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Fifth Session

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NEW DELHI

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CONTENTS

Seventeenth Series, Vol. X, Fifth Session, 2021/1942 (Saka)

No. 5, Thursday, February 4, 2021/Magha 15, 1942 (Saka)

SUBJECT

PAGES

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*Starred Question Nos. 41 to 43 15-28

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS 29

Starred Question Nos. 44 to 60

Unstarred Question Nos. 461 to 690

* The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 31-43

RESIGNATION BY MEMBER 44

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS

(i) 4th and 5th Reports 44-45

(ii) Statements 45-46

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN
DEVELOPMENT**

3rd and 4th Reports 47

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT,
FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

Action Taken Reports 48

STATEMENTS BY MINISTER 49-52

(i)(a) Status of implementation of
recommendations contained in the 28th
Report of Standing Committee on Energy
on 'National Solar Mission-An Appraisal'

- pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy 49
- (b) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in 22nd Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on 'Energy Access in India—Review of Current Status and role of Renewable Energy' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy 50
- (c) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on 'Development and Status of Small Hydro Sector' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy 51

- (d) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 2nd Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on 'Demands for Grants (2014-15)' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy 51-52

Shri R. K. Singh

**ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION 53-57
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2021**

**STATEMENT RE: ARBITRATION AND 58
CONCILIATION (AMENDMENT)
ORDINANCE, 2020**

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377 60-89

- (i) Regarding train services from Bengaluru to Katra

Shri Karadi Sanganna Amarappa 61

- (ii) Need to run Vande Bharat Express and Rajdhani Express on Delhi-Lucknow-Gorakhpur-Barauni Railway section and Shatabdi Express on Lucknow-Gorakhpur-Varanasi section

Shri Ravindra Kushwaha 61-62

- (iii) Need to make available the services of Pediatricians in rural areas of the country

Dr. Ramapati Ram Tripathi 63

- (iv) Need to restore stoppage of trains at Pulgaon and Hinganghat railway stations in Wardha Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra

Shri Ramdas Tadas 64-65

- (v) Need to construct an underpass or overbridge across National Highway No. 65 (Ambala-Hisar) in Haryana

Shri Nayab Singh Saini 66

- (vi) Need to start flight services from Bilaspur Airport, Chhattisgarh to different cities

Shri Arun Sao 67-68

- (vii) Regarding problems being faced due to human-animal conflict in Uttarakhand

Adv. Ajay Bhatt 69-70

- (viii) Regarding educating women on financial matters

Shrimati Meenakashi Lekhi 71

- (ix) Need to develop and operationalize Prithviganj Airport, Uttar Pradesh

Shri Sangam Lal Gupta 72

- (x) Need for railway line from Bar to Bilara via Jaitaran

Sushri Diya Kumari 73

- (xi) Need to constitute a Board to look into the possibilities of creating smaller States in the country

Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel 74-76

- (xii) Regarding National Library Policy

Shrimati Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo 77

- (xiii) Regarding construction of embankments along the course of Amanat and Koel rivers in Palamu Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand

Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram 78

- (xiv) Regarding Angamali-Sabarimala Railway Project

Adv. Dean Kuriakose 79

- (xv) Regarding repeal of agriculture law

Shri Benny Behanan 80

- (xvi) Regarding problems being posed by Kodungaiyur dumping yard in Chennai

Dr. Kalanidhi Veeraswamy 81

- (xvii) Regarding cold chain facilities in Andhra Pradesh

Shri Balashowry Vallabhaneni 82-83

(xviii) Regarding merger of Public Sector Banks

Sushri Mimi Chakraborty 84

(xix) Need to augment railway services in
Thawe junction in Gopalganj
Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar

Dr. Alok Kumar Suman 85-86

(xx) Need to establish a Kendriya Vidyalaya
in Bijnor Parliamentary Constituency,
Uttar Pradesh

Shri Malook Nagar 87

(xxi) Regarding subsidy on Deep Sea Fishing

Shri K. Navaskani 88

(xxii) Regarding Indian students pursuing
Medical Education in China

Shri Thomas Chazhikadan 89

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THE SPEAKER

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, February 04, 2021/ Magha 15,1942 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Sixteen of the Clock.

[**HON. SPEAKER** *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 41, Shri Ramesh Bidhuri.

... (Interruptions)

16.01 hrs

At this stage Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla, Shri Benny Behanan, Dr. T. Sumathy (A) Thamizhachi Thangapandian and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

16.02 hrs

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 41, Shri Ramesh Bidhuri.

(Q. 41)

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI: Sir, the Hon. Prime Minister has launched such schemes for the differently abled people, ... *(Interruptions)* Schemes have been launched to cater to various kinds of needs of the people.... *(Interruptions)* One thousand people in our South Delhi Parliamentary Constituency have also availed the benefits of these schemes. ... *(Interruptions)* I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether there can be a provision for exemption in toll tax for the differently-abled persons when they go on the roads or highways? ... *(Interruptions)* Does the government have any such scheme in exceptional cases? I would like to make a request to the Hon. Minister in this regard. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI: An exemption from toll is already granted to the 'Divyangjan'. *[Translation]* As far as the persons with disabilities are concerned, we have already granted toll exemption to them. ... *(Interruptions)* The matter of road tax

exemption comes under the jurisdiction of the state government. ... *(Interruptions)* To date, eleven states have granted such exemptions; however, this exception has not been provided to them till date in the Delhi-NCR. ... *(Interruptions)* Before the respective authority, we will definitely forward our proposal to exclude them from the road tax in Delhi -NCR. They have the right to this. ... *(Interruptions)* We certainly have taken many favourable decisions for the differently abled persons and the government is always solicitous towards them. ... *(Interruptions)* We have smoothened the process of application. A committee has been formed for GST concession certificate for vehicle ownership. We are also helping with that, and manufacturing companies have also been asked to make motor vehicle designs exclusively for differently abled. ... *(Interruptions)* Along with this, we have also worked to establish this provision for a detailed process for granting license and registration certificates at the district level. The citizens with mild to medium colour blindness and monocular vision have been granted driving licences. The Government is empathetic towards all the differently abled and will definitely help them. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI: Sir, as the Hon. Minister has said in the House that toll exemption has already been granted to them, I would

like to express my gratitude to him for that. ... *(Interruptions)* A request should also be made to the state governments for the toll exemption. ... *(Interruptions)* When the differently abled go out somewhere, they go with some other person in their car, I am speaking of the interior places of a village. When they will go to a wedding or a function, every person will be ready to take them in their car to avail the benefits of toll-exemption. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You should take note of the fact that the debate is taking place exclusively for people with disabilities. You aren't even considering the issue of those with disabilities.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI: Sir, these people should at least pay attention to the matters concerning the differently abled. ... *(Interruptions)* They should have this much empathy, they should be ...* *(Interruptions)* Wheelchairs and other resources are among the many facilities and services that the Prime Minister has made available to the people with disabilities, and the Government is taking decisions regarding the persons with disabilities. However, Members are causing disruptions even in the matter pertaining to people with

* Not recorded.

disabilities. ... *(Interruptions)* Such decisions are being made by the Government for people with disabilities. Because they are excluded from paying taxes at toll plazas, people will treat persons with disabilities with respect when they are on board in their cars. I would like to thank the Government and the Hon. Minister sincerely for this.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Vinod Kumar Sonkar – not present.

(Q. 42)

SHRI NISITH PRAMANIK: Sir, my question is whether the Government is implementing Bharatmala Pariyojana to construct roads in borders/coastal areas, religious and tourist places in our country; if so, the details and the present status thereof; the details of the roads constructed across the country under the Pariyojana till date; the funds provided for the purpose till date; and the details of projects being implemented, completed and proposed under the Pariyojana in the country, State and UT wise.

SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI: The length of roads to be constructed under Bharatmala Pariyojana is 30,000 kilometres. Length awarded until now is 13,521 kilometres against which length completed is 4,070 kilometres. The DPR is in pipeline for 16,500 kilometres. Bids were invited for 4,800 kilometres and the total expenditure till date is more than rupees one lakh crore. ...
(Interruptions)

Under Bharatmala Pariyojana, we are already planning for the construction of 22 Greenfield corridors with a total length of 7,600 kilometres. It includes five expressway and 17 access control

corridors. The total cost is Rs. 3.30 lakh crore and 2,800 kilometres length has been awarded out of 7,600 kilometres. ... (*Interruptions*)

About the Delhi-Mumbai Express Highway, it is one of the important Express Highways in the country. It has the highest length in the country. The total length of this highway is 1,350 kilometres and the cost is approximately rupees one lakh crore, and contracts for 1,086 kilometres, worth Rs. 67,000 crore, have been awarded. ... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, really, it is a matter of pleasure and pride for me that NHAI, in relation to this Delhi-Mumbai Express Highway, have already made an international world record. In one day, 12,500 cubic metres of concrete was laid down on a stretch of 2.54 kilometres of four lane length on the Delhi-Mumbai corridor on 2nd February, 2021. This will be a world record achieved in this construction field. In the week from 8th to 15th January, 2021, a record highway construction of 534 kilometre was achieved. In January end, the average was 28.5 kilometre per day. ... (*Interruptions*)

Mananiya Speaker Mahodaya, it is a matter of pleasure and pride for me to tell you that, according to the latest data from 8th January to 15th January, 2021, a 534 kilometre road has been constructed, and the total average was coming to 28.5 kilometre. But today, as per the

information which I received, our construction record comes to 29.6 kilometres that means 30 kilometres per day. Uptil now, 9,127 kilometres of road has already been constructed and this is the first time that NHAI has achieved the highest record in the history of the country. ... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, this is very important project, Bharatmala Pariyojana, which is going to change the face of our country and the dream of our Prime Minister is to make India “Atma Nirbhar Bharat” and making the Indian economy reach the five trillion dollar target and creating infrastructure of Rs. 111 lakh crore within five years. The total road infrastructure of the country will be equivalent to USA or even European countries and we will achieve that goal. That will be a great achievement of our Government.

[*Translation*]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, would you like to ask supplementary questions?

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI NISITH PRAMANIK: No Sir.

(Q. 43)

[Translation]

SHRI PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA: Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to express my gratitude to the Minister and also the Government for accepting the '*Chardham Project*'... *(Interruptions)* The work is being done rapidly on the project, and this will provide facilities to our devotees there.... *(Interruptions)* This will also provide employment to the people of that area.... *(Interruptions)* The development will also take place in the region. ... *(Interruptions)* There are also many people who walk on foot to all these places.... *(Interruptions)* I have seen many people crawling on their stomach to move forward there.... *(Interruptions)*

I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether any provision has been made for constructing footpath keeping in mind all the pedestrians, so that their safety and convenience can be ensured and no accidents take place there.... *(Interruptions)* People go there on foot and by crawling on their stomach.... *(Interruptions)* Is there any arrangement of footpaths over there? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI: Hon. Speaker Sir, the '*Chardham Project*' is a matter of great honor and prestige for all of

us in our nation. ... *(Interruptions)* The 'Chardham Project' which has a length of 825 kilometre.... *(Interruptions)* It begins from Rishikesh, and goes to Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath... *(Interruptions)* Along with this, we are also building the Tanakpur to Pithoragarh section which is going to Kailash Mansarovar. About 85 percent of its work has been completed.... *(Interruptions)* Today I want to tell you that the total cost of this project is 12,070 crore rupees. ... *(Interruptions)* There are 53 projects in it.... *(Interruptions)* Among these 53 projects, 40 projects have been sanctioned.... *(Interruptions)* Among these, the cost of construction of 671 kilometre of national highway is 9,474 crore rupees. ... *(Interruptions)* Among these, 38 projects have been awarded. The cost of constructing 646 kilometres long road is worth 8,378 crore rupees. ... *(Interruptions)* 9 projects have been completed, covering 78 kilometres, having worth to the tune of 10,025 crore rupees.... *(Interruptions)* 29 projects are in progress, covering 569 kilometre, worth 7,353 crore rupees.... *(Interruptions)* two 25 kilometres projects of worth 605 crore rupees are at the tender stage.... *(Interruptions)* There are 13 projects yet to be sanctioned, covering a distance of 153 kilometres.... *(Interruptions)* At present, an expenditure of 5,111 crore rupees has been incurred on these. ...

(Interruptions) I would like to inform the House that in the remaining 13 projects, the matter regarding the width of the roads is in the Hon'ble Supreme Court. ... *(Interruptions)* As a result, the work has not been completed till date.... *(Interruptions)* [English] There are litigations in the hon. Supreme Court regarding environmental and other related issues. Thirteen projects could not be sanctioned pending decision on carriageway width and the matter is still *sub judice*. The next date for hearing has been scheduled for 17.02.2021. Out of these 13 projects, five of them are in the eco-sensitive zone. ... *(Interruptions)* [Translation] Whatever the Hon. member has said, I would like to tell him with confidence that with the approval of the Hon. Supreme Court, our Defence Ministry has also given an affidavit. It is very important from the strategic point of view and regarding the width of the road, the decision of the Hon. Supreme Court is pending on the affidavit given by them for carrying military equipment.... *(Interruptions)* We have also issued an order as per the Hon. Supreme Court order. ... *(Interruptions)* I am confident that we will certainly get a clearance in this matter. ... *(Interruptions)* While talking about this project, the hon. Member has given a suggestion regarding pedestrians, and after the decision of the Hon. Supreme Court, the Government will try to find out as to what kind of

arrangements can be made for pedestrians.... (*Interruptions*) with full confidence I would like state that out of our '*Chardham Projects*' which are stalled, 13 out of 53 projects are sanctioned and are under process.... (*Interruptions*) Out of these 13 projects, five of them are in the eco-sensitive zone. ... (*Interruptions*) Another five projects are bypasses.... (*Interruptions*) I want to assure you that it will definitely be completed soon.... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, many of your leaders have important questions. I always try to ensure that the House functions smoothly during Question Hour, which is your most important right but considering the things and expectations with which the people have elected you and sent you here, this behaviour of yours is not appropriate.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Once again, I request the hon. Members to take your seats so that the House can function smoothly and without any interruption.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You yourself say that the House should function during the Question Hour and during Question Hour you are raising slogans and waving placards. This is not in accordance with parliamentary traditions.

... *(Interruptions)*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS*(Starred Question Nos. 44 to 60****Unstarred Question Nos. 461 to 690)***[Translation]*

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at
5:00 P.M.

*...(Interruptions)***16.15 hrs***The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Seventeen of the Clock.*

17.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Seventeen of the Clock.

(Shrimati Meenakashi Lekhi in the Chair)

... (Interruptions)

17.0½ hrs

At this stage Shri Gaurav Gogoi, Shri Kodikunnil Suresh, Shri Ravneet Singh, Shri N. K. Premachandran, Dr. T. Sumathy (A) Thamizhachi Thangapandian, Shri M. Badruddin Ajmal, Shri Bhagwant Mann and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, the notices of Adjournment Motion have been received on certain matters. The Hon. Speaker has not given permission for any notice of adjournment motion.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: All of you are requested to take your respective seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

17.02 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now the Papers will be laid on the Table.
From Item No. 2 to 7, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal.

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF
STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND
PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL):**

Hon. Chairperson, Madam, on behalf of Shri Kiren Rijiju, I beg to lay
the following papers on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Administrative Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Haj Committee of India, Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020.
- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Haj Committee of India, Mumbai for the year 2019-2020, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Audited Accounts of the Haj Committee of India, Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2963/17/21]

(3) A copy of the Notification No. S.O.3834(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated 27th October, 2020, making certain amendments in Notification No. S.O.1258(E) dated 30th March, 2016 issued under sub-section (1) of Section 41 of the Haj Committee Act, 2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2964/17/21]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Hon.

Chairperson, Madam, on behalf of Shri Raj Kumar Singh, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Output Outcome Monitoring Framework (Hindi and English versions) for Ministry of New and Renewable Energy for the year 2021-2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2965/17/21]

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

- (a)
 - (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Power System Operation Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2019-2020.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Power System Operation Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2019-2020, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2019-2020.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2019-2020, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2966/17/21]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Budget (Hindi and English versions) of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Kolkata, for the year 2020-2021.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2967/17/21]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 179 of the Electricity Act, 2003:-

- (i) Notification No. L-1/236/2018/CERC published in Gazette of India dated 26th November, 2019,

containing corrigendum to the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Terms and Conditions of Tariff) Regulations, 2019.

- (ii) (ii) Notification No. L-1/18/2010-CERC published in Gazette of India dated 28th February, 2020, containing corrigendum to the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code) Regulations, 2010.
- (iii) Notification No. L-1/18/2010-CERC published in Gazette of India dated 18th August, 2020, containing corrigendum to the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Indian Electricity Grid Code)(Sixth Amendment) Regulations, 2019.
- (iv) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Revenue Derived from Utilization of Transmission Assets for Other Business) Regulations, 2020 published in Notification No. L-1/246/2019/CERC in Gazette of India dated 1st July, 2020.

- (v) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Sharing of Inter-State Transmission Charges and Losses) Regulations, 2020 published in Notification No. L-1/250/2019/CERC in Gazette of India dated 1st July, 2020.
- (vi) The Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (Power Market) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2019 published in Notification No. L-1/13/2010/CERC in Gazette of India dated 1st July, 2020.
- (5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i) of (4) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2968/17/21]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Kolkata, for the year 2019-2020, alongwith Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Kolkata, for the year 2019-2020.
- (7) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (6) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2969/17/21]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, on behalf of Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Lakshadweep Building Development Board, Kavaratti, for the year 2018-2019, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the

Lakshadweep Building Development Board,
Kavaratti, for the year 2018-2019.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2970/17/21]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2018-2019.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2018-2019, together with Audit Report thereon.

- (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Delhi Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2018-2019.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2971/17/21]

- (5) A copy of the Airports Authority of India (Ground Handling Services) Second Amendment Regulations, 2020 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. AAI/OPS/707/GHR in Gazette of India dated 6th March, 2020 under Section 43 of the Airports Authority of India Act, 1994, together with an explanatory note.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2972/17/21]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, on behalf of Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Inland Waterways Authority of India,

Noida, for the year 2018-2019, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Inland Waterways Authority of India, Noida, for the year 2018-2019.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2973/17/21]

(3) A copy of the Inland Waterways Authority of India (Levy and Collection of fees and charges) (Amendment) Regulations, 2020 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. IWAI/Cargo/184/2009/Vol-II in Gazette of India dated 29th July, 2020 under Section 36 of the Inland Waterways Authority of India Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2974/17/21]

- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020.
- (iii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (iv) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on the Audited Accounts of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020.
- (v) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Trust, Pension Fund Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (vi) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) on the Audited Accounts of the Mumbai Port Trust,

Pension Fund Trust Mumbai, for the year 2019-2020.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2975/17/21]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, on behalf of General V. K. Singh (Retd.), I beg to lay the following papers on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Academy of Highway Engineers, Noida, for the year 2018-2019, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Academy of Highway Engineers, Noida, for the year 2018-2019.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2976/17/21]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, on behalf of Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, I beg to lay the following papers on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Water Development Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2018-2019, alongwith Audited Accounts.
- (ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Water Development Agency, New Delhi, for the year 2018-2019.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 2977/17/21]

17.04 hrs**RESIGNATION BY MEMBER***[Translation]*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that Shri P. K. Kunhalikutty, an elected Member from Malappuram Parliamentary Constituency of Kerala has tendered his resignation from the membership of Lok Sabha. The Hon. Speaker has accepted his resignation on 03.02.2021.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 8, Shri Radha Mohan Singh.

17.04½ hrs**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS****(i) 4th and 5th Reports***[Translation]*

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH (EAST CHAMPARAN): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Railways:-

(1) Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Railways (2020-21) (17th Lok Sabha) on action taken by Government on the

Recommendations/ Observations contained in the Second Report of the Standing Committee of Railways (17th Lok Sabha) on ‘Demands for Grants (2019-20) of the Ministry of Railways’.

(2) Fifth Report of the Standing Committee on Railways (2020-21) (17th Lok Sabha) on action taken by Government on the Recommendations/ Observations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Railways (17th Lok Sabha) on ‘Demands for Grants (2020-21) of the Ministry of Railways’.

(ii) Statements

SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH: Hon. Chairperson, Madam, I lay the following papers on the Table (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Railways:-

(1) Statement showing further Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter – I of the 24th Report of the Committee (16th Lok Sabha) on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their 18th Report (16th Lok Sabha) on ‘Tourism Promotion and Pilgrimage Circuit’.

(2) Statement showing further Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter – I and Chapter-V of the 25th

Report of the Committee (16th Lok Sabha) on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their 21st Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 'New Railway Catering Policy - 2017'.

(3) Statement showing further Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter – I of the 1st Report of the Committee (17th Lok Sabha) on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their 23rd Report (16th Lok Sabha) on 'Maintenance of Bridges in Indian Railways'.

17.05 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT

3rd and 4th Reports

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SONI (RAIPUR): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, I beg to present the following Reports* (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Urban Development:-

(1) Third Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the First Report (17th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2019-20) of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

(2) Fourth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Second Report (17th Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2020-21) of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.

* 3rd and 4th Reports were presented to Hon'ble Speaker on 11th September, 2020 under Direction 71A of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha when the House was not in Session and the same were also placed before the Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha for his perusal. The Speaker was pleased to order the printing, publication and circulation of the Report under Rule 280 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

17.05¼ hrs

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND
CLIMATE CHANGE**

Action Taken Reports

[Translation]

DR. SWAMI SAKSHIJI MAHARAJ (UNNAO): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, I beg to lay on the Table the 333rd, 334th, 335th, 336th, 337th, 338th, and 339th Reports* (Hindi and English versions) on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the 326th to 332nd Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment, Forests and Climate Change on the Demands for Grants (2020-21) of the Ministries/Departments of Atomic Energy; Biotechnology; Scientific and Industrial Research; Science & Technology; Space; Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Earth Sciences respectively.

* The Reports were presented to Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 30th November, 2020 and were also forwarded to Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha the same day.

17.05½hrs

STATEMENTS BY MINISTER

[English]

(i) (a) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 28th Report of Standing Committee on Energy on 'National Solar Mission-An Appraisal' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI R.K. SINGH): Madam, I beg to lay the following statements regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 28th Report of Standing Committee on Energy on 'National Solar Mission-An Appraisal' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 3202/17/21.

(b) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in 22nd Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on 'Energy Access in India—Review of Current Status and role of Renewable Energy' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI R.K. SINGH): Madam, I beg to lay the following statements regarding status of implementation of the recommendations contained in 22nd Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on 'Energy Access in India—Review of Current Status and role of Renewable Energy' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 3203/17/21.

(c) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on 'Development and Status of Small Hydro Sector' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI R.K. SINGH): Madam, I beg to lay the following statements regarding status of implementation of recommendations contained in 13th Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on 'Development and Status of Small Hydro Sector' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

(d) Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the 2nd Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on 'Demands for Grants (2014-15)' pertaining to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER, MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 3204 and 3205/17/21 respectively.

**RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI R.K. SINGH):** Madam, I beg to
lay the following statements regarding status of implementation of
recommendations contained in the 2nd Report of the Standing
Committee on Energy on 'Demands for Grants (2014-15)' pertaining
to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

... (*Interruptions*)

17.06 hrs

**ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2021***

[English]

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Motion moved:

“That the Bill further to amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 be taken into consideration.”

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Gaurav Gogoi

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Manish Tewari

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Saugata Ray

... (Interruptions)

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-ii, section 2 dated-04.02.2021.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I would like to raise objection to the introduction of this Bill which is amending the original Act again.

... (*Interruptions*)

This is with regard to the introduction of the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2020 that is listed today and the leave for introduction has been sought by the hon. Minister. I oppose the introduction of this Bill as it has many ambiguities. ... (*Interruptions*)

Madam, for example, Clause 34 does not contain any express provision for setting aside an award or refusing its enforcement if the arbitration agreement or contract which is the basis of the award was induced or affected by fraud or corruption. ... (*Interruptions*) If a ground is not available for setting aside an award, how can it be available to an applicant seeking a stay of its enforcement? ... (*Interruptions*)

Similarly, Clause 36 is not in consonance with Clause 34. The language of Clause 36 is in conflict with that of Clause 34. ... (*Interruptions*)

Thirdly, the mandate to unconditionally stay the enforcement in cases of corruption lacks logic or reasoning, when court can exercise its discretion to put any applicant to such term before granting any stay order. ... (*Interruptions*) This reverses the effect of the 2015 amendments to the Act which had done away with automatic stay on enforcement of arbitral awards upon a challenge being made under Section 34 of the Act. The Government has given no reason for this major step back. ... (*Interruptions*)

Lastly, this Bill omits the detailed criteria for accreditation of arbitrators introduced by the 2019 amendment to the Act contained in the Eighth Schedule. ... (*Interruptions*) In any event, it remains uncertain how the Indian courts will take a *prima facie* view in relation to the involvement of fraud or corruption in the contract, arbitration agreement or arbitral award at the enforcement stage. ... (*Interruptions*) If this issue has not been previously raised between the parties, it will be difficult for courts to form a preliminary view without asking parties to produce detailed evidence in support of their position. ... (*Interruptions*)

Therefore, I oppose the introduction of this Bill. I would like to be educated by the Minister as to what was the hurry to bring in this amendment in the Act. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Madam, I very respectfully urge that at the stage of introduction, we have to see the legislative competence of the House. ... (*Interruptions*) The Government has got the power under the Constitution to bring an amendment. The hon. Member Bhartruhari Mahtabji is talking about the merits of the Bill which will be explained by me while giving a detailed reply. ...(*Interruptions*) But very briefly I would like to say that even in Clause 34 – with your experience you know it very well – if it is against public policy namely fraud or induced by corruption, it will be a ground for setting aside the award. ... (*Interruptions*)

What we are saying is that many fly-by-night operators get awards based upon dubious agreements and seek enforcement not only in India but also outside. Therefore, to contain those elements, this is being brought about with a condition, ‘*prima facie* satisfaction’. If that is there, it will go before Section 34 but enforcement will be stayed at the *prima facie* level. Therefore, there is no point at all with the greatest respect to him ... (*Interruptions*)

As far as the competence of the arbitrator is concerned, Madam, we are giving the power. Now, instead of having it in the Act, it will be decided by the Arbitration Council of India as to who shall be competent and who shall not be. All the provisions are there; and all

the regulations made shall be placed before the House itself. Therefore, there is no lacking of competence. There is a purpose. All this will be explained on merits ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996."

The motion is adopted.

[*English*]

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 14 – Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad-ji.

... (*Interruptions*)

17.12 hrs

**STATEMENT RE: ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 2020***

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by promulgation of the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (No. 14 of 2020) ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: May I request all my colleagues to go back to their seats please? It is not achieving any purpose. I request all of you to please go back to your seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT-2978/17/21

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I request to everyone. Please go back. It is not achieving any purpose. We are making a mockery of ourselves. It is not nice.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: All these things do not look good at all.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 6 P.M. today.

17.13 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eighteen of the Clock.

18.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Eighteen of the Clock.

(Shri Rajendra Agrawal in the Chair)

... (Interruptions)

18.0½ hrs

At this stage Shri Bhagwant Mann, Shri Dayanidhi Maran, Adv. A. M. Ariff, Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

18.01 hrs**MATTERS UNDER RULE 377***

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The matters are laid on the Table of the House under Rule 377. Hon. Members, please lay it on the Table of the House.

... (Interruptions)

* Treated as laid on the Table.

(i) Regarding Train services from Bengaluru to Katra

[English]

SHRI KARADI SANGANNA AMARAPPA (KOPPAL): It is with regard to resuming of train services from Bengaluru to Katra for the benefit of the people.

(ii) Need to run Vande Bharat Express and Rajdhani Express on Delhi- Lucknow-Gorakhpur-Barauni Railway section and Shatabdi Express on Lucknow-Gorakhpur-Varanasi section

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA (SALEMPUR): The Howrah railway line via Delhi-Lucknow-Gorakhpur-Barauni is one of the most important railway lines in the country. There are lakhs of passengers from Bihar including Eastern Uttar Pradesh who travel on this railway section, yet this railway section has always been neglected. There is no Rajdhani or important train from Delhi to Muzaffarpur-Barauni-Howrah on this section and the work of electrification and doubling has also been completed on this section.

Dozens of the Hon. Members of Parliament travel on this rail section from Muzaffarpur-Barauni to Delhi passing through

Lucknow. There is no major train in this railway section other than Vaishali, Bihar Samparak Karanti, Gorakhnath Express, which causes immense inconvenience to the passengers. I would like to demand that the Vande Bharat Express and Rajdhani Express should be run on the Delhi-Lucknow-Gorakhpur-Barauni railway section and a Shatabdi Express should be run on the Lucknow-Gorakhpur-Varanasi railway section.

**(iii) Need to make available the services of Pediatricians
in rural areas of the country**

DR. RAMAPATI RAM TRIPATHI (DEORIA): I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare that there is a huge shortage of pediatricians in the entire country and out of the total children born in the country 50 percent are from four states of the country (Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan). As you know that Uttar Pradesh is the most populous state in the country and due to the shortage of pediatricians, the infant mortality rate is also very high there and it has also been seen that the services of most pediatricians are available only in the big cities of the state in the country and the people of rural areas are mostly deprived of pediatric services.

While drawing the attention of the Hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare, I would like to demand that the services of pediatricians should be made available in rural areas as well, so that people do not have to come to cities for treatment and children can be treated smoothly in the vicinity itself.

(iv) Need to restore stoppage of trains at Pulgaon and Hinganghat railway stations in Wardha Parliamentary Constituency, Maharashtra

SHRI RAMDAS TADAS (WARDHA): I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Railway Minister, and request that due to Covid-19, stoppage of trains has been suspended at Pulgaon and Hinganaghat railway stations of my Parliamentary Constituency, Wardha. Under the special train service started after the Covid-19 pandemic, the migrant community is facing difficulties owing to absence of halt of special trains namely train numbers 02809/02810, 02833/02834, 02655/02656, 02169/02170 at Pulgaon railway station and train numbers 02615/02616, 02655/02656 at Hinganghat railway station. Since, both these railway stations are important from the commercial point of view, many railway passenger associations and organisations working in the social sector have warned to launch agitation against the railway administration on this issue. Therefore, it is requested to the Hon. Minister of Railways about keeping in mind the demand and desire of the migrant community of the constituency, please instruct the concerned department to provide stoppage of special train service

at Pulgaon and Hinganghat railway stations so that the problems of the migrant community can be resolved.

**(v) Need to construct an underpass or over bridge across
National Highway No. 65 (Ambala-Hisar) in Haryana**

SHRI NAYAB SINGH SAINI (KURUKSHETRA): I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India to a very important issue. The issue is related to Ambala-Hisar National Highway 65 which crosses the Pehowa to Uruna road at village Dhanirampura bypass. There are two famous temples on this road which are visited by thousands of people. A letter was sent by the Hon. Minister to the DG Road Transport and Highways Ministry for taking necessary action regarding the construction of an underpass or over bridge on this but no action has been taken till now. It is very important to build this underpass or over-bridge. Till now a large number of accidents have taken place here and people have lost their lives. Therefore, this matter should be addressed as soon as possible and this underpass or overbridge should be constructed. Thank you.

(vi) Need to start flight services from Bilaspur Airport, Chhattisgarh to different cities

SHRI ARUN SAO (BILASPUR): On 26th August 2020, the Hon. Civil Aviation Minister gave a good news to the people of my constituency, Bilaspur Lok Sabha constituency, that under the "UDAAN - Sab Ude, Sab Jude" scheme of the Government of India, permission has been accorded to the Government of India company 'Alliance Air' to start Bilaspur-Bhopal-Bilaspur air service from Chakarbhata Airport, Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh. However, regular air service on the said route has not started yet. It is worth mentioning that the people of the area have been agitating for a long time demanding the commencement of direct flight service from Chakarbhata Airport Bilaspur to metro cities. Everyone wants that regular air services to metros like Delhi, Mumbai should be made available to the people of the area as soon as possible, which will be possible only after Bilaspur Airport Chakarbhata gets 4 C licence. In this regard, necessary instructions need to be issued by the Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India to the Government of Chhattisgarh, so that the necessary work as per 4 C licence can start soon at Chakarbhata Airport, Bilaspur. Therefore, I request the

Government that keeping in mind the above long awaited demand of the people of the area, appropriate initiative and necessary action should be taken to start the Bilaspur-Bhopal-Bilaspur air service approved under the "Udaan - Sab Ude, Sab Jude" scheme from Bilaspur Airport Chakarbhatta and also to grant approval for Bilaspur-Prayagraj-Banaras route under this scheme.

(vii) Regarding problems being faced due to human-animal conflict in Uttarakhand

ADV. AJAY BHATT (NAINITAL-UDHAM SINGH NAGAR): I would like to draw your attention to the serious challenge of wildlife-human (farmer) conflict in the state and forest areas of Uttarakhand. While hundreds of people have lost their lives due to wildlife, people are forced to migrate from there because of extensive damage to crops. The farmers of Uttarakhand state are unable to do their farming due to the terror of wild animals. People are forced to change crop pattern due to compulsion and the problem of starvation has arisen before them.

I would like to demand from the Union Government that the Government, understanding the seriousness of this problem, should take effective short-term and long-term steps by establishing coordination among all the stakeholders, policy makers, state-union governments, law department, forest department, agriculture department, media, non-governmental organisations. Apart from this, the Government should immediately implement suggestions like solar energy based wires, flood, land use planning, eco-tourism, environmental service tax, green bonus and resources should be made

available for crop change by imparting training to the farmers to deal with this challenge and necessary changes are also required to be made in the forest laws.

(viii) Regarding educating women on financial matters

[English]

SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI (NEW DELHI): In the present age, true empowerment of women can be achieved not just through literacy but also financial literacy. Financial literacy ensures that women have a say in financial matters of the family, provides them access to loans, an understanding of various other financial products and finally, make them financially independent. According to the National Strategy for Financial Education (NSFE) survey conducted in 2019 by RBI, women fared lower compared to men in financial literacy. 21 per cent women crossed the minimum threshold score compared to 29 per cent men. Moreover, homemakers fared the second lowest among various professions in the percentage of people crossing the minimum score (16%) only ahead of agricultural workers (13%). Therefore, the Government must streamline its efforts towards educating women on financial matters. This would not just ensure gender equality but also expand and further the scope of financial inclusion programme started through the Jan Dhan Yojana.

**(ix) Need to develop and operationalize Prithviganj Airport,
Uttar Pradesh**

[Translation]

SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA (PRATAPGARH): The aerodrome established before independence in Prithviganj of Raniganj Tehsil under my Lok Sabha constituency Pratapgarh has become unusable at present due to non-operation of air services since the Second World War, but its strong runway is still in fully functional condition. If it is developed into a small airport, then as per the current policies of the government it can be used for public use and also as a training centre. It is also worth mentioning that there is a railway station and easy transport facilities near the said airport and being located at a distance of only 6 kilometres from the district headquarters, it will prove to be extremely useful for the people. Therefore, please issue instructions to re-operate Prithviganj Airport, Pratapgarh district.

(x) Need for railway line from Bar to Bilara via Jaitaran

[English]

SUSHRI DIYA KUMARI (RAJSAMAND): I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Railways towards the need for a new railway line from Bar to Bilara via Jaitaran. This railway line is being demanded for years now and despite the initial survey, no further action has taken place. This area is rich in minerals like, limestone, china clay, granite. As a result, big cement industries are being set up here which provide source of employment not just for the local people, but also to labourers from other states like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, etc.

The cement industries have also demanded this railway line, as they require freight carriage service to transport their goods to cities like Delhi. Therefore, this would not just help to boost employment and growth in the region but also help to increase the freight and passenger revenue of the railways.

(xi) Need to constitute a Board to look into the possibilities of creating smaller States in the country

[Translation]

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL (HAMIRPUR):

At the time of independence there were big states in the country, which were built with a view to maintain the colonial power by the British Government. However, after independence many small states were formed which strengthened our cultural identity even further along with the considerable economic progress. An example of this is the state of Gujarat, which was formed by separating from the then Bombay province. As a result of which, it not only progressed economically but also made its culture known in the country as well as abroad. Similarly, states like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal, Goa, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana etc. were formed after independence and statistics show that after the formation of these states, a lot of progress has been made by them. However the demand for new states in the country is still continuing and from time to time public movements have been taking place for this demand. Among them one of the demand is to form the Bundelkhand state and this is quite an important demand. The demand for the state of Bundelkhand was made before our independence. For

this, the Bundelkhand Province Formation Conference was held in Tikamgarh in February 1943 and after that the demand for a separate Bundelkhand State was continuously raised. The prime reason for said demand was development of the Bundelkhand state. The Bundelkhand region lagged behind economically as compared to other regions due to historical reasons during the British period and after independence, Bundelkhand was divided into two states. Bundelkhand is probably the only region in the country which is divided into two states. This region could not develop at a pace which should have, even after independence, due to the overall effect of all these reasons. Apart from this, while other states were formed on different basis and they not only made economic progress but also preserved and promoted their culture, Bundelkhand not only lagged behind economically but also had to maintain its cultural identity with great difficulty and along with this the Bundeli language spoken here could not even find a place in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. Therefore, keeping in view the excellent performance of all-round development of small states created after independence, for the economic development of Bundelkhand and for the preservation and promotion of culture and in view of public sentiments regarding Bundelkhand, it is very important to consider new possibilities for

Bundelkhand to fulfill the demand of the public. I request from the Government that a Small State Construction Board should be constituted to explore the possibilities and formation of new small states.

(xii) Regarding National Library Policy

[English]

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO

(BOLANGIR): Libraries play the pivotal role by providing access to information/knowledge, resources/services to meet informational, educational, recreational and cultural needs of the community through a range of national, institutional and public libraries. Yet Library and Information Services (LIS) sector in India has not developed to keep pace with the paradigmatic changes taking place in society. At present, “Libraries” being a State subject and without a National Library Act, there is no common direction or coordination among them resulting into pathetic condition of public libraries in the country. Government has formulated National Policies like Education Policy, Tourism Policy etc., for overall development of various sectors. Due to partial and ineffective implementation of State legislation, a National Library Policy is needed to make India a knowledge society. I request Minister of Culture to initiate formulation of a National Library Policy to facilitate coordinated development of libraries’ systems and services in country.

**(xiii) Regarding construction of embankments along the
course of Amanat and Koel rivers in Palamu
Parliamentary Constituency, Jharkhand**

[Translation]

SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM (PALAMU): I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a very important issue that Amanat River and Koel River are causing soil erosion very rapidly from Barkagaon village of Sadar Block Medininagar to Khanwan, Jod, Singra in my Parliamentary Constituency, Palamu (Jharkhand). This erosion has been taking place on the stretch of approximately 6 to 7 kilometres. Irrigated cultivable land is being eroded. This is well known that construction of embankment at the earliest has become a requisite to protect irrigated agricultural land from erosion. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Minister in the Ministry of Jal Shakti to direct the concerned officials for the construction work of above embankment.

(xiv) Regarding Angamali-Sabarimala Railway Project

[English]

ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE (IDUKKI): The Angamali-Sabarimala Railway Project in Kerala, aimed at putting the hill shrine ‘Sabarimala’ into the Indian railway network, has been a topic of concern in Kerala. Earlier, the Railways had decided to keep the project in abeyance and not infuse fresh funds. Further, the hon. Railway Minister had asked the State of Kerala to contribute 50 per cent of the project cost as it is not feasible for the railways to take the project forward solely with the railway funds. Now, the State has agreed to this proposal and expressed its willingness to share the cost of this project with the Centre. The project once completed would help over 3 crore Ayyappa devotees visiting Sabarimala Shrine every year. Moreover, it would act towards pushing the local economy and would also be a great help to local population, numbering a few lakh people, living in four districts of central Kerala namely, Ernakulam, Idukki, Kottayam and Pathanamthitta.

(xv) Regarding repeal of agriculture law

SHRI BENNY BEHANAN (CHALAKUDY): It is good to pass new laws, but the House and its various forums are there to discuss and include the feelings of those affected by the law. The present Government as in the case of Citizens Amendment act, repeal of Article 370, demonetization and lock down announcements has inflicted enormous sufferings on the very people who they voted to power. All of this is due to the bypassing of the consultative mechanism which the House stands for. Hence, I urge the Government to repeal the agriculture law being opposed by the farmers and initiate a consultative mechanism for reforms in the agriculture sector.

**(xvi) Regarding problems being posed by Kodungaiyur
dumping yard in Chennai**

DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY (CHENNAI NORTH): The Kodungaiyur dumping yard is the largest solid waste dump in the city of Chennai. From a small patch of land, the dump yard has grown rapidly over the last two decades, to the point where it now accommodates mixed garbage from 7 out of 10 corporation zones. The living conditions for residents living in the vicinity of the dump are miserable. The constantly smoldering garbage dump releases a shroud of toxic smoke that is blamed for the rampant health problems in the neighbourhood. Local residents are frustrated that years of petitioning, protesting and meeting officials have brought no respite. On 23rd August, 2006, an air sample was taken inside the dumping ground that revealed the presence of 9 toxic chemicals including 3 carcinogens. Unfortunately, my constituency has Kodungaiyur dumping yard which is causing severe health hazard. I, therefore, request the Union Government to set up a Bio-Mining and possibly power generation from the waste.

(xvii) Regarding cold chain facilities in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI

(MACHILIPATNAM): I welcome GOI's announcement of setting up of 27 integrated cold chain facilities in various States under PMKSY for food processing sector. Under this, GOI would provide Rs. 208 crores as grant-in-aid to increase efficiency and sustainability in India's food supply chain. Secondly, it generates more than 16,000 jobs and benefits 2.5 lakh farmers. I have no doubt that these facilities push growth in food processing infrastructure and help agricultural supply chain. Apart from these, facilities would provide economic security to farmers, help in doubling their income and also act as a step to make country *Atmanirbhar* in fruits and vegetables.

I am told that 35 per cent grant-in-aid would be given to general States and 50 per cent to North-East and Himalayan States and additional 50 per cent and 75 per cent would also be given for value addition, subject to a maximum grant of Rs. 10 crores. I wish to point out that AP was assured of Special Category Status, but it is still pending for clearance from GOI. Had SCS been given to AP, we would have got aid at par with North-East and Himalayan States. Hon. PM has assured for SCS and Union Cabinet had also approved it. So,

it is totally justified to extend whatever assistance, Grant-in-Aid being extended to North-East and Himalayan States, to AP also.

Hence, I would request the Food Processing Minister to set up cold chain facilities in Machilipatnam, AP and also approve grant-in-aid to AP at par with North-East and Himalayan States.

(xviii) Regarding merger of Public Sector Banks

SUSHRI MIMI CHAKRABORTY (JADAVPUR): Ten public sector lenders have already been merged into four bigger and stronger banks in the country, out of which, the Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) and the United Bank of India are now named as Punjab National Bank (PNB).

I wonder to say that this merger of UBI has technically shifted the Headquarters from Kolkata to Delhi and more surprisingly, the Government has proposed to shrink the banking systems by amalgamating the branches into one Branch, thus, squeezing the manpower of the industry. South Garia Branch, having almost 15 thousand customers, is proposed to be merged with UBI, Champahati Branch of South 24 Parganas.

Keeping in view the public demand and its financial feasibility, I earnestly request the Government to retain both branches, as is where basis is, and to upgrade both the branches with modernised PNB-e Corner services for the benefit and the greater interest of the common people of my constituency.

**(xix) Need to augment railway services in Thawe junction in
Gopalganj Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar**

[Translation]

DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN (GOPALGANJ): The railways play a huge role in development. My Parliamentary Constituency, Gopalganj is a very densely populated area. An important Thawe Junction of the Railway is there from where not a single long distance mail, express or superfast trains and metro pass . Hundreds of private buses pass through the city, which often meet with accidents every day causing huge loss of life and property.

Thawe Junction falls under Banaras Division but in the whole of Bihar, in this Division, only Chhapra has a Pit Line or Railway Pit due to which there is no train from Thawe Junction and all kinds of passengers, businessmen, students and serious patients go to other districts to catch trains. Thawe Junction has commercial viability and also has heavy passenger movement in the area. Therefore, Thawe Junction should be given the facility of pit line or railway pit, and along with this, 12555/56 Gorakhdham Express and 12571/72 Humsafar Express should be extended till Chhapra crossing via Thawe Junction or 22412/13 Arunachal Express, 12553/54 Vaishali Express, 12203/04 Garib Rath Express, 12565/66 Bihar Sampark

Kranti Express, AC Express trains etc. should be diverted to Delhi via Thawe Junction. In addition to this, Trains like Tejas or Rajdhani Express should also be run via Thawe Junction in order to provide the direct train connectivity to metropolitan cities to the people of my parliamentary constituency. This will increase the revenue of the railways and Gopalganj will also be connected to the metro cities through Thawe Junction.

**(xx) Need to establish a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Bijnor
Parliamentary Constituency, Uttar Pradesh**

SHRI MALOOK NAGAR (BIJNOR): I had earlier raised this matter in Parliament under Rule 377 on 02.12.2019 regarding the establishment of a Kendriya Vidyalaya in my Lok Sabha constituency Bijnor. I have received the reply of the Hon. Human Resource Development Minister (Union Government), Principal Secretary, Secondary Education Section 1 (UP) and District Magistrate Bijnor regarding the proposal, but it has not been implemented yet. The matter of establishing Kendriya Vidyalaya is pending for 15 years. I would like to demand from the Government that the State Government and the Union Government should start this immediately.

(xxi) Regarding subsidy on Deep Sea Fishing

[English]

SHRI K. NAVASKANI (RAMANATHAPURAM): Deep Sea fishing subsidy under CSS-Blue Revolution scheme is being given only to the Vessel whereas it is not being given for the Fishing Nets or the accessories, and due to this, most of the fishermen are not coming forward to make use of this scheme despite Government funding them. So it will be much better if the subsidy is extended to all fishing equipment.

Therefore, it is my request to hon. Minister to kindly extend the subsidy for small equipment such as FRP boats, fishing nets and insulated ice boxes etc., besides vessel. If this happens, then the poor fishermen can replace their traditional /wooden boats and other equipment.

Thank you.

**(xxii) Regarding Indian students pursuing Medical
Education in China**

SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN (KOTTAYAM): More than 10,000 Medical Students from India, mostly from Kerala, pursuing their studies in various Universities in China were compelled to return to home due to Covid-19 pandemic in January 2020. They are mostly MBBS Students and some are doing Paramedical Courses. Even after one year, the Chinese Authorities are not giving permission to return to their educational institutions. Some of them are in the final year of their course. Almost all of them have availed education loans, running into several lakhs of rupees. Unless they are allowed to join back their educational Institutions, they will not be able to attend the examinations and complete their course. Online examinations are conducted by these Universities in China which are not approved by the Indian Medical Council (IMC). I request immediate intervention of Ministry of External Affairs in this matter to facilitate these students to return to their Universities in China.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, please go back to your seats.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, please sit down. All of you, please go back to your respective seats. All of you, please let the discussion begin. Hon. Speaker Sir is continuously appealing. I am repeating his appeal again. All of you, please go back to your respective seats and participate in the discussion. You are allowed to discuss every subject. This is your right.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, you should exercise your that right. All of you, please go back to your respective seats. You should not display these placards.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, please allow the discussion to begin and proceed further.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, please go back to your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, you should speak duly from your respective seats only.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, whatever issue you wish to raise, you can raise it during the motion of thanks on the Address. All of you, please go back to your respective seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 7 P.M.

18.02 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Nineteen of the Clock,

19.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Nineteen of the Clock.

(Shri Rajendra Agrawal in the chair)

... (Interruptions)

19.0½ hrs

At this stage Shri Jasbir Singh Gill, Adv. A.M. Ariff, Shrimati Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, Shri Bhagwant Mann and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please, all of you have your seats. You should sit down.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The prestige and dignity of the House is in holding discussion from your respective seats.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please, all of you should not tarnish it.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please sit down. You are elected after a lot of hard work.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You should discuss the matter of your region in the House.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You should raise any issue that you want to raise. You are granted full permission to do so, but please go back to your seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please, you should sit down. I am requesting you continuously. All of you, please let the discussion begin. You should participate in the discussion.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The issue that you want to raise, raise it during the course of discussion.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The Government is fully prepared to listen to you.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: It is your right. I request the leaders of the parties to request the Hon. Members of their respective party to go to their seats, please.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You should not waste this opportunity for discussion. Please, go back to your respective seats. Let the discussion take place and you should also participate in it.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: You do not want the House to be run now.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 8:30 P.M.

19.02 hrs

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

20.30 hrs

The Lok Sabha reassembled at Thirty Minutes past Twenty of the Clock.

(Shrimati Meenakashi Lekhi in the Chair)

... (Interruptions)

20.31 hrs

At this stage Adv. A. M. Ariff, Shri Bhagwant Mann, Dr. T. Sumathy (A) Thamizhachi Thangapandian, Shri Gurjeet Singh Aujla and some other hon. Member came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Zero Hour - Dr. Nishikant Dubey.

DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY: (GODDA): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, I express my gratitude to you. The issue I want to raise today is very important. Our Hon. Prime Minister talks about 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' but in the last one year, 4,000 rape cases have been reported in our state of Jharkhand, and after raping them, women, girls, and young children have been killed. ... *(Interruptions)* You should

perceive with the same parameter, religious conversion. ...*(Interruptions)* Shri V. D. Ram Sahab from Garhwa district is present here. From Garhwa district to Santhal Pargana, there are complete religious conversions as well as activities of Naxalites and the biggest hub of cyber-crime is from Santhal Pargana to Jharkhand.... *(Interruptions)* Today, you should make an effort to understand that 10 crore, 20 crore, 100 crore people somehow disappear. The reason for this is that the Chief Minister himself is of that state in the year 2013... * And till today ... *The case against him is pending in Mumbai High Court.... *(Interruptions)* I would like to say through you, because there is an acting DGP there, they have kept the DGP in a tent. The DGP is incapable of working.... *(Interruptions)* SP and DC are being appointed by paying bribe and hence women are not safe there. When the Chief Minister himself is ... * So how can women and girls be safe? ... *(Interruptions)* Therefore, I request through you that this is an opportune time for President's rule and the female population should be protected by immediately imposing President's rule in Jharkhand. ... *(Interruptions)* Jai Hind Jai Bharat.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Manne Srinivas Reddy - Not present.

* Not recorded

Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram.

SHRI VISHNU DAYAL RAM (PALAMU): Madam, I would like to draw your attention towards a significant matter in my parliamentary constituency. I appreciate the decision of the Government of India to close the unmanned crossings.... *(Interruptions)* This has greatly reduced railway accidents, but at the same time a practical difficulty has arisen. The same village has been divided into two parts.... *(Interruptions)* People of one village are unable to go to the other side where there are block offices, hospitals, schools, they are facing difficulty in sending their children to school or in going for their treatment. In such a situation, my suggestion through you is that arrangement for LHS should be made.... *(Interruptions)* An arrangement should be made for low height subway. Madam, it costs just four crore rupees, which is not a huge amount for any government to bear, but our Jharkhand government is reluctant to spend this money. In such a situation, the five-six railway crossings namely Lalgah, Pajirikala, Dalri, Tolra, Ahirpurwa and Sonbarsa have been closed. ... *(Interruptions)* Through you, I request the Railway Ministry that if the State Government is not ready to bear the expense, then in such a situation the Railway Ministry itself should

bear this expenditure and ease the difficulties of the public. Thank you.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: All of you are requested to go to your respective seats. Zero hour is an important part of debate. You can also raise your matter in Zero Hour. You should sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Sunil Soren - Not present.

SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL (BHIWANDI): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, I express my gratitude towards you. In my parliamentary constituency, Bhiwandi, in the year 2016, the work of the third line from Kasara to Asangaon, from Karjat to Badlapur was approved. ... *(Interruptions)* The work of fourth line from Asangaon to Kalyan and from Badlapur to Kalyan has been approved. There has been a massive increase in traffic on this route. However, due to fewer tracks the number of trains are not increasing. ... *(Interruptions)*

This work is going on at a slow pace. The reason behind this is that there is a lot of delay in land acquisition. ... *(Interruptions)* Local trains get delayed as priority is given to long distance trains to pass. Therefore, passengers have protested many times and have come on the tracks, yet the work on these two tracks is not being expedited.

Chairperson Madam, through you, I request the Government to coordinate with the state government and speed up the land acquisition work and instruct the concerned officials to complete the work on both tracks at a fast pace. Through you, this is my request to the Government.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Chandeshwar Prasad - Not Present.

SHRI SATYADEV PACHAURI (KANPUR): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, I express my heartfelt gratitude to you for running the Zero hour even under adverse circumstances.

Madam, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Textiles Minister, Government of India towards Lal Imli Mill which has been in existence since the British period in our parliamentary constituency Kanpur city. This mill has been on the verge of closure since 2013, but it is not being declared closed by the government. The salaries of the mill employees and workers is pending for the last three years. I have raised this issue in this House in the year 2019 also, but no satisfactory solution has been found. Therefore, through you I request the Hon. Minister of Textiles that the closure of BIC mills should be officially announced by the Ministry and payment of the previous salary dues and liabilities should also be ensured. The workers have not received their dues for three years.

Their children are sick and are unable to go to school, their families are on the verge of starvation. In such difficult circumstances, we need to take immediate decision on this. I have sent letters and raised the matter several times with the officials. They have assured me that the mills will be closed and dues will be paid. However, when will this happen? Will workers be compensated when they pass away? " ka varsha jab krishi sukhane" What is the use of rain after the crops dry out?

Madam, from this type of situation one can guess what the condition will be? They were once paid their salary with the intervention of the Supreme Court. Therefore, through you, I request the Hon. Minister of Textiles to officially announce the closure of this closed textile mill and get the dues of the employees paid, whether it is in the form of funds or wages. Through you, this is my request. Thank you.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri T. N. Prathapan ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

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

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Sumedhanand Saraswati ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARSWATI (SIKAR): Hon. Chairperson Madam, I would like to make my submission on a very important matter. The country had to impose lockdown due to COVID-19 Pandemic and in those circumstances many trains were discontinued. In my Lok Sabha constituency also some trains were discontinued. After that the situation gradually became normal. Some long distance trains have been restarted there, but the train from Jaipur to Delhi via Sikar and Loharu, known as Sainik Express, has not started yet. Along with this, many daily local trains used to run from Sikar to Jaipur, Sikar to Churu and Sikar to Loharu, and they have not resumed their normal operations. Through you, I request the Hon. Railway Minister to look into the needs of Sikar as many businessmen and employees have to travel to Delhi, which is a national capital thus they remain connected. In my Lok Sabha constituency, there are thousands of soldiers in the surrounding areas for whom only trains are the mode of transportation available. I request that Sainik Express trains and local trains should be started soon. Apart from this, I would like to say that there is a place called Ranauli between Ringa and Sikar. A village was divided into two parts due to a railway line. I had requested to build an underpass there. That underpass was approved

also. Its work has also started. However, that work was stopped due to corona pandemic. I request that work should be restarted and that underpass should also be constructed soon. I hope that the Hon. Railway Minister will kindly get this work done soon.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Sushri S. Jothimani ji.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Dhal Singh Bisen ji.

... (Interruptions)

DR. DHAL SINGH BISEN (BALAGHAT): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, I would like to express my gratitude to you for giving me the opportunity to discuss the matter of my constituency in Zero Hour. Madam, you know that during the Corona period, as soon as the lockdown was imposed, all the people had to work from home. Students also had to do their studies digitally. As a result of it, People had to face the issue of slow internet speed in my Balaghat Lok Sabha constituency alongwith Shivni district. The network of BSNL is weak there. Idea network is not operational, performance of Airtel is very poor there and number of towers are less there. As a result, only option left is that of BSNL. Owing to fewer connections and poor speed of internet, children are unable to study. We are facing difficulties in

making digital transactions. Businessmen are facing problems. The banks are unable to process their transactions. During the Corona period, all these issues surfaced. Therefore, I want that number of BSNL towers should be increased in Balaghat area, which is a Naxal-affected district. In addition, the services of Jio, Airtel, Reliance, and other service providers should be enhanced through strengthening their towers in order to enhance their net reception and issue of call drops should be addressed. This vision needs to be put into action.

Madam, apart from this, many of our towers are inoperational because their batteries have been stolen. They have to run on battery during power cuts and hence all the towers are inoperational due to lack of battery. The mechanics who have been employed to repair these and have been given the tender are also delaying the work because they are not being paid on time. In this way, the people of the area are facing huge problems due to not getting internet from BSNL, Jio, Airtel and due to lack of proper arrangements. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister in this direction so that along with installation of additional towers, the internet of other companies including BSNL also works properly. I thank you very much for your time.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri D. M. Kathir Anand ji.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Jasbir Singh Gill ji.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Uday Pratap Singh ji.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH (HOSHANGABAD): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards an important issue.... (*Interruptions*) As we know, Shrimati Savitribai Jyotirao Phule was a female teacher of India, who along with her husband Jyotirao Govindrao Phule had made incomparable and remarkable contribution for social reform in the field of women rights and education and we remember them even today.... (*Interruptions*) Reminiscing the contribution of India's first woman teacher and social reformer, I request the Government through you that along with the picture of former President of India, Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, in whose name 'Teachers' Day' is celebrated, a picture of late Shrimati Savitribai Phule should also be installed in every school of the country, so that the students can remember the contribution and work done by Shrimati Phule in the field of education and can emulate her.... (*Interruptions*) I think this

will be a true tribute to her and it will also send a good message to the society.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Rita Bahuguna Joshi.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Ganesh Singh.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Dr. T. Sumathy (A) Tamizhachi Thangapandian.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Jagannath Sarkar.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RANJEETSINHA HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR (MADHA): Madam, I would like to draw the attention to the fact that the textile mill of Barshi District, Sholapur is on the verge of closure today and the 450 workers there are facing the risk of becoming homeless.... *(Interruptions)* I want to make this request in this House that the Government should pay attention to this. ... *(Interruptions)*

Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards this.... (*Interruptions*) ...*... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Senior person is speaking, please.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Madam Chairperson, Mahatma Gandhi first visited Odisha on 23rd March, 1921, which is in its centenary year today. This was the year of Non-cooperation Movement and he propagated swadeshi and asked people to boycott what is 'foreign'. Cuttack, a hundred years ago had given him a rousing welcome starting from the railway station to Swaraj Ashram. In the afternoon, more than 50,000 people had congregated to listen to him, and this was in 1921 when Cuttack town itself had a population of only 20,000. That shows the amount of reverence that they had for Mahatma Gandhi. ... (*Interruptions*) Many had come just to have a glimpse of the Mahatma. Gandhi Ji travelled to Bhadrak on 25th of March, 1921, and subsequently went to Puri on 27th, and then went to

* Not recorded

Berhampur on 29th, where he addressed a large gathering and also propagated why non-cooperation is necessary. ... (*Interruptions*)

To commemorate the centenary year of Mahatma's first visit to Odisha, Cuttack town itself is organizing a grand affair and so also other five urban centres. On this occasion, to make it more commemorative, I would request the Central Government that a laser show may be organized on the banks of River Kathjodi, where the first meeting was held by Mahatma Gandhi and where he had addressed many people. A postal stamp commemorating that day also may be released along with display of Gandhi Ji's photograph at the five railway stations where he alighted from the train. ... (*Interruptions*)

Thank you very much for allowing me to raise this issue in this House today. Thank you very much. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANOJ TIWARI (NORTH EAST DELHI): Hon. Chairperson, Madam, I express my gratitude for giving me the time, because our rights are being violated, and we are unable to raise several matters of public importance in this chaos and disturbance.... (*Interruptions*) However, since you have given me the time to speak, I would like to draw your attention towards the matter concerning

'Education System in Delhi'.... *(Interruptions)* In view of the Government in power in our state of Delhi, I want to say that the educational system has deteriorated and when we visit schools and speak with children, they lament that they are only being taught for one or one and a half hours. ... *(Interruptions)* Children are upset after being taught only for one or one and a half hours. ... *(Interruptions)* We even found a school where a child only attends classes for three days due to the large enrollment; he studies in the morning and evening, but the number of the students is not so much in the school. ...*(Interruptions)* In such a situation, I would like to request that you kindly provide a Navodaya Vidyalaya in our area, which is the North-East Lok Sabha constituency of Delhi.... *(Interruptions)* Through you, I request the Ministry of Education, Government of India in this regard, so that we can provide proper education to the children of Delhi.... *(Interruptions)* Around five and a half lakh children have failed during the last five years due to this.... *(Interruptions)* This is a very serious question. We do not want to leave education in our area at the mercy of the Delhi government. The Government should do a favour by establishing a Navodaya Vidyalaya there.... *(Interruptions)*

Madam, I thank you very much for giving me the time to speak.

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL (WEST CHAMPARAN): Hon. Chairperson Madam, through you, I would like to draw the attention of this House and the Hon. Environment Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar ji that the only sanctuary in the whole Bihar is in the form of Valmikinagar Tiger Reserve in my district.... *(Interruptions)* In my area, many children from Bihar and from the bordering areas of Uttar Pradesh also come to see that forest. The children visit here to learn something. But they are not able to see the animals they wish to. ... *(Interruptions)* Therefore, through you, I would like to request Prakash Javadekar ji that there is an Udaipur Bird Sanctuary of 10 hectares at a distance of only three kilometers from Bettiah city. along with it a very beautiful forest is also there.... *(Interruptions)* Every child in North Bihar will have the chance to learn and observe in an educational setting if a zoo is established there. The forest is quite old. This has been the place of penance of Valmiki ji.... *(Interruptions)* If Prakash Javadekar ji grants the permission to open a zoo in my Bairia block, then it will be a very beneficial not only for the children of North Bihar but also for people who come to visit Valmikinagar Tiger Reserve from the tourism point of view. This will greatly benefit the tourism of Bihar. ... *(Interruptions)*

Madam, I express my heartfelt gratitude to you for giving me the opportunity to raise this important issue.... *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (SHEOHAR): Hon. Chairperson Madam, the Riga Sugar Mill located in Sitamarhi district under my Sheohar Parliamentary Constituency has a very rich past.... *(Interruptions)* However, since last few years, Riga Sugar Mill is facing financial crisis. Riga Sugar Mill management has refused to operate the mill this year due to financial problems.... *(Interruptions)* Whereas the mill still owes about 70 crore rupees of sugarcane farmers and about 10 crore rupees of the labourers and employees working there. ... *(Interruptions)* There is an atmosphere of great disappointment and dissatisfaction among the farmers of Riga and hundreds of villages around it, due to the closure of the mill. ... *(Interruptions)* Because, the livelihood of farmers of hundreds of villages is directly linked to this mill. Lakhs of quintals of sugarcane are cultivated by farmers every year in the reserved area of Riga Sugar Mill. This year also, 15 lakh quintals of sugarcane has been cultivated by the farmers in the reserved area of Riga Sugar Mill.... *(Interruptions)* They are forced to sell it at a throw-away price.... *(Interruptions)* If this mill is closed permanently, then the farmers' previous dues will not be paid and the sugarcane farmers of this area

will not find a buyer for their sugarcane. As a result, the farmers here will be forced to give up cultivation of their only cash crop and their economic condition will also be affected.... *(Interruptions)* There is already a huge shortage of factories in Bihar and only a few sugar mills are in operation. In such a situation, the closure of Riga Sugar Mill, which is one of the oldest sugar mills in Bihar, is unfortunate and disappointing for the farmers of the area.

Therefore, through the House, I request the Government to take necessary measures considering the overall welfare of the farmers, so the above-mentioned Riga Sugar Mill can be saved from closure. ... *(Interruptions)*

Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANURAG SHARMA (JHANSI): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. Through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Jal Shakti. I come from Bundelkhand and as everyone knows, there is acute shortage of water here.... *(Interruptions)* There are very old dams in Bundelkhand and we all know that it is not possible to build new big dams now. I wanted to draw the Minister's attention to the fact that if our dams are de-silted, we can extract soil from there and give it to our farmer brothers,

so that they can spread that soil in their fields. It is my request to the Hon. Minister that capacity of all the dams, especially Matatila, Sukma Dukama, Paricha, Rajghat, can increase by 30 to 50 percent due to dredging.

Secondly, another request to him was that in the past the Chandela Dynasty, which ruled over entire Bundelkhand, had built more than 2 thousand stepwells. The stepwells are very beautiful. The Minister himself comes from Rajasthan. He has seen stepwells very closely. We will be able to start our stepwells and, more importantly, their beautification and water source, if we are given some funding for it. I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI KARADI SANGANNA AMARAPPA (KOPPAL):

Respected Madam, thanks for giving me an opportunity to raise a matter in the public interest. ... (*Interruptions*)

I have the honour to request you, Madam, that many people from Karnataka are working in the Central Government in different categories in Jammu and Kashmir and they may be posted anywhere in India. ... (*Interruptions*) The biggest problem, which they are facing is inconvenience to reach their hometown during their leave

period from Jammu to Karnataka as there is not even a single direct train for their journey. ... (*Interruptions*) Earlier, two trains were started from Bengaluru to Katra *via* Delhi and Jammu in 2014, but after few months they were stopped. ... (*Interruptions*)

I would like to request you to kindly instruct the Railway Department to start both these trains again from Bengaluru to Jammu - Katra *via* Bellary, Gulbarga, Hubli and Belagavi with compulsory stoppage at Ambala, Ludhiana, Jalandhar and Pathankot as many of the Central Government employees from Karnataka are posted in this belt. ... (*Interruptions*)

This small request may be much beneficial for all those employees to reach their destination without wasting their time and we can give a reason for their families to smile. ... (*Interruptions*) Thank you very much. ... (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI (SOUTH DELHI): Hon. Chairperson Madam, I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak on a very sensitive matter. There are Sangam Vihar and Deoli area in South Delhi, and 6-7 lakh people live in those areas. There are only three or four routes to reach there from MB Road, which are via

Shooting Range, Ratia Road, Tigri and Mangal Bazaar. Seven lakh people are living there, if anyone suffers heart attack and though the distance is not more than 25-30 feet, then it poses problem for them. The people residing there have come from outside and the area is habited by the poor people. There is the ridge area land adjacent to it in the south and east. Hon. Prime Minister Modi ji had amended the law in the country through Javadekar ji, considering the problems of Uttaranchal and Himachal. The Chief Minister is the Chief of the Forest Land and Ridge Management Board in the State Government.

21.00 hrs

The Gram Panchayat land can be transferred to the Ridge through this.... *(Interruptions)* The land of Ridge can be used for commuting by the people, however, the Chief Minister of Delhi is absolutely a ...

* Chief Minister. There is a road of twenty to twenty two feet width and six-seven lakh people remain stuck in traffic for two hours two times a day to commute for their business. ... *(Interruptions)* There is forest land adjacent to Sangam Vihar, and along that, there is a sixty feet road and hundred bighas of land which belong to Asola-Fatehpur Gram Panchayat. ...*(Interruptions)* They should transfer that. For

* Not recorded

such people, if a bypass road is constructed connecting the shooting range and one towards the Asola Bird Sanctuary, then all the Delhiites would have an additional road in the capital city of Delhi and will also be saved from traffic jams. Those who are compelled to lead a life of slavery. ... *(Interruptions)* You have given a chance to speak in the Parliament for the problems of those seven lakh people. The law which has been formulated by the Union Government, I request the Union Government to bring such a law, ... *(Interruptions)* The Chief Minister of Delhi is ...^{*}, he is good at doing such things...^{*} ... *(Interruptions)* The powers of the chief minister should be transferred to the LG. The LG should have the authority to take such steps to solve the problems of poor people and problems of public interest. Thank you very much.

**LIST OF MEMBERS WHO ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES
WITH ISSUES RAISED UNDER MATTERS OF URGENT
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

Members by whom matters of urgent public importance were raised.	Members who have associated themselves with the matters raised.
Dr. Nishikant Dubey	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel
Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel
Shri Kapil Moreshwar Patil	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel
Shri Satyadev Pachauri	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel
Shri Sumedhanand Sarswati	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel
Dr. Dhal Singh Bisen	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel
Shri Uday Pratap Singh	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel

	Dr. Nishikant Dubey Shrimati Supriya Sadanand Sule
Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel
Shri Manoj Tiwari	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel
Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel
Shrimati Rama Devi	Shri Malook Nagar
Shri Anurag Sharma	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel Shri Malook Nagar
Shri Ramesh Bidhuri	Shri Malook Nagar

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 4 P.M. on Friday 5th February, 2021.

21.01 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Sixteen of the Clock on
Friday, February 5, 2021/Magha 16, 1942 (Saka)*

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