker, this is a very important subject. The railway network connecting Haridwar with Roorkee, Laksar and Raiwala should be further strengthened and developed at par with national and international level.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra, Shri Sudheer Gupta and Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel are permitted to associate themselves with the issue raised by Dr. Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank.

[English]

SHRI KARADI SANGANNA AMARAPPA (KOPPAL): Madam, I would like to draw your attention that Koppal district is having a number of industries like steel, rice, granite, handloom, etc. In all these industries, nearly more than 30,000 labourers are working. These labourers are not able to avail of the medical facilities. Now, the Government of India is ready to sanction an ESI

hospital to Koppal district. I came to know that out of 30,000 labourers; only 8,000 employees are registered and insured for getting treatment in the Government-run Corporation. So, it is very essential for us to make the remaining 22,000 employees to get insurance for getting treatment in the Government-run Corporation.

Madam, further I would like to bring to your kind notice that in Gangavathi, Kusthagi and Yelburga taluks this scheme is not being implemented. In these three taluks and also in the Koppal area where it is implemented, we have theatres, shops, colleges, hotels and industries in which more than 10 people are working in each unit and they earn less than Rs. 15,000 per month. Due to their less income they are unable to afford treatment in such big hospitals.

Madam, hence I request you to issue direction to the concerned authorities to start a survey to implement it in the uncovered areas so that the beneficiaries get registered and insured within next three months. I hope you will join hands in the endeavour to establish the ESI hospital at the earliest in Koppal district and oblige. Thank you, Madam.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Madam, the Government is determined to give right of education to every child under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The government runs Mid-day meal programme in schools to ensure full implementation of the scheme. Children get books, uniforms and everything else they need for their studies. But despite all this, the quality of education in Uttar Pradesh is still very poor. The schools are struggling with various problems like of bad buildings, shortage of teachers, poor sanitation etc. Even though some of the schools have electricity connections, a lot of them have had their power cut off because they couldn't pay the bills. If I talk about my Parliamentary Constituency Meerut alone, there are a total of 910 primary

schools, out of which 255 do not even have electricity connection; and rest of the 655 schools, many have their connection cut by the administration for unpaid electricity bills. Zee TV gave elaborate report on the conditions of the schools in Uttar Pradesh last week. Are the students of these schools on fault for non-payment of electricity bills of these schools? No, yet they have to suffer its consequences as they have to sit under scorching sun. I request the Government, through you, to ensure electricity connection in all primary schools as well as restore the connections disconnected due to non-payment of electricity bills at the earliest and take immediate corrective steps to find out the reasons for inability of primary schools to pay their electricity bills.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Sharad Tripathi, Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel and Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra are permitted to associate themselves with the issue raised by Shri Rajendra Agrawal.

12.56 hours

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 2016-17

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, there will be no lunch today. The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 82 and 83 relating to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the year 2016-2017 have been circulated may, if desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Only those cut motions, slips in respect of which are received at the Table within the stipulated time, will be treated as moved.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be put up on the Notice Board shortly thereafter. In case Members find any discrepancy in the list, may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table immediately.

Motion moved:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 2017, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the Second column thereof against Demand Nos. 82 and 83 relating to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.”

Demands for Grants (General), 2016-17 in respect of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Dem and	Name of Demand	Amount of Demands on Account, voted by the House on March, 2016		Amount of Demands for Grants submitted to the vote of the House	
		3		4	
		Revenue (Rs.)	Capital (Rs.)	Revenue (Rs.)	Capital (Rs.)
82	Department of Social Justice and Empowerment	1037,83,00,000	56,50,00,000	5189,12,00,000	282,50,00,000
83	Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities	125,59,00,000	5,00.00,000	627,97,00,000	25,00,00,000

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY (JALANDHAR): Madam Speaker, today, I am going to talk about a society which has been striving for social justice and economic justice for centuries. Millions of the people of this society departed this world in hope of a good life. What I mean to convey is that this is the society which belongs to the Scheduled Castes. They have been deprived of human rights for centuries.

Guru Ravidas ji was born on this earth 639 years ago. I believe that it was the first time when he espoused for equality on this planet. He talked about the rights of those people. He asked in his teachings- "*Tohi mohi, mohi tohi, antar kaisa, kankat jal tarang jasa.*" Guru Ravidas Ji is asking, 'What is the difference between you and me, between me and you? As there is no difference between gold and gold jewelry, similarly, there is no difference between water and water waves. So why does untouchability and inequality exist among humans?

Six hundred years ago, he said in his speech - "I want such a rule, where everyone gets food; where everyone, both rich and poor live together; then Ravidas will be happy." He wished a system where everyone has food, housing and everyone lives equally. This is a long story of these people who have endured this heartache for centuries. Even later, this persecution continued.

We take pride in the fact that Dr. Ambedkar ji came to this earth afterwards. He took that struggle further. He carried forward the philosophy and ideology of Guru Ravidas ji and also continued the fighting.

13.00 hours

Madam Speaker, I am proud of the fact that if any party ever rose against untouchability on this earth, then it was the Congress party. In the year 1917, the All India Congress Committee was convened, which was presided over by Madame Annie Besant. For the first time in that convention, a resolution condemning untouchability was passed. This persisted when Ambedkar Saheb

came. When Ambedkar Saheb was to participate in the Round Table Conference in England, he faced a big opposition. I recall how badly he was opposed. I have documents which show that our ancestors, our families, and their colleagues sent telegrams at that time requesting that Dr. Ambedkar Saheb should be allowed to sit in the Round Table Conference. Ambedkar Saheb attended that conference, and for the first time, he raised the issue of untouchability. He asserted, “Though it is the rule of the British Government, yet there exists a class and society on the land of India that does not have the right to fetch drink water, the right to assess the well, the right to buy a house, or the right to go to school. He spoke on this matter, and *[English]* I quote what he said:

“The bureaucratic form of Government in India should be replaced by a Government which will be a Government of the people, by the people, and for the people.”

[Translation]

For the first time, his words sowed the seeds of elected government in India, a government which would serve the people of India. The country became independent, and governments were formed after independence. When Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru took office as Prime Minister, Indira ji assumed the role of Prime Minister, and Rajiv ji held the position of Prime Minister; they initiated significant programs to uplift these communities and to promote their progress. I recall that Indira Gandhi gave the slogan of *Garibi Hatao* and she nationalized banks, fulfilled job and entrepreneurship needs of our poor and Scheduled Castes for the very first time. I feel proud for Sonia ji, who is sitting here, and that the UPA government brought the world's biggest employment scheme, MNREGA, so that the people of the villages may get employment. The UPA government brought the Food Security Act and gave right to food which is akin to Guru Ravidas Ji expectation.

The Right to Education was also brought by the UPA government. Moreover, when Rajiv Gandhi ji was in power, he introduced the provision of reservation in Panchayats for the first time by getting passed 74th and 75th Constitutional Amendments. What I mean to say is a lot has been achieved, yet I feel disheartened as I have to speak on similar demands today. There is a guideline which suggests that the budget earmarked for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be in proportion to their population in the country. If I am not mistaken, Scheduled Castes constitute 16.2% and Scheduled Tribes make up 8.2% of the total population. Accordingly, Rs. 82,643 crore for SCs and Rs. 42,815 crore for STs must have been earmarked, but unfortunately, the government has allocated only Rs. 38,000 crore and Rs. 24,000 crore for them respectively. However, it remains to be seen whether the money allocated in the last two years has been utilized fully or not. The figures emerged from surveys indicate that significant portion of the allocation has been siphoned off. Some departments spent allocation on road construction some on bridge construction or other infrastructures. The money that was allocated was also not utilized. Today, the demands of the Ministry of Social Justice are being discussed. The budget allocation under this head was Rs. 6,467 crore in 2015-16, which was reduced to Rs. 5,911 crore in the revised estimate. Similarly, an allocation of Rs. 6,500 crore was made in 2016-17. The point is, if one goes through the recent report of the Standing Committee, it states that the department had demanded Rs. 10,573 crore, but the demand remains unmet; it was reduced to Rs. 6,500 crore. It can also be found that besides an allocation of Rs. 6,467 crore allocated they had requested Rs. 411 crore more in the last year. What to say to accept the demand, they reduced and ultimately gave only Rs. 4,911 crore. This shows that our government is not serious.

Madam, I want to speak item-wise in brief. The Scheduled Castes in this country can move forward only if they receive proper education. Dr. Ambedkar ji famously said - educate, agitate, and organize. He gave the highest priority to

education; and it was his slogan. The point is that a demand related to education is being discussed today. The pre-matric scholarship was started by our government in 2012, for which an allocation of Rs. 842.55 crore in 2015-16 and Rs. 550 crore in 2016-17 was made. Of this, they cut Rs. 342 crore. I believe that the pre-matric scholarship, which helps to prevent children drop out from schools and serves as the foundation of education for the SC community, has also been cut. Similarly, the post-matric scholarship is crucial for children to continue their studies in the next classes. But I am sad these are not being implemented at all. My colleagues from many states are sitting here; they will also raise the issue of their respective states. Many states have a huge backlog of pending funds, the scholarship funds are not reaching to them. When the children take admission in the next classes, the college management asks them for fees, and they do not have the money because they are not receiving scholarships, it creates a significant hurdle in their further education.

Madam, now coming to my state, my state, Punjab has a pending backlog of Rs. 131.78 crore for 2014-15 and Rs. 588 crore pending for 2015-16. The Hon'ble Ministers here. I think if the government is not serious about this issue, which is a primary need of the SC community, then how will it progress? I would like to submit that the mechanism needs to be corrected because many states do not pay their share, so Government of India stopped funds. I have a suggestion that as we do procurement, the limit that we decide for procurement. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Madam, there is no quorum in the House.

HON. SPEAKER: There is a quorum; please do not say this.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY: Madam, the mechanism needs to be corrected. This has to be taken seriously. There are many such items. There is a scheme started by Babu Jagjivan Ram ji; which is related to hostels, for

which only five crore rupees have been allocated. Similarly, for the rehabilitation of scavengers, it is an issue of deep regret. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, I am on a point of order. The House lacks quorum.

HON. SPEAKER: I think there is a quorum.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY: Madam, it is obvious that the government is not serious.... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, there is no quorum.

It is a comment on the government and not on you because you are presiding over the House. It is the duty of the government to ensure a quorum in the House. They are not ready to ensure a quorum in the House. [Translation] So many people have been elected; where have they gone? ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please, Kharge ji, if you want, I will get the bell rung.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, what does the rule say? Since there is rule for everything, and there are so many people...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The bell is being rung—

Now, there is a quorum. The Hon. Member, Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary, may continue.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY: Madam, it only highlights that how serious is the Government towards the Scheduled Castes issues. The government does not want to listen, despite it being such an important department. But, the Government is not taking it seriously. As I mentioned earlier, the Government is not taking these issues seriously, as evidenced from the lack of quorum and the Members of treasury benches are outside. Madam, there is a scheme for liberation and rehabilitation of Scavengers in India, while we also hear the slogan of Swachh Bharat—Swachh Bharat, but unfortunately that according to the 2011 census, there are still 26.6 lakh insanitary latrines in India and 9.94 lakh people clean manually. Only 10 crore rupees have been allocated for this scheme. According to the Standing Committee report, the previous funds were also not utilized. Another important thing I want to say is that the Department also deals with the Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance Drug Abuse. It is also an important and serious issue.

Today, people living in the country, especially the younger generation, are getting caught in the grip of drugs. In the state where I come from, 70 percent of the youth are the victim of drug abuse. When hon. Rahul Gandhi ji went to Chandigarh, he while speaking at the university said with pain, that drug addiction is a serious social evil which is prevalent here in Punjab. It sparks a major controversy at that time. Today, I want to say with great responsibility that a large number of children in Punjab and neighboring states are victim of drug abuse. For de-addiction, only Rs. 35 crore has been earmarked, which is inadequate.

The minister is sitting here. The Prime Minister said that every Member of Parliament would adopt a village. I chose a village from my constituency having 90 percent Scheduled Caste population, and out of which 90 percent of the people were in the grip of drug addiction. I was of the opinion that the hon. Prime Minister had announced a scheme, and if I adopt a village and brought it under the scheme; then one or other measures would be taken to develop and

help residents to combat with drug addiction. I also wrote a letter to the Hon'ble Minister that I had adopted this village under the Prime Minister's Scheme; please provide me with funds so that I could set up a de-addiction center. I wrote another letter stating the criteria that Rs. 20 Lakh are given to a village in which schedule castes people makes more than 50% population. This village fulfills that criterion too; please provide that money. I regret though I received a reply, but received no support to date. I think drug addiction is a worst evil in our society, especially among the Scheduled Caste people, who are already marginalised; if they fall into drug abuse, I think they will be further marginalised. The provision that they have made for them is also insufficient. There are many such things. They have talked about entrepreneurship, but no significant funds have been allocated for it. Only Rs. 40 crores has been set aside for venture capital. Similarly, they are saying a lot that all the banks have to give loans to young entrepreneurs, but the formalities that have been kept are restricting. One who seek loan under that scheme should not be a director of any firm. This is such a hurdle which makes it difficult for beneficiaries to qualify. Similarly, all the schemes of this Ministry have become totally defunct. These schemes exist only on paper. I think if this Government is serious about addressing the issues faced by the Scheduled Caste people, they must address these challenges and ensure that there schemes are effectively implemented. I want to make one more serious point.

HON. SPEAKER: How much time will you take? Your time is up; the other person from your party will not be able to speak.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY: Madam, I will take five more minutes.

HON. SPEAKER: Please, try to complete quickly.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY: Madam, ten minutes were spent on that.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I am also short of time. All of you don't give me advice. I have said that the party had only 15 minutes; that time is over. Now the other person will have less time. It does not matter to me. I am requesting you.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY: Madam, I will be brief. The Hon'ble Minister is right here with us. There's a program called the 'Special Component Plan' that our department has, but it won't be effective unless we really improve its implementation. The Government of Andhra Pradesh made an enactment. It brought the implementation within the ambit of the law. Our previous UPA government had also gathered feedback from all the states so that they could enact a law, but unfortunately, the present government does not pay any attention to it. Without this law, things will just stay the same.

One more thing, I would like to point that many evils are holding our country back, and poor education is one of them. Now, I want to point out the position of education. What is happening in the education sector today? The government, which is celebrating the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar Saheb Ji, loudly boasting that it is doing this or that. But, are we truly following Dr. Ambedkar Saheb ji's philosophy, his thinking, and his dream? So what progress is being made in education today? Just look at what happened at Central University Hyderabad recently? A student, a scholar of the university, was tortured for mentioning the name of Dr. Ambedkar Saheb and tragically took his own life? Similarly, this phase is ongoing today; a campaign to saffronize the education system of the country is going on. Isn't it alarming that the HRD Minister writes letters to the university to rusticate the students? There is a Labour Minister in this government who wrote a letter asking that a particular student should be rusticated, leading to the rustication of Rohith Vemula. Did hon. Prime Minister ever seek any discussion on that? Rahul Gandhi visited the university. Similar atrocities have taken place at other places also. But why doesn't the Prime Minister say anything about these issues? That's my question. Is this what we call Social Justice? Social justice means the

government and Prime Minister should address every act of injustice and support these communities? Is it a small issue when someone with influence tries to control the government from behind the scenes, directs the government that the reservation has to be reviewed? Can you think of something more heartbreaking or serious than this?...*(Interruptions)*

Madam Speaker, this is a community which does not own a big industry. Most of the people here are just trying to make a living with their wages. What is happening right now? Today, SC employees from all over the country are taking on the street to protest against the 91st Constitution Amendment that's about to implemented, and secondly, their promotions are on hold. If the UPA government could bring and get passed the 117th Constitution Amendment in the Rajya Sabha, then for what reason, the NDA government is not introducing it in the Lok Sabha This is crucial for all those employees whose livelihoods depend on it! I request that this Ministry has to be serious. The Atrocities Act, which was initiated by our UPA government, was passed here; It passed right here in Parliament. But what is happening today? Today, gruesome atrocities are being committed against the Scheduled Caste people. A few days ago, a Scheduled Caste girl was grabbed from her computer centre, dragged out, and raped.... *(Interruptions)* This is the incident of Punjab. This chilling incident took place in Maloth, a village near the Deputy Chief Minister's hometown, who's also in charge of the Home Department. The Dalit girl's legs were chopped off, and her hands were chopped off. And this isn't an isolated incident. Similar heinous atrocity was committed in Maharashtra yesterday, and in Ludhiana the day before yesterday. These atrocities are on the rise, yet the government seems to be turning a blind eye. What's going on in Tamil Nadu is shocking too. Why is this happening? It is happening because this government is not serious. The Hon'ble Minister is sitting here. Why doesn't he visit there? You are the Minister of this department. Visit different states and check things

out, and actually meet with people. The schemes, which have become defective, stuck on paper, should be reviews after the feedback. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Santokh Singh, please conclude now.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY: Just one minute. I want to request them as they are celebrating the birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar Saheb ji, I fear they may stray from him or his dream. ...*(Interruptions)* Dr. Ambedkar Saheb ji showed a big dream. On November 25, 1949, while speaking in the Constituent Assembly which was being chaired by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Dr. Ambedkar Saheb said:

[English]

“On the 26th January, 1950, we are going to enter into a life of contradiction: in politics, we will have equality; and in social and economic life, we will have inequality. In politics, we will be recognising the principle of ‘one man, one vote and one vote, one value’; in social and economic life, we shall by reason of our social and economic structure continue to deny the principle of ‘one man, one value’. How long shall we continue to live this life of contradiction? How long shall we continue to deny equality in our social and economic life? If we continue to deny it for long, we will do so only by putting our political democracy in peril. We must remove this contradiction at the earliest possible moment; or else, those who suffer from inequality will blow up the structure of political democracy which this Assembly has so laboriously built up. ”

[Translation]

Madam, if we do not get serious about this, it could lead to a revolution from those who’ve been oppressed, tortured and denied their rights. They might rise up and revolt for change. I urge the government to think and do some acts

favorable to SCs. I would like to forewarn my colleagues, present in the House, that the present government is anti SC, it is anti poor, it is anti people. We have to wake up this government, force to work for SC communities. Otherwise, dice may turn, they will be this side, and we will be on other side.

Thank you very much.

***CUT MOTIONS**

* For Cut Motions, please refer to Master copy of English version, placed in Library.

SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV (MADHUBANI): Madam Speaker, I am thankful to my party, my colleagues and my leaders for giving me this opportunity to speak on an important subject.

Only the wearer knows where the shoe pinches. People will never truly understand something until it happens to them. When Shri Narendra Modi is serving as the Prime Minister of India, some people are taking it too hard. It reminds me a story from my family. There was a landlord in my village. On this side of the road, my uncle was sitting on a cot outside of his door; on the other side was the Zamindar's Court. His *Tehsildar* called out my grandfather, grumbling that his children did not know courteous behaviour, was sitting on the cot in the presence of the *Tehsildar*. My family was bunch of fighters. My father, eight uncles, and four cousins—all were freedom fighters had been jailed for being freedom fighters. They decided enough was enough and planed to teach that landlord's *tehsildar* a lesson, a surprise for him at night. He caught wind of it and fled the village, and never came back. I recall how furious the landlord's *tehsildar* was; when he saw my uncle sitting on a cot outside of his door. Similarly, seeing a poor, underprivileged son from a backward class sitting in the Prime Minister's chair ruffle the feather of those stuck in feudal mentality. It is like their heart is bursting. Will they gain anything from it? Patience is the key! We got the right to vote in democracy, for which I express my gratitude to Dr. Ambedkar along with all other great leaders who with a stroke of their pen made sure everyone —whether one is the queen of India, the maid of the village, or rich or poor got equal voting right. Had the equal voting right was not given to all, the poor or the backward of the India might have not even earned one-fourth respect of what they are enjoying today in the society. This is a fact.

Presently, Indian society has three types of people- protected, safe, and neglected. Protected people are those who enjoyed family honor which passed down from generation to generation—one after the other, third after the second,

fourth after the third, fifth after the fourth—in the place of honor and got the chair by virtue of their birth. They used to think whoever will be born will have birthright to rule India. They were protected. They protect few rich, affluent, vested interests persons. Though they were plundering the country, amassing wealth, fleecing banks, stripping treasury, encouraging corruption, yet remained safe. On the other hand, there were people from the backward and Dalit society of India who remained neglected; they were considered beggars in independent India. The protected thought they would throw crumbs and the poor will live happily. It is evident that 85 percent of the backward and Dalit population of India stands up today and says, "Give us rights, solve our problems, give us equal status, and give us respect." If 85 percent of the people of India are asking for this with folded hands, then who is the culprit?

I may bring in your notice that a human has hunger both for food and knowledge? The hunger of the stomach is satisfied by bread, and the hunger of the mind is satisfied by respect. They might have done a bit to fill the stomach, like handing out scrap for beggars. But nothing significant was done to mitigate the hunger of respect. No work was done to satisfy the want of respect.

They were talking about jobs just now. It has been given in this report that even today, in class I jobs, Scheduled Castes are 13.94 percent, Scheduled Tribes are 5.82 percent, and Other Backward Classes are 11.11 percent. What to say of 27 percent, they are only 11 percent? Has Narendra Modi scooped the wealth in just two years? No, it is they who are raking in wealth earned through sharp practices, swelling in pride, and pointing fingers at us. They hurl abuses when they wish. The table turned when the poor of India voted a son of the poor, of backward classes to power; and showed the way out to the royals, and told the children of the kings and queens living in the palace that they should now leave the throne. ...(*Interruptions*) whenever it is seen, they keep venting out their envious against Shri Narendra Modi. Why do they harbor so much hatred? Why do they have so much irritation? Did they ever allow the poor and

backward people of India to reach on higher posts? Babu Jagjivan Ram was a genius member of their party; he kept hoping all his life that he would get a chance to sit in the number one chair. Did they let him become one? ...*(Interruptions)* I have also seen it. I am from Bihar.... *(Interruptions)* If Dr. Lohia wished, then Karpoori Thakur, the son of a poor barber who used to graze goats and eats stale rice, was made to sit in the chair of Chief Minister of Bihar. Have they ever let anyone to sit?

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (HINGOLI): We have a Chief Minister in Maharashtra. What are you talking about?

SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: It's a good thing. Did anyone stop him from becoming the Prime Minister of India? ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record except Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadavji's speech.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Madam Speaker,...*

SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Madam Speaker, they used the poor and left the poor in lurch. They made such of type India, they made India to dance on their tunes like a puppet.... *(Interruptions)* We used to watch peepshow in our childhood. The entertainer show things like: "Look at the Howrah Bridge, see the cities of Mecca and Medina, view the gates of Hell, behold the Jama Masjid in Delhi, admire the queen weighing six maunds, and gaze at the earring weighing nine maunds. " They made some people of the backward and downtrodden castes as leaders and cheated these societies by showing a piped dream. They asked these people, 'Gather votes and make them to sit on the throne of Delhi. ' Only some families have the right to sit on the throne of Delhi, while the people of the rest of the country do not have such right. Therefore, I humbly request you to think carefully.

* Not recorded.

Narendra Modi ji has started not one, but many schemes. Today, he is pursuing the philosophy of Dr. Lohia. Dr. Lohia had said that Dalits and backward people want equality — economic equality, social equality, state equality, and religious equality. Did they get all these equalities, if not, why they did not get all these? Even today, in independent India, there is no Dalit, Backward, Scheduled Caste, or Scheduled Tribe person at the post of Secretary or the post equivalent to Secretary. Why did an individual not become secretary? Who stopped such an individual? ...(*Interruptions*) Kaushalendra ji, be patient; don't laugh. We fought together over our suffering, over our humiliation.

There is a story in the Upanishad. Both Devatas and Danavas went to eat the feast at Prajapati Brahma's place. The Danavas asked Prajapati that every day the Devatas eat first; today we would eat first. Prajapati Brahma replied that he would tie wood to their hands. Everyone accepted the condition. The Danavas sat down to eat. Likewise when a laborer, a poor farmer of the village goes to eat, his hands are tied. They picked up food from the leaf plates; some food went into the mouth, some fell on the dress, and some fell on the ground, due to which the clothes got spoiled, and they left after eating. Later, the Devatas had the opportunity to eat. They sat down face to face; they picked food from leaf plates and fed Devata sitting just opposite. Thus, they fed each other instead of oneself. Soon everyone had eaten their meal and was satisfied.

The day when the leaders of the poor or the backward or the Dalits of India will understand the secret of knowledge from this story of the Upanishads, they will realize their mistake. Today, Narendra Modi, a man from the poor, weak, and backward class, became the Prime Minister of India. So today, I want to caution all the backward caste leaders of India who are rising up to oppose him that at some point or another, this same party of Narendra Modi ji had gave respect and offered higher posts to you. If his party had not given a chance, they would have wandered the streets; there would be no one to ask their well-being.

Today, they say that they will do this and that; they will make India free from *Sangha*. In India, we have freedom of speech. Who knows how many people thought to eliminate *Sangha*, the poor souls took birth and departed to their holy abode. The *Sangh* still exists and will continue to exist. So it is my humble request to all of you to recall the words of Dr. Lohia who asked the people of backward caste and Dalit society to ponder over the reason of their worst situation in India, The reason for that is the caste system. To eradicate this caste system, had they done any work? No, they did not? Did they make any plan? No, they did not? That is why Dr. Lohia highly emphasized that nothing good is possible until the caste system exist in India. If you want to eradicate this caste system, then you must not observe it. Till then, nothing good can be expected. What to do for this? Some people came to power in the state governments in the name of backward and Dalit; some gave shelter to those who practice inter-caste marriages, made some laws, and gave them respect. If the caste system is to be broken in India, then the only solution is to promote inter-caste marriages in India. The person who has an inter-caste marriage should be fully respected.

In the end, I would say that Shri Narendra Modi has started many schemes not one. There is the Jan Dhan Yojana. Who has benefited from the Jan Dhan Yojana? The 21 crore individuals who have opened 'zero balance' accounts belong to these marginalized and Dalit communities. How many accounts were opened during their tenure? Yesterday, Rudy ji was speaking. Who are the beneficiaries of the skill development schemes being implemented by us? Do which community woodworker, ironsmiths, leatherworkers, the gravel seller, the clay seller, the rickshaw puller, cart pullers, gig workers or the drivers belongs to. All these people belong to backward and Dalit communities. There was no recognition of the skills they possessed. We have all the knowledge, all the skills, but we were called unskilled laborers. In the previous regime people who used to speak in unknown language, having certificate, but did not possess any knowledge, were recognized as engineer. I would like to

thank Narendra Modi ji that he is giving certificates under the Skill Development Scheme to our brothers, children, mothers, and sisters who have traditional knowledge in their hands, on the basis of which they will get respect in India and the world. Isn't it an achievement?

Mudra Bank - One crore 37 lakh people have taken loans from Mudra Bank. Who are the borrowers? I would like to suggest THAAWAR Chand ji that he should conduct a socio-economic survey of all these schemes to assess the total number of people of economically and socially backward communities are reaping the benefit of the scheme. It will be an eye opener that so many people of the backward, Dalit, poor, and weak farmers have benefitted. We used to raise slogans during the socialist movement – '*Gandhi, Lohia ka airman, Mali ho Major Kiss an.*' Today, I say with respect that my wish has been fulfilled when Narendra Modi ji has done that work. Narendra Modi did the work; now a labourer, a farmer has become an owner. The dreams of Gandhi, Lohia, Deendayal, and Ambedkar have been actually realised. I will reiterate what I said some other day - no matter what they want, I have been in politics for 58 years. Many young people of today would not have drunk as much milk as I would have sweated in jail. They would not have applied so much powdered on their body as much dust I gathered on my body. Therefore, my humble request is that when we used to rot inside the jail during this social revolution, the Congress government used to lock us in the cell. At that time, we would sing a couplet inside the jail:

"Hum log hain aise diwane, duniya ko badal kar manenge,

Manjil ki dhun mein aaye hain, manjil ko pakar manenge. "

In 2014, when the poor, the humble farmers of India made Narendra Modi ji, oaf very humble ground, the Prime Minister of India, and then we exclaimed that the wish of Gandhi and Lohia was fulfilled. The reign of power came into the hands of person from humble background. Therefore, I humbly

request you to be patient.... *(Interruptions)* What are you looking at us for? Do some soul searching. Go and work in the states. In Bihar, Nitish somehow got the chair by the support of Shri Lalu Ji.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I would ask that the Hon'ble Member refrain from mentioning names.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: In Bihar, they won some seats by naming some leaders. Before that, their party fought election alone. How many seats did they win there? We say in Bihar - *dhan mein dhan kathota aur poot mein poot satauta*. How many had come? They tried everything from touching feet of a leader, wining over people, making them believe in magic tricks, putting on shows and feeding them pipedreams. How many leaders of these communities were actually chosen as the Prime Minister of India or got promoted for higher positions? What happened? What is going on in Uttar Pradesh, Assam? What about West Bengal? Just take a moment to introspect, do not underestimate the poor. Now, the weak, the backward, and Dalits of India cannot be fooled anymore. Now they are awoken; they have risen, have recognized their strength; they are not fool anymore. Therefore, it is my humble request to you.

Finally, I just want to say a few words to the youth, the backward, the Dalits, and the farmers of the country who watch the Lok Sabha proceedings on the Lok Sabha channel - know your ally or adversary; figure out who your enemies are and get rid of them; recognize your friend and stand by them and change the throne of India, change the crown, then see how India transforms. Today, Hastinapur in India is being ruled by Bharatiya Janata Party leader Narendra Modi. Who unfurl flag in Delhi is worshiped in the country. Our opinion matters. Delhi has its own importance. People have given a mandate till 2019.

I will request Thaawar Chand Gehlot ji. His ministry looks out for all three communities: Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and Backward Classes. There's a specific department just for Scheduled Tribes, while another handles both Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes together. I think we really need a separate ministry for Backward Classes too, with dedicated provisions for the community. We've asked the Hon. Prime Minister about this as well. I truly believe the Prime Minister will get this done when the right time comes. The backward class community has been asking for this for a while now. Private factory owners have borrowed a whopping Rs. 4 lakh crore from the government. That money belongs to us! When they sell shares, they're cashing in on public funds. They don't share their profits or provide jobs based on reservation. Private companies really need to step up and offer jobs to SCs, STs, and OBCs with proper reservation.

Finally, I will conclude by praying to the Prime Minister of India. Please be attentive, well-off people of India were recognised, because many lobbied for them. Madam Speaker, you also know. Someone is a TV person; someone is a reporter; someone is a writer. Lobbyists are a separate caste. They are the people who promote others. There is nobody to lobby for the OBCs, SCs, and STs. We are our own lawyers; we ourselves advocate our case; we give our own arguments. The poor, the backward, and the Dalit who are in oblivion in villages should also be honoured. If someone starts from zero and becomes a big capitalist; his name appears on TV and newspapers detailing how he has rose to such a high level.

Karpoori Thakur, the son of a barber, who grew up eating leftover rice, herding goats, ruled a state unopposed for 20 years. We owe huge thanks to the mother of Karpoori Thakur Ji. Honour should be given to the parent for raising such a prodigy. If one wants to worship, then one should worship Narendra Modi's parents. I while standing in the Parliament of India, bow down with folded hands to that blessed lady who gave birth to such a wonder child who

changed the history of India, changed the rule in India, and created new narrative for India. The talented peoples have to be recognized; they have to be honoured. There are many skilled people among the backward, Dalits, Scheduled Castes, and Scheduled Tribes. They are amazing artisans, they have mastered their vocation, they are well respected in their communities, but they are not getting the honour they deserve. Now, under the rule of Shri Narendra Modi — they will get dignity; they will be honoured; they will get their rightful place, and a new India will be created. We're on a mission to fulfill the dream of a new India envisioned by greats like Gandhi, Lohia, Dr. Ambedkar, Karpoori Thakur, and Charan Singh. There have been people who plundered the country. There are two types of leaders: one sacrifice for the country and the other just plunder the country. The leaders who plunder the country will never like us, but honestly, we don't care. We are ready to take them on anywhere. They may fight with us as much as they want; may fight with us in the sky, fight with us in the netherworld, fight with us on the earth, fight as much as you want. Let me make one thing very clear: the old times they are wishing for, are not coming back. Stop daydreaming, the idyllic period that was 30-40 years ago, is not going to come back.

Madam, now we can not tolerate it anymore. We have awakened, we have experienced, and we are creating a new India. We will further progress under the leadership of Shri Narendra Modi. I, a son of a poor farmer, have come this House from a far distant place. I am here to say, as Lord Krishna said in the *Kuru Sabha*, I, Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav, the descendant of the Lord Krishna, declare in this House, that Narendra Modi will win again in 2019 also, and will rule over India. If anyone wants to stop us, they will have to face a rough ride, would not succeed. Thank you.

13.51 hours

(Shri Arjun Charan Sethi *in the Chair*)

SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN (BISHNUPUR): Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, first of all many thanks and salutations to you. I like my party the most and you have given me an opportunity to speak here today as a Trinamool Congress MP. I want to discuss about my Parliamentary Constituency today. So, I want to speak in Bengali.

[English] *The most important thing is that I myself belong to the Scheduled Caste community and today I can declare that with pride. In this country people only talk and discuss about the issues of SCs & STs but often nothing worthwhile happens. But in the year 2011, when Mamata Banerjee became the Chief Minister of West Bengal, she took various steps for the uplift of the SCs, STs, backward communities and tribals, particularly in the Maoist – affected Jangal Mahal area. Today, things have changed radically there. Poor backward people are extremely happy and now they have direct access to the Government. I would request respected Hukum Dev Ji to kindly accompany me to Jangal Mahal and see for himself how people are living there peacefully and how they are getting rice at only Rs. 2.00 a kilo. Today only Smt. Mamata Banerjee has given recognition to the Alchiki language; nowhere else, this Alchiki language has been recognized. This is really an achievement.

We say a lot of things but not much is actually done. If we talk of Navodaya schools, we find such schools in places with least SC-ST population. This is ridiculous. In my area, four assembly constituencies have SC-ST population in large number, but there is not a single Navodaya school. There is no Central school also. Poor students have to travel 100 kms. or 150 kms. to reach a Central school. You can well imagine the plight of these hapless children. We are lagging behind in education. We are also unable to feed every mouth. People do not get adequate food; they mostly go hungry everyday in

*English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Bengali.

many parts of the country. Potable drinking water is also scarce. But the situation is far better in West Bengal. In West Midnapore, Purulia, Bankura, there used to be tension and Maoist activities. But today, everything is peaceful and under control. Mamata Banerjee has shown the way, has given them a direction. Many people criticize her but nothing can stop her development work. Why problems of Maoism are raising their ugly heads in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh? Why is there so much tension in Jharkhand? It is because, no Government has ever thought of the poor, backward communities like Mamata Banerjee's Government did. Only lengthy speeches, debates and discussions take place, but no actual developmental initiatives are taken. Our soldiers are dying; they are killed by Maoists and anti-socials in various states. But in our state of West Bengal, Jangal Mahal is peaceful and calm. Therefore, only sloganeering will not do, implementation of slogans is the need of the hour.

Navodaya schools have to be set up in the backward regions. Potable drinking water has to be provided. Water pipelines are constructed in the urban areas but not in the villages I was watching, in a Maharashtra village, SC-ST people depend on only one well for water supply, there is no other provision. Why the SCs, STs, tribals are deprived of all amenities? Yesterday, I was listening to Hon. Rudy ji when he was talking about skill development. But who cares for the petty cobblers or carpenters, or scavengers? They belong to SC-ST communities but no skill development centres are set up for the benefit of these people. The centres are set up 40 to 50 kms. away from where they stay. Why can't those be constructed near to their habitations? It is not enough to discuss, and debate about social justice because we tend to forget easily. Something should happen in reality. When Mamata Banerjee started distributing cycles to poor students, many people criticized. But when a girl of SC-ST community, tribal community gets a cycle and proudly goes back home to show it to her poor father, we should feel happy, not criticize. I can challenge that people of SC, ST communities in West Bengal are having a far better life than those in

other states; they are much more well off. 20 years or even 10 years back, these poor deprived people had nothing, no worth, no place in society. Today, in West Bengal, they can live with their heads held high. But the situation is deplorable in other states.

Here I would like to mention that education, food, shelter are very important pre-requisites of human life. When poor people cry for food, water, don't you feel that something should be done for them? Every year there is drought in rural areas. But urban areas do not bear the brunt. They get sufficient supply of water. Villagers are displaced, dams are constructed and water is redirected to towns and cities. Not a single tube well is dug in the far-flung areas. This system should change. Housing is another problem for SCs and STs. They should have proper shelter over their heads. In West Bengal, we have Gitanjali Housing Scheme for poor. Similar programmes should be there in other states too. Palaces and big castles can be built in a jiffy, but we should not overlook the plight of the poorest of the poor, we should not ignore the tears of the poor child or wailing of the helpless mother. If that happens, the country will never develop. I salute Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar who has given us voice to speak for ourselves.

More and more girl's hostels should be constructed for the girls of the backward communities. I also demand a Navodaya school for my constituency as there is huge SC-ST population in four assembly segments. If that happens, people can progress and the country can prosper. We have to take along the backward, poor, tribal population with us if we wish to see a developed nation in true sense of the term.

Thank you, Sir, for allowing me to participate in this discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI BALABHADRA MAJHI (NABARANGPUR): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. This department has been created for the welfare of SC, OBC, senior citizens, alcohol dependents, drug abusers, transgender individuals, beggars, denotified and nomadic tribes, and EBCs. In order to uplift them, a provision has been made in the Constitution on how to bring them forward educationally, socially, and economically, and make them equal to the rest of society. When the Constitution was being drafted, this was its objective, and it was expected that these people would attain equality within couple of years. It has been more than 69 years since India became independent, but it still not appears that the OBC, SC, ST, and forward classes have reached parity with the general population. We have seen previous government and the present government also does not seems doing differently, if things continue like this, then it will prove to a wild chase goose even after next 1000 years despite having separate department and reservation provisions.

Sir, the SCs are around 20 crores. The Standing Committee report also shows that the last census of OBCs was conducted in 1931. Since then, there has been no census to determine how many OBCs are there. While the Mandal Commission estimated their numbers to be 52 percent, the NSSO in 2009-10 reported just 41.7 percent. If we don't even know the figures, how can we truly help them? Nowadays, many people are being affected by alcoholism; many of them are becoming alcohol dependent, but their number is also not known. If we combine SC, OBC, and senior citizens, then their total population is around 70-80 crores. About Rs. 6,000 crore has been earmarked for SCs and about Rs. 784 crore for the disabled. In this way, a provision of about 7000 crores has been made, which is only 0.39 percent of the total budget. If we make a provision of 0.39 percent of the budget for the welfare of 70-80 crore people,

how do we expect to make a real impact? How will this class be made educationally and economically equal to others? Leave the economic perspective; first, they should be developed educationally. Unless there economic and educational equality, there cannot be acceptability in society. It is a real moon shot.

Sir, the department is there. We are not criticizing the present government; this government has been in power for two years, but it does not seem that these communities will develop in this government also. The previous government was on a similar path. The department has been established, but there hasn't been a serious discussion about what can be achieved with such a meager budget allocation.

There are no good schools or colleges in OBC, SC, and ST-dominated areas. My parliamentary constituency still does not has a government college! It has been 70 years since independence, and if someone argues why these people have not developed despite reservation, we would like to say without proper system of education how can they progress? Two colleges are being constructed there. I had requested the Hon'ble Minister to sanction one college for each of the district, but we were not heard. Education is the only tool by which we can solve other problems. We will have to pay a lot of attention to education, and whatever backward areas are there, schools, colleges, and hostels should be built, and the means of education for children should be increased. Educational development automatically promotes other types of development. We have conducted a survey and found that educationally advanced areas are also economically advanced. We can take the example of Mizoram. Mizoram's per capita income today is around Rs. 45 thousand, despite the fact that 95 percent of the population of Mizoram is tribal, whereas Odisha, where I come from, has a per capita income of Rs. 30 thousand. Mizoram is economically advanced. The reason is that about 93 to 94 percent of the people are educated there.

I request the government that whatever backward areas are there, where there is a shortage of schools and colleges, special attention should be paid to these areas. If there is a question of economically strengthening these people, how will they become economically strong unless they are given the opportunity of entrepreneurship? In the year 2014-15, an allocation of Rs. 200 crores was made. In 2015-16, it was reduced to one hundred crores, and this year, only Rs. 40 crores has been allocated for SCs in the name of venture capital. Considering the SC population of 20 crores, this amount is just two rupees per person. Who can be an industrialist with two rupees? If they go to the bank, they face a lot of legal hurdles. Those who want to vanish by night by taking loan, disappear after taking loan of nine thousand crores rupees. Such people get money without security, but the banks do not open their doors for the backward classes. Unless they are given a chance to come forward in entrepreneurship and the allocation is increased, they cannot be uplifted. Banks also have government fund. If the banks are not instructed to extend credit to these people in proportion of their population for promoting entrepreneurship, the situation is not going to improve, and demand for reservation will continue to grow; discrimination will not end. Unless all the people are economically and educationally equal, society cannot progress. I think this discrimination is being maintained deliberately. In the name of reservation, this class is suffering more than the benefits it should receive. Reservation does not mean to reserve jobs because there are only 2 crore government jobs from peon to cabinet secretary. Almost 125 crore people are struggling day and night for two crore jobs. Everybody needs reservation. There is no section left that is not asking for reservation. The story of reservation will end only when the backward classes are educated and economically prosperous. We are not saying to give jobs to everybody. We say that they should be made empowered educationally and economically; only then will this story come to an end.

The Department of Social Justice has some departments, such as for senior citizens or for alcoholism, where no allocation has been made officially, even though 369 NGOs have been engaged and ₹129 crore have been allocated to them. What will NGOs do to bring SCs, STs, and backward classes forward? I am unable to understand it. It has been found in the report of the Standing Committee that some NGOs have been employed for the sake of nothing, and when they committed fraud, it was found that they were engaged without checking their credentials. Such NGOs were engaged for the upliftment of SCs, STs, and backward classes. What will they do for alcoholism and senior citizens? What will they do when the department itself is not able to do anything? About 30-40 percent of posts are lying vacant in all departments. If vacant posts are filled, then the government machinery itself can properly do the work of upliftment of these people. If the government reviews the situation or functions well, only then the situation can be improved. I don't understand what role NGOs have to play.

Today, the eradication of beggary is also the mandate of this Department. The government does not have data on why beggars still exist today? It has been 70 years since India gained independence, yet beggars are in the country. Despite implementation of numerous social schemes, why are people begging on the roads. What is preventing us to eradicate begging?

When we talk about education, pre-matric and post-matric scholarship is also a point of concern. It has been observed that children do not get scholarships in time. If the scholarship is not being distributed in time, why have we made a provision to it? The provision of scholarship has been made with the aim to assist those children who lack financial resource or whose parents are unable to afford the education. The arrear of pre-matric and post-matric scholarships had reached to such a high level that the government could not clear the payment last year and about ₹15-20 crore are still due. Now,

following a recommendation of the Standing Committee, a provision of about ₹72 crore has been made.

There are many such concerning things. It has been observed that we are not able to do much for disabled persons. It has been observed that sufficient allotment for the awareness camps which intend to support them is not being made. Even when some allocation is made, it often goes unused. Without awareness among the public, how will disabled people, especially the children and girls of the villages, will be able to avail the facilities means to them. They are not able to take advantage of it.

Out of ₹783 crore, ₹245 crore (31%) has been earmarked for the disabled. Therefore, I request the Hon'ble Minister, through you, that the public should be made well aware by running awareness campaigns about the schemes, at least those are for SCs, STs, backward classes, and disabled persons. So they can take advantage of the schemes being run by the Government.

Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka are among the states where a department specifically for disabled persons has been opened. Similar departments should be opened in more states so that the provisions for disabled persons can be properly implemented allowing them to take advantage of support available. I had a lot to share, but it seems that I have run out of time as the bell has rung a few times.

In the last, I would like to say that education is basic thing. Children should get scholarships in a timely manner. In the areas lacking schools and colleges, the government should take action to open sufficient schools and colleges, promote entrepreneurship among marginalised children, enabling them to compete with the children of other groups. Thank you.

[English]

DR. RAVINDRA BABU (AMALAPURAM): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak.

Let me first congratulate the Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot ji. He happened to be the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment at the time when we are celebrating the 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. Sir, he is very lucky and I must congratulate him. I would also like to congratulate him personally for his dynamic leadership and the way he is touching the hearts of SCST entrepreneurs. I must mention about the way IFCI has been given the guarantee of Rs. 200 crore and also the way they are disbursing money to the unemployed youth of SCSTs. I would also like to congratulate and thank the staff of the Ministry who is so aggressive and proactive in spreading various beneficial schemes available to SCST youth. They have been touring all over India and spreading the message about the benefits available to SCSTs.

Shri Gehlot ji also is so kind enough to sanction the handicapped stadium in Visakhapatnam. He has also distributed a lot of money during the Celebrations of Dr. Ambedkar. I would also like to make a special mention about the Ambedkar Foundation. The Officers connected with that Foundation have done a yeomen service during the 125th Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Dr. Ambedkar. They have done the most wonderful work.

Sir, at the time of the 125th Birth Anniversary Celebrations of Dr. Ambedkar, the expectations of the people are too high. The budgetary allocation made to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is too low. A lot of injustice has been done to this Ministry, and also a lot of injustice has been done to the people whom they are treating and whom they are attending to. Scheduled Caste people have been subjected to a lot of injustice since time immemorial. Now, the time has come to do justice to these people. But as to whether justice

has been done to the Ministry of Social Justice by the Government of India, I feel 'no'. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has got a raw deal. They do not have much budget. A lot of posts are still lying vacant.

Sir, it reminds me a small thing. I do not know whether I am correct or not. If I am wrong, please correct me. When we are discussing the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, not many Members are sitting here. Had there been a discussion on 2G scam or a discussion about Vijay Mallya, the House would have been full. Sir, this is very unfortunate.

[Translation] How serious we are about the issues of the SC/St, can we judged by the number of the members present in the House. The quorum in the House was completed only when the issue of quorum was raised. I think the House has quorum now. This shows how serious we are for justice to SCs and STs. How much justice they need, how much justice is being done, is evident by this incident? We have seen how many Members assembled in the House during the discussion on 2G, 3G scam or Vijay Mallya, but those Members are not in sight. *[English]* Maybe today being Friday, not many Members are here. So, that is injustice.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has to deal with SCSTs who got injustice for centuries and decades of the old practice of untouchability, alienation, exclusion of these people from the mainstream. For the Horticulture Department, we specially recruit horticulture people. For recruitment in hospitals, we recruit only doctors, compounders and pharmacists. But for the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, I do not remember heading this Department other than SC. It is always headed by a Minister from SC. If there is any other instance, I do not know. But the entire Ministry officials are not from SC. It is not that I am making an allegation that these people are not doing justice or not able to do justice. They may do justice but there are no Officers

from SC, anywhere in the hierarchy – for example, from Secretary to below the Joint Secretary level – who can understand the problems of SCSTs. The Officers have to understand how SCST people suffer, ever since they born. Scheduled Caste is determined by birth and not by profession. I may be a Prime Minister; I may be the President; even Dr. Ambedkar is still called a dalit leader but never called as a true national leader. It is unfortunate. Therefore, structural change is required in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. It has to have some socialists, some advisers and some NGOs. Those who can understand the problems of the SCST people better than other castes should be given preference. But a point may arise, to reach a Secretary one must have 33 years of experience. It is also a fact that SCSTs are always recruited above 30 years of age. Therefore, there would not be any Secretary available to be posted in the Social Justice and Empowerment.

I would suggest, Sir, if you give five years relaxation to SCST officers, at least, they can reach the Secretary's post by reservation.

Sir, there is a DoPT in the Government of India. The DoPT is the one, which controls the cadre of the SCST officers. They look after it starting from the recruitments, increments, promotions, problems. All such things are dealt with by the DoPT whereas in every Department, there is an SCST Cell and an SCST Liaison Officer. So, I would request the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment to open a DoPT type Department in your own Ministry to look after the interests of SCST people better. I think the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment will look after the interests of the SCST officers better than the respective Departments. All the Departments have discriminatory attitude. This discriminatory attitude can be removed if there is a DoPT like Cell.

Sir, there is a Legislative Wing in the form of Parliamentary Forum. There is a judicial type of organ, which is called the National Commission for SCST. But where is the Executive Wing, in the Social Justice and

Empowerment? In the Social Justice and Empowerment, there is no justice being done to the SCST excepting some social welfare schemes. Therefore, justice also should be done by creating a DoPT like Cell there.

Sir, I would give a small example. None of the Social Justice and Empowerment officers are aware what are the injustices being done to the SCSTs in the country. When we specifically asked, as to what are the Supreme Court Judgments, High Court Judgments standing as an impediment for the welfare schemes, recruitment and promotions, they were totally silent. It is so unfortunate that during 125th Birth Anniversary of Ambedkar, if we cannot do this justice to the employees, it is not at all justified.

Sir, please think about these issues, which are burning. There are issues, which have come up in the Supreme Court also challenging the very process of recruitment and promotions of SCSTs, If those challenges are accepted in the form of a PIL in the Supreme Court, Sir, there will be civil war. So, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has got a lot of responsibilities to come out actively and proactively to protect the interests of SCST employees by recruiting SCST officers abundantly as much as possible.

Sir, 117th Amendment, which was brought by the last Government, has to be given a serious thought. Otherwise, the entire process of recruitment and promotions is going to be perverted.

Sir, so far, we have talked about only SC employees, who are privileged, who have got promotions through reservations. But what about the rural poor? What about the rural dalits, who are worse than animals, who are having poverty, food issues, shelter issues? What about them? Who will look after them? We have left their fate to the State Governments; and the State Governments, as per their whims and fancies, look after them or even do not look after them.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in the Central Government should have the power to direct the State Governments who are erring in implementing the welfare schemes in the rural areas, areas where dalits are living to implement all these schemes.

Sir, I have a small suggestion. This is a time to revisit the Land Ceiling Act and see to it that all the rural SC people who are 99 per cent landless labourers, toiling blood and sweat, to earn two time food in a day, are given some amount of land so that the rural poverty, the social discrimination to some extent can be addressed during the 125th Birth Anniversary of Ambedkar. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has got a lot of responsibilities in discharging all these things by being the guardian of all the SCs of the country.

Thank you very much, Sir. Jai Telugu Desam.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR (KARIMNAGAR): I, on behalf of my Party Telangana Rashtra Samiti, am participating in this debate on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. I do not want to be rhetoric or I do not want to attribute any motive or I do not want to make a speech of blame-game politics.

Sir, till now, I heard from the Congress Party as well as the Bharatiya Janata Party. The Bharatiya Janata Party's Member of Parliament said that all is well whereas the Congress Party's Member of Parliament said nothing is well.

Sir, who ruled this country for the last 67 years? Both the political parties, that is, the Congress as well as the Bharatiya Janata Party ruled the country. What is the amount allocated in the Budget for the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry? It is only Rs. 6,565.95 crore out of which, the Plan fund is Rs. 6,500 crore and non-Plan fund is Rs. 65.95 crore.

Sir, I have seen the budgets introduced by the Congress Party earlier. It was not more than Rs. 5,000 crore. Who is blaming whom? Is that everything fine? Not at all. I have gone through the Budget Estimates of 2015-16 introduced by this Government. Last year, it was Rs. 6,542 crore. In the Revised Estimates, they have reduced to the extent of Rs. 600 crore. The population of country is 120 crore out of which more than half of the population is from the OBC, SC and ST. In fact, it is about 70 per cent. What is the budget allocated to these sectors, particularly under this Head, that is Social Justice and Empowerment? We are debating on the Demands for Grants. So, I want to give some suggestions as well as recommendations on behalf of my Party.

In view of the time constraint, I would like to specify only on a few issues with regard to scholarship of students, reservations for SCs and STs and social sector pensions.

With regard to scholarships, in this Budget Estimates, what is the amount that we are giving to the Scheduled Caste children? For days scholar, we are

giving Rs. 100 and for a hostel scholar, we are giving Rs. 700. This amount is too meagre and I suggest that, at least, it should be Rs. 1,500 per month for a hostel scholar because many of the Scheduled Caste students are now being educated through hostel in all the States.

With regard to the Rajiv Gandhi Fellowships Programme which was introduced by the UPA Government earlier, the total scholarship amount is Rs. 2,000 per head for SCs and Rs. 667 per head for STs. This is a large country having 29 States and seven Union Territories. Our country's population is 120 crore. I would like to suggest that the scholarship amount should be increased in this Budget. Already the Budget is introduced. I request the Hon'ble Minister to see that these scholarship amounts may be increased to Rs. 4000 per head and Rs. 2000 per head respectively for SCs and STs.

With regard to OBCs, now they are being given only Rs. 300 per head under the Rajiv Gandhi Fellowship Programme. At least, it should be increased to Rs. 4,000 per head. These are the scholars who have completed their post-graduation. They wanted to do some research work. Cannot the Union Government help by giving at least to the extent of Rs. 4000 per head across the country? I request and suggest the Hon'ble Minister to see that some allocations are made to meet these demands.

With regard to reservation for SCs and STs, as per the 2011 Census, the population among the SCs and STs has increased to 17 per cent. The Union Public Service Commission is conducting exam for Civil Services. I request that the Union Public Service Commission should increase the reservation to 17 per cent and 9 per cent respectively for SCs and STs. This is as per the 2011 Census. But as on today, the reservation for SC and ST community is not on par with the population of 2011 Census.

Now jobs for SC and ST people, particularly Government jobs have reduced. Employment in the Government sector has now reduced and it has

increased in the private sector. We should make a clause in the contract agreements with the contractors, when the Government is spending a huge amount on construction workers as well as on infrastructure companies, that they should, at least, hire some employees from SC and ST people. At least, that proposal should come from this Ministry. They have not made such a proposal till now. At this stage, they should, at least, make some advisory to the State Governments so that while awarding contracts, the Government should insist on that they should, at least, employ 17 per cent SCs and 9-10 per cent STs. They are doing infrastructure work. The money is from the exchequer, from the Consolidated Fund of India. They have a role. So, I request that this Ministry should make some recommendations and see that such reservations are implemented in the private sector also.

With regard to pension, how much are we giving? It is Rs. 300 per head for the disabled and Rs. 200 per head for the old age pensioners. I will come to my State. In my State, my Chief Minister, Shri K. Chandrasekhar Rao, immediately after the swearing in ceremony, announced Aasara pension scheme for the age-old people. We are giving Rs. 1,000 per month to each individual, age-old people who come under the BPL category. The amount allocated in the Telangana State Government Budget 2016-17 is Rs. 4,693 crore. It is only for pension. The total budget of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in the country is only Rs. 6,000 crore. We have allocated such an amount for only one scheme. Even for the disabled person, we are giving Rs. 1,500 per month.

We have introduced a scheme called 'Kalyana Lakshmi', that is, at the time of marriage; we are giving Rs. 51,000 for girls from the SC and ST communities. Now, our Chief Minister, day before yesterday announced that he is going to introduce this Kalyana Lakshmi scheme even to the Backward Class communities. The total budget allocated is around Rs. 1,000 crore for this scheme. These are the social welfare schemes by which we can do some justice to the deprived sections of the society. Ours is a small State with 3.5 crore

population and we have allocated such budget. I request the Hon'ble Minister to make a request to the Union Cabinet and to the Prime Minister to allocate some money so that the Demands for Grants of the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry can be increased.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Lastly, even for the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Backward Class students who are studying by staying in hostels, we are giving fine, quality rice for the boarders in the hostel. With regard to this Ministry, for the last many years Non-Governmental Organizations are doing service for the disabled, mentally retarded children, tribal children and blind children. All the proposals were sent by the State Governments to this Ministry.

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (DHENKANAL): You should say, 'differently abled'.

SHRI B. VINOD KUMAR: Yes, I am sorry.

What is the amount? Now, the NGOs are coming to the Government and they are waiting for 2-3 years. There are many representations from my side itself. The money which was to be released in 2013-14 has not yet been released. They are doing humanitarian service. I am unable to understand the reason for it. Is it because of paucity of funds that you are not releasing it or do you have any plan to close these schemes which are being run by Non Governmental Organisations?

In the Budget Estimates of 2015-16, the total amount has not been utilized. What is the reason for it? It is a very big amount. Even the Ministry has not utilized it. The simple reason is non-clearance of funds from the Ministry. Then, there is delay in submission of proposals by the State Governments, which is the reason for underutilization of funds and the reason for late submissions is that no guidelines have been framed for it. So, I request the Hon'ble Minister to see that proper guidelines should be made and are

introduced at the earliest. He should request the State Governments to see that these proposals should come to the Ministry at the earliest.

Ultimately, I would like to mention that I have moved some cut motions and I request the Hon'ble Minister to accept them. Thank you.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (HINGOLI): Sir, I am on a point of order. There is no quorum in the House.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The bell is being rung.

Now, there is quorum. Shri Md. Badaruddoza Khan.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN (MURSHIDABAD): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I thank you for giving an opportunity to speak on this subject. *[Translation]* Just now Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav gave an emotional lecture on behalf of the BJP. He spoke as usual. I express my gratitude to him. I was also hearing another hon. Member. He spoke about the election campaign of West Bengal. It seems to me that in two years of BJP rule, India has become a paradise; and West Bengal too. But reality is quite different. If one wants to do some scrutiny, some review, or a socio-economic survey, to see the true picture, then one can do that too; one must, only then the one will know the truth. That is a different matter. I will now come to my point.

[English] Sir, today I want to speak some words about the Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Social and Justice. It is true that after 67 years of independence a large number of people in our country are socially and economically backward.

They are the SCs, STs, dalits, adivasis and other backward classes. They are the target groups of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. The population of these groups is near about 50 per cent of the total population. Ignoring these weaker sections, the country will not go ahead. It is true that there are some safeguards in our Constitution for these weaker and backward classes.

Let us discuss now what the role of the Union Government is. Let us look into the Budget allocation. The budget allocation in 2015-16 was Rs. 6,524.82 crore and in 2016-17, it is Rs. 6,565.95 crore. There is an increase of only Rs. 40 crore compared to the allocation made in the previous year's Budget. As per the Standing Committee Report, 2015, the allocation in 2015-16 Budget Estimate was lesser than the demand made by the Ministry. This year too, the demand made from the Ministry has not been accepted. The demand remains unmet even this year also.

Under-utilisation of funds also is a major problem of the schemes under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. This is also one of the reasons cited by the Government for not increasing the allocation. It is a matter of great regret that the primary reason for under-utilisation of funds is the late submission of proposals by the States. So many long speeches are delivered by so many persons inside and outside the Parliament favouring the dalits and other weaker sections, but the actual fact is reflected in the budgetary allocation and its under-utilisation.

Sir, the Union Budget 2016-17 has protected the allocation of schemes for tribals and a number of schemes have been clubbed together in the name of restructuring of the schemes, but there is no clear indication or roadmap about the implementation of the Tribal Sub-Plan. I do not know how it will be developed. In this context, I remember the report of C&AG on Tribal Sub-Plan which says, and I quote:

“Under utilisation of funds, diversion of funds and deficient financial management being common in most of these schemes targeted for SCs and STs, ”

It further says:

“These schemes meant for the welfare and development of SCs and STs are not given adequate publicity resulting in poor awareness of different schemes among the target population. ”

In C&AG report 14 of 2007, it is observed that:

“Actually, most of the weaker sections of our society do not know about the welfare schemes for their upliftment. ”

So, a mechanism should be created with some allotted grants for creating awareness among these people.

Finally, I agree with the opinion that a separate unit should be created with NITI Aayog with powers to review and monitor the concerned Ministries and Departments to ensure effective implementation of SCSP and TSP – Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan.[Translation] It should be made differently.

Finally, I want to say two things. A little bit of good thing was said.[English] 67 years of our Independence have gone and still so many beggars are wandering on the streets for begging. Why? [Translation] Why are so many baggers on the roads? After all, what did the previous government do? Today, the government claims that the son of a poor family has come to power, has the son of a poor family done anything to address this problem? Has anything done? I don't see anything done in this regard. Something has to be done about it today. It is a shame for the country that a man from India is wandering on the roads, whoever comes from abroad sees that an Indian begs from him while wandering in the streets. Something has to be done for it. I don't blame anyone, what the Congress did, what BJP did, but we all have to think together why one have to beg on the road. Why it was not eradicated? We can find a way to stop it. If we seriously try to find the solution, we might be able to put an end to it. It can be stopped, can't it? I feel that if there is so much humiliation to the backward class or the others, then illiteracy could be the root cause of this.

Utmost emphasis should be laid on their education. With education, they will get the power to overcome their situations. We should have some special thinking for their education. While it is good to give reservation, but reservation is not the only solution. Had reservation be the solution, we would have seen a sea change in their situation, but that has not been the case. That is why we need to think innovatively to help them to come out from their backwardness. We also need to get examined our mindset.

I read an article in a periodical, I think it was the 'Front Line' in which an upper-class girl said to another girl, "you are not looking like an SC person." Then what does an SC look like? Do they look like a beast, monkey or others? This mind set should also need to be changed. All are human being. Despite all these difficulties we all are Indians. We all, together, have to find ways and to eradicate this opinion. It cannot be leave on a particular party. I would urge upon the Government that it should take everyone to find a solution as to how we can come out of this situation. With these words, I congratulate you. Thank you very much.

[English]

SHRI MEKAPATI RAJA MOHAN REDDY (NELLORE): Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on this subject, namely, the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

I am of the firm opinion that all evils in the society can be eradicated only when all citizens of this country get educated. It is only education that can remove all the disparities in the society. Hence, the Government of India and all State Governments should try to give education to all the citizens of the country.

The Indian society has many inequalities since Centuries. There are many castes in the same religion and many disparities in the same caste, and among same religion there are forward, backward, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There is so much variation in the life-style among various castes, and these variations have to be reduced.

The Government of India, under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, have started many schemes to uplift the downtrodden, for example, the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Backward Classes also. He is contemplating the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people also to become good entrepreneurs and start some industry and business. It is really a good thing.

I am of the opinion that from whom else we can expect good social measures except Shri Narendra Modi who has come up from humble beginnings to this stage. Hence, I sincerely hope and expect that many social welfare measures would be taken up by this Government and the life-style of the downtrodden will definitely become good.

For example, I may mention here the experience in the State of Andhra Pradesh when Dr. Rajasekhara Reddy was the Chief Minister. He started many social welfare measures. He created food security for the poor people; health

security to all people; and provided education security also. He also started the fee reimbursement scheme.

In that way, all the poor children have now become engineers, doctors, and they have studied MBA, MCA and so on. Even the poorest of the poor are getting education because he started those welfare measures. After he has started all those schemes, other States are also trying to follow the same thing. Also, he has created four per cent reservations for Muslims. He said that all Muslims and Dalit Christians should be treated as Scheduled Castes. Such schemes have definitely helped the poor. Had he been alive, he would have done great things.

Even now I expect many things from Shri Narendra Modi, who has come up in life from a very humble beginning and reached the level of the Prime Minister of India. Definitely, I expect many things, and hope that many social welfare measures would be taken up in future also to create equality among all people. In this context, everybody has to remember Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, who has struggled a lot to create equality among all people. Hence, this Government should allocate proper funds to take care of the downtrodden, the oppressed and the depressed people of society to make them live their lives as equals along with the rest.

With these words, I support these Demands for Grants of the Ministry. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE (MANDLA): Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to discuss the 'Demands for Grants' of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. When the discussion about this ministry started, our Hon. Members have talked about the government and the Prime Minister. I have been observing for a very long time that whatever discussions are taking place, the facts and the gist of those discussions need to be kept in mind. This Ministry is dedicated to the welfare schemes. It is crucial that we treat it with seriousness it deserves.

Now many of our Hon. Members have spoken about the policy. We have been observing that the same topics have been repeated since the programme was started. Sometimes there is talk about the Budget, there is talk about the lapse of the Budget, there is talk about siphon off; all the subjects come up. But, we should ponder seriously to have a monitoring system, prior to release of grants to the state governments. It is my humble suggestion to the Government because, the data rise concerns, people outside also question whether, the grants or 'Special Central Assistance (SCA), the Government gave, are being utilised properly, or reaching the grassroots level. It should be used for those to whom the schemes have been made. The State Governments which do not bother about it should be directed accordingly. Therefore, it has also noticed that the amount meant for the General Pool schemes goes to that General Pool scheme. But, it has been said here also that influential people use money, and due to that, money is diverted to other schemes. This needs to be looked into; it needs to be monitored. By addressing these concerns, the Ministry can ensure that funds reach to intended recipients.

I want to congratulate Hon. Prime Minister, Narendra Bhai Modi ji, for launching many schemes. Yesterday, we were discussing skill development. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated many schemes

for the officials working in the government, as well as the people of the Scheduled Castes, and the OBCs. Hukmdeo Narayan ji gave data. Hon. Members also highlighted that there is no supervision and monitoring of issues related to officials in Grade 'C' and 'D', or those employed on a contract basis at the lower level. If we look into the situations, it becomes clear that except the officers of the category 'A' and 'B', the officials in categories 'C' and 'D' are in difficult situation. They have neither medical facilities nor PF. However, there is a Labour Act, but no action can be taken under it. I think if we consider their difficulties sympathetically, then the employees of categories 'C' and 'D' may get these facilities. I, going through the figures, found that their representation was as low as 19 percent, or 27 percent. In comparison, the representation in categories 'A' and 'B', is further low. How can we fill this gap is a matter of concern for us? Whenever there is a discussion in the House, all these figures are mentioned. But we must acknowledge the reality; only then can we bring these people in the mainstream of society. The Government has taken many measures to address these issues.

I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for his speech, while speaking in an event at Finance Corporation he discussed the situation of these sections, especially the Scheduled Caste people, and emphasised the importance of capacity building. In fact, it is a revolutionary decision of the Government. For the first time, the government has taken such a decision. It allows our people to rise in society with full potential, to pursue their plans, to run their own industry, and they can create employment opportunities for others. That who provides work is called employers. This is a commendable step. It should be seen how we could further expand this progress. For example, when we look at the statistics about scholarship schemes for students, the pre-matric scholarships scheme has a limit of two lakh rupees. It needs to be increased. There are so many figures. For post-matriculation, it is two lakh fifty thousand rupees. Considering the present rate of inflation, in fact, the amount has to be adjusted

accordingly. There shouldn't be a cap for such type of schemes. I urge the Hon'ble Minister that schemes should be reviewed and revised on the basis of current statistics.

The issue of reservation and promotion was discussed here. If you look at the statistics across the country, whether we talk about an undertaking or a Ministry, the issue of their CR, or competence etc. always raised. I think we must consider this issue also. Now a new provision has been made added against the atrocity. But, how many people are actually taking it seriously? The hon. Members also quoted figures from other parts of the country. I don't want to go into those figures.

15.00 hours

We need to worry about the fact that we are not conscious about the difficulties of this class. I believe it is the topic need serious consideration. We talk about competence. Talking about it only from a political point of view, is not going to uplift the society. It needs to be looked at the lower level. A Hon. Member talked about the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana. In fact, some villages have 50% of the population of such people; the Hon'ble Minister and this department have identified such villages and released an amount of Rs. 20 lakh to these villages. I praise the Department and the Hon. Prime Minister that at least the Ministry has done the work of benefiting those villages by starting such a scheme. This is a very big revolutionary step. I am looking forward for more such kinds of schemes and programmes. I don't want to go into how much concern the previous governments showed or did not show about this, but an effort has been started by the Hon. Prime Minister to expand these schemes. Presently, there is a need to make them economically capable and bring them into the mainstream of the society.

15.02 hours

(Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav *in the chair*)

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I know that time is short; many Members also want to speak on this subject. The whole House should show concerns for them, worry about the situation. We should all unitedly stand against the shortcomings; some examples were also given. Many times such a situation arises inside the House. An incident of Hyderabad was just mentioned. I don't want to get into that controversy. Actually, there is a limit to politics; we should not do politics on the subject which might impact society. I have seen its seriousness; this society has nothing to do with the incident. It is a matter of grave concern for us to blame a society. This type of topic is used to mislead society; neither the society nor the country is going to get any political benefit from this. This kind of issues should be first examined to judge whether the issue is really serious or not, with whom it concerns. I do not want to put an end to this issue by talking only on political grounds. In fact, this issue had also come before us; the society should not be misled by bringing up such a subject. The discussion on regarding grants is taking place—I want to congratulate the Minister again. We should work on the suggestions that came during the discussion; and make efforts to take the society forward on this basis.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, the discussion which is going on will end at 15.30 hrs, and the Minister will give reply on Monday.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): We would like to continue the discussion on Monday, followed by reply on it.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: But, Private Members' Bill will be taken up 15.30 hrs.

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV (BADAUN): Sir, no matter how many hon. Members want to speak, everyone should get a chance to speak because this is an important issue.

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT): Sir, I am making a request that it would be

good if all the Hon. Members who want to speak get an opportunity, but let us extend today's business and give the opportunity to all the Hon. Members who want to speak today.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: This issue concerns 23 percent of the people, 85 percent of the people.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Let's continue; we will consider it when the Private Members' Bill will be taken up at 15.30 hrs.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: No, you will not see; though there is no quorum, we are cooperating. You have to ring the bell for the quorum three times. You are embracing the government. There is still no quorum. After 15:30 hrs, the non-government Bill be taken up ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV (BADAUN): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, you have given me an opportunity to speak on a very important issue, so I am grateful to you.

Sir, as you said in your opening remark, it is true that Dalits, minorities, and backward classes have been subjected to injustice and exploitation in every possible way in the country— not just for a few years, but for centuries. There have always been efforts to hold them back, and prevent them to progress in any way. To this end, everything was banned, no stone left unturned, both before and after independence to stop them from moving forward.

Sir, it is true that with the amendment made in the Constitution framed by Babasaheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar and recommendations of the Commissions like the Mandal Commission, legal provisions have been made for Dalits, backward classes, or minorities. However, in spite of all those legal safeguards, there have been conspiracies on how to stop their progress.

Madam Speaker, while all the schemes of our country and the budget of our country are also allocated on the basis of categories. For instance, if we take

case of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, a separate budget is allocated to them. So, I demand from the Government of India that a separate Budget should also be allocated for the backward classes as we do for SCs/STs in the country.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, my second request is that it is said that we do not have caste data to make a policy to provide justice to the backward class people. I have no hesitation in saying that the last census was held in 1931, there have been calls for a cast census over the years. Remember back in 2010, when the entire House unanimously demanded it? Shri Kharge, I hope you won't take this the wrong way, and no offense, Shri Kharge Ji, but if you're upset, that's on you. The Congress Party's government back then didn't make the numbers public, and it's still a mystery why. What is the reason, Kharge Saheb! What is the reason, my Congress friends! When they did all kinds of censuses, they never mentioned using biometrics. But when it came to count the person of the backward classes, your learned minister decided to throw biometrics into the mix to make sure they couldn't count the numbers of backward classes in the country. The entire conspiracy in this matter was hatched by the Congress government of that time.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I do not say that the plight of the backward classes started only with Modi ji's rule since the last two years. The people who have ruled this country before him have definitely contributed a lot to plight of OBCs. However, But the way my colleagues from the Bharatiya Janata Party are talking about Modi ji, claiming that the conditions for the backward classes will improve significantly, I'm not holding my breath. I've seen what his two years in power have brought, and I'm not among those who believe in triumph of hope over experience.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, the caste census should be conducted. When reservation was given based on the recommendations of the Mandal

Commission, then the condition of the creamy layer was imposed, whereas no creamy layer condition was imposed for anyone else. Why is there a condition of creamy layer for the backward classes? The National Commission for Backward Classes continuously makes recommendations, but even today, they have income limit of Rs. 6 lakh for creamy layer. On behalf of my Samajwadi Party and the Hon. Neta ji, we are of the view that the limit of creamy layer is a tool of exploitation and a barrier for the backward classes. Therefore, we strongly demand that it should be completely abolished. This is our demand. Although the National Commission for Backward Classes Commission has recommended increasing this limit, yet the Hon'ble Minister has not taken any initiative to accept that recommendation. Therefore, I have a special demand that the income limit for creamy layer should be removed.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, as far as the representation of OBCs in government jobs is concerned, I also studied a lot, and wonder why OBCs lack proper representation in government service despite the implementation of the recommendations of the Mandal Commission, the Constitutional status to the Commission and various constitutional safeguards available to OBCs?

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I will not take much time. I also just asked an Unstarred Question 548, but the answer given by the Hon'ble Minister does not address the question properly. I have figures given by the Hon'ble Ministering this House in the year 2013 and the Hon'ble Minister is not giving the figures after that. The Government is not providing data. Therefore, I demand that a clear answer should be given to my Unstarred Question No. 548.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, it is told that the percentage of backward classes in the government jobs in the country is only 11%. I want to tell that 11 percent of the backward class people can be in Class III and IV. I want to tell the House that there are 4 percent in Group-A, and Group-B in the Commerce Ministry. The Ministry of Defence has 6 percent in Group-A and Group-B. The

fertiliser and Chemicals ministry has only 2 percent in Group-A, and 10 percent in Group-B. Similarly, if I talk about higher education, then there are only 3 percent in Group-A, and 5 percent in Group-B. There are not one but many Departments and Ministries where not a single person belonging to the backward classes is in service. Similarly, there are some ministries ranging from Panchayati Raj to Parliamentary Affairs in which the number of backward classes is zero percent in Group-A. What a grim situation! When the recommendations of the Mandal Commission are applicable in the country, there is a law, even after all that safeguards they are not being recruited. The conclusion I drawn from various research and study, I want to tell the country through you that the Government of India has brought in GO regarding reservation roster in the country. The GO tells that the reservation will be of posts based instead of vacancies based.

Chairperson Sir there was no posts for backward people and Dalits, for centuries. Only when backward, Dalit person will vacate posts, only then others of their will get a chance. If a new post fall vacant, there will be no chance for them to get recruit on this post. I strongly demand from the Government that this black law, this GO, should be withdrawn. Unless this GO is withdrawn, the backward can never get justice. No matter how much we struggle, how passionate speeches we give, without withdrawing this GO, we, the backward class people will never be able to reach the posts of Group “A” and “B”.

Hon’ble Chairperson, Sir, I asked a question to the hon. Human Resources Minister, in response to which he told that there is only one professor in the country and there are only six associate professors.... *(Interruptions)*

Hon’ble Chairperson, Sir, please allow us to speak. This is our humble prayer and expectation too.... *(Interruptions)*

DR. UDIT RAJ (NORTH-WEST DELHI): Dharmendra ji, there is talk of OBC officials. SC, ST, backward classes in Uttar Pradesh ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: I will be happy to discuss that also. But, let me focus on this first. No more interruptions, please.... *(Interruptions)*

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, the Minister should answer what I am asking for *(Interruptions)* He can discuss this in his speech.... *(Interruptions)* I was saying that the hon. Minister told that there is only one professor and six associate professors. Now, there are about 1745 assistant professors. Thus, the total OBCs is 1752 out of 6600, of which Associates Professor are only seven. We say that the post based reservation being given is the biggest black law. I demand from you that it should be taken back.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I have another serious question. I am talking on behalf of all, so all may please listen, backwards and dalits are given age relaxation for four-five years in jobs, but after the age of 55 years, they cannot get promotion. Why? Perhaps this is the major reason for which backwards and dalits are not reaching up to the posts of Secretary Level, which he asked about.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Dharmendra Yadav ji, you may conclude because time is constraint.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, we request you to give us some more time to speak. Please consider our request. If you ask us to sit down in the future, we will conclude our speech immediately, but today we seek justice from you.

Secondly, among those who do not get promotion after the age of 55 years, 99 percent are from the OBC and Dalit classes. They are being denied promotion by virtue of this law. Currently, the country's employees are enumerated by the Ministry of Labour. I demand from the government, through you, that at the time of that enumeration one column should be added to indicate the category to which an employee belongs. So it will help to ascertain whether

an employee belongs to backward class, Dalit class or any other class. Thus, separate data collection will not be required.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Dharmendra Yadav ji, please conclude. I am moving on the second speaker.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, shower your justice today....*(Interruptions)* We request you to do justice with us today....*(Interruptions)* If the issues pertaining to 85 percent of the people are discussed and the time is not extended, how will it work? Accept our prayer....*(Interruptions)* A lot of discussions have taken place. The government raised new hopes and new dreams. I demand that the government take into account all the points we have raised. These have not been raised in vain. All these issues are based on facts. Please, acknowledge all these facts. Even if we talk about the Budget, if we talk about the Parliamentary Committee Report that came yesterday, the government did not increase the amount of scholarship meant for the backward classes for 18 years. The scholarship up to class 5 is only Rs. 25 and Rs. 40 up to class VIII.... *(Interruptions)* The Standing Committee in its report has shown a mirror to the government, it must look into the mirror and try to improve this face, to clean this face. Is an amount of Rs. 25 and Rs. 40 useful? The government should work out to adjust these amounts. Thank you very much.

[English]

***SHRI SHER SINGH GHUBAYA (FEROZEPUR):** Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Demands for

*English translation of the Speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

Grants under the control of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (2016-17).

Sir, Punjab has the highest population of Scheduled Caste people. However, various schemes launched for their welfare have failed to reach them. Punjab has been neglected time and again by those at the helm of affairs in Delhi, especially during the erstwhile UPA regime. I would like to know from the Hon'ble Minister why money allocated under sub-plan has never been fully utilized.

Sir, let me draw your attention to the lethal disease of cancer that has destroyed the lives of residents of Malwa region of Punjab. A lot of Scheduled Caste people reside in this region. They have fallen victim to this deadly disease. My constituency Ferozepur has the second highest population of SC category people. The poor, under-privileged people afflicted by cancer have no means to get them treated. The Central Government must come to their rescue.

Sir, the Bhatinda – Bikaner Express train has been nick-named “Cancer Express’ – such is the reach and havoc of cancer in this region. These affected people should be given financial assistance for getting themselves treated. Other inhabitants of the border-belt have also fallen prey to this disease. Finding out and treating the patients of this disease is an uphill and complex task. The Central Government must not leave these patients in the lurch.

Sir, granting of scholarships to the SC,ST and OBC category students has left much to be desired. Scholarship amount of these students have not been released for the last three years. Timely distribution of scholarships to these disadvantaged students is the need of the hour.

Sir, students from all parts of India can come and get admission in educational institutions of Punjab. However, the state of Bihar has put a condition for students of Punjab. They must pay a security amount of Rs. 5

lakhs. Only then can they get admission in Bihar. This is totally unjust and uncalled for. This rule must be removed.

Sir, another cause of concern is the injustice meted out to the SC/ST/OBC persons as far as employment is concerned. Sir, the data of SC, ST, and OBCs pertaining to executive class jobs is an eye-opener. Recruitment for such posts in Punjab, Haryana and Delhi reveals the deep-rooted bias against these under-privileged sections. People of these segments are deliberately given very less marks in the interview so that they are not selected for the job. Sir, I urge upon the Government to fully fill all the posts of these categories. I am thankful to Shri Thakur for highlighting this point. By giving less than 33% marks to students of these segments in the interview, we are ruining their future. This must stop immediately.

Chairperson Sir, money pertaining to all the schemes for SC/ST/OBCs must be released timely by the Central Government. Only then can we serve the cause of social-justice. The cancer-patients of Punjab must be helped by the Central Government so that they can get themselves treated.

Thank you.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, this debate has to be continued and completed, and everyone wants to speak; therefore, conclude your speech in the time allotted for each of you.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, your order will definitely be followed. The country is closely watching the issues and subjects being discussed here. The issue of reservation is not new; the poor the backwards, the downtrodden have been exploited, and deprived for thousands of years. The poor have been denied education, deprived of respect and rights. Our rights have been taken away. It appeared that the Bharatiya Janata Party might have learnt some lessons, but it has not learnt any lesson. The Bihar election is an example. In the Bihar elections, it was said "It is surprising that Lalu ji and Nitish ji came together." Lalu ji and Nitish ji did not come together in Bihar, in fact the Dalits, exploited, and backward of Bihar who have been demanding reservation for centuries came together. If anyone in Bihar has fulfilled the dream of Baba Bhimrao Ambedkar, the dream of the late Karpoori Thakur, the dream of Loknayak Jayaprakash Narayan, and the dream of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, then Lalu Yadav was the first to fulfil that dream in 1990. When it was a common assumption in Bihar that the son of the poor cannot become the Chief Minister, the late Karpoori Thakur ji and, Bhola Paswan ji defied these assumptions by becoming Chief Ministers. Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav, the son of a poor person, the son of a herdsman, a child of a humble mother became the Chief Minister. He said, "If social justice and reservation are to be achieved peacefully, it will occur in Bihar." History is witness to this. Lalu does not die, Nitish does not die; Karpoori Thakur endured many abuses. I am a witness. Stones were thrown on him, but Karpoori ji's life was saved. A fact well known to respected Hukumdev ji. We endured the humiliation inflicted upon us. We are the follower of Periyar; we have faith in Chaudhary Charan Singh. We are not going to tolerate insult and jealousy that were thrown at us for thousands of

years. The leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party should pay heed to our call, and publish the report of the caste census; otherwise, there will be a big wave of agitation in favour of reservation in this country, a violent movement which will hit you hard. BJP was brought to its knees in Bihar. But it did not learn any lesson. Now in 2016, again, we are going to wipe the floor with BJP. The power of reservation, Lalu ji and Nitish ji is going to make you to lick the dust. RSS*...What did they say? Is it not a fact that they asked for reviewing reservation?...*(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Name of any person will not go in the record.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV: Okay, I will not take anyone's name, but who does not know the name who asked to review reservation; but what was said by the people who believe in Golwalkar, they said that Nitish Kumar had some problem in his DNA. Nitish Kumar was born in a backward caste that is why it was said that Nitish Kumar's DNA has flaw. Lalu ji throw a gauntlet by saying that who could dare to end the reservation given by Baba Saheb in the country. Lalu ji said that if he had to be crucified like Jesus, he would, but no one can end reservation; it is my birthright.

Take out the census report of the year 1934. Our ancestors, my maternal grandfather whose name was Shukradas Yadav, respected Hukmdeo Babu knows him, could not put on a loin cloth having border line; they could not sit on a cot. A married girl could not go to her in-laws' in palanquin. At that time in the year 1934, there was revolt against the zamindars, same fought was pitched against the anti-reservation forces. The uprising in the year 1934 was so violent that it gutted oppressors, one can check out gazette for details. That is why there is saying:

* Not recorded.

*"Mann na rangye, rangye jogi kapda, darhiya badhke bhai
ban gayle jokra."*

*"Aah Garibka kabhi na nisphal jaye, mai khal ki shwas se
lauh bhasm ho jai. "*

That is why it is said that "He who does not dare, will be ruled by those who dare."

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Those Hon. Members who wish to lay their written speech on the table, can do so.

[English]

***SHRI D. K. SURESH (BANGALORE RURAL):** At the outset, I would like to draw the attention of the Government that even after 69 years of Independence people of our country are not receiving quality healthcare, education and basic amenities to lead a civilized life. There are still thousands of people living in a pitiable condition.

Human development means the expansion of freedom and rights of the people so that they may have the capacity to lead the kind of life they value. The persistence of social disabilities such as the caste system, untouchability, religious and discrimination against women, the development and socio-economic changes is to have a right based approach to development. Human development is based upon the principles of equality and justice for all.

The Constitution reflects an uncompromising respect for human dignity, an unquestioning commitment to equality and an overriding concern for the poorest and weakest in the society. The concept of basic human needs involves drawing a list of foundational needs of both, physiological and social. It arrives at a list of the minimum social needs -right to food, housing, health, education and livelihood provide foundation upon which human development can occur and human freedom can flourish.

These basic social rights should be conceptualized in terms of an entitlement both to be equal as humans and to be equal as members of the society. Naom Chomsky once said, "In this terminal phase of human existence, democracy and equality are more than just ideals to be valued, they may be essential to survive. "The term social justice implies a political and cultural balance of the diverse interests in society.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Pluralism or democracy is the only means by which is indeed a dynamic process because human societies have higher goals to attain. Social justice is an integral part of the society. Social injustice cannot be tolerated for a long period and can damage society through revolts. Therefore, the deprived class should be made capable to live with dignity. Social justice is a principle that lays down the foundation of a society based on equality, liberty and fraternity.

The basic aim and objective of society is the growth of individual and development of his personality. The concept of social justice is a revolutionary concept which provides meaning and significance to life and makes the rule of law dynamic. When Indian society seeks to meet the challenge of socio-economic inequality by its legislation and with the assistance of the rule of law, it seeks to achieve economic justice without any violent conflict. The ideal of a welfare state postulates unceasing pursuit of the doctrine of social justice. That is the significance and importance of the concept of social justice in the Indian context of today.

Social justice is not a blind concept. It seeks to do justice to all the citizen of the state. A democratic system has to ensure that the social development is in tune with democratic values and norms reflecting equality of social status and opportunities for development, social security and social welfare.

The caste system acts against the roots of democracy in India. The democratic facilities like fundamental rights relating to equality, freedom of speech, expression and association, participation in the electoral process, and legislative forums are misused for maintaining caste identity. It is true that India has been an unequal society from times immemorial.

There are enormous inequalities in our society which are posing serious challenges to Indian democracy. Democracy, therefore, must not show excess of values by imposing unnecessary legislative regulations and prohibitions, in the

same way as they must not show timidity in attacking the problem of inequality by refusing the past the necessary and reasonable regulatory measures at all.

Constant endeavor has to be made to sustain individual freedom and liberty and subject them to reasonable regulation and control as to achieve socio-economic justice. Social justice must be achieved by adopting necessary and reasonable measures. That, shortly stated, is the concept of social justice and its implications. The basic aim of social justice is to remove the imbalances in the social, political and economic life of the people to create a dignified society.

It means dispensing justice to those to whom it has been systematically denied in the past because of an established social structure. Babasaheb Dr. Ambedkar did not propound any specific definition or theory of "Social Justice". On the basis of these we can easily argue that Ambedkar has mentioned multiple principles for the establishment of an open and just social order in general and Indian society in particular. Therefore, with the help of these elements we can carve out a theory of social justice, what can then be referred as Ambedkar's theory of Social Justice.

We can extract five basic principles, from writings and speeches of Ambedkar, through which justice can be dispensed in the society. These are: 1. Establishing a society where individual becomes the means of all social purposes 2. Establishment of society based on equality, liberty and fraternity 3. Establishing democracy- political, economic and social. 4. Establishing democracy through constitutional measures. Associated life between members of society must be regarded by consideration founded on liberty, equality and fraternity. 5. Conclusion, it might be asked why the principle of equal justice has failed to have its effect. The answer to this is simple. To enunciate the principle of justice is one thing. To make it effective is another thing.

Whether the principle of equal justice is effective or not must necessarily depend upon the nature and character of the civil services who must be left to administer the principle. The solution to social injustice lies within us only. We should be aware of the expressions - the poor, the backwards, social justice which are being used to undermine standards, to flout norms and to put institutions to work.

We should shift from equality of outcomes to equality of opportunities, and in striving towards that, politicians should be doing the detailed and continuous work that positive help requires, the assistance that the disadvantaged need for availing of equal opportunities. Social processes are constantly changing, a good legal system is one which ensures that laws adapt to the changing situations and ensure social good. Any legal system aiming to ensure good should ensure the basic dignity of the human being and the inherent need of every individual to grow into the fullness of life.

According to Twelfth Plan document the Central Plan outlay should be 16.2% for the schemes benefit the SC community and 8.2% for schemes benefit the ST community should be earmarked. However, the Union Government is not allocating the funds required for the benefit of SC and ST communities.

A budgetary outlay for 2016-17 is Rs. 6565.95 crores. It is only Rs. 40 crores increased than the outlay of 2015-16 i. e. Rs. 6524.82 crores. Every year there are reports on under utilization of the funds in the department. This should be stopped and ensure utilization of the funds meant for various social development schemes. The Government should adopt more effective measures besides making existing mechanism more stringent so that there is full utilization of the allocated funds.

It seems that the Government is more focusing on Birth anniversary celebration of Dr. Ambedkar ji instead of working for the real development of the community.

The Government must take necessary steps in wise angle to protect the downtrodden, sidelined backward people of the country by imparting social security measures, which helps them to rise up to the mainstream life in all respects.

The Government of Karnataka has brought into force implementation of the Karnataka Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan Act has resulted in an increase in the financial allocation for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. It is a very significant law to ensure overall development of SC and ST people. I would like to suggest the union government to follow the similar model to ensure the development of SC and STs all over the country. Funds unutilized would be carrying forward to the successive financial year to achieve the development of these communities. The Act envisages allocation of funds for the welfare of SC and ST people in proportion with the population of the community.

There is an urgent need to pay attention to capacity building at all levels including grass root level to ensure effective implementation of the programs. It is reported that funds were not utilized for those schemes running for empowerment of persons with different abilities, minorities, SCs and STs and OBCs, during the previous year due to poor response from applicants, non-functioning of National-e-Scholarship portal and pendency of various new schemes due to non clearance by the Ministry of Finance and other concerned agencies. Hence, there is an urgent need to strengthen the capacity building at all levels to ensure the funds are utilized in a proper manner.

As far as popularization of the programs are concerned, I would like to suggest that the government should take steps to conduct more training programmes and workshops all over India on regular basis by involving the concerned institutes so as to popularize the Scheme. There is a need to focus more on rural areas through print and electronic media.

With regard to educational schemes for empowerment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and OBCs etc. the government should bring more transparency in post-matric scholarship scheme and pre-matric scholarship scheme for the children of all those communities. An allocation of Rs. 2791.00 crore made for Post Matric Scholarship for SCs, Rs. 800.00 crore for schemes for Special Centre Assistance to Scheduled Caste Sub Plan and Rs. 885 crore for Post Matric Scheme for OBCs. I would like to state that this is not sufficient to meet the growing demand for scholarship. I would also like to suggest revising the existing rate of scholarship to various educational programs to increase the amount of scholarship.

There is another important fact that the beneficiaries get the scholarship at the far end of the year due to age old procedures. It affects to achieve the very purpose of giving the scholarship. Therefore, I would like to suggest simplifying the procedures so the beneficiaries receive the scholarship on monthly basis that too at the start of the academic session.

With regard to Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana the Government has allocated Rs. 90crore in the 2016-17. It is not possible to meet any purpose of the scheme. There is no use in making such a paltry allocation for the scheme like PMAGY. Therefore, the Government should reconsider to earmark more funds for the said scheme during the supplementary demands proposal taken up by the department.

As for persons with disabilities are concerned, a disproportionate number of persons with disabilities live in the country. They are often marginalised and in extreme poverty. Persons with disabilities have remained largely 'invisible', often side-lined in the rights debate and unable to enjoy the full range of human rights.

In recent years, there has been a revolutionary change in approach, globally, to close the protection gap and ensure that persons with disabilities enjoy the same standards of equality, rights and dignity as everyone else.

Persons with disabilities face discrimination and barriers that restrict them from participating in society on an equal basis with others every day. They are denied their rights to be included in the general school system, to be employed, to live independently in the community, to move freely, to vote, to participate in sport and cultural activities, to enjoy social protection, to access justice, to choose medical treatment.

Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to look into the problem of persons with disabilities and take effective steps to put an end to their problems.

[English]

***SHRI LADU KISHORE SWAIN (ASKA):** The financial year 2016-17 is the last year of the 12th Plan. Faster, more inclusive and sustainable growth was the pillars of both the 11th and the 12th Plan whereas the achievement of these broad objectives still remained unfulfilled. Dalits, Adivasis and Other Backward Communities continue to remain at the margin of society, with high degree of discrimination, destitution, unequal opportunities and limited access to essential services.

The recent changes in the fiscal landscape of the country have had marked implications on government's interventions for promoting development of these communities. In this regard, it was hoped that the current union budget 2016-17 would have addressed the plights of these community, however, numbers printed in the budget documents show far from the policy announcements to uplift the status of these communities. In fact, the budgetary outlays under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have seen only a marginal increase. The Ministry had asked for a higher allocation as they would need additional funds under certain schemes to increase the coverage, which did not materialise in the current budget.

Further, the allocation under the SCSP doesn't seem any significant increase in the current union budget over the last year. The outlays under SCSP have witnessed a steep decline since 2014-15 (BE), when it was around Rs. 43,000 crore. Despite that, there are concerns regarding underutilisation of funds for the schemes under MSJE, primarily because of states' failure to submit or delays in submitting proposals. However, implementation of some important schemes like elimination of Manual Scavenging, Pradhan Mantri Gram Adarsh Yojana etc. is getting adversely affected.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

The Government's focus on entrepreneurial development of Dalits through Stand Up India Scheme with an outlay of Rs. 500 crore in 2016-17 (BE), which would facilitate at least two projects per bank branch, and is expected to benefit at least 2.5 lakh entrepreneurs. The proposal to set up National Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Hub in the micro small and medium Enterprises Ministry in partnership with industry associations is certainly praiseworthy.

It has been proposed that from the next financial year onwards, the distinction between the Plan and Non Plan expenditure would be discontinued in the Union Budget. Given that SCSP is applicable only to the Plan budget, the possible approach could be making it applicable for the whole budget and for all the Ministries/departments. In this regard, there is a need for wider consultation for a needs-based planning and thereby reporting, instead of merely meeting a stipulated norm not based on the actual understanding of the challenges confronting these marginalised communities.

Further, there is a need for allocating adequate funds for various schemes for these marginalised communities to improve their status and bring them back to the mainstream economic development.

[Translation]

***SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI (KHERI):** There are many castes and classes in our country which have been socially and economically backward. Under the leadership of Hon. Modi ji, the NDA government has implemented many schemes for promoting education and business as well as ensuring social justice for such castes and classes and the positive results are also being felt. But I believe that, in addition to government efforts, the society should also work for the upliftment of such backward castes. Now that some members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have become a part of the mainstream, they should think about giving up their reservation benefits. This way, those who really need it can have an opportunity. In order to extend economic and political benefits, the government made provision for reservation in education and jobs; gives electricity and gas connections. Likewise, law was enacted to stop oppressions, including mandatory filing a charge sheet after completing investigation in 60 days after the registration of a case, setting up of special courts, measures to ensure swift justice; and financial compensation etc. However, there is a pressing need to amend the law, because several provisions in the new law are likely to adversely affect the social fabric; it is crucial that the proof of burden be placed upon the complainant to prevent potential misuse of this law. The government is committed to provide social, political and economic justice to the backward classes and castes.

*Speech was laid on the Table

***SHRIMATI ANJU BALA (MISRIKH):** I share my views on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is responsible for the welfare of Scheduled Castes, OBCs, the old and disabled, handicapped, and drug addicts. In one sense, it is a very important ministry. This is a ministry that reflects the sensibilities of the Government. Our Scheduled Caste people, our old and helpless parents, handicapped children, and misguided youth who have fallen prey to drugs are the most vulnerable and helpless people in our society. There is no one in society more disadvantaged than these people are. They deserve social justice. Whenever I get time, I often visit old age homes, disabled centers, and rehabilitation centers for drug addict. I do this to understand their pain. I visit the Dalit settlements in my area. I meet them. I try to understand their pain. Their silence speaks volumes; they look at me with so much pain. I am saying this with a heavy heart: I can bear to look into their eyes. What a miserable condition they are living in! Even after 70 years of independence! Their agony has been poignantly captured by the poet Shiv Kumar Bilgrami:

*“Har din har pal khud hi khu me jine walon ne
Khub rulaya mujhako barson aansu pine walon ne
Maine inki khamoshi ko aksar padkar dekha hai
Kya na kaha hai aakhi mujhese lab ko sine walon ne?”*

These people convey a lot without saying anything. Today, it is necessary we provide them justice they rightfully deserve. They should receive the facilities they need. Efforts should be made to ensure that the Scheduled Castes receive education, employment, proper care for their elderly, respect;

availability of equipment and other facilities for handicapped children according to their needs, rehabilitation facilities for youth who are victims of drugs. Our Prime Minister is a very compassionate person. He has shown special attention to these people in this Budget and has allocated Rs. 7350 crores for the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in the current year. This shows an increase of about 12 percent over the previous year. If more funds are needed in the future, our Government will step up. After all, after 70 years of Independence, those who've been waiting for social justice are finally going to get it. With these words, I support the passing of the Demands for Grants.

[English]

***SHRI JHINA HIKAKA (KORAPUT):** The Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry has asked for an allocation of Rs. 7,350 crore in BE 2016-17, i. e. an increase of 11.69 per cent over the last budget. The Tribal Affairs Ministry has asked for a higher budgetary allocation of Rs. 4,826 crore, a hike of nearly Rs. 253 crore over 2015-16. The Budgetary allocation for the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment during 2015-16 was Rs. 6,580 crore while for the Tribal Ministry it was Rs. 4,573.80 crore. The Social Justice and Empowerment Department has proposed to receive a hike of over Rs. 596.5 crore and the Department of Disability Affairs has received a raise of nearly Rs. 173 crore in 2016-17 over RE 2015-16. The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment has been earmarked Rs. 6,565.95 crore, while the Department of Disability Affairs has been earmarked Rs. 783.56 crore. The Self Employment Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers has been earmarked Rs. 9 crore. The allocation for total Welfare of Persons with Disabilities is up by over Rs. 160 crore during 2016-17, which has been allocated Rs. 527.93 crore.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

Allocation for Aids and Appliances for differently-abled people has also been increased to Rs. 117 crore.

I wholeheartedly welcome the enhancements in this year's budget proposals. However, I find, given the huge population to which this Ministry caters the allocation during 2016-17 is very minimum. I urge the Ministry to utilize the entire amount this year, show a better performance so that the allocation for the education and economic development along with the social empowerment of de-notified nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes STs, SCs and OBCs allocation is doubled in the next budget. I also urge to enhance the funds given to the National Commission for de-notified Tribes. I want the Ministry to strengthen the existing monitoring so that more funds reach my constituency, Koraput, Odisha.

***PROF. RICHARD HAY (NOMINATED):** When a poor Anglo Indian boy who was disabled, requested for assistance within one week it was sanctioned. I congratulate Hon. Member Gehlotji and his staff for timely help. Everyone in this country knows 60 years of rule by previous Governments have ruined our country. The minorities have been apple polished. That's all. Still, they live below the poverty line. What a tragedy? Where has the funds for the SC/ST development gone? In the drain? In corrupt hands? They are still the poorest of the poor. Don't you have the prick of conscience? After ruling this country for 60 years, people, the common man is still going for public defection. What a shame. No social justice. But mockery of democracy. Homelessness, hunger, child labour, thirst indeed. Backlog of social justice schemes is mounting and socio-economic deprivation is the contribution to this great nation by the Government which ruled the most. If you have spent the money for the wellbeing of the people of our country then there would have been Heavens for them.

But you created hell for them. They languish, they live in misery.

They are still marginalized. What did you do for the Dalits? Nothing. A big Zero. We want to generate employment to help the socially deprived. . What have you done for the amelioration of the women, who even now walk kilometres and have to fetch an earthen pot of water? We do not want crocodile tears of the past, but sympathy and action. Now to mend matters, we need to increase the budgetary provision as the task is insurmountable early and we are taking care of the poor and weaker. As a catholic, I can proudly state under Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji we are safe. All minorities are safe. Why? Our Prime Minister's slogan is: -

"Inclusive growth: development for all"

*Speech was laid on the Table.

So do not indulge in divisive politics which has destroyed the fine social fabric of India, an ancient living civilization respected by all. Social justice is being steadily guaranteed under the new Government social justice in the way to progress.

Modi Ji's Government is struggling hard to bring peace, development and harmony to every citizen of our country.

Still mudra bond, insurance, health insurance, roads, quality education, equality for all, modern infrastructure and many social security measures are carried out.

It time to change your mind set,

All people are supporting Modi Ji's Government as they know **there would be socio-economic development for all.**

Stop looting this country. Let us serve the nation and make India a leader in the comity of nation. The world is recognizing India as a power to reckon with water crisis, farmers' suicides, corruption, lopsided growth, poverty, malnutrition, infant mortality, the list in long is- the legacy of the past Governments. Modi Ji's Government is settling right to bring hopes to millions.

[Translation]

***SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (MAVAL):** I congratulate our government for launching a special National Livelihood Portal for ensuring social justice to disabled. Through this portal, disabled people can access various facilities related to self-employment loans, education loans, skill tests, scholarships, and information about employment – all in one place. The government is giving high priority to give skill training for disabled people and has set a target of skilling 5 lakh disabled individuals in the next three years. The skill training programme is being implemented through a network of 'Training Partners' funded by the government. After successful completion of training under the programme, the disabled will be given employment in the private sector.

Our government is working on providing financial assistance for education and medical treatment. Recently, a scheme for special devices to assist deaf and dumb children has been launched by the government, and this scheme is showing amazing results! Allowing these children to speak and hear like normal children! The government has also mooted a comprehensive programme to provide identity cards to the disabled, making it easier to access facilities across the country.

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under the Ministry has mandated the National Disability Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) to develop a national-level livelihood portal for persons with disabilities. I congratulate our Hon. Prime Minister for this.

Now, the government has considered bringing the persons with stunt growth into the category of divyang; to facilitate this, law is going to be a

* Speech was laid on the Table

changed. Our government is making every effort to give the disabled their rights.

The regional distribution of the Scheduled Castes shows that the highest number of such category persons lives in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and West Bengal—areas that also have the highest population living below the poverty line. In the present scenario, we need to pay attention to rural areas for social justice and equity. The largest population in the country lives in rural areas, and due to their lack of access to essential services, they do not receive full social rights and justice. It has also been observed that often milieu of discrimination is prevalent against them. Therefore, we need to end this discrimination. The government is definitely striving to uplift them through many schemes, but we also have to consider the ground realities. For this, the state governments need to put more efforts in basic education at district levels. Several surveys show that poverty hit the Scheduled Castes hard more than the others. Thus, we must do more to address this issue. In particular, a plan has to be drawn up for the urbanization of the Scheduled Castes so that they can join the mainstream of society and receive social justice.

[English]

***SHRI SANKAR PRASAD DATTA (TRIPURA WEST):** I would like to state that the social justice department should look into the matter that an amount of Rs. 3000/- should be given as the pension for all aged persons of the country. ST and SC plan allocation should be according to the population of the respective community in the Budget. Heinous attack on the dalits throughout the country from the communal forces should be stopped immediately.

*Speech was laid on the Table.

[Translation]

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (HISAR): Hon'ble, Chairperson, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Department of Social Justice.

When we talk of social justice, then none but this department is the most important department in this country. When we are discussing its grant, the provision of Rs. 5600 crores has been made for this department, I think is very meagre amount. In the country with population of 124 crore more than 50 percent still yearn for justice. Today, when we talk about the Department of Social Justice, we also talk about old age pensions as well as our disabled fellows, widows and orphans. Before me, Shri Yadav Saheb told that reservation should also be discussed. I feel very proud to say that Chaudhary Devi Lal ji had introduced old age pension in this country. It really hit me hard that we've only managed to raise the pension to Rs. 200 for those between 60 and 79 years old, and Rs. 500 for folks over 80. It's tough to see how little we've been able to do for our seniors.

Honestly, it feels like our Congress colleagues are mostly to blame here—about 90 percent of it. But let's not forget, this government has played a part too, and yes, they share some responsibility in this as well. The government must come forward to make the people of India understand that the elderly are the most capable part and crown of our society. Will the Government of India increase the pension for senior citizens, which the Congress has named as Old Age Pension, in near future in view of the fact as being demanded the Bharatiya Janata Party in Haryana, the way inflation has increased today? When will the government increase it from Rs. 200 to Rs. 2,000? I saw that for handicaps, for physically impaired people, they organised mega camps.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Dushyant Chautala ji, just a minute.

It is half past three o'clock, and it is time to start Private Members business. May I know the sense of the House; should it be extended by one hour?

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (BIKANER): Hon. Chairperson, The Hon'ble Minister want to say something on this subject.

SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I had earlier also told that this is an important department, many Members want to speak on it, but now the time for Non-government legislative business is beginning. May you postpone the time for Non-government legislative business by one or two hours, and give an opportunity to the rest of the Members; and the reply will may be given on Monday. This is my request.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Alright, you may take your seat. Jai Prakash ji, you also sit down, please.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Private Members' time is sacrosanct. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Sir, we get some time to discuss various important issues only on Fridays during the Private Members' Business. It is our prerogative. You have it, we are pleading with you. When shall we discuss Private Members' Bills then? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (BIKANER): We accept the request of the Hon'ble Minister to postpone the time of the Private Members Bill. There are instances when the House advanced the time of the Private Members' Bill by an hour several times. If the House agree, it can be taken up from six o'clock to seven o'clock.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (HINGOLI): Hon. Chairperson, do it on Monday.

[English]

DR. A. SAMPATH: Why are you infringing upon the rights of the Members? Give us a chance to discuss issues. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Alright, you sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Alright, if the House do agree, then let the Dushyant Chautala ji conclude his speech in next in five minutes, after that we will take up Private Members Business.

Shri Dushyant Chautala ji, may continue.

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA: Sir, I will continue on Monday.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You conclude.

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA: Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I would like to continue on Monday.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Well. It is a good thing.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, we will take up Private Members' Legislative Business.

Sri Thangso Baite.

15.34 hours

**MOTION RE: 21ST REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE
MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

[English]

SHRI THANGSO BAITE (OUTER MANIPUR): I beg to move:

“That this House do agree with the Twenty-first Report of the Committee on Private Members’ Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 27th April, 2016.”

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That this House do agree with the Twenty-first Report of the Committee on Private Members’ Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 27th April, 2016.”

The motion was adopted.

15.35 hours**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS-Introduced***[Translation]***HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Item No. 16, Yogi Adityanath - Not present.

Item No. 17 Yogi Adityanath - Not present.

Item No. 18, Shrimati Poonam Mahajan - Not present.

Item No. 19, Shri Pralhad Joshi - not present.

Item No. 20, Shri Pralhad Joshi - not present.

Item No. 21 Shri Pralhad Joshi - not present.

(i) Information Technology (Amendment) Bill, 2016* (*Substitution of new section for section 78*)*[English]***DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST):** I beg for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Information Technology Act, 2000.*[Translation]***HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Information Technology Act, 2000."

The motion was adopted.*[English]***DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA:** I introduce the Bill.

15.35 ½ hours**(ii) Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes)
Orders (Amendment) Bill, 2016****[Translation]*

DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY (CHANDAULI): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Uttar Pradesh) Order, 1967.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Uttar Pradesh) Order, 1967.

The motion was adopted.

DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY: I introduce the Bill.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Items no. 24 to 26, Shri P. Karunakaran – not present.

15.36 hours**(iii) Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016(*Amendment of articles 243G and 243W*)****[Translation]*

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN (MADHEPURA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: I introduce the Bill.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Om Birla – not present.

15.37 hours

(iv) Tea Garden Workers (Timely Payment of Dues) Bill, 2016*

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to ensure timely payment of dues to workers of tea gardens whose management has been directed by the Central Government to be taken over by the Tea Board *vide* Central Government Notification S. O. 260 (E) dated 28th January, 2016.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to ensure timely payment of dues to workers of tea gardens whose management has been directed by

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

the Central Government to be taken over by the Tea Board vide Central Government Notification S. O. 260(E) dated 28th January, 2016.

The motion was adopted.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: I introduce the Bill.

15.37 ½ hours

(v) Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016*
(Insertion of new article 21B)

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: I introduce the Bill.

15.38 hours**(vi) Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016***
(Amendment of article 72)*[English]*

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (HAMIRPUR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: I introduce the Bill.

15.39 hours**(vii) National Sports Ethics Commission Bill, 2016****[English]*

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (HAMIRPUR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a National Sports Ethics Commission to ensure ethical practices and fair play in sports including

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

elimination of doping practices, match fixing, fraud of age, sexual harassment of women in sports and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a National Sports Ethics Commission to ensure ethical practices and fair play in sports including elimination of doping practices, match fixing, fraud of age and sexual harassment of women in sports and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: I introduce the Bill.

15.39 ½ hours

(viii) Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016*

(Amendment of the Seventh Schedule)

[English]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (HAMIRPUR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

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

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: I introduce the Bill.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Prahlad Singh Patel – not present.

Shri Prahlad Venkatesh Joshi – not present.

15.40 hours

(ix) Life Insurance Agents Welfare Bill, 2016*

[English]

DR. A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Life Insurance Agents Fund for the welfare of life insurance agents and for matters connected therewith.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

[English]

DR. A. SAMPATH: I introduce the Bill.

15.40 ½ hours

**(x) Financial Assistance for Girl Child Born to Parents Living
Below Poverty Line Bill, 2016***

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN (SUPAUL): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for financial protection and security to a girl child born to parents living below the poverty line and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for financial protection and security to a girl child born to parents living below the poverty line and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: I introduce the Bill.

15.41 hours

**(xi) Electro Homoeopathy System of Medicine (Recognition)
Bill, 2016***

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN (SUPAUL): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to constitute a Central Council for recognition and regulation of the Electro Homoeopathy System of Medicine in the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to constitute a Central Council for recognition and regulation of the Electro Homoeopathy System of Medicine in the country and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: I introduce the Bill.

15.41 ½ hours

(xii) Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2016*

(Amendment of section 113)

[English]

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (HISAR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Electricity Act, 2003.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Electricity Act, 2003."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA: I introduce the Bill.

15.42 hours

(xiii) Competition (Amendment) Bill, 2016*

(Amendment of section 53D)

[English]

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (HISAR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Competition Act, 2002.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Competition Act, 2002."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA: I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

15.43 hours**(xiv) Consumer Protection (Amendment) Bill, 2016******(Amendment of sections 16 and 20)****[English]*

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (HISAR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Consumer Protection Act, 1986."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA: I introduce the Bill.

15.43 ½ hours**(xv) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Amendment) Bill, 2016******(Amendment of section 14C)****[English]*

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA (HISAR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA: I introduce the Bill.

15.44 hours

(xvi) Prevention of Adverse Photography Bill, 2016*

[Translation]

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (HINGOLI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to prevent adverse photography with a view to ensure that advancement in photography and drone technology does not lead violation of privacy of individuals or servicemen on the line of duty or pose threat to the places of national or strategic importance.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to prevent adverse photography with a view to ensure that advancement in photography and drone technology does not lead violation of privacy of individuals or servicemen on the line of duty or pose threat to the places of national or strategic importance."

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: I introduce the Bill.

15.44 ½ hours

(xvii) National Witness Protection Bill, 2016*

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for protection of identity of threatened witnesses in criminal cases involving serious offences and to provide for procedure and mechanism for such protection and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for protection of identity of threatened witnesses in criminal cases involving serious offences and to provide for procedure and mechanism for such protection and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

”

The motion was adopted.

DR. KIRIT P SOLANKI: I introduce the Bill.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 45, DR. Sanjay Jaiswal - not present.

15.45 hours

**(xviii) Environment Protection (Control of Non-biodegradable
Garbage) Bill, 2016***

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI (SANT KABIR NAGAR): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to prevent throwing or depositing non-biodegradable garbage in public drains, roads and places open to public view so as to protect the environment from being polluted by such garbage and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to prevent throwing or depositing non-biodegradable garbage in public drains, roads and places open to public view so as to protect the environment from being polluted by such garbage and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

”

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI: Sir, I introduce** the Bill.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

15.45 ½ hours**(xix) Timely Filling of Vacancies in Central Public Sector Enterprises
Bill, 2016****[English]*

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA (KENDRAPARA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to require the Central Government and the Public Enterprises Selection Board to make timely arrangements so that board-level vacancies in Central public sector enterprises are filled expeditiously.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to require the Central Government and the Public Enterprises Selection Board to make timely arrangements so that board-level vacancies in Central public sector enterprises are filled expeditiously.”

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA: I introduce the Bill.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

15.46 hours**(xx)Timely Commencement of Laws Bill, 2016****[English]*

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA (KENDRAPARA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to require the Central Government to issue notification of coming into force of laws passed by Parliament in a timely manner.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to require the Central Government to issue notification of coming into force of laws passed by Parliament in a timely manner."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA: I introduce the Bill.

15.46 ½ hours**(xxi) Geotag –Enabled Monitoring of Public Works Bill, 2016****[English]*

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA (KENDRAPARA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for better accountability in public works undertaken by the Central Government through regular publication of geo-tagged and time-and-date-stamped photographs of the progress being achieved in such works.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for better accountability in public works undertaken by the Central Government through regular publication of geo-tagged and time-and-date-stamped photographs of the progress being achieved in such works."

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA: I introduce** the Bill.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

** Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

15.47 hours**(xxii) Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2016* (*Substitution of new section for section 124A*)**

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: I introduce the Bill.

15.48 hours**(xxiii) Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 2016* (*Substitution of new section for section 124A*)**

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: I introduce the Bill.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 53, Shri A. T. Nana Patil - Not present.

15.48 ½ hours

(xxiv) National Green Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 2016*

(Amendment of section 5)

[English]

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH (LUDHIANA): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010."

The motion was adopted.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

[English]

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH: I introduce the Bill.

15.49 hours

**(xxv) Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Orders
(Amendment) Bill, 2016***

[Translation]

SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA (BANDA): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Uttar Pradesh) Order 1967.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) (Uttar Pradesh) Order 1967."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA: I introduce the Bill.

15.50 hours

**(xxvi) Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2016
(Amendment of section 40)**

[Translation]

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (MAVAL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE: I introduce the Bill.

15.50 ½ hours

**(xxvii) Port Trusts (Reservation in Employment to Local Persons)
Bill, 2016***

[Translation]

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (MAVAL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation in employment by Port Trusts to local persons.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for reservation in employment by Port Trusts to local persons."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE: I introduce the Bill.

15.51 hours**(xxvii) Heritage Cities And Sites Development Bill, 2016****[Translation]*

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE (MAVAL): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the development of heritage cities and sites in the country and for matters connected therewith.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the development of heritage cities and sites in the country and matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE: I introduce the Bill.

15.51 ½ hours**(xxix) High Court at Allahabad (Establishment of a Permanent Bench at Meerut) Bill, 2016****[Translation]*

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court at Allahabad at Meerut.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the establishment of a permanent Bench of the High Court at Allahabad at Meerut.

The motion was adopted.

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL: I introduce the Bill.

15.52 hours

**(xxx) Economically Weaker Class (Provision of Certain Facilities)
Bill, 2016**

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK (HARIDWAR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for certain facilities to persons belonging to economically weaker class and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for certain facilities to persons belonging to economically weaker class and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK: I introduce the Bill.

15.52 ½ hours**(xxxi) Mentally Retarded Children (Welfare) Bill, 2016****[Translation]*

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK (HARIDWAR): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for certain measures to be undertaken by the Union and the State Governments for the welfare of mentally retarded children and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for certain measures to be undertaken by the Union and the State Governments for the welfare of mentally retarded children and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL NISHANK: I introduce the Bill.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri A. T. Nana Patil - Not present.

Shri Gopal Shetty.

15.53 hours

(xxxii) Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2016*
(Amendment of the Third Schedule)

SHRI GOPAL SHETTY (MUMBAI NORTH): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

SHRI GOPAL SHETTY: I introduce the Bill.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shrimati Poonam Mahajan - Not present.

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 29.04.2016.

15.55 hours**RIGHTS OF TRANSGENDER PERSONS BILL, 2014 – Contd.**

(As passed by Rajya Sabha)

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, the House shall take up Item No. 65 – further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri Baijayant Panda on 26th February, 2016 namely: -

“That the Bill to provide for the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive national policy for ensuring overall development of the transgender persons and for their welfare to be undertaken by the State and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration. ”

[Translation]

Shri Virendra Kashyap - absent.

Shri Ajay Mishra Teni.

SHRI AJAY MISHRA TENI (KHERI): Hon’ble Chairperson, Sir, Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014 which was passed by the Rajya Sabha on 24th April, 2015, has been moved in Lok Sabha for consideration today. The main objective of this Bill is to provide our transgender brothers and sisters the right to equality, the right to education, the right to live in the community, right to have family and to protect them from torture and the cruel treatment they are subjected to.

15.56 hours

(Shri Hukum Singh in the Chair)

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (HAMIRPUR): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, the ‘transgender’ word has been translated as *Vipreet Lingi* in Hindi. Is this

translation, which has been done, correct? First, it should be cleared whether the *Vipreet Lingi* is a right word or not. I think that if we talk about this topic in true sense...*(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Let me clear the doubt. It has come from Rajya Sabha, written from there, and we will not be able to amend it, because it has come from Rajya Sabha.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Whatever it may be, but I think an appropriate decision should be taken on this, because the transgenders for whose we are demanding, if termed as *Vipreet Lingi*...*(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon'ble Minister is sitting here, he will say whatever he wants to say.

[English]

SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA (KENDRAPARA): Sir, I am on a point of order. This issue was raised when the first time this Bill was discussed in this House by the Hon. Member from Cuttack and this issue has been discussed. Technically, since it is not a Bill that was drafted for this House, it was communicated after its passage from the Other House that is why it has been carried forward with the same terminology. Otherwise, I think, we all agree that, perhaps, a different terminology would be better suited. But I do not think, we should intervene in the *parampara* of two Houses and find technical faults with a Bill that has been passed and come here.

[Translation]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Hon. Chairperson, Sir, if there is any mistake in this.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL (BIKANER): It was decided by the Rajya Sabha, we have already completed more than half of the discussion by now, The Bill will be discussed in the form as it is, on the same language, on the same

terminology, Let's see what reply the Hon'ble Minister gives after the discussion.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Keep the same feeling in it.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: My purpose was only to bring to your notice that it has been written wrongly and if we have to do something for this class in the true sense, at least it should be translated right first, then it should be move forward.

SHRI AJAY MISHRA TENI (KHERI): I share the sentiment of Anurag Thakur ji. Actually, it has happened at some other place, and it should be corrected. The Rights of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014, was passed by Rajya Sabha on 24th April, 2015 and is now listed for consideration here.

The main objective of this Bill is to provide social security, health, rehabilitation, education to such sections that fall in the transgender category, and protect them from the torture and cruel treatment they face, they should realise the completeness. The objective of this Bill was to protect them from abuse, violence and exploitation and to give them the right to live in the society, and in fact, a historic moment in India's democracy occurred on April 24, 2015, when a Private Member Bill was unanimously passed by the Rajya Sabha through a voice vote. Definitely, Shri T. Sivaji of DMK brought this Bill in 2014 and who driven by the fact that 29 countries in the world have enacted laws to give and protect right for transgender person, but our country lacked any such law. Current estimates suggest that there are around four to five lakh transgender individuals in India, but the actual number might be closer to 20 to 25 lakhs.

16.00 hours

Definitely, something has to be done for them. Though the Bill was passed on April 24, 2015, but much before that, the Hon. Supreme Court gave a very good judgment in favour our transgender brothers and sisters. In October

2012, the National Legal Services Authority filed a petition in the Supreme Court and appealed that transgenders in the country should be given rights and protection equally available to others. The hon. Supreme Court heard the petition, both the side gave their arguments, and the hearing of this case was completed in the Supreme Court. On completing the hearing, hon. SC reserved its decision on October 29, 2013. They delivered decision on April 14, 2015, and later, this Bill was also passed in the Rajya Sabha. In fact, people who are transgender or like them, are not at fault. It's a nature's work. Just as men and women are, transgenders are in third category, in which they have no role of their own. There are some scientific facts telling the way conception occurs naturally inside our body, X and Y chromosomes come in contact, on the basis of which male and female as well as transgenders are born. In fact, they should live with dignity, it was necessary and our society should also have done it.

I know that before 1871, transgenders had the right to live in society. They also used to live with families and were respected. In the year 1871, when the British were ruling here, the British put them in the category of tribes called Criminal Tribes. Later, when India was formed, a new Constitution was made, in the year 1951, transgenders were taken out from the list of criminal tribes. They have been denotified, but they did not get the rights, they should have. A lot of examples were given for that. In this society, we observed that the very parent of these transgenders people raise their disabled children throughout their life but not the transgender. Whenever people come to know that a transgender child has born in any family, a group of transgender people comes and take away that child with them. It had become a tradition that they would dance and sing, do such things at weddings, or other occasions. The result was that they gradually fell behind in society.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, three hours were allotted for discussion on this Bill. It is almost complete. As there are ten more Members to take part in the discussion on this Bill, the House has to extend the time for further discussion on this Bill. If the House agrees, the time for discussion on this Bill may be extended by one hour.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, there are a lot of Members to speak. As long as there are Members, it should be continued.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Let's do it for an hour, then we'll see later.

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: Extend by two hours.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Alright. If the House agrees, we can extend the time of the discussion on this Bill by two hours.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The time of the discussion on this Bill is extended by two hours.

Shri Ajay Misra Teni, please continue your speech now.

[Translation]

SHRI AJAY MISHRA TENI: Hon. Chairperson, Sir, we know that the transgenders have their own history all over the world. In the history, we find reference to Shakuni who was transgender, Arjun stood behind Shakuni and fought a battle with Bhishma Pitamah and killed Bishma.... *(Interruptions)* my mistake, he was Shikhandi, not Shakuni. Shakuni was a gambler.... *(Interruptions)* Arjun made Shikhandi, who was transgender, to stand in front of him, This shows, how old the tradition is! We all know that during the period of the Mahabharata, when the Pandavas went to incognito life, Arjun disguised

himself as a eunuch. All these things were going on in society. At that time, society was more accepting, without much discord. Discord happened after the arrival of the British. After the arrival of the British, society started looking down on them, leading many of them take up dancing and singing for survival. Along with this, they were gradually deprived of the facilities like medical care, education, rehabilitation, living with family in homes, and respect. This has contributed to the challenging situation we see today. There is a concern, and when 29 countries of the world have a law for them, India too need. The people of that category, or of third gender, do not have their own fault. It's simply a natural condition that has placed them in this category.

Certainly, for this too, society has to wake up first. Only awaken society can do well for them. The prevalent belief is that people hide the fact that they have a child of the third gender, but as soon as that secret is revealed, family do not come forward for the safety of that child. This happens because there is no law in our country. There is no awareness in the country for this; just like a boy or a girl child, if a third gender child born, then the family will have to stand with him first, society will have to recognize him, and then he will also get legal recognition. Only then, their rights can be protected. The law was brought in the Rajya Sabha. Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment is sitting here; he had replied to this Bill in the Rajya Sabha. He said that while we are emotionally in agreement, that justice should be served to those people, the Bill that our respected Member of Parliament presented in the Rajya Sabha had many flaws. Through these flaws suppositions, they had demanded reservations—in jobs, and even reservations in the private sector—and many other such demands that were not feasible. Therefore, the government asked him to withdraw that Bill, but he did not withdraw it, and it was passed by voice vote. I am not in favour of passing the Bill as it is. I want, the Hon'ble Minister also has the same view, to integrate eunuchs into the mainstream; he also announced that the Central Government is going to bring a Bill, and the Bill has

provision to give same facilities for education and development to eunuch as are available to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, and nomadic people. The Government is going to take a number of steps to bring them into the mainstream, and action is also being taken to give them social security.

Hon'ble Minister also told that the Central Government is seriously considering the formation of a board or council at the national level for the eunuchs. Our Government is committed to the other sections which are lagging behind educationally, economically, and politically in the mainstream of society, and our Government is constantly trying to ensure that all such sections that have been lagged behind the mainstream of society should be acknowledged and promoted.

The Demand for Grants that we were discussing just some time before also raised a lot of points. It was said the OBC class is left behind the others in the mainstream of society; similarly, our transgender brothers and sisters are also backward. In such a situation, it should be the commitment of the government and the duty of the government to give reservations to such people for the proper arrangement of education and medical treatment. If reservations cannot be given to them, even then some scheme should be made for incentives. How can we encourage them in business, give them subsidies in business, and provide them loans at low interest rates? Along with all such measures, it is very important that society and families should also be proactively aware to give justice for the transgenders.

Therefore, through the hon'ble Chairperson of the Lok Sabha, I wish to state that if we truly want to provide justice to our transgender brothers and sisters, we couldn't pass the Bill in its current form. However, the Central Government is preparing to introduce a new Bill and is seriously considering ensuring justice for all such individuals. The government is committed to this.

We will give them justice in all categories, like education and medicine. The Hon. Supreme Court's decision has been delivered, and the Central Government's Bill is also forthcoming. Certainly, in many countries around the world, rights of the transgender individuals have been secured, they have legal recognition and protection. Similarly, they will soon receive such rights in India as well. I think our government will bring such a Bill. Thank you.

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): I am speaking in support of the Right of Transgender Persons Bill, 2014 which was passed in the Rajya Sabha and which has been brought to this House by Shri Baijayant Jay Panda. I fully support this Bill because this Bill feels that Transgenders are persons who have to be treated with compassion; sympathy and also those they should be allowed their Constitutional Rights. Now, we have Articles 14 and 15 in the Constitution which makes everybody equal before law. There is also Article 21 which gives the Right to Life and Liberty. So, in case, the transgenders are deprived of these rights, we are actually depriving a section of the society. That is why, it is very essential to move forward with this Bill.

Now, as has been stated, these transgenders have various names. In my State, they are known as *hijras*, in some other States, they are known as *kinnars*. It has been defined in the Bill as to who are the transgenders. The transgender person means a person whose gender does not match with the gender assigned to that person at birth and includes trans-men and trans-women (whether or not they have undergone sex assignment surgery or hormone therapy or laser therapy), gender queers and a number of socio-cultural identities such *kinnars*, *hijras*, *aravanis*, *jogtas* etc.

This Transgender Bill covers only a small part of the total spectrum. In America or in many countries, the agitation is for giving totally equal rights to LGBTs. LGBTs are lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders. We are covering

only part of this spectrum by talking about transgenders. From our experience, we know that these transgenders are ostracized in our society. In Kolkata, it is very common that when a child birth takes place at a residence, then these transgender people come in a group. They inspect the baby to see if it is a transgender one and if it is otherwise, they demand money from the family which had a child born to them. These transgenders in my city of Kolkata live in separate slums in a community of their own. In recent times, I am seeing that they are taken to begging at the main crossings of the Kolkata city and they also put a little pressure on people. This is because they have no means of livelihood. They do a little song and dance but that is not fetching them any livelihood. That is why, they have taken to begging.

How many of these transgenders are there? One estimate is that five lakh transgenders are there in the country. According to some other estimates, there are 25 lakh transgenders in the country. My demand is that in the next census which is to take place in 2021, we should have separate census for transgenders so that exact figures are available. Though the Government of India has not brought any legislation so far, the Supreme Court has already dealt with their issue and the Supreme Court has said that they should be treated with compassion separately.

Following the Supreme Court directive, now a transgender may give his sex as male, female and others, and it will be recorded in that way in the voters' list or electoral roll. In Nepal, they have allowed transgenders to write 'others' in the passport. We, the legislators, are behind the Supreme Court and the Election Commission in having a sympathetic legislation arrangement for transgenders. That is why, this Bill becomes very urgent.

This Bill talks of setting up a National Commission for Transgenders with an eminent person who has worked with them as Chairperson and six members, of whom three will be transgenders. It also speaks of setting up of

State Commissions where there will be similarly Chairperson and six members, of whom three will be transgenders. These National Commission and State Commissions will look after the various problems that are being faced by the transgenders.

In the Bill two very important reservations have been made. One is a reservation of two per cent in educational institutions for transgenders of the total number of seats in each class. Again, in Government employment, it proposes reservation of not less than two per cent of the vacancies to be filled up by direct recruitment for transgenders. Also, the Bill suggests that the employers in the public sector also should ensure that at least two per cent of their workforce is composed of transgender persons.

But apart from this, the main thing is humane treatment for these transgenders. So, every organisation, mainly, the police have a responsibility towards these people, and, in case they are threatened, they are harassed, the police should take action, and that is mentioned in this law because these are people who are unable to defend themselves. It is true that because of lack of occupation, some of them do turn to crime. It is our duty, our responsibility to be sympathetic and to have proper rehabilitation and to see that if in a family, a transgender child is born; he or she should be allowed to live with the family in dignity.

The Bill, as it comes, has many good features. As I said, there are rights and entitlements like right to life and personal liberty as is enshrined in the Constitution, right to live in the community, right to integrity, protection from torture or cruel or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, protection from abuse, violence and exploitation. . This sympathy is most important. At present, the transgenders are subjected to very bad abuse, violence and exploitation, especially in the slums where they live. The slumlords or the local *goondas* are torturing these poor and defenceless people who have to resort to

either song and dance or to begging to live. It is necessary to give these transgender people education so that they can stand on their own feet. Educational institutions should reserve seats and see that there is no discrimination against them in the educational institutions.

Also, these people have no skills as such. So, there is a chapter which says skill development and employment for them is necessary. Yesterday, we discussed the budget of the Ministry of Skill Development. It was targeted that we should develop skills for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBCs and women. Now similar arrangement should be made for skill development of transgenders so that they are able to earn a living, which is at the root of all their problems. Then, they should be provided with health care facilities. If they go to any hospital – these transgenders very often suffer from both sexually transmitted diseases and HIV Aids – they should be ensured free treatment.

I do hope that once the National Commission and the State Commissions are set up, they will go into this problem and, from time to time, issue directives to the Government as to what actions should be taken. We cannot allow a large section of the population, a large section of the society to go into penury, destitution and beggary. We have this responsibility towards these unfortunate people who are born a little different from others. For that purpose they should not be deprived of their rights.

The proposed legislation speaks of special rights for transgenders. In case their rights are violated, they will have a right to take resort to legal action and there will be an exclusive transgenders' court. It may take a little time to set up but I think a beginning has to be made now. A message has to go out from the Government that they are under the protection of the Government; that no inhuman behaviour towards them will be tolerated and that the Government is making a serious and earnest effort to rehabilitate them socially, economically and culturally.

The Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment is present in the House. Today, his Budget was discussed. I have with me a Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment. The Committee says that an Expert Committee was constituted to make an in-depth study of the problems being faced by the transgender community. So, the first step has been taken. The Expert Committee has already submitted its Report on 27th January, 2014. I may remind you that the present Government came into power in May, 2014. By now the action should have been taken. Two years have elapsed and we have not made any progress in this regard.

A Standing Coordination Mechanism in the form of an inter-Ministerial Committee has been constituted to discuss the issues. The Standing Committee has reported that the Department is also in the process of formulating a Bill titled 'the Rights of Transgender Persons Bill', which was placed on the website of the Department on 3/12/2015 for seeking comments from the public. A pre-legislative consultation meeting with the stakeholders was held this year on 18/1/2016. All I would say is that the Department has made some progress. It has placed the draft legislation on the website. What is needed is a sense of urgency in the matter. The urgency is required because every day inhuman behaviour toward transgenders are taking place, more and more transgender people are taking to crime and they are becoming a nuisance in society.

When I was an MLA in Kolkata, I have seen the subhuman conditions they live in. They take away a child which is born as transgender from the family and as a result of which it takes to the same methods.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT): Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, respected Saugata Roy ji would like to know whether the draft has been put on the website, as well as what progress has been made in this regard. I would like to

submit that we have finalised the draft and its approval has come from the Law Department. A cabinet note on it has been circulated. It will try to present it in the next cabinet meeting and further action will be taken.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I would like to congratulate the Hon'ble Minister that he had achieved significant progress by the time we started discussion on it. Earlier, I assumed that the government did not want to pass this Bill in the Rajya Sabha, yet this Bill was passed. In the Lok Sabha, we cannot pass a Bill against the will of the government. In the Lok Sabha, we appeal to the Hon'ble Minister that whatever you have to do, do it quickly. The Standing Committee has also spoken about it.

[English]

“The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department should expedite the finalization of the umbrella scheme without delay so that the same could be implemented at the earliest, being the only scheme for the welfare of the transgender community.”

[Translation]

The Standing Committee has said this. The sooner you bring this Bill, the better it will be. I think the whole House will react to it keeping the Constitution in mind. These are minority people who are in trouble, in inconvenience, so let us support them. I support this Bill. I assume that the government does not want to complete the discussion on this Bill today, as it to be put to vote and the members of the ruling party will have to vote against it. They want it to postpone it slightly, by the time the discussion is concluded; the government Bill will be ready. I have no objection to this. I want something to be done for them. What is the benefit of scoring brownie points on the government? We have to help these poor and destitute people, and this becomes the duty of all of

us. I am very happy that the Hon'ble Minister turned out to be so proactive....
(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: For 67 years of independence, no government did anything for this class.... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: They are very poor.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): My objection is if this assurance has come from the hon. Minister.... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: The previous government did something in January 2014.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: The assurance has come from the Hon'ble Minister that the Cabinet notes have been circulated, so what is the need to discuss here? [*English*] If the mover of this Bill can withdraw it, we have another important Bill – the Small and Marginal Farmers (Welfare) Bill – just after this one, which is more important. We have already ...(*Interruptions*) This is for consideration because, in what circumstances, the Rajya Sabha passed that Bill that is not of our concern.

We have discussed, and we may be discussing, as Prof. Roy has just now mentioned, that we should continue this discussion. My objection is that the government is trying its best to place a Bill here. At that time also, we have to discuss.... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, for 67 years, nothing has been done for this class. Today, when everybody present here wants to give his opinion on it, then why is it being opposed? I think everybody has the right to be heard.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: It is not being opposed, but a suggestion has been given.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Let us we given an opportunity to speak. We want to set aside all work to speak in their favour at this time....
(Interruptions) We want to talk in their favour.... (Interruptions)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: What Anurag ji said was absolutely right. I was not in touch with the previous government, but they formed an expert committee in January 2014. At that time, there was a UPA-II Government. Work is progressing on the report given by that committee. You should accept the history. I do not want to say anything about Bhartruhari ji's proposal because the motion is also of his party, and the suggestion has also come from his side. They have to decide in their party, as what action has to be taken? I don't want to say anything on that.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): When I spoke on the Bill introduced in the House, I opposed it. General perception is positive about transgender; everyone will speak in support of them. But the way it is presented, it has many flaws. I pointed out these shortcomings one by one. I do not know whether the Bill that the government is going to bring, will has reservation for the transgender to contest elections or not; it will be discussed at that time.

SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: All I want to say is that the Government is serious about it. The Government sincerely wants to protect the interests of these sections and make provisions related to it. We have taken this step with this intention. There are many practical difficulties in the Bill which has been passed in the Rajya Sabha, and we will give the reasons for those practical difficulties, but we felt that the Government should bring a separate Bill. The Supreme Court gave a decision and said that such people must be classified as a third gender. Along with this, it was also said that whether they want to live as male or female class, choice should be left on them.

If a person is male or female by birth, the birth certificate is made accordingly. What if a person turns transgender after the age of 20-25 years, what recourse is available? We through a review petition asked from the Supreme Court to give clarification in this regard, because whether a person is transgender or not, will be decided by the doctors. Any decision will be taken on the medical line only. The panel doctors will decide whether a person is male or female. How will it work until it's decided?

Many individuals also claims that if we are in SC, then give us the facility of SC; some say that if we are ST, then give us the facility of ST; some say that we belong to OBC; give us the facility of OBC. Though we are proposing faculties for these individuals, but the SCs and the STs have more faculties, so it is natural they will desire these faculties. There are many such things that need to be clarified. The certificate that was made at the time of birth, or gender written at the time of admission in a school; how the gender will be changed later, and who will change it? There are many such anomalies and trends that need to be solved. A review petition has been filed regarding all these things. The Supreme Court has given dates four times till now. Who knows what will be the next date of hearing. But, we will make a law till the date is decided, and even after that, there may be difficulty in getting the certificate. We might make laws and rules for issuing a certificate. But only those who have the certificate of transgender will get the benefits, and if they do not have the certificate, they will not get it. We are trying to bring a Bill to remove these difficulties.

Just now, Mahtab ji suggested that the Member who moved the Bill should withdraw it. Many Hon. Members want to speak; we want to speak openly on this topic so that the government can be guided and able to make further improvements in the Bill, it is going to bring.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The time has been extended by two hours; the discussion will continue.

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI (SOUTH DELHI): Sir, there are inconsistencies in this Private Member Bill because it tends to alienate them from the society. If a separate court is set up, a separate police station is set up, they will feel isolated. My request is that all the inconsistencies should be cleared.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: This Bill is pending; it is under discussion.

.... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SAUGATA ROY: Sir, all I have to say is that a transgender person, Manvi Bandopadhyay, in West Bengal, had a surgery and became the principal of a college. If they are given a chance, if a transgender can become a college principal, then everything is possible. ...(*Interruptions*)

16.36 hours**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS-Introduced.... Contd.****(xxxiii) Compulsory Teaching of Sanitation and Cleanliness in
Schools Bill, 2016****[Translation]***HON. CHAIRPERSON:** Shri Om Birla ji.

SHRI OM BIRLA (KOTA): Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for free and compulsory teaching of sanitation and cleanliness in all schools as part of *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

*[English]***HON. CHAIRPERSON:** The question is:

“That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for free and compulsory teaching of sanitation and cleanliness in all schools as part of *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

The motion was adopted.

*[Translation]***SHRI OM BIRLA:** I introduce the Bill.

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16.36 ½ hours**RIGHTS OF TRANSGENDER PERSONS BILL,
2014 ...Contd
(As passed by Rajya Sabha)**

[Translation]

KUNWAR BHARATENDRA SINGH (BIJNOR): Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Bill which is on a very important and sensitive subject. I will read the title in English because I completely agree with my learned colleague that the term "*Vipreet Lingi*" is not the appropriate word. .

Sir, this is a very progressive and a very sensitive Bill. People who are unable to realise themselves, like someone is born in a boy's body but when he is 12, 14 years old, he feels that his soul, his feelings, his mentality is that of a girl, we are trying to give recognition to such persons. Our senior colleague Saugata Roy ji has correctly stated that this issue should be discussed very seriously. My colleagues have discussed but they could not properly convey this particular distinction that First, gender and sex are distinct in this context. Sex is assigned at birth. Gender once innate gives a sense of self. In Latin, 'trans' means 'on the other side of. It means that she is born as a girl but her mind, her soul, her feeling is to become a boy, she wants to wear clothes like a boy. That's one category. The second category is those who have some deformity in their genitals since birth. Such person born neither as a boy nor as a girl, only handful of such people are in the country. There are about one crore such persons in our country. On the one hand, they are the people who almighty created this way. One the other hand, I would like to draw your attention to those people who hate these people, are very disgusted and angry at their presence, their presence in the society. The behaviour of these people, these cisgender people, though not transgender, but they have so much faith and pride in their gender that they

misbehave with those who have become transgender. Keeping such people in mind, we should make a law.

My colleague Ajay Mishra was speaking. He narrated some religious things. In Tamil Nadu, a fair is held every year at Koovagam village in Villupuram district. This fair is held to commemorate the marriage of Shri Kutthan Dwar with Mohini – female form of Lord Vishnu. It is celebrated every year in the month of April and May. Many people are worshiper of incorporeal God. They believe that God has no form. If God doesn't have a shape, then God certainly doesn't have a gender. God is neither man nor woman. That is why we all have our ego connected to our physical body, our physique, so we consider ourselves either a man or a woman. But those who do not consider themselves men or women are certainly spiritually superior to us. This is also a feeling, due to which this fair is held in this temple every year.

I have seen at the intersections of Delhi, people come to beg us at red lights, that a lot of people give them money and greet them with folded hands, and in turn, they bless alms givers. The story goes that a human sacrifice had to be offered; if a man to be sacrificed unmarried, he would not gain emancipation. Because of this, Lord Vishnu took the form of a woman, Mohini, and married with Arvan ji, and the next day, Arvan ji was sacrificed. This is why a big celebration of marriage is hold the next day at night, and all these people, whether we call them *Kinnars or* eunuch, come there and celebrate this event as a reminiscent of marriage, and the next morning, they break their bangles and assume the form of widows. Therefore, they have faith in the *Ardhanarishwar* mentioned in our philosophy, and this tradition is part of this philosophy. It is a section of our society that gives it a lot of recognition and respect.

There is a report from Kerala; it is in English, so I would seek your permission to quote it in English. A transgender person writes: *[English]* "I was sent to a mental hospital because of them. I have complained to the doctor that I

am perfectly fine. The doctor said, 'It is all about a hormonal problem; we can inject hormones. ' I was kept unconscious. I was given 15 tablets a day. I went mad in the hospital after seeing other patients.

[Translation]

A well-educated and healthy transgender person had been put in a mental asylum and was treated like mental patients, given medicines meant for mental patients. *[English]* He further writes "I even wanted to die due to mental pressure. I tried running away from the hospital, but the guards caught me. You know the guards, right? They are trained to be like that. I stayed there for one month. " He was treated so badly for a month.

Moreover, the rigid religious principles across all religions have always projected that being transgender is sinful. There have been circumstances where the church has denied the right to be part of the service. By then, the entire world came to know this, and the Pastor in my church asked my father not to bring me to church. They said I am a sinner. I was not allowed to attend the funeral of my uncle also.

[Translation]

A stringent Bill has to be brought about to curb this kind of abuse, which has become conventional. The same person says that NGOs also want to keep their address confidential. When it was inquired why NGOs wanted to keep their address confidential, they told, that neighbour would object if they came to know that there was an NGO running for transgenders here. So, it is a very sad incident.

The reports that have been received from Tamil Nadu and Kerala, especially in Kerala, indicate a lot of misbehaviour. But in the adjoining state of Tamil Nadu, where this temple is also located, relatively better behaviour done with such people. A eunuch named Priya Babu writes that he was given a chance for education. *[English]* In Tamil Nadu, all the major colleges are

continuously working on transgender issues. Last year, we made a film and screened it in all these colleges, like Loyola College and Women's Christian College. I was a part of it, so I know how effective it was. We also arranged a session for the students to interact with us. Awareness is important. *[Translation]* Such an arrangement has been made in Tamil Nadu. Certainly, we should implement these systems at the national level. There is a need to pass a Bill and make a law here. The Tamil Nadu government has taken a further step for children who believe that their body is of a different gender but their emotions and feelings are of another gender and feel trapped in this body. The state has made provision for surgical procedures for them, providing treatment and finding a successful path for them. *[English]* The Tamil Nadu government established an exclusive welfare board for transgender persons in 2004. They started Nirvana surgery, where people undergo an operation to change their biologically assigned sex, and it was provided at subsidized rates. *[Translation]* They named this surgery "Nirvana". We have such reports.

While it is necessary to create laws for them on one hand, on the other hand, if we look at the practical aspect, these transgender individuals who beg at crossroads must not be sustaining their livelihood solely through begging. After all, what is their business? As Saugata Roy ji just now told, they are sexually exploited for economic reasons, and these people provide sexual services. No one has discussed this matter here. That is why, as Saugata Roy ji said, these people are HIV-afflicted, and it is very important to help them. However, if we look at the figures from around the world, why the population of these persons is so high in India. Why is this class so prevalent in the Indian subcontinent—India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal? If it is a matter of practicality or natural deformity, why is it less than 0.01 percent in other countries? Why are there so many in our country? From this, it becomes clear that this is a very terrible method, a terrible cult. This is a criminal cult where poor children, aged ten to twelve years, who are not able to handle themselves and whose families are not

able to raise them, Kinnars come to them, impress them, and take out such children with them. There are documentaries about it; there is a BBC program, "Under the Sun," there are articles on it, and documentaries are also available. It is clearly shown in them how these people influence and seduce children of twelve or fourteen years of age just on temptation of a good hearty meal. They make children to roam around with them for a few days, then encourage them to wear girls' clothes, to grow their hair, and when all this is done, one day after giving them a big meal, they put sleeping pills in their food. When the child wakes up, he comes to know that while he was in deep sleep, he was operated upon without his will and consent, and he was made a eunuch.

Nowadays, it is a very big crime. Once a person is made eunuch, it cannot be reversed. That documentary has been made for the BBC by two very sensitive people, Aruna Jhala ji and Kalyan Mukherjee. They actually went and interviewed those people and asked a eunuch, "Why does he not return to his home? If he is too exhausted and distraught with his life, why does he not return to his family"? Then he despairingly replied that when he returned home, his family saw this form of woman, having long hair, lipstick, and a clad in a saree, and were told that he had been converted to eunuch by doing surgery, his family members cursed him and drove him away from the house. Today, such a horrific act and a very serious crime is taking place. Where sexual abuse is prevalent, children are being forcibly kept prisoner, and then they are being crippled and forced into sexual services or exploitation. I think we should take note of all these things.

Just now, our learned colleagues were talking about giving reservations. There are many such incidents in this Kalyug where a father who about to retire is killed by a son, who is not getting a job on the hope that he might get a compensatory job. There are many such cases in our country. If you give reservations to transgenders, then this practice will increase so much that people will be forcibly caught and operated upon. If this becomes a way to get a job

because you fall into the reserved category, what a big and bad damage we will unknowingly do to our society! They are in such a large number in this subcontinent, because a dirty tradition has taken birth here. What was once considered spiritual, today is only a medium for cheap sexual services, and this entire House have to deal with it very directly. Some ask to include them in the category of OBCs. Just now, the Hon'ble Minister was saying that there is an attempt to bring them into the Scheduled Category. But, as we know, unless the Backward Classes Commission or the Scheduled Caste Commission accepts it, they certainly cannot and should not be given such a category. While, on the one hand, all these things are of great seriousness, on the other hand, unless there is a very serious discussion and serious investigation on all these things, it will not be right to make any law here.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: What can be a more serious discussion than this? Such a serious discussion is going on.

KUNWAR BHARATENDRA SINGH: No, Sir, why no investigation has been done, why has no one dared to speak on this subject or tell the truth? We all know that those who are begging before us while wearing such expensive sarees definitely cannot afford these sarees only from our beggary. Why did this issue of sexual service not come up in the Houses, here neither in the Lok Sabha nor in the Rajya Sabha? This is a serious issue, and unless society accepts transgender persons, it will not be possible to ensure rightful and peaceful life to transgenders. For this, society has to undergo a special social, political, and cultural change and accepts these minorities with an open mind. Such hasty legislation, without a good investigation report, will be very incomplete and will promote a cult that we all know is full of crimes and exploitation. Thank you.

[English]

DR. RAVINDRA BABU (AMALAPURAM): Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me the opportunity. From Telugu Desam Party I wholeheartedly support

this Bill. Of course, I definitely partially agree with my predecessor who spoke against reservations, reservations leading to perpetuation of this transgender quality. As he has requested to go deep into this issue, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the genetic formation of a child.

What is the genetics of the human beings? A female is born when XX genes are there and a male is born when XY gene is there. There are certain genetic malfunctions and malformations whereby a female can have XY or a male can have XX. These are also genetic variations resulting in the abnormal child. There are certain studies made by psychologists in the field of genetic. The original psychologist Sigmund Freud has dwelt upon the psychosexual development of a child and the transgender. He said that there are; oral, anal, sexual and phallic stages, so many stages and each taking place at each fixed interval. Whenever there is confusion, a mixture of these stages, a transgender emerges out. Physically, anatomically, functionally that means physiologically all transgender are like males or females. We only see male transgender. I have yet to come across a female transgender, as it is a very-very rare condition. The commonest condition is a male transgender which we come across on the streets every day. Physically they are very strong. There are instances in the mythology. We have the Shikandi who when appeared during the Mahabharata changed the whole war. At the same time, we have seen transgender kept in big kingdoms to protect the queens. So, they have been used like that.

It is most unfortunate that the pitiable, the pathetic condition of transgender was picturised in a Pakistani movie called 'Bol'. If anybody watches that movie he can understand the plight of a transgender, the pain and agony of the parents of a transgender. When a child is born nobody can identify whether he is going to be a transgender or not. It is only at the age of puberty, at the age of exhibiting the sexual qualities, that one can notice it. The female transgender can be easily tackled. Male transgender is very difficult to identify.

Easy identification can be done by the genetics but it is mostly psychological and functional.

As far as the functional aspects of a transgender are concerned, there can be some malingering, some pretensions but how to identify a true transgender is a big question. It can only be inferred by continuous monitoring of the behaviour of a person like refusing to marry the opposite sex and thereby certifying that he has become a transgender. When an individual prefer the same sex for their partnership then this is the first sign of a transgender. Therefore, trying to determine anybody's transgender quality through medical diagnosis will definitely lead to fiasco. Medical test cannot conclude anybody's transgender quality but as I said all transgender males will definitely have XX and they will be tested as males. They will produce male hormones.

17.00 hours

They will produce male hormones. They are also capable of producing children because their testosterone hormone, prostate, etc. are intact. Physically, muscularly, proteins, carbohydrates and distribution of these things in the body are perfectly alright. The only problem is functional which means psychological. The cognitive functions are not as per the male as assigned during the birth. Therefore, it is a very difficult situation and it is a very difficult Bill. As has been said by the Hon'ble Minister, it has already been discussed in the Supreme Court and we are only discussing its judgement. It is not easy even for the Supreme Court to pronounce a transgender.

Every scientist who studied the male behaviour and genetics is equally confused. It is such a confused state of human functioning. If you codify that as a Bill and if anybody tries to pass on a judgement on transgender, it will be a grave injustice. There will be miscarriage of justice. Therefore, a lot of caution needs to be exercised. A lot of sympathy needs to be exhibited. A lot of restraint is required instead of ridiculing them, teasing them and laughing at them. That

is why, I would request the Members who are interested in knowing the pain and agony of the transgender himself and of the parents of the transgender also to see a Pakistani movie called “Bol”. If you see that movie, it will make very clear as to what is the confusion.

There are anatomical confusions, psychological confusions, genetic confusions, functional confusions, cultural confusions and above all there is agony. Nobody can quantify their agony unless one experiences it himself. It is a pathological and psychological problem also. It is a combination of anatomy, physiology, bio-chemistry, psychiatric, psychology, culture, etc. Let us not draw any hasty conclusion about transgender. This Bill needs a lot of consideration and restraint before passing each provision. There are so many provisions in the Bill. Let us devote more time in protecting their rights. At the same time, let us not perpetuate their problems.

As my colleague has said, there may be attempts to artificially make them transgender through surgeries and other things. It is because the definition says that the transgender means any person by birth and also induced to transgender either by hormone or by laser. So, those are also included. The people who are being induced and who have been operated to become transgender will also be entitled to transgender. Therefore, let us not encourage the induction of transgender by artificial means. Let us recognise only those transgender who are functionally and psychologically transgender but anatomically and physiologically belong to their original genetics as per birth. Jai Telugu Desam.

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Sir, thank you. Now, as an assurance that the Hon'ble Minister has given to bring a Bill, I really think the people's worries will be put to rest once the Central Government brings it forward. For this, the hon. Prime Minister, and especially our Minister, hon. THAAWAR Chand Gehlot, deserve congratulations for considering the plight of those people. As Anurag Singh Thakur pointed out, for 68 years, no government bothered to address this community's needs. Our government is finally stepping up, and they definitely deserve some thanks for that!

There are some flaws in the Bill which was brought by Tiruchi Siva ji and passed by the Rajya Sabha and which has been introduced here by our able friend Baijayant Panda Saheb. I'm not a lawyer, but after a cursory glance, I see flaws. There are many flaws in this Bill. Like clause 10; which says

[English]

“Any person or registered organization who are or which has reason to believe that an act of abuse, violence or exploitation has been or is being likely to be committed against any transgender person may give information about it. ”

[Translation]

After that, the role of Executive Magistrate and other things will come. They think that all these things are going to stop once legislation is made. As they are forcing to make a law. Now we must understand that these people visit our place; during the wedding season, or when a child is born. If there is a festival, then they come at that time. If someone likes, call them and talk to them, give them money. There are families that cannot afford money. If such a family doesn't pay or open its gate, don't you think all these things will be worth sending him straight to jail? Is this the kind of Bill we want? Have you ever realized the practical problem? They come forcefully, but we don't invite them.

There are many people to speak in this House. Name a person who invites them, saying, "We are having a wedding at our place, please come; we are having a marriage ceremony, please come; we are holding a *Satyanarayan Vrat Katha*, we'd love to see you." They come, and they should come. I don't say why they come. But there are some people who give money, and there are some people who do not give money. What will happen to those families who don't pay, if this kind of Bill comes? Will people go to jail for this or not? I am saying when we talk about introducing this Bill; let's really think about how it affects everyday life, alright? After this, you have talked about education in clause no. 13:

[English]

"The appropriate Government and local authorities shall ensure that all education institutions funded or recognised by them provide inclusive education and *inter-alia*..."

[Translation]

We've talked about a lot of stuff, right? Now, do you realize that even just 25% of children from economically weaker backgrounds are actually getting into private schools in this country? Are they even attending? This is going to create a whole new scenario. When that happens, how are schools going to handle it? If they can't, are they going to end up in legal trouble? Just look at how the Delhi government is always threatening to drag someone into court. They're even talking about taking over the assets that these schools have built. That brings me to my main concern about clause number 13: why should this Bill go through as it is? We really need to consider the government's version of the Bill to address these issues. I totally support the idea of having facilities for the transgenders and think there should be a Bill for that too, but I'm just pointing out the problems with this current Bill. And then there's Clause No. 21

[English]

"All Government institutions of primary, secondary and higher education receiving aid from the Government shall reserve 2 percent of the total seats in each class or course for transgender persons. "

[Translation]

Just now, what the Hon'ble Minister said, because what Anurag ji was saying is not a proper translation, I also think it would be transgender; it would be bisexual. Bisexual means that when a person wants to be identified as a woman, she should be known as a woman, and when a person wants to be identified as a man, should be known as a man. They have qualities of both male and female, so they are transgender, and therefore they are bisexual. Now think, if two percent seats have to be reserved, then how will the two percent seats be reserved? Will you reserve it for women or for men? Will you reserve it for Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe? Because, there is a practical problem in what the Hon'ble Minister was saying about Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe. The child who is born in the Scheduled Caste will be the Scheduled Caste; the child who is born in the Scheduled Tribe will be the Scheduled Tribe. We cannot make any separate classification that these people will also be called as a Scheduled Caste, or as a Scheduled Tribe. In this practical problem, if you are talking about fixing a quota of two percent, then there is a big question. This is followed by clause Nos. 23 and 24.

[English]

"The appropriate Government shall within a period of one year from the commencement of this Act provide incentive to employers in the private sector to ensure that at least 2 per cent of their workforce is composed of transgender persons."

[Translation]

Shri Baijayant Panda Saheb, himself run a private sector enterprise. I mean, his father, his family runs a business. But before becoming an MP, you will also have information about your company. You should tell me that there is an atmosphere in the entire country that Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, and OBCs should be given reservation in the private sector.

Till now, no government has been able to take this decision. We could not even raise the private sector to a great extent, and we will force a new law on them, though law has not been made till now. We are forcing private sector to give two percent reservation to transgender persons. Do you think will it attract more investment? Don't you think we are exercising much control on private sector? Yes, Vishweshwar Reddy Saheb is sitting here; his wife herself runs a big Apollo Group. Will she be able to give two percent to the transgender? My point is that if we go through the whole Bill, one will find that this Bill has many practical problems. After this, if you see, in Section 47, which is on transgender rights, you have said:

[English]

“May establish for each district and shall establish for each city.”

[Translation]

Now, a photo came in media in which the Chief Justice of India broke down before the Prime Minister. Whether news is right or wrong, the newspapers wrote that he lamented about the shortage judges; he cried that judiciary is not able dispose the cases. We have not been able to appoint sufficient number of judges, even then saying to make separate court for transgenders in each district. How will the government give the court? What will it do? Then I say that this Bill is a Bill worth throwing in the dustbin, and if the government brings a new Bill, then I think it will be good for this country and it will also be good for transgenders. We got caught in litigation.

The second point is that the Belgian writer, Koenraad Elst, wrote a book titled “Negationism in India.” Colonel Ilse Saheb wrote an excellent book called Negationism on India. He beautifully writes that Indians have a tendency to forget things easily, and this forgetfulness is evident in how we frequently blame the Britishers: that they came, ruled over us, and so forth. However, when we speak of assimilating the influences of those who came before the British, we don't say that do not assimilate them. It's a fact that before the sixth century, there was no Islam here. Before the sixth century in India, not a single person was a Muslim; there was no Islam. It does not mean that we are opposed to Islam, but just to understand how Hindu culture suffered, one must know the history.

Ajay Mishra Saheb was saying while talking that the Britishers made a law in 1871, and on the basis of that law, we talk about the sufferings of the transgenders today. There are many such people in this House who feel that they are first champion who stood for the cause of transgenders and the LGBTQI community.

If we talk about Indian culture, we can't skip the Narasimha Avatar, can we? We talks about Lord Ganesha, we worship Lord Ganesha, and Lord Ganesha is half animal and half human being, which show how ahead of our time we were! If we talk about our culture or leave Narasimha Avatar, or Shikhandi, what a conducive atmosphere was prevalent at that time? I would like to say that in our Indian civilization, in our culture, we always accepted transgenders, what to say transgenders, even the extreme transgender or mixture of animals and human beings were always believed in and worshiped. First of all, we worship Lord Ganesha. The Narasimha Avatar is one of the ten incarnations. I feel that we are not going to do a new thing; we have to give them respect in society. Respect in society is essential for those who have been attacked, who have destroyed, and whose civilization and culture has been destroyed. The way the British made the law in 1871 and tried to crush, they

were the first to attack. Therefore, we shouldn't need to feel overly sympathetic about this situation; it's more about recognizing history. If you read the story of the Ramayana, when Lord Rama set on for 14 years exile, he asked all the people of Ayodhya to return. When asked to go back, he requested women to go back and requested men to go back. He saw that some individual still following him. He thought they are so emotionally attached with him, or committed to him that they were following him. So he stopped them and gave a boon, "I bless you that whenever there is a wedding, a marriage, or any such auspicious occasion, it will not be complete until you are present, honoured and involved." And he gave them this blessing. This blessing laid the groundwork for the customs surrounding eunuchs and their important role ever since.

Just now, Bharatendu ji talked about Arivan. Bhartruhari might want to say something. *(Interruptions)* Let him speak first in this regard.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): I had said on that day when the residents of Ayodhya gathered at the banks of the Ganges, Lord Rama instructed them not to cross the river. He said, "All of you, both men and women, should return to Ayodhya, and I will join you after 14 years." Upon his return after 14 years, he noticed that some of the Ayodhya residents had settled there. He questioned them, "I told all of you to go back; why did you remain?" The people responded, "You instructed the men to return and the women to go back, but you did not instruct us to do so." Valmiki ji has referred to them as '*Kinnar*' in the Ramayana; this term originates from there. Therefore, I suggested to the esteemed Minister that the term 'Kinnar,' which denotes 'transgender' or 'opposite sex,' should be incorporated into the law through proper Hindi translation, as it is a word found in our literary tradition, attributed to Valmiki ji. Those who waited at the banks of the Ganges were indeed eunuchs; perhaps they, alongside Lord Rama, returned to Ayodhya after the interval of 14 years. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY (GODDA): Similarly, if we talk about Jainism, psychological sex has also been discussed in Jainism. I was mentioning that negationism in India exists. Hon. Bhartruhari Ji was present when I was trying to explain how Ganesh is worshipped and why there is the Narasimha avatar. My point is that even if we consider Jainism, we have forgotten psychological aspects of sex. Transgenders were given regard whether it was Mughal court or the Ottoman Empire. Gayatri Reddy ji has written a very good book, *With Respect to Sex: Negotiating Hijra in South India*. In this book, he has mentioned all these things in detail. I don't want to quote much from that book. We have to consider what is the current status of transgender people all over the world, and what do we need to do? The United Nations is an instrument; they feel that there should be one kind of law and one kind of thing in the whole world. Even in finance, if you look at the impact of the WTO, the WTO means that the whole world is one market and expects whole worlds to work uniformly. The Article 6 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, Article 16 of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights, which was recognized in 1966, and Article 17 of the ICCPR states that there should not be any unlawful interference or discrimination in a society. For this, a meeting was held from 6th to 9th November 2006 at Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, on which type of laws should be made for transgenders all over the world, what kind of problems they face, and how can we be address these problems. The Yogyakarta Principles, on the basis of which the whole world changed its laws, and I think the Indian government will also move forward on the basis of those Yogyakarta Principles. The first thing, these principles suggest the changes to be made to protect the human rights through incorporation. The human right is the biggest question about which Saugata Babu was speaking. Bharatendu ji was telling that human rights are violated everywhere. If we look at Articles 14, 15, 19, 21, and 53 as well as 253

together, then I think that our constitution has all required provisions as well. There was no discrimination, but the method of interpreting it was wrong.

After that, it was said that there should not be criminal discrimination. The Act of 1871, categorized these individual as criminal. After the independence of India, they were decriminalised. But even today, you will observe in the villages that if they enter in the villages, the villagers feel that they have come to steal. There group is misconstrued as a criminal gang like *Bavaria*, how will you separate them from criminal activity?

The third point, as Baijayant Babu while speaking on that day, said that education, information and awareness on this topic is most important. That information is needed. Prahlad Singh Patel Sahib interrupted, saying that a transgender became an MLA here, one got an MA degree. One individual also became a mayor; or even a principal in a women's college. While these are good examples, is there any society where such individuals do not face discrimination. So his point was that education and awareness is a crucial thing.

Transgenders should be involved in decision making process. There should be involvement of somewhere. Enjoyment of humanity was the first point of the Yogyakarta Principles. Secondly, the principles talked about rights to equality and non-discrimination. Equality is already enshrined in the Constitution of India. But suppose that after the judgment of the Hon. Supreme Court, it come to notice that there is discrimination, there is no equality, and Articles 14, 15, and 19 are being violated. Article 253 is not included in it; then I think the government had to think on all these things. All these things should be done in India so that their equality or non-discrimination, which is a big thing, is upheld. The history of discrimination is a few hundred old only, before that, as I told, they were shown much respect, as we have reference in the Mahabharata. If Shikhandi was brought as a charioteer, there would be great confidence in his ability and capability, because the fight was with Bhishma

Pitamah. Bhishma Pitamah was Mahabali, Bahubali; no one could defeat him. If someone made Shikhandi the charioteer, then he would not have made him a charioteer just for show; no one would have made him a charioteer out of fear. Imagine Bhishma Pitamah had broken his unique vow and shoot an arrow at a woman, what might have occurred? Whether Shikhandi was a woman or a man, but dressed as a woman; it means that there is something not in our history, which is not in our Indian culture, and discrimination has been going on for the last three to four hundred years. If there is a need to amend the law to remove that discrimination, we feel that we should do that based on that principle.
 ...(Interruptions)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Another character described in the Mahabharata is Brihannala, who was also transgender for a specific time.
 ...(Interruptions)

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: He was Arjuna, when he was supposed to spent year of exile in disguise. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: He was the charioteer of Uttar Kumar and faced the Kaurava army.... (Interruptions)

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Whatever has come after the judgment of the Hon. Supreme Court, I think it will be the right to recognition before the law.... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: They have studied this subject a lot; we should take advantage of it.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: These people should be recognised in law. Before the Hon. Supreme Court's judgment, there was a big question of in which category these individual should be placed. What category do they deserve? They have been considered as third gender by the Hon. Supreme Court, the government needs to consider whether they are recognized in the eyes of the law or not. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: In North Carolina, perhaps the Hon'ble Minister should take a look. There, a law has been made recently, and the term 'third gender' has been used. They have been instructed to use toilets made to them, go to the toilet; they will go neither to the male toilet nor to the female toilet.

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: That will be discrimination.

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, the fourth point - Right to Life.

[English]

SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY (CHEVELLA): Mr. Chairperson, Sir, only this month, in North Carolina State of United States of America, they discussed as to which toilet they should go. They discussed it almost for one week and passed a law that the transgenders and the third genders have to go to the toilet of the gender of the birth.

[Translation]

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, the fourth point mentioned in these principles is - Right to Life, which Bharatendra ji was just telling. Many people are suffering from HIV. Many people don't have a chance to work. It means how they will earn to live. Their right to life is not certain. It is not decided whether they will live a nomadic life, live in a house, live in a quarter, live in a society. The protection of the Right to Life means that these things should be part of that law, which I do not see anywhere in this Bill. There is a talk to set up a National Commission. It is like running the society with iron hand. We can't force society do anything by dealing it iron hand. Hon. Rama Devi ji is sitting here. She was very active at that time. After the Nirbhaya

incident, we brought another Bill. Has such incidents against women stopped after that Bill? Has atrocities on women stopped?

We made section 498 in IPC to check dowry cases. If someone is accused of dowry, he will be put behind the bar without exception. Can anybody tell who has more numbers in jail, man or women? Today, more women are in prison than man under. To save one woman, 10 women are put behind the bar. I'm not saying that the law should not be made. But if we want to run society or the country, it cannot be run by mere brutal force of law. Such law can't create expected awareness. The form of Bill introduced by hon. Trichy Siva Saheb will not allow such individuals to become a part of society. People will see such persons with fear, and will apprehend that if they do not do any good thing for transgender, they will be in trouble. People will stop meeting them. My point is that the government needs to think about the Right to Life.

The Right to Privacy - this is a very important thing. Suppose someone wants to keep these things secret, wants to live in privacy, whether he is a transgender, a woman, or a man. Such person should be protected. Suppose a woman is tortured; even today, the press and society are told that they will not take her name, one cannot take the name of woman who has been raped; one has to keep her name secret. Or suppose if children below 16 years commit a crime, then their faces will not be brought in front of society. I say that there must be a provision for the Right to Privacy for transgenders too.

The Right to Treatment with Humanity in Detention - suppose someone is caught. They face biggest problem in this regard. Like he said, in America, the law was amended that they will have separate toilets. Here, in our country, are either female wards or a male ward in jails. We have not created a third ward yet. If this is to happen in this law, then you need to change the entire jail manual also. It is not clear if they go to attend nature call while in police station,

will they be supervised by male or female staff. If we talk about the third gender, then this kind of protection also needs to be thought about from now on.

Protection from Medical Abuses –it is said that if this protection is not there, then the whole law will be defeated. Suppose someone is suffering from HIV, and it is said that such people have tendency to indulge in such activities, it amounts to medical abuse. There must be a section in the law to prevent such medical abuse, and perpetrator of such discrimination will go to jail.

The Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression - our Constitution says that every citizen has the right to speak the right thing. It should not be that we try to discriminate them by saying that they are uninformed, they are uneducated. When the Constitution was being made, you know that even at that time many people were of the view that right to vote should not be given to all because some people are educated and other are illiterate. But the Constitution says one thing: this society is one, the country is one; this country belongs to everybody. Looking at our democracy today, we can say that we have a vibrant democracy. Whatever work the framers of the Constitution did, they did excellent work for the country.

The democratic system is moving forward through elections; elections have immensely contributed to lead the country forward. The law should be comprehensive in nature. After this, I say that there are laws in other countries, be it the United Kingdom, Netherlands, America, Germany, Australia, Canada, Argentina; such laws should be studied. I do not know whether the government has studied or not. Let us study these laws first, and then our law should be made. I would like to quote the two Acts of Australia in this regard. I think the Australian Sex Discrimination Act 1984 and the Sex Discrimination Amendment Act 2013 are both very important. *[English]*Section 5 (1) of the Act deals with discrimination on the ground of sexual orientation; the first point in that is, for the purposes of this Act, a person discriminates against another

person on the ground of the aggrieved person's sexual orientation if, by reason of the aggrieved person's sexual orientation or a characteristic that is generally imputed to persons who have the same sexual orientation as the aggrieved person, the discriminator treats the aggrieved person less favourably than, in circumstances that are the same or are not materially different, the discriminator treats or would treat a person who has a different sexual orientation. After that, the second section is saying discrimination on the ground of gender identity. *[Translation]* There is also Section 5, Section 7 (b), and Section 7 (d), and 5 (c), depending on the issue, if someone do inter-state sex discrimination or harass the aggrieved or as a gender identity; one will all go behind bars. My point is that the provisions equivalent to the law of Australia should be made.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Nishikant ji, would not be it good, if some other Hon. Members also get a chance to speak.

SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY: Sir, we have already talked about Section 7 and Section 47. We have said all these things. My last point is that there are Articles 1 and 3 of the International Convention about which we have said that *[English]* everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security of person. 1996 confirms Article 6: Every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life. It is Article 5 of Human Rights. Article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states that, “no one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment.” *[Translation]* All these are the equivalent to our Articles 12, 14, 15, 19, and 253, and the UN Convention. Today, this society feels neglected; they do not have respect in society; they are struggling to live a life of dignity. For that, I urge the Government and the Prime Minister of India, through you, to bring a law. This Bill will be withdrawn by Baijayant Panda Saheb anytime. If the Government brings a law with a very good heart, I will welcome it. I have to say that the discussion taking place on this issue, in

which Saugata Babu and Mahtab Babu argued that the government is already bringing a law, so let us discuss another Bill. But those involved in the ongoing discussions have strong feelings and insights on this matter. I really urge the Government to incorporate this vital information into their proposed law.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, we need a solid law that can provide a dignified life for this community. I believe our Prime Minister's slogan—'*Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat*'—can truly shine through this initiative. The other speakers will shed more light on this topic. With these words, I conclude my speech. Jai Hind - Jai Bharat.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (HAMIRPUR): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, thank you. You have given me an opportunity to speak on an important subject. The Transgender Bill 2014 was introduced in the House by our friend, Shri Baijayant J Panda and passed with voice vote in the Rajya Sabha. I am happy to see while elections going on in West Bengal are crucial, on the other hand, Prof. Saugata Roy ji, despite being a senior leader of this party, is present here to speak on this important Bill instead of focussing on the election, which I appreciate. What they could not do in 10 years of UPA's government, today when during the NDA time, the hon'ble Minister said that his government want to do something for this community; we are sitting here to support them.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, it seems to me that if every section of the society, particularly the Members of every party in this House, speake in favour of the community, and furthermore, highlights the loopholes in the Bill, they will be certain support the Bill of the government to make it better.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, speakers, who spoke before me, spoke very extensively on this subject. Particularly, Shri Baijayant J Panda, when spoke on this Bill, discussed various aspects of the transgender community. It seems to me that he was more in favour of the Bill than the shortcomings. We have talked a lot about LGBT queers issues in the House during the question and answer many a times, but it was on all of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender, but today we should narrow our talk only about transgender community, as Prof. Saugata Roy ji mentioned.

Sir, I would also like to thank Shri Nishikant Dubey, who highlighted the shortcomings in this Bill in the very beginning, threw light on them and also brought those shortcomings to the notice of the Hon'ble Minister, so that the Bill to be introduced for legislation may free form, at least, the shortcomings that are left in the private Bill passed by the Rajya Sabha.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, for the past 68 years, no one ever stood up for the interests of this particular community. Today, the Hon'ble Minister was saying here that our government has made efforts, and is ready to make a law on this soon. I want to extend my hearty congratulations to the hon'ble Minister on behalf of myself and the House. It's impressive how much has been accomplished in such a short time! I trust that the Minister will take into account everything we discussed in the House. If there are still any issues left, we'll sort them out when we get to the legislation stage.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, since the Hon'ble Minister took over the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, we've realized just how impactful this ministry is! He has provided that assistance to thousands of people by visiting the areas of MPs. He has provided help to the handicapped people in the country. For that, I want to thank you very much on my behalf and on behalf of the House.

Sir, it is very important for this Ministry to be seen working in the interest of the society. If we talk about social justice and empowerment and if the action of the Ministry does not reflect it, then it will not be a good thing. The Ministry may have offered help in the past, but who really knows who benefited from it or who actually received that assistance? Did it even get to the right persons? Today, through you, the MPs comes to know that there is a department called ALAMCO which work in tandem with the hon. Members, and conducts a thorough survey to ascertain the number of persons having 40 percent or more disability and what type of support they actually require, and the required support is provided to the *Divyangs* by your department.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I am an MP for the third time, but I do not remember if any Minister ever show as much interest as shown by our present incumbent, he ask personally, ask every Member to give support every needy person in their respective Lok Sabha Constituencies. He has done it, so I thank

him very much. I am confident that when the proposed Bill will be introduced, he will focus on those shortcomings also. Now, I come to the topic related to the transgender.

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, when do we finally start rejecting them? Does the government disapprove? Does the law reject? Does the society? No, their families disown them first. Where is it written in the law that leave them on the road? Don't admit them in schools, don't give them education, don't give them good healthcare facilities, or don't give employment opportunities. Is this written anywhere in the law? Why does the family do this out of compulsion? Does society force him? After all, the example of which was given by Nishikant ji and on that, some light was also thrown by Bhartruhari Mahtab ji that they were not dejected and rejected during period of Mahabharata and Ramayana. They got the blessings of Lord Rama and no other man or woman ever got this blessing. They got the boon from of Lord Rama that their blessings would be needed the most at the time of happy occasion. Those who have the blessings of Lord Rama and whose blessings bring happiness to others, why are they unhappy in this society today? Who should be blamed for this? Is the law to blame, society to blame, or the family to blame? What kind of improvement should we make in this regard?

It is a fact that in any family, if people from the transgender community, also known as *hijra*, come and join in somebody's happiness, I think very few people will oppose it. Most people believe in taking their blessings. Many times in families like ours, it is observed that if someone has to offer something at auspicious moment, then the people of these communities are offered as much as twice of the others because the society has rejected them somewhere. Their family have rejected them in some way or the other. Why don't we make them a part of our happiness? Not only to seek their blessings, but to extend our support to them and consider them as a part of the society. But ultimately, why a need rose for it? Dushyant Singh ji was sitting with us before making his

speech today. I was asking them why the governments of India, the world's largest democracy, could not support them all these years. What is our obligation today, and what are the laws around the world that stand in their favour?

Hon'ble Chairperson, Sir, I will come to the law later, but before that, I wonder what is their condition today! What is their number? Different speakers in the House gave their different figures. Some said 25 lakh, some 50 lakh, some reached one crore. The Government does not have data regarding their population.

I want to know from the Hon'ble Minister, what is the actual figure of transgender? If he can tell state-wise, I will be very happy. It would also be amazing If he could share with the House what different states have done for their upliftment, then there can be no bigger achievement than this, highlighting the government that have given these individual the opportunity to move forward. An example was given by the Member of the House here that in Madhya Pradesh, we have a woman, man, or transgender, whatever we say, named Shabnam Mausi. People called 'mausi' and that individual often accompanies by women. Why she is called 'mausi'? How did she become an MLA? After all, when we file nomination to contest election as an MLA or MP, we have to mention gender as male or female. What gender did Shabnam put on her nomination papers? How did the Election Commissioner of that time decided the gender whether individual is a male or female? Did teacher gave her name 'Shabnam' or did people just start calling her 'Shabnam Mausi', does that alone make that individual a woman? If that individual was male at birth and some guru gives her a female name; and if that individual decides to use either a male or female toilet, then a big problem may arise. This can cause a big problem. It is not only by the name but also by dress, by conduct, by makeup, by hair style, and mannerism all come to play when deciding which toilet is appropriate for her to use.

But it is a matter of pleasure that despite all these problems, a state like Madhya Pradesh sent a transgender to the Legislative Assembly as an MLA and gave him a chance to fight not only for her own rights but also for the entire community. An individual of that community was also appointed as the mayor. What hon. THAAWAR Chand Gehlot ji said, for that, I would like to extend many congratulations to the people of Madhya Pradesh who have given the individuals an opportunity to progress. People gave opportunities to these individuals become mayor in Chhattisgarh and also in Gorakhpur.

I think these are example from those societies where they are accepted. They have been accepted not only for employment but also for as people's representative. I feel that when our society or voter chooses a representative, they're really handing over responsibility and placing their trust in that person. . Perhaps this is the greatest feature of our democracy. Perhaps that is why India is also the largest democracy in the world. For women, it is often said that there should be a quota, but before the quota, 15th Lok Sabha had a woman 'Speaker'. Again, a woman has been chosen as 'Speaker' in the 16th Lok Sabha. The Leader of Opposition in the 15th Lok Sabha, Sushma Swaraj ji, was a woman. This time, although Sonia ji is the leader of her Party, Kharge ji became the leader of the opposition. Modi ji's government was formed; 25 percent member of his cabinet was women. The society has given the opportunity for which we have been demanding reservation.

This Bill talks about giving reservation to this community; I think it should also be considered. In Haryana, we saw the Jat movement, which took a very aggressive form there. Patel reservation took an aggressive form in Gujarat. Not all the members of the communities, that have been given reservation, could get the benefits; only the creamy layer continued to take advantage of reservation. Were we able to give reservation to all the people? What have you been able to give to everyone till date? The people of reserve category could not get it, and we are thinking of giving reservation to others.

Are not we adding a new category before going into all those aspects? The UPA government brought the Right to Education Bill. The UPA government had passed it here, but most of the Congress governments have not implemented it till date, have not even accepted it, let alone implementing it. They are only interested in playing to the gallery, formally showing that they are in favour of it, in favour of all, in favour of everybody. Will the country run just by show off? Will we be able to truly give people their rights?

The court ruled that the transgenders should be classified under the OBC category. Now I do not want to go into too much detail about this. But I am curious about how this will be implemented? Is a transgender ready to take the OBC reservation? If they are, then it is one thing, but what if such individual claim that they belongs to SC, ST, or any other category by birth, why are they being categorised as OBC now? Do we want to impose it on them, or do we want to facilitate them or give them separate benefits? After all, what is the intention behind it?

I think the government should not think itself as compelled to implement just because the court said something. I think this should be studied and seriously examined thoroughly so that we do not do anything wrong in a hurry. Nishikant ji was absolutely right. I was a Member of the 15th Lok Sabha, and I used to see thousands of people going to protest when the Nirbhaya incident took place. In those winter days, the way water cannons were thrown on the protesters, even the girls did not budge because everyone wanted to safety of women and girl in our country. We all did not delay in making laws. The House was unanimous. Member from the Treasury Benches, as well as from the Opposition like Meghwal ji, Nishikant ji, and Dushyant Singh ji were in favour of law. Mahtab ji was in the opposition at that time; and is still in the opposition, but when such an important subject comes up and the interest of society comes, everybody supports it.

I think even at the time of Nirbhaya, he did not oppose, but the truth is that we all should ask ourselves was there any delay on the part of those who made the law, was there no delay on the part of those who gave justice. Where are loopholes? Does our responsibility is limited only to make law, or some individual are limited only to deliver judgement? We also have look into the practical problems? We have to see how a law can be implemented. Nobody is against it. When I stood, to intervene during the discussion, for saying how the word 'transgender' can be translated as "*Vipreetlingi*"? I apologise to the Hon'ble Minister. I had no intention of offending anyone, nor do I have anything against Baijayant J. Panda ji. The Bill has been introduced in the Lok Sabha in the same form as it was presented in the Rajya Sabha. Previously, when discussing a topic, it was often unclear if we were referring to a man or a woman. Now, a new problem arose: whether it was the opposite sex or bisexual. Instead of getting stuck in mere words, it should be left to the government. The House has to think about what the condition of transgenders is today? Are they getting quality education? If you look at the record, one speaker said that education is not available to this community, but the other speaker told that he knows a transgender with MA degree, a transgender is a professor, and a transgender became a mayor or an MLA. Can we, by giving one or two examples, assert that all transgenders received adequate facilities? We do not know what their exact number is, what the level of education among them is, how many are educated, and how many are illiterate. How many are employed, and how many are unemployed? If there is employment, what kind of employment is there? Is he going to dance at a wedding, is he going to celebrate the birth of a male child, or is he going to beg by standing at a red light? Or is he going to beg for a little while? I think it is seen on the highways that people of this community, wearing jeans, shirts, or women's clothes, stand up, and labelled as sex workers. Haven't they been forced to become sex workers? Did they choose that life, or were they pushed into it? Are they really forced to beg

or perform at events? Should they not be given the right of education as guaranteed by the Constitution?

[English]

If I have to come to the Bill, the Bill seeks to provide the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive national policy for ensuring the overall development of transgender persons and for their welfare to be undertaken by the State. A transgender is a person whose sense of gender does not match with the gender assigned to that person at all.

The guiding principle of the Bill, as per the Bill, will be respect for inherent dignity, individual autonomy, including the freedom to make one's own choices and independence of persons, non-discrimination, equality of opportunity, full and effective participation and inclusion in society, and respect for difference and acceptance of transgender persons as part of human diversity and humanity.

[Translation]

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: As transgender people listened to his speech, they inquired if Anurag ji could organize an IPL event for them. This is merely a suggestion for him to consider.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Did you go to meet them?

SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL: I didn't go to meet. While I was outside, I saw them. Upon noticing Anurag ji speaking, they asked me to tell him if he could set up an IPL for them.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Sir, I think whatever we have to do for this class, we should do that. Whether they want to play Kabaddi, play cricket, or play football, whatever has to be done, we will do for them, we will give them opportunities; we will not keep them away from opportunities. This is our

commitment to them. They have not got a chance till date, so we all should try together so that they get an opportunity.

[English]

Sir, if a transgender person is insulted and if that person goes to the police and no case is registered, if they do not have any recourse to justice through the police or the law, and if they are sidelined and treated as untouchables, then this denial of social justice leads to the denial of economic and political justice. They suffer from poor access to education, legal aid, employment, even homelessness, and lack of social acceptance. They are often pushed to the periphery as a social outcast, and many may end up in begging and dancing, and this, by all means, is human trafficking, as I have said earlier.

[Translation]

As has been said earlier in this House, we brought a law, but when we talked about reservation and other facilities, the clauses 10, 13, and 21, do not seem practical.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Would you like to conclude? There are still two minutes left; some other Members will be able to speak a little on this subject or would you like to continue, as you wish.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Sir, I still have five or six pages left.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Anurag ji is an overnight batsman.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: Sir, you keep it for next week because I have to speak for at least 15-20 minutes, or half an hour more.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Okay, you continue. There will be discussion of this topic on 13th May again; you will continue it at that time. Now you can speak for one minute; the rest will continue next time.

[English]

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: The Preamble to the Constitution mandates justice, social, economic and political equality of status. Thus, the first and the foremost right that they deserve is the right to equality under article 14.

18.00 hours

Article 15 speaks about the prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. Article 21 ensures the right to privacy and personal dignity to all the citizens. Article 23 prohibits trafficking in human beings as beggars and other similar forms of forced labour and any contravention of these provisions shall be an offence punishable in accordance with the law.

The Constitution of India provides for the Fundamental Right to Equality and tolerates no discrimination on the grounds of sex, caste, creed or religion.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Anurag ji, you can continue your speech next time. The House adjourned to meet on Monday, the 2nd May, 2016 at 1100 am.

18.01 hours

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday,
May 2, 2016/ Vaisakha 12, 1938 (Saka)*

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