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Tuesday, August 1, 2023

Sravana 10, 1945 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Twelfth Session
(Seventeenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXV contains Nos.1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, August 1, 2023/ Sravana 10, 1945 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

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

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Question Hour.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. 161, Shri Durga Das Uikey.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You will be given time after the Question Hour.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: There is no adjournment during the Question Hour.

... *(Interruptions)*

11.01 hrs

At this stage, Shri B. Manickam Tagore, Shri Dayanidhi Maran, Sushri Mahua Moitra and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

...*(Interruptions)*

11.01½**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS***[Translation]***HON. SPEAKER:** Question No. 161, Shri Durga Das Uikey.**(Q. 161)****SHRI DURGA DAS UIKEY:** Sir, through you I expect a reply from the Hon. Minister to the supplementary question. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, what efforts are being made by the Government to make panchayats self-reliant? ... *(Interruptions)* In Madhya Pradesh, where most of the tribal society resides, which public welfare schemes are being implemented at the Panchayat level? ... *(Interruptions)* Thank you. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL: Sir, the work of strengthening Panchayati Raj institutions is a continuous process where both the state government and the Union Government work together.... *(Interruptions)* Panchayat is a subject of state government. ...*(Interruptions)* Hence, the allocation of greater authority to the Panchayats by the state government results in a more efficient execution of their duties. ...*(Interruptions)* The Ministry of Panchayati Raj continues to work and promote in collaboration with the States to empower the Panchayats through the Central Finance Commission and the Revised National Gram Swaraj Mission through our Ministry. ...*(Interruptions)* The elected representatives of Panchayats are given training twice for capacity building through Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan. ...*(Interruptions)* They are given training through orientation and enlightenment. ...*(Interruptions)* Enlightenment is also done for recreation

within two years, so that the representatives the people who are elected in the Panchayats, can do their work efficiently. ...*(Interruptions)* The Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan includes provisions for the construction of Panchayat Bhawans and the provision of computers to Panchayats having no such infrastructure. ...*(Interruptions)* There are several infrastructure facilities required under 29 subjects included in the schedule through grants from the Central Finance Commission. ...*(Interruptions)* The work is done to provide those facilities. ...*(Interruptions)* Services such as drinking water supply, sanitation, sewage, etc., are carried out through the Finance Commission. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I am pleased to inform that when the 10th Finance Commission was constituted its budget was 4,380 crore rupees. ...*(Interruptions)* The budget of the 11th Finance Commission was 8 thousand crore rupees. ...*(Interruptions)* Then came the 12th Finance Commission, its budget was 20 thousand crore rupees. ...*(Interruptions)* Then came the 13th Finance Commission, its budget was 60 thousand 50 crore rupees. ...*(Interruptions)* There has been a change of government in the country, and under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, a new administration has taken office. ...*(Interruptions)* This decision was taken under the leadership of Modi ji to empower the Panchayats and a provision of 2 lakh 292 crore rupees was made in the 14th Finance Commission to empower the Panchayats. ...*(Interruptions)* The 15th Finance Commission came for the year 2021 to the year 2026. ...*(Interruptions)* In this a provision of 60,750 crore rupees was made for the interim year 2020-21. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, a provision of 2,36,000 crore rupees was made from the year 2021 to 2026. ...*(Interruptions)* If we add the interim and original then a total of Rs. 2,97,555 crores have been provided by the Finance Commission for empowering the Panchayats. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, the Hon. Member has asked a question regarding the tribes of Madhya Pradesh. I want to assure the Hon. Member through you that under Part-9 of the Constitution, it is the responsibility of the state government to implement all types of public welfare schemes at the Panchayat level. ...*(Interruptions)* I will give the list of major schemes of the Union Government to the Hon. Member. Recently, our Minister has written a letter to all the State Governments and has requested that by empowering all the Gram Sabhas, work to create awareness in the villages through the District Panchayat be carried out to take all the schemes of the Union Government to the villages so that the tribal society may avail the benefits of the schemes. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DURGA DAS UIKEY: Hon. Speaker Sir, my supplementary question is that what kind of special grants are being provided to the Panchayats in the tribal areas so that the tribal areas may get the benefits? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL: Hon. Speaker Sir, there are many ministries of the Government for the development of the tribal population in the country for example recently it was replied by the Ministry of Tribal affairs in this House itself that there are 42 such ministries of the Union Government which work for the tribes. Funds are allocated through the Scheduled Tribe component.... *(Interruptions)* Funds

are allocated through respective ministries. Considering it necessary every Ministry reserves funds for the development of all Panchayats in the state. ...*(Interruptions)* Through our ministry, a provision of 83 crore 51 lakh rupees has been made for the development of tribal area. There are many such schemes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the development of Panchayats in tribal areas which are implemented through various ministries. ...*(Interruptions)*

Sir, I would like to inform the Hon. Member about a couple of schemes. For instance, the 'Pradhan Mantri Adi Adarsh Gram Yojana', there is a provision for grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution. There is a need to prioritise the development of PVTGs particularly for vulnerable tribal groups. ...*(Interruptions)* Grants in aid are provided to educational organisations for the welfare of Scheduled Castes. There are many such schemes. If the Hon. Member meets me, I will definitely give him detailed information. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. – 162, Shri Rajmohan Unnithan.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

(Q. 162)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Rajmohan Unnithan

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Question No. – 163, Shrimati Riti Pathak.

... *(Interruptions)*

(Q. 163)

SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK: Sir, I, through you, would like to ask the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, whether our Government has any proposal to provide any incentives to farmers for production of organic fertilizers and promotion of organic farming of food grains in the country? ... *(Interruptions)* How many such schemes have been added in this which is likely to benefit the farmers in organic farming in future? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAILASH CHOUDHARY: Sir, as the Hon. Member has asked a question regarding natural farming and bio-fertilizers, it has been the constant effort of the Government of India to promote natural farming and fertilizers. Special emphasis has been given to this issue since the year 2015-16.... *(Interruptions)* The result was that the area of natural farming also increased continuously. *(Interruptions)* Natural farming is a highly effective method whereby farmers cultivate using techniques such as composting with bio-fertilizers, seed treatment, and microbial formulations. ...*(Interruptions)* We have also initiated a new mission within organic farming called the Natural Farming Mission. ...*(Interruptions)* I would like to tell you that organic farming has been adopted in the 5 kilometre area of Namami Ganga. ...*(Interruptions)*

ICAR has also included this in its syllabus how to promote organic farming. ...*(Interruptions)* There is a Krishi Vigyan Kendra inside it. ...*(Interruptions)* some Krishi Vigyan Kendra have also been designated as special clusters. ...*(Interruptions)* The scientists of those Krishi Vigyan Kendra are also being trained. ...*(Interruptions)* Along with this, 40 such courses have also been included in the syllabus. ...*(Interruptions)* We have also set targets regarding this and sufficient budget provision has also been made for it....*(Interruptions)* in which a separate budget provision of approximately 24 hundred 81 crore rupees has been made. ...*(Interruptions)* I would also like to inform you that this includes the setting up of 25 units of organic fertilizers. ...*(Interruptions)* A provision of subsidy has also been made for those who set up units under this, so that more efforts can be made by focusing on it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK: Sir, I also want to ask through you whether the government has planned to add any course related to organic farming in the basic education policy to attract the youth of the country towards organic farming and keeping in mind its benefits.*(Interruptions)* If yes, then what is the situation of other states of the country along with Madhya Pradesh? ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAILASH CHOUDHARY: Hon. Speaker Sir, farmers have been doing organic farming traditionally for many years.... ...*(Interruptions)* However, farmers started relying on pesticides and other chemical fertilizers in between. ...*(Interruptions)* However, significant efforts have been made towards practices like organic farming post 2015-16, focusing on methods involving seed treatment and microbial formulations, resulting in an expanding area dedicated to these practices. ...*(Interruptions)*

Training is also being provided in the Krishi Vigyan Kendra today keeping this in mind. ...*(Interruptions)* Scientists are also being specially trained for this. As I mentioned earlier in my reply that it has been included in the syllabus and 40 courses have also been created for it so that more and more youth can learn it and work on natural farming. ...*(Interruptions)* Along with this, we have also provided separate training to 7100 such students so that they can go as master trainers and impart training to farmers in their fields in different villages. ...*(Interruptions)* Along with this, approximately 20 nationwide projects have also been selected on which research should also be conducted. ...*(Interruptions)* It is certainly yielding good results. As a result, many such crops have been included for production under organic and natural farming, whose yield is also showing an increase. ...*(Interruptions)* Special efforts are being made by our government in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)* Also, we have included this in the new syllabus as well. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU: Sir, Hon. Minister has replied to the question in detail, for which I thank Hon. Minister. ...*(Interruptions)* I, through you, would like to know from Hon. Minister and the Government that they have stated in the reply to the question that they have started promoting organic fertilizer from the year 2015-16. ...*(Interruptions)* Only 16 lakh farmers have been benefited from it till now. ...*(Interruptions)* The time by which the Government may decide a time when farmers of our entire country will become self-dependent in organic fertilizers, and we can completely free ourselves from our dependence on fertilizers imported from abroad? ...*(Interruptions)* Whether the Government has any such plan that by promoting organic fertilizers only, we can free the farmers of the

whole country from foreign fertilizers? ... *(Interruptions)* If there is any such plan, then the government should explain it. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI KAILASH CHOUDHARY: Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to say that all these things have been included in the mission of natural farming that we have started.... *(Interruptions)* We have also made provision for subsidy for the projects set up for natural farming or organic fertilizers so that it may be set up in more and more places.... *(Interruptions)* I am also happy to inform that the area of organic farming is continuously increasing, and its area has increased steadily.... *(Interruptions)* Earlier its area was about 12 lakh hectares, which has now increased to 59 lakh hectares.... *(Interruptions)* The area in the year 2014-15 was 11 lakh 84 thousand hectares, which has increased to 59 lakh hectares. *(Interruptions)* Its area has increased and along with it the use of chemicals has also come down.... *(Interruptions)* 58,613 tonnes of chemical pesticides were used till the year 2013-14, which has now reduced to 51,597 tonnes, that is, the use of approximately 6 thousand tons of pesticides has reduced in the country. ...*(Interruptions)* I can say that since we are promoting natural farming and organic farming, the use of pesticides has also reduced across the country.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri T. R. Baalu.

... *(Interruptions)*

***WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

(Starred Question Nos. 164 to 180
Unstarred Question Nos. 1841 to 2070)

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again on at 2:00 o'clock.

11.17 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

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

14.00 hrs

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

(Shri Rajendra Agrawal in the Chair)

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, I have received notices of adjournment motions from some Hon. Members. Hon. Speaker has not allowed any notices of adjournment motion. *(Interruptions)*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

14.01 hrs

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No.-2, Shri Nityanand Rai.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): Chairman Sir, I lay the following papers on the Table:--

- (1) A copy of the Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu Private Security Agencies Rules, 2021 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No.1/Home/7/DNH&DD/PSARA/Rules2020/20-21/285 in the U.T. Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Gazette dated 13th May, 2022 under sub-section (4) of Section 25 of the Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act, 2005. No.1/Home/7/DNH&DD/PSARA/Rules2020/20-21/285 in the U.T. Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Gazette dated 13th May, 2022 under sub-section (4) of Section 25 of the Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act,

2005.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9826/17/23]

- (3) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Raksha University, Gandhinagar, for the year 2022.

- (4) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Raksha University, Gandhinagar, for the year 2021-2022, together with Audit Report thereon.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9827/17/23]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 3, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan ji.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Ballabgarh, for the year 2021-2022, along with audited accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Animal Welfare Board of India, Ballabgarh, for the year 2021-2022.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9828/17/23]

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 4, Kumari Shobha Karandlaje.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:-
- (i) The Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) Fourth Amendment Order, 2023 published in Notification No. S.O.2216(E) in Gazette of India dated 17th May, 2023.
 - (ii) The Fertilizer (Inorganic, Organic or Mixed) (Control) (Fifth) Amendment Order, 2023 published in Notification No. S.O.2345(E) in Gazette of India dated 29th May, 2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9829/17/23]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of Section 3 of the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937:-

- (i) The Multi-Source Edible Oils Grading and Marking Rules, 2023 published in Notification No. G.S.R.480(E) in Gazette of India dated 5th July, 2023.
- (ii) The Vegetable Oils Grading and Marking (Amendment) Rules, 2023 published in Notification No. G.S.R.497(E) in Gazette of India dated 11th July, 2023.
- (iii) The Poha Grading and Marking Rules, 2023 published in Notification No. G.S.R.229(E) in Gazette of India dated 28th March, 2023.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9830/17/23]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium, New Delhi, for the year 2021-2022, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Small Farmers' Agri-Business Consortium, New Delhi, for the year 2021-2022.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9831/17/23]

14.02 hrs

At this stage, Shri Kaushlendra Kumar, Shri Kodikunnil Suresh, Shri A. Raja and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 5, Shri Kailash Choudhary ji.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI KAILASH CHOUDHARY): Chairperson Sir, I lay the following papers on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, for the year 2020-2021, together with the Audit Report thereon.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the Audited Accounts of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, for the year 2020-2021.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9832/17/23]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural

University, Jhansi, for the year 2021-2022.

- (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, for the year 2021-2022, together with Audit Report thereon.
 - (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi, for the year 2021-2022.
- (4) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9833/17/23]

- (5) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub section 1(b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-
- (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Agrinnovate India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2021-2022.
 - (ii) Annual Report of Agrinnovate India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2021-2022, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

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

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9834/17/23]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No.-6, Shri A. Narayanaswamy ji.

...(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 7, Shri Kailash Choudhary ji.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI KAILASH CHOUDHARY): Chairperson Sir, on behalf of Shri B. L. Verma, I lay on the Table a copy of the Notification No.S.O.1396(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated March 23, 2023, making certain amendments in the Second Schedule to the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002 under sub-section (2) of Section 116 of Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9836/17/23]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 8, Shri Ajay Mishra Teni.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MISHRA TENI): Chairperson Sir, I lay the following papers on the Table-

- (1) A copy of the 53rd Annual Assessment Report (Hindi and English versions) regarding Programme for accelerating the

spread and development of Hindi Pandits progressive use for various official purposes of the Union and its implementation, for the year 2021-2022.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9837/17/23]

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, for the year 2021-2022.
 - (ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, for the year 2021-2022, together with the Audit Report thereon.
 - (iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, for the year 2021-2022.
- (3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9838/17/23]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 9, Dr. L. Murugan.

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. L. MURUGAN): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Prasar Bharati, New Delhi, for the year 2021-2022, together with Audit Report thereon.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9839/17/23]

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 10, Shri Nisith Pramanik.

... *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI NISITH PRAMANIK): Chairperson Sir, I lay the following papers on the Table:—

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, for the year 2021-2022, along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, for the year 2021-2022.
- (2) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9840/17/23]

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 11, Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar.

...(Interruptions)

14.02½ hrs

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

20th Report

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (BAREILLY): Chairperson
Sir, I present the 20th Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations of the Committee contained in the 17th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) titled 'Avoidable Loss due to extension of loan in terminated projects relating to India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL) (Based on C&AG Audit Para No. 5.2 of Report No. 18 of 2020).

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 12, Dr. (Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai Solanki.

...(Interruptions)

14.03 hrs

**COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES
AND SCHEDULED TRIBES**

27th and 28th Reports

[English]

DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD

WEST): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (2023-24):

- (1) Twenty-seventh Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Implementation of Reservation Policy in Government of NCT of Delhi including socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes' pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- (2) Twenty-eighth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twentieth Report (17th Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the 3 Subject- 'Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Public Sector Oil Companies and Status of allotment of Petrol and Gas agencies (CNG, PNG, LPG etc) and other related Agencies/Units to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes pertaining to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 13, Shri Girish Chandra.

...(Interruptions)

14.03½hrs

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Reports

SHRI GIRISH CHANDRA (NAGINA): Chairperson Sir, I present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table (2022-23):—

- (1) Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the (i) District Disabled School, Jharsuguda; (ii) Velugu Madanapalle, Andhra Pradesh; and (iii) Kachajuli Physically Handicapped School and Training Centre, Lakhimpur under the administrative domain of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities).
- (2) Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Cement Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, under the Ministry of Heavy Industries.
- (3) Delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the NRTU Foundation, New Delhi, under the Ministry of Railways.
- (4) Action-taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the

recommendations/ observations made in the 101th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Delay in Laying of Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Delhi Police Housing Corporation Limited, New Delhi.

- (5) Action-taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) on the Observations /Recommendations made by the Committee in their 103rd Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Maharashtra Agro Industries Development Corporation, Mumbai.
 - (6) Action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education and Literacy) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 118th Report (seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the National Bal Bhavan, New Delhi.
 - (7) Action-taken by the Ministry of Education (Department of Higher Education) on the Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in their 66th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) regarding the delay in laying the Annual Reports and Audited Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
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[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 14, Shri Prataprao Jadhav.

...(Interruptions)

14.04 hrs

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

47th and 48th Reports

SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV (BULDHANA): Chairperson, Sir, I present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology (2022-23):-

- (1) 47th Report on 'Review of Working of Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC)' about the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- (2) 48th Report on the Subject 'Citizens' data security and privacy' relating to Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

—————

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 15, Shri Jagdambika Pal ji.

...(Interruptions)

14.04½ hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Statements

[English]

SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL (DOMARIYAGANJ): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the following Statements (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Energy:-

- (1) Action-taken by the Government on Recommendations/ Observations contained in Chapter-I of the Thirty-first Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Energy on action-taken by the Government on Recommendations/ Observations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on 'Demands for Grants (2022- 23) of the Ministry of Power'.
- (2) Action-taken by the Government on Recommendations/ Observations contained in Chapter-I of the Thirty-second Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Energy on action-taken by the Government on Recommendations/ Observations contained in the Twenty-sixth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the subject 'Review of Power Tariff Policy – Need for uniformity in tariff structure across the country'.
- (3) Action-taken by the Government on recommendations/ observations contained in Chapter-I of the Thirty-third Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Energy on action-taken by the Government on Recommendations/ Observations contained in the Twenty-fourth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on

‘Demands for Grants (2022-23) of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy’.

...(Interruptions)

14.05 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE... Contd.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 6, Shri A. Narayanaswamy.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI A. NARAYANASWAMY): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section 1(b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-

- (1) Review by the Government of the working of the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, Delhi, for the year 2021-2022.
- (2) Annual Report of the National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, Delhi, for the year 2021-2022, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9835/17/23]

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 10A, Shri Pankaj Chaudhary ji.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY): Hon. Chairperson Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman, I lay on the Table a copy each of the following notifications (Hindi and English versions):-

(1) Notification No. 24/2023-Central Excise published in the Gazette of India dated 31st July year 2023 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 18/2022-Central Excise, dated 19th July, 2022 increasing the Special Additional Excise Duty on the production of Petroleum Crude.

(2) Notification No. 25/2023-Central Excise published in the Gazette of India dated 31st July 2023 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments in the Notification No. 04/2022-Central Excise, dated 30th June, 2022 increasing the Special Additional Excise Duty on Diesel.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 9841/17/23]

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 16, Shri Ramesh Bidhuri.

... (Interruptions)

14.05½ hrs

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETROLEUM AND NATURAL
GAS**

20th Report

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI (SOUTH DELHI): Sir, I present the 20th report (Hindi and English versions) on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the 17th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas (2022-23) on the subject 'Review of implementation of CBG (SATAT)'.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 17, Shri Rakesh Singh ji.

...(Interruptions)

14.06 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON COAL, MINES AND STEEL

41st to 45th Reports

SHRI RAKESH SINGH (JABALPUR): Sir, I beg to lay the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel:-

- (1) 41st Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the 36th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the Subject, 'Skill Development in Steel Sector' relating to the Ministry of Steel.
- (2) 42nd Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations / Recommendations contained in the 37th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the Subject, 'Import of Coal – Trends and Issue of Self Reliance' relating to the Ministry of Coal.
- (3) 43rd Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the 38th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2023-24) relating to the Ministry of Coal.

- (4) 44th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the 39th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2023-24) relating to the Ministry of Mines.
- (5) 45th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the Observations / Recommendations contained in the 40th Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (2023-24) relating to the Ministry of Steel.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 18, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar ji.

...(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Kailash Choudhary.

...(Interruptions)

14.06½ hrs

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 52nd Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) - Demand No.2 pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI

KAILASH CHAUDHARY): Sir, with your permission, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Shri Narendra Singh Tomar), I lay on Table a statement regarding the status of the implementation of the recommendations contained in the 52nd Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) - Demand No.2 pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9820/17/23

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 19, Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste ji.

...(Interruptions)

14.07 hrs

(ii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 30th Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) pertaining to the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development*

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE): Sir, I lay on the Table, a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 30th Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) pertaining to the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9821/17/23.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 20, Shri Nityanand Rai ji.

14.07½ hrs

(iii) Status of implementation of the recommendations / observations contained in the 244th Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/ observations contained in the 237th Report of the Committee on 'Police-Training, Modernisation and Reforms' pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): Sir, I lay on the Table a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations/observations contained in the 244th Report of the Standing Committee on Home Affairs on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 237th Report of the Committee on 'Police-Training, Modernization and Reforms' pertaining to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9822/17/23.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 21, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan ji.

...(Interruptions)

14.08 hrs

(iv) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 54th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) - Demand No. 44 pertaining to the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): Sir, I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 54th Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) - Demand No. 44 pertaining to the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying. ... *(Interruptions)*

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9823/17/23.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 22, Shri Kailash Choudhary.

...(Interruptions)

14.08½ hrs

(v) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 42nd Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing on Demands for Grants (2022- 2023) – Demand No. 16 pertaining to the Ministry of Cooperation*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI KAILASH CHAUDHARY): Chairperson Sir, with your permission, on behalf of Shri B. L. Varma, I lay on the Table a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 42nd Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing on Demands for Grants (2022-2023) – Demand No. 16 pertaining to the Ministry of Cooperation.

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9824/17/23.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 23, Dr. L. Murugan ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

14.09 hrs

(vi) Status of implementation of the recommendations/ observations contained in the 46th Report of the Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. L. MURUGAN): Sir, I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations/observations contained in the 46th Report of the Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology on Demands for Grants (2023-2024) pertaining to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

... *(Interruptions)*

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 9825/17/23.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Item No. 24, Shri Ajay Bhatt ji.

...(Interruptions)

14.09½hrs

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM**

(SHRI AJAY BHATT): Hon. Chairperson Sir, with your permission, I beg to move:-

“That in pursuance of clause (i) of sub-section (1) of Section 12 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House shall proceed to elect, as directed by the Speaker, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps. Subject to the other provisions of the said Act and Rules made thereunder
...(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

“That in pursuance of clause (i) of sub-section (1) of Section 12 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948, the members of this House shall proceed to elect, as directed by the Speaker, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps.

Subject to the other provisions of the said Act and Rules made there under."

The motion was adopted.

...(Interruptions)

HON CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 25, Shri Nityanand Rai ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

14.09¾ hrs

**GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF
DELHI (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2023***

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): Hon. Chairman, Sir, on behalf of Hon. Minister of Home Affairs, Shri Amit Shah, I move that leave be granted to introduce a Bill to further amend the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991.

... *(Interruptions)*

14.10 hrs (Hon. Speaker *in the Chair*)

HON. SPEAKER: All of you, please be on your respective seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Do you want to participate in the discussion? You should ensure that all your members sit on their seats. First, you should let the House come into order.

...*(Interruptions)*

14.11 hrs

At this stage, Shri Gaurav Gogoi, Shri A. Raja, Shri Kaushlendra Kumar and some other hon. Members went back to their seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2 dated 01.08.2023.

HON. SPEAKER: Do not do this. This is the House. Hon. Member please.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You will talk only on this matter.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You should not give advice. Go to your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You will speak only when all your members take their seats. First, you should ask everyone to go to their seats.

...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: The motion was moved:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991."

[English]

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR): Sir, I rise to oppose the introduction of the Bill under the nomenclature "The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2023" under Rule 72 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business as the Bill vindicates the outrageous infringement of this Government upon the territory of the States. It is a design of digging up a graveyard for Cooperative Federalism. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Sir, this Bill takes away the power of the elected Delhi Legislative Assembly to legislate on matters relating to services. I would like to speak very briefly on four points.

HON. SPEAKER: When there will be a detailed discussion on this Bill, you should discuss these points. You should just tell me whether you have the right or not.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, I would like to speak to the point. Services are a State subject under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution and hence, the NCT Legislative Assembly should have had the power to enact laws on all subjects relating to the services of the NCT without any stalemate or impediment. Thus, this Bill is a clear violation of the Constitution.... (*Interruptions*) As the Article 239 clearly gives the Delhi Legislative Assembly the power to make laws on matters listed in the State and Concurrent List. This raises serious questions about the attitude of the Union Government in neglecting the Constitution and ignoring the Supreme Court. The Bill aims to reduce the powers and independence of the Delhi Government which is established by the Supreme Court decision. (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri N.K. Premachandran.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, by trying to overturn the verdict of the Supreme Court and by interfering in the matter of the Delhi government, the Union government is violating the principles of federalism. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri N.K. Premachandran. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Sir, I rise to ...
...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Adhir Ranjanji, you should speak when the Bill will be debated. At that time, doesn't matter how long you ask for, we will give you enough time. The question now is whether there is legislative power or not. This is the issue, isn't it? You are a scholar.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, whenever I would like to speak, will I not get a chance to speak? What is this?

HON. SPEAKER: You speak. I will give you sufficient time.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, I would like to speak briefly only on four points. At one point I don't know if you had turned mic on or not.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Your mic has been turned on.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: You have just switched the mic on. I will have to read it again.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You should not make it a habit to always have the mic off.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, the purpose of this Bill is to curtail the powers and independence of the Delhi Government as duly established by the decision of the Supreme Court. The Union government is seeking to undermine the very essence of federalism by trying to overturn the Supreme Court judgement and interfere in the affairs of the Delhi government which is essential to our strong and functional democracy.

Number three, the Bill and the Ordinance seek to nullify the Supreme Court's judgment which restored the powers of the Delhi government and said that if the government does not have control over its bureaucrats...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, if he has referred to Rule 72, then he should talk about Rule 72 only. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

Sir, he can speak only about the competence of Rule 72. If he does not talk about its competence, then tell for immediate consideration. We are ready to immediately discuss the merits....(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri N. K. Premachandran.

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Premachandranji, this is your topic.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: Sir, last point, this Bill expands the powers of the Lieutenant Governor in Delhi. It expands the discretionary powers of the Lieutenant Governor in matters concerning the relations between the Government of Delhi and the Union Government....

(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri N. K. Premachandran Ji, would you like to speak?

...(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker Sir. ... (Interruptions)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You should always speak within the rules and procedures of the House.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: You are an Hon. Leader. When the Bill will be discussed in detail I will give you enough time and enough opportunity. There is no doubt in this regard. However, the House functions under rules and procedures. Speak only on the subject on which you want to express objection and speak within the rules.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, I vehemently oppose the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2023, on three grounds.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Will you speak according to the rules?

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Yes, I will speak according to the rules.

HON. SPEAKER: You should speak about the rules.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, I will talk about the rules.

[English]

Under Rule 72(2) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am questioning the legislative competence of the Government with regard to legislation of the Bill. It is against the principle of federalism which is envisaged by the Constitution of India. Federalism is one of the basic features of the Indian Constitution and the elected Government in the State of Delhi does not have the administrative and legislative control over the bureaucrats which means that there is no meaning in having the Government of Delhi. That is why I am saying that it is absolutely taking the administrative and legislative control by the bureaucrats. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: No, No.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Asaduddin Owaisi Ji

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: What is it that you want us to listen to?

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You should speak as per rule 72. I am giving you the ruling.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, this is going to override the Supreme Court's judgment dated 11th May, 2023, in Government of NCT of Delhi versus Union of India. Let me read the Supreme Court judgment.

... (*Interruptions*) I am talking about the legislative competence. ...

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, Rule 72 says: "If a motion for leave to introduce the Bill is opposed, the Speaker, if thinks fit, after permitting, brief statements from the Member who opposes the motion and the Member who moved the motion, may, without further debate, put the question:

Provided that where a motion is opposed on the ground that the Bill initiates legislation outside the legislative competence of the House, the Speaker may permit the full discussion thereon."

Sir, Parliament is fully competent to pass this Bill. If they want to talk on the merit, let them discuss when there is consideration and passing of the Bill.

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, the second point is that it is overriding the Supreme Court judgment dated 11th May, 2023. The Supreme Court judgment is very clear that the Delhi State Government has

absolute power, administrative as well as legislative. The intent of this Bill is to override the Supreme Court judgment. ... *(Interruptions)*

The third point is that clause 7 of article 239AA of the Constitution of India has not been invoked so far in the last thirty years. In the preamble, if you see, there are two pages of preamble. ... *(Interruptions)* In the preamble, nowhere it is stated as to why clause 7 of article 239AA is invoked. The preamble is incomplete. Therefore, I oppose the introduction of the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (HYDERABAD): Hon. Speaker Sir, I am thankful to our leader of opposition for allowing the House to run without the Prime Minister. I express my gratitude to him. The game of chess and ludo is being played. Chess is being played from that side and Ludo is being played here.

Sir, I am opposing this because this is a violation of Article 123. You cannot amend the Constitution with an ordinary Bill. This is a violation of the theory of separation of powers. There is a judgment of five judges of the Supreme Court dated July 4, 2018, that is why I say that this House does not have legislative competence. That is why I am opposing this Bill. When our Leader of Opposition has allowed it without the Prime Minister, then my request to you is that I want division, please get the division done.

[English]

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): Sir, with all the vehemence at my command, I beg to oppose the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2023. As has been mentioned

before, this Bill is well outside the legislative competence of Parliament because of the Supreme Court's past judgement in CA No.2357 of 2017 on 11th May, 2023 in the matter of Government of NCT of Delhi *versus* Union of India. Now, to override the Supreme Court judgement, the Government has brought forward a Bill. This is totally autocratic.
(Interruptions) *[Translation]* Sir, you have allowed Premachandran ji four times to speak. You should also give me a chance to speak once or twice....*(Interruptions)* *[English]* I want to say that this is total abrogation of the legislative power of the National Capital Territory of Delhi under Article 239AA of the Constitution. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Gaurav Gogoi ji.

... *(Interruptions)*

PROF. SAUGATA RAY: Sir...*(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I will give you enough opportunity to speak tomorrow. You should let the House function. You should run the House. I will give you all an opportunity to speak.

... *(Interruptions)*

PROF. SAUGATA RAY: Sir, I oppose the Bill. ... *(Interruptions)* You also agree with us.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I will give all of you enough time to speak tomorrow.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI (KALIABOR): Hon. Speaker Sir, this Bill is completely illegal.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: You should speak as per law.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: This is completely illegal ...*(Interruptions)**

*[English]*Page 772 of Practice and Procedure of Parliament by Kaul and Shaktiher ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You please sit down for a minute.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Sir, let me complete my point....

(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Just a minute, please sit down.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I once again request you that this is Parliament and while speaking in Parliament, the pronunciation of every word should be correct. Our Gaurav Gogoi ji is the deputy leader. He says that... *(Interruptions)** If I had to ... *(Interruptions)**, then I would not have introduced this Bill.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: No, no. I would like to ... *(Interruptions)* * how should I introduce the Bill?

*Not recorded

You are raising objection on the Chair that... *(Interruptions)* * I ... *(Interruptions)* how should I introduce the Bill? This will snowball into a very big issue. You should take back these words. It will not go like this.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: I seek your protection....

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I don't need your protection.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Sir, I would like your protection that an order should be issued from the Chair that this Bill is not a substantial policy and Call and Shakdhar have written that, *[English]* “When leave of the House to the moving of a motion has been granted, no substantive motion on policy matters is to be brought before the House by the Government till the motion of no-confidence has been disposed of.” This motion of no-confidence has not been disposed of. This is a substantive policy. ... *(Interruptions)* It is illegal. It will be challenged. This has no merit. *[Translation]* You give the ruling that this is not substantial. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Shashi Tharoor.

[English]

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM): Thank you, Sir. I too would like to oppose the introduction under Rule 72 of the Rules

of Procedure, and particularly on the issue of legislative competence. I have four brief points.

First, the Bill violates the defining feature of a federal democracy, the division of power. It undermines the Delhi Legislative Assembly and the Delhi Government. By trying to supersede the Supreme Court's decision on the matter, the Union Government appears to undermine the constitutional principle of federalism. *[Translation]* I am speaking in brief. *[English]*

Secondly, the Bill infringes on the principle of representative democracy which is a basic feature of the Constitution. The Legislatures are accountable to their electorates. The electorates must have a say in who governs them. If the Delhi Government is not able to control and hold to account the officers posted in its service, the fact is that their responsibility to the legislature cannot be fulfilled. The principle of collective responsibility extends to the responsibility of the Government for its own officers. ... *(Interruptions)* You cannot give bureaucrats the authority that belongs to ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI T. R. BAALU (SRIPERUMBUDUR): Sir, actually the Government is day by day going autocratic. That is what everybody feels here. Ever since the first No-Confidence Motion has been brought in this House in 1963, there is no such precedence to discuss any substantive motion before the discussion on the No-Confidence Motion takes place. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You speak on this Bill.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI T. R. BAALU: Moreover, it is very much against the Judiciary which the Supreme Court has already ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PINAKI MISRA (PURI): Hon. Speaker, Sir, there are some very erudite Members of Parliament here who know the law well. I am surprised that when the legislative competence is being discussed under Rule 72 proviso, there is no advertence at all to the actual Supreme Court Judgement or the Order which the Supreme Court has passed. The Supreme Court has passed a Speaking Order of seven pages in the Writ Petition filed by the State of Delhi against Union of India.

Kindly see what the Supreme Court in para 95 has said. It concludes about legislative competence. Please understand. The Court says, however, if Parliament enacts a law granting executive power on any subject which is within the domain of NCTD, the executive power of the LG shall be modified to the extent as provided in that law. The Government has brought out a law now pursuant to the Supreme Court empowering it. So, how can you challenge the legislative competence? I can understand you vote against it. ... (*Interruptions*)

You can vote against it. On a point of law, you cannot challenge this. Legislative competence is there. ... (*Interruptions*)

14.26 hrs

At this stage, Shri Benny Behanan, Shri A. Raja and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: OK. Hon. Minister of Home Affairs.

... *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF COOPERATION (SHRI AMIT SHAH): Hon. Speaker Sir, I would like to clarify before this great House the issues that were raised by members of the opposition as per the rules of Parliament.... *(Interruptions)* Hon. Speaker, Sir, Article 239(aa) under (b) of the Constitution clearly states that nothing in (a) shall mitigate the power of Parliament to make laws under this Constitution with respect to any matter for the Union territory or for any other matter. ... *(Interruptions)* This means that our Constitution has given complete power to this House to make any law for the state of Delhi. ... *(Interruptions)*

The second issue raised was the judgment of the Supreme Court. *(Interruptions)* Our Hon. MP from BJD said that in respect of para 6, 95 and para 164(F) of the Supreme Court Judgement the Supreme Court has made it clear that the Parliament can make any law for the Union Territory of Delhi. ... *(Interruptions)* Therefore, all the objections raised on these are political. They have no constitutional rationale. ... *(Interruptions)* It has no base even on the basis of the rules of Parliament.... *(Interruptions)* Therefore the Bill should be allowed to be introduced in the Parliament. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, I am telling you again that I gave you enough opportunity. Your behaviour is not appropriate.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I am telling you again. The whole country is watching. This is the way you behave inside Parliament. That is not fair.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to further amend the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act, 1991."

The motion was adopted.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister Shri Nityanand Raiji please introduce the Bill.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NITYANAND RAI: Sir, I introduce the Bill....

...(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: I am warning you again that I will have to name some members.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I am warning you again that now I will have to take some action to maintain the dignity and decorum of the House.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at three o'clock.

... (Interruptions)

14.30 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fifteen of the Clock.

15.00 hrs

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Fifteen of the Clock.

(Shri Rajendra Agrawal in the Chair)

....(Interruptions)

15.00½ hrs

At this stage, Shri Kalyan Banerjee, Shri Hibi Eden, Shri Dayanidhi Maran and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister, Shri Nityanand Rai.

... (Interruptions)

15.01 hrs

**STATEMENT RE: NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 2023 ***

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): Hon. Chairperson Sir, I lay on the Table an explanatory Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for immediate legislation by the promulgation of the National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance, 2023 (No. 1 of 2023).

... (Interruptions)

*Laid on the Table

15.02 hrs

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, who have been granted permission to raise matters under Section 377 today, may individually lay the approved text of their subjects on the Table within 20 minutes.

... (Interruptions)

(i) Regarding repair and four laning of Ankleshwar road to Maharashtra border and bringing it under the control of NHAI

SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA: (BHARUCH): In India roads have never been constructed at such a fast pace, this reflects the bright future of India rapidly moving on the path of development and the commitment of the Modi government. In my parliamentary constituency Bharuch, Gujarat, the condition of roads from Ankleshwar and Dahej to Maharashtra border is very bad. The road from Ankleshwar to New Tarang is under the control of State Government and the highway from Netra Ang to Maharashtra Border comes under National Highway Authority. Ankleshwar and Dahej are famous industrial areas due to which people up to Nandurbar of Maharashtra travel on this route. People coming to Ankleshwar for business and employment travel continuously take this route and the transportation of goods by trucks also take place on this route. Vehicles often get damaged due to potholes and broken roads on this route and this causes many problems. In this regard, I request the

*Treated as laid on the Table

government to get this road repaired immediately by bringing this entire road from Ankleshwar to Maharashtra border under the control of the National Highway Authority and convert this road into a four-lane road at the earliest.

(ii) Need to increase the amount of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana

SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHAWAHA (SALEMPUR): The ambitious scheme of the Government of India, Kisan Samman Nidhi, has proved to be a boon for crores of farmers especially for small and medium farmers whose only source of livelihood is farming. Sir, I belong to a farmer family and my parliamentary constituency is also an agriculture-based area where a large number of people cultivate vegetables, fruits and flowers, the Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana has proved to be very useful for them. I thank the Hon. Prime Minister on behalf of my Parliamentary constituency for this. I request the Hon. Prime Minister to increase the amount of Kisan Samman Nidhi from six thousand rupees to at least one thousand rupees per month or ten thousand rupees annually.

(iii) Need to resolve the issues pertaining to identification and classification of various castes in the country

KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL (HAMIRPUR): In the Uttar Pradesh Other Backward Classes list at serial number 46, Muslim castes Naddaf, Dhuniyan, Mansuri along with Hindu castes like Karan, Karna, Kadre, Kandere have been added in the gazette, due to this not only doubt cropped up about their social identity but they are also unable to get the constitutional benefits of backward classes. The work of these Hindu castes was to winnow cotton by hand. They were known by the caste name Dhuniyan before cruel British era, but after being changed from carder, they are now known by many names like Karan, Karna, Kadre, Kandere, Karnare. In the year 1999, the State Government had gazetted the names of Karan, Karna, Kadre, Kandere in the Other Backward Classes but due to similar employment and occupation, they were added along with Muslim castes Naddaf, Dhuniyaan, Mansuri at serial number-46 as a result the castes of the Hindu society are continuously facing various problems. They face many social problems for being included in the gazette with the Muslim community and there are administrative hurdles in obtaining the caste certificate. As a result, there seems to be a strong possibility of religious conversion among these Hindu castes. Therefore, I request the Government to provide relief to all these castes like Karan, Karna, Kadre, Kandere castes by taking constitutional measures as soon as possible to settle the issues related to all the backward classes in the country.

(iv) Need to construct an over-bridge on N.H. 9 near Sorkhi Village in Hansi Tehsil in Hisar Parliamentary Constituency

SHRI BRIJENDRA SINGH (HISAR): Sorkhi village in Hansi tehsil of Hisar Lok Sabha constituency is situated on the National Highway No. 9 with a population of around 12000. Also, people from 10-12 nearby villages commute through Sorkhi village and a large number of people travel daily from Sorkhi bus stand towards Hansi, Hisar, Rohtak and Delhi. Apart from this, due to the location of government schools, CHC hospitals, crematoriums, police outposts, water boxes etc. on both sides of NH-9, people have to cross it from both sides frequently to fulfil their needs. Road accidents occur these days due to the high speed of vehicles on National Highway no. 9 and the location of bus stand in the middle of the village. 27 people along with 50-60 livestock have lost their lives during the last 6 months. Therefore, I request the Government to construct an over bridge on National Highway No. 9 near village Sorki of Hansi Tehsil in public interest and for the safety of citizens so that road accidents may be checked in future and people living on both sides may move freely.

(v) Need to correct the style of name of 'Bhoyarpawar caste as 'Bhoyar Pawar' in the Central list of OBCs

SHRI SUNIL BABURAO MENDHE (BHANDARA-GONDIA): Those who have written their caste as Pawar are not receiving the facility of reservation at the Centre due to Bhoyarpawar caste being shown together in the OBC list of the Central Gazette. For inserting a comma (,) in the list between Bhoyarpawar (Bhoyar, Pawar) I have been apart from writing several letters to the Ministry concerned for the last several years also requested the Hon. Minister and senior officials along with the people of ABHABHOP Mahasangh and Yuva Bhoyar Pawar Manch for the last several years. I request the Hon. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment to take cognizance of this important issue and take appropriate action so that people of Bhoyar and Pawar caste can get justice and they can also avail the benefit of reservation in government jobs.

(vi) Need to constitute a regulatory body to monitor the negative impacts of social media on children and youths of the country

SHRI MITESH PATEL (BAKABHAI) (ANAND): The children and youth are the future of the country. Their beliefs and values determine the direction which the future of any nation will take. Nowadays, the thought of becoming a celebrity overnight by making reels on social media is not only becoming popular among the youth but also among small children. In pursuit of more and more views, likes and comments, these platforms have now become devoid of any good content and have become dens of negativity and obscenity, the impact of which is visible on our children. This issue may seem trivial at first glance. However, this issue is leaving a very detrimental impact especially on the youth and children. There is an urgent need to monitor the content, videos or reels etc. on these platforms by making laws or any monitoring body because the nation must pay the price if the children and youth of any nation are heading towards destruction. In the pursuit of becoming a celebrity through shortcuts the inclination of the youth towards hard work and education is getting diverted towards the reel era. I request the government to take cognizance of the above-mentioned things and do something positive in this regard.

(vii) Regarding implementation of Garib Kalyan Yojana in Odisha

[English]

SHRI SURESH PUJARI (BARGARH): There were as many as 471 districts in India in 1992 as against a total of 300 districts in India in 1952. This means that there was a rise of 57% of districts at the All India level within a span of 40 years as against absolutely no rise in Orissa. During 1993-94, Odisha converted 13 existing districts into 30 districts. Till then, further district reorganization has not been made, though there have been agitations in different parts of Odisha demanding new Districts including a new District of Padampur in the Bargarh District of my Parliamentary Constituency. That apart, there are 58 Sub-Divisions in Odisha that needs to be further bifurcated including the formation of a Sub-Division in Brajrajnagar AC in the district of Jharsuguda, part of my Parliamentary Constituency. Similarly, the Odisha government has not reorganized blocks in the State during the last four decades, the last one was made in 1984, putting the numbers of Blocks at 314. Now, the time has come for the bifurcation of large Blocks and the formation of new Blocks in Odisha including the bifurcation of Lakhanpur Block in Jharsuguda having 33 Gram Panchayats into 3 Blocks and the formation of a new Melchhamunda Block in the District of Bargarh. Though the formation of Districts/Sub-Divisions/Blocks is a State Subject under the federal system, I request the Hon'ble Union Minister of Rural Development to impress upon the Government of Odisha for bifurcation and formation of new Small Districts, including Padampur, new small Sub-divisions in Odisha including one additional one in Jharsuguda District & new small Blocks in

Odisha including two more in Lakhanpur Block of Jharsuguda District and one in Mulchamunda area in Bargarh District to make administration transparent and closer to the people and successful implementation of the GaribKalyanYojana of the Central Government led by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi.

(viii) Need to include Cancer under notified disease category

[Translation]

SHRI SANJAY SETH (RANCHI): Cancer has become a big problem in the country. The pace at which its cases are increasing in the country is frightening. We need to do concrete work in this direction. According to government statistics, on an average every ninth person in India is suffering from cancer. According to the data of the National Cancer Registry Program between the years 2018 and 2022, more than 38.5 lakh cancer patients have died in India. In my state Jharkhand also 93 thousand 648 people have died of cancer during the same period. We have done a lot of works for the welfare of the country under the leadership of the successful Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji. I request that in view of the serious nature of cancer it should be immediately included in the category of notified diseases. It will enable us to track every case. Subsequently, we will have accurate statistical data. This endeavor will enable us to combat cancer with greater resilience. The Parliamentary Committee formed to address matters pertaining to cancer has already recommended its consideration. It is now necessary to include cancer in the category of notified diseases. Work should also be done towards promoting its research and clinical trials so that we can control this disease.

(ix) Need to include Dhauli-Ratnagiri-Lalitgiri-Udayagiri-Langudi Buddhist Circuit under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme

[English]

SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR):

Odisha has huge Buddhist Tourism potential. Archaeological exploration and excavations have established more than two hundred Buddhist sites across the State. The Buddhist triangle popularly known as the Diamond Triangle of Odisha comprises tourist attractions. The Rock Edict-XIII of Emperor Ashoka of 3rd Century B.C. found at Dhauli near Bhubaneswar bears testimony to the acceptance of Buddhism spread to rest of the world after Kalinga War from this very place of present day Odisha. The Buddhist remains in the form of Chaityas, Stupas, Monasteries and the relic Casket found here aptly establish this Circuit at par with Nalanda and Bodhgaya. In view of the above, Odisha deserves to be included in the list of Buddhist Circuits announced by Ministry of Tourism under Swadesh Darshan Scheme. Final Revised DPR was submitted vide DOT letter No. 8358/7SM dated 24.09.2019 to Government of India. A reminder in this regard was communicated vide DOT letter bearing No. 5562/TSM dated 17.07.2020 to the Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India. I request the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism to approve the Dhauli-Ratnagiri-Lalitgiri-Udayagiri-Langudi Buddhist Circuit of Odisha under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme.

(x) Need to declare Bihar as a drought-prone State

[Translation]

SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH (AURANGABAD): Farmers are forced to face difficulties in cultivating paddy due to drought in large area of Bihar. On one hand farmers are suffering from the wrath of nature and on the other hand, they are troubled by the problem of severe shortage of electricity supply by the government. Now the time is for cultivating paddy and the farmers are planting the crop somehow, at some places, planting work has stopped and at other places the crop is drying up due to lack of water. Nevertheless, farmers are planting paddy with the help of pumping sets in the hope of rain and they do want to plant the paddy. There is still a shortage of drinking water, and the ground water level has still not improved due to lack of rainfall. Therefore, the government is requested to declare the entire state of Bihar drought affected.

(xi) Regarding inclusion of Balurghat, Buniadpur and Gangaram Railway Stations under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme

[English]

DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR (BALURGHAT): Indian Railway is undergoing a major transformation to boost infrastructure and enhance the passenger experience and travelling comfort. The Government is working hard on the modernisation of existing infrastructure. In this context, the redevelopment of railway stations is of immense importance. The Amrit Bharat Station scheme envisages development of stations on a continuous basis with a long-term approach. It involves preparation of Master Plans and their implementation in phases to improve the amenities at the stations like improvement of station access, circulating areas, waiting halls, toilets, lift/escalators as necessary, cleanliness, free Wi-Fi, kiosks for local products through schemes like 'One Station One Product', better passenger information systems, Executive Lounges, nominated spaces for business meetings, landscaping etc. The Indian Railways has identified some railway stations across the country including the border areas for redevelopment under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme in the first phase. The allocation of funds for the development and maintenance of stations is done zonal Railway-wise. In this regard, I request the Government to include the Balurghat, Buniadpur and Gangaram Railway Stations under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme.

(xii) Regarding depleting water table and shortage of water in Sheohar Parliamentary Constituency

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (SHEOHAR): I would like to draw the attention of the House towards the drought situation in North Bihar, including Sheohar, Sitamarhi and East Champaran districts under my parliamentary constituency. This time, entire North Bihar is suffering due to the indifference of monsoon and even after half of the month of Sawan has passed, the entire area is yearning for water. Ponds, reservoirs and canals have started drying up, large cracks have appeared in the fields and due to lack of rain and water paddy cultivation has been badly affected and the crops have dried up. The farmers of Bihar are distressed due to all these things. Bihar has not experienced such a severe water crisis in the recent past. The districts of North Bihar, including Sheohar, Sitamarhi and East Champaran districts are not getting water from handpumps which are 100 feet deep due to low groundwater levels. The problem of water crisis has cropped up for the common people due to this. If this trend of decline in groundwater level continues the situation may become even more serious. In states like Bihar the depletion of groundwater levels primarily stems from inefficiencies and inconsistencies in the jal nal yojna leading to considerable water wastage. Hence the government is requested to take necessary action to resolve the water crisis prevailing in Bihar and provide adequate compensation to the farmers due to drought.

(xiii) Need to expand the infrastructure facilities in Kendriya Vidyalaya – I OFT and Kendriya Vidyalaya – II, HAPP at Trichy

[English]

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR (TIRUCHIRAPPALLI): About 40 students who have appeared for Standard X Board Examination in 2022-2023 from KV/GOC were disturbed about the admission of their children in Class XI. Majority of the parents are of transferable category employees, and they cannot afford private schools. It is learnt that four classrooms are required additionally for conducting Class XI in the existing premises and last year, only three students got admission in the KV/OFT & HAPP, Trichy. Others were forced to opt private schools by paying exorbitant fees and they faced untold hardships and monetary losses. As this is the long pending demand of my Trichirappalli Constituency, I humbly urge upon the Hon'ble Minister of Education to kindly take immediate necessary action to ensure admission to the Class X pass out students in the KV/GOC itself by improving the infrastructural facilities on war-footing or at the KV-I/OFT & KV-II/HAPP, Trichy at the earliest.

(xiv) Need to regulate the exorbitant and frequent rise in airfare between Kozhikode and Gulf regions

SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN (KOZHIKODE): I raise a serious issue that affects not only the people of my constituency but also the entire Malabar region as a whole. Our people depend upon this air connectivity for tourism, health, export and agricultural needs. As you are already aware, Calicut airport is one of the highly profitable airports of the country. When the 26 acres of land were available for nearly 35 years on the eastern side of airport, no efforts were made to acquire the same. Now the haste shown in curtailing the runway is highly questionable. In recent years certain people with hidden intentions are trying to cut the wings of this airport for certain private sector airports. These lobbyists are finding one reason after another to stop developmental works at Calicut airport. This airport as you already know is our gateway to Gulf and is used by large number of people. Instead of mutual blame gaming, both center and state must take joint efforts to do everything possible to protect Calicut airport. I also request the Hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation to find a solution to regulate the exorbitant and frequent rise in airfare between Kozhikode and Gulf regions which affects Pravasi very badly.

(xv) Regarding utilisation of Indian share of water under the Indus Water Treaty

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH (LUDHIANA): Punjab was once comfortably placed in terms of water availability but over the years, the situation deteriorated and there is huge shortage of water in the region. However, it is an irony that most of India's share of water borne out of Indus Water Treaty of 1960 has been flowing into Pakistan. Shahpur Kandi National Project aims to utilize the full water of River Ravi in Indian Territory. This project which has been badly delayed has the potential to irrigate 5000 hectares of land in Punjab and 31,000 hectares of land in Jammu and Kashmir's Sambha and Kathua districts. This project besides helping in lifting socio-economic conditions of the people also has immense tourist potential. Due to decrease in flow at Harike wetland and deforestation etc. in the catchment area, the wetland is reducing drastically in last few years. Besides, it receives large quantities of untreated industrial effluents from surrounding cities through inflowing rivers, which is threatening its very existence. I urge upon the Government to take urgent measures towards speedy completion of Shahpur Kandi Project and better management of Harike wetland to ensure maximum utilisation of Indian share of water under Indus Water Treaty in the larger interest of Punjab.

(xvi) Need to remove country-breed dogs in Tamil Nadu from the list of wild animals and to set up 'Country-breed Dog Welfare Board'

DR. T. R. PAARIVENDHAR (PERAMBALUR): In Tamil Nadu the livelihood of more than 50 lakh people living in the districts of Virudhunagar, Erode, Tirunelveli, Tenkasi, Tuticorin, Salem, Namakkal, Theni, Tiruchirappalli, Pudukkottai, Tanjore, Sivaganga, Ramanathapuram and Madurai are dependent on the indigenous breed of dogs. During the 'Chithirai and "Aadi" festivals celebrated in the northern and southern districts of Tamil Nadu, respectively, these country breed dogs are used to hunt rabbits and the villagers offer the same before God in temples. These Hindu festivals are held annually with religious fervour upholding the cultural ethos. Similar to the Jallikattu bulls, these indigenous breeds of dogs are attached to the lives and cultures of Tamils. This indigenous breed of dogs have in them a sense of caution, loyalty, boldness and adaptability that is why our ancient kings had a separate "Country breed dog force" in their army. If two or three dogs come together, they can even defeat a horse or an elephant. Officials of forest department put so many restrictions and threats to the tribal people living in forests and adjoining areas for using country-breed dogs for hunting and to drive away the dangerous animals from entering into their habitats. As the rabbits and country-breed dogs are in the list of wild animals, and forest officials put a ban on such activities continuously. I urge that the Union Government should give approval for removing the country-breed dogs and rabbits from the list of wild animals as per the long pending demand of the people who rear such breeds. There is no recognition or permission for

reproducing country-breed dogs in a traditional way. I urge that Union Government should give approval for this on an urgent basis. There should be a separate law for protection of country-breed dogs besides setting up a '*Country-breed Dog Welfare Board' at the national level by the Union Government. Reproduction centers should be opened in all the districts for protection and reproduction of these indigenous breeds of dogs. Drugs should be provided free of cost to all the district veterinary hospitals for treating dangerous diseases like brain fever seizures, rabies in country-breed dogs caused by 9 types of viruses including the parvovirus. I urge that indigenous breed of dogs should be aptly used in important force like the Army, Police and disaster relief force.

(xvii) Regarding setting up of a Defence Research Centre at Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu

DR. D.N.V. SENTHILKUMAR S. (DHARMAPURI): I would like to draw the kind attention of the Government towards the initiative taken by DRDO for setting up Defence Research Centre in my Parliamentary Constituency which was proposed in the year 2010 at Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu. The State Government and District administration have identified the land for the said purpose at Nekkundhi village, Dharmapuri District. The DRDO officials had also inspected the said site. Nevertheless the proposed project has not yet commenced. Dharmapuri is an industrially backward area and hence the role of this project as an employment generator and in aiding the district to become industrially rich area gains significance. As estimated, this DRDO Research Centre will generate employment for 15,000 people and will act as a push for the Make in India initiative. I would, therefore, urge upon the Hon. Minister of Defence to direct the DRDO to forthwith commence the work towards expediting the proposed project and commence the research center for betterment of Dharmapuri District.

(xviii) Regarding release of the pending dues of MGNREGA and PMAY along with other Central Schemes to West Bengal

PROF. SOUGATA RAY (DUM DUM): I would like to raise an important issue regarding sanction/release of MGNREGA funds worth 7,000 crore dues to the state of West Bengal. The funds allocated for other central welfare plans, such as rural-road building, PM AwasYojana and scholarships for needy students are also not being released on time to the State of West Bengal. The Chief Minister of West Bengal has requested several times for the release of Central dues of MGNREGA pertaining to the State of West Bengal. Despite being deprived of the Central funds, West Bengal had been able to create 10 lakh man-days, under which jobs have been provided to 10 lakhs job-card holders. Regarding the housing scheme, both the Union and the State governments have their shares of contribution under the scheme. Despite the Union Government's reluctance to release Central funds, the State Government is determined to go ahead with its project for developing rural road network in the state. I urge upon the Union Government to release the pending dues of MGNREGA and PMAY along with other Central Schemes to the State of West Bengal.

(xix) Need to remove GST on handloom products

SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL (JAYNAGAR): Handloom Sector is one of the largest unorganized sectors in India and forms an integrated part of rural and Semi-Rural livelihood. The highly decentralized industry mostly has women in its workforce. The imposition of GST on this sector has led to a creation of an undesirable environment restricting growth. A weaver is attracting GST at every stage of production starting from buying yarn to dying the cloth. This results in an increase in the price of finished products. Due to this, machine made products are preferred due to lower price. Handloom products which were highly in demand have been negatively impacted. This coupled with the blow of pandemic has pushed thousands of weavers into poverty and change of occupation. In order to protect the cultured heritage of handloom production and safeguard the weaver the Government must remove the GST.

(xx) Need for policies to ensure the rehabilitation of people involved in manual scavenging

SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA (AMALAPURAM): The inhumane and discriminatory practice of Manual Scavenging involves individuals, from marginalized communities, being forced to manually clean human waste from dry latrines, sewers, and septic tanks. This practice violates the fundamental rights of life and equality of these individuals the persistence of manual scavenging is a grave violation of human rights, dignity, and equality. Data from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment indicate that thousands of individuals, continue to engage in manual scavenging across the country as their only source of employment. The Supreme Court, in *Safai Karamchari Andolan vs. Union of India* 1 has highlighted the need for comprehensive rehabilitation measures, including alternative livelihood opportunities, skill development, and education for affected individuals. To combat this issue, strict adherence to existing laws, such as the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, is crucial. The Central Government must allocate sufficient funds for the development of mechanized cleaning technologies, proper sanitation facilities and ensure that it reaches the target beneficiaries. I request the Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment to form policies to ensure the rehabilitation of people involved in manual scavenging.

(xxi) Regarding implementation of the recommendations made by LIC and GIPSA Boards for retired employees of LIC and PSGI

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): Life Insurance Co-operation and Public Sector General Insurance Companies family pensioners have been representing that they are being paid family pension @15% of basic pay at the time of retirement without any increase for nearly 3 decades, but, family pension for retired employees of RBI, NABARD, RRBS and PSBS enhanced to 30% without any ceiling. I feel that there should not be any discrimination in pension between these two categories of employees. The Board of LIC and the Governing Body of General Insurer's Public Sector Association have recommended for enhancing family pension to 30% without any ceiling during 2019 and 2021 respectively. But, decision from Government of India is still pending. Rise in inflation and cost of living has gone up by leaps and bounds and it is not easy for family pensioners to cope up with paltry family pension. Hence, I request the Hon'ble Finance Minister to implement the recommendations made by LIC and GIPSA Boards for retired employees of LIC and PSGI.

(xxii) Need to withdraw the Import duty on cotton

SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN (TIRUPPUR): Textile and Apparel Sector in India is facing a historically unprecedented financial crisis. This sector provides major employment. Minister of Textile reports that 45 million people are directly employed and 60 million are employed in the allied Industries. Since 2014, these sectors have suffered a severe setback. Global market share of textile and apparel has declined significantly. This is due to neglect and wrong policies and Demonetisation, GST, high cost of power, fluctuating cost of cotton and polyester yarn etc. The 11% import duty imposed on cotton has created uneven competition in International Market. Policies on Polyester Manufacturing Sector and Man-made Fiber add to the crisis. Russia Ukraine war, International Financial Crisis, inflation etc. have been also impacted. Banks refuse fresh credit to textile mills at a time when they most need financial support. In order to save the industry, measures such as production of cotton yarn and Value-Added Products through NTC mills, withdrawal of import duty of 11% on cotton, extension of moratorium on EMI offered for 3 years to 6 years is needed. Extension of one year moratorium to repay principal amount and provision of fresh loans through banks may be made. Policies may be made in consultation with the Textile Manufacturers Associations.

(xxiii) Regarding alleged violation of environmental norms by gravel mining leaseholders

[Translation]

SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL (NAGAUR): I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Forest, Environment and Climate Change to the situation arising out of violation of the conditions of environmental clearance obtained by gravel lease holders in Rajasthan for gravel mining and to inform him that gravel is being mined by gravel lease holders at a depth greater than the prescribed limit in the river. As a result, the existence of rivers has come under danger. Thousands of trees and plants of several varieties including Rajasthan's state tree 'Khejri' have been destroyed by the gravel lease holders for gravel mining. The environment of Rajasthan is sensitive due to its geographical conditions. Anomalies in environmental clearances obtained by the gravel lease holders have raised concerns about environment. The aquatic ecology of Rajasthan has been adversely affected due to the arbitrary mining by the alleged gravel lease holders and arbitrary digging of rivers. Thus, in the name of illegal mining of gravel the gravel lease holders have not only endangered the existence of rivers in Rajasthan but have also interfered with the factors that protect the environment. The conditions of the environmental clearance given to them by the Government of India for gravel mining were also clearly violated, which has become a huge challenge for environmental protection. Therefore, keeping in mind the damage caused by neglecting the conditions of environmental clearance taken by gravel lease holders, an impartial special team should be constituted at the level of the Union

Government to assess the environmental damage by analysing the environmental culture and cancel the environmental clearance of these gravel lease holders with immediate effect and registering criminal cases against the gravel lease holders for criminal acts and imposing penalty on them they should be banned from obtaining Environmental Clearance (EC) for any future mining activity so that a precedent is set within the country in this regard.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. – 28, the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister – You may speak.

... *(Interruptions)*

15.02 hrs

**REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2023**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): Hon. Chairperson Sir, on behalf of Hon. Minister of Home Affairs Shri Amit Shah, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, be taken into consideration."

HON. CHAIRPERSON: the Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, be taken into consideration."

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Engineer Guman Singh Damor.

... *(Interruptions)*

ENGINEER GUMAN SINGH DAMOR (RATLAM): Hon. Chairperson. Sir, first of all I thank Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra

Modi ji, who has introduced a very important Bill in this House for the first time after the year 1969. ... *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Chairperson Sir, the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023 is very important for all in every respect.... *(Interruptions)* Our friends who only know how to create ruckus, are not bothered about how to make this nation a developed one..... *(Interruptions)* I would like to request these people that this country will not progress with this chaos. ... *(Interruptions)*

I would like to inform you about the main points of this Bill. ... *(Interruptions)* This Bill was implemented for the first time in the year 1969. ... *(Interruptions)* No amendment has ever been made thereto. ... *(Interruptions)* Amendment in this Bill is necessary today keeping in mind the development in technology over time. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, through you, I would like to tell the House that at the time of birth every child has the right to get registered, their place of birth, their name and their nationality should be determined. ... *(Interruptions)* The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) 1989, Article 7 states that the child shall be registered immediately after birth, shall have the right to acquire a nationality by birth and, as far as possible, to be identified and cared for by his or her parents.... *(Interruptions)* There are many such things due to which this amendment has become necessary today. ... *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Chairperson Sir, we are set to launch the “One Nation, One Data” portal in the country.... *(Interruptions)* Now our government has decided that everything should be digitalized. ... *(Interruptions)* Today

we have to make this amendment due to digitalization. ... *(Interruptions)*
 The general public will greatly benefit from this amendment.
 ...*(Interruptions)* The Home Ministry of the Government of India had taken the opinion of the general public in this regard and the opinion of our stakeholders was also taken before making this amendment....*(Interruptions)* This Bill has been amended after taking their opinion. ... *(Interruptions)* The major amendments in this Bill are as follows. ... *(Interruptions)*

The earlier definition did not include Aadhar, Adoption, and Database in that definition. ... *(Interruptions)* Now we will include these in the new definition. ... *(Interruptions)* Our registration needs to be digitalized. ... *(Interruptions)* It will be a part of it. ... *(Interruptions)* The registration of our births and deaths is basically a state subject and there is a Chief Registrar at the state level. ... *(Interruptions)* The duties of that Chief Registrar have been enhanced.... *(Interruptions)* They will also be given instructions regarding digitalization. ... *(Interruptions)* Our birth and death registration will be used at different places.... *(Interruptions)* Like in the voter list, in our National Population Register and it will also be used mainly in insurance, property and bank related claims and settlements. ... *(Interruptions)*

In this regard, I support this Bill. ... *(Interruptions)* I request the entire House to pass this important Bill in national interest by voice vote.... *(Interruptions)* Thank you. ... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, Shri N. Reddeppa. Please conclude in just two minutes.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N. REDDEPPA (CHITTOOR): Hon. Chairperson Sir, thank you, for giving me this opportunity. I have no disagreement with the intent and nature of the Bill. ... *(Interruptions)* I would like to voice certain ambiguities and express my congratulations to the Government on certain points. ... *(Interruptions)*

My first point relates to the introduction of a national database. ... *(Interruptions)* The population of the country is growing, and it is necessary to have a dedicated person to oversee the matters of births and deaths. ... *(Interruptions)* The introduction of a national database, which is to be maintained by the Registrar General is a welcome step as having knowledge of the population is the first step to account for it and support it better. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, the second point relates to mandatory provision of Aadhaar details. The Bill amends the Act to acknowledge families of different kinds such as those including adoption and surrogacy. ... *(Interruptions)* It also broadens the application of the term 'informant' in case of the registration of birth or death, by accounting for jailors in case of births in jail or the managers of hotels or lodges in case of births in such a place, among others. ... *(Interruptions)* However, necessary provision of Aadhaar details of parents and informants to register a birth or death with the Registrar is not entirely clear. ... *(Interruptions)* It would be better if the Government

could specify what they hope to achieve by having such information at hand, especially when anyone can, at a later date, request for a person's birth or death records, and have their family's information at their fingertips. ... *(Interruptions)* I request the Government to clarify the need for the same. I would also like to know how Aadhaar details will be plugging the gap of some kind. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Please conclude.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N. REDDEPPA: The third point relates to maintaining security and privacy. ... *(Interruptions)* The Bill states that the national database can be made available to other authorities preparing or maintaining another database. ... *(Interruptions)* This will be notified by the Government and can also include population register and electoral rolls among others. ... *(Interruptions)* The Bill also states that the use of national database will be approved by the Centre, while the use of the State database is subject to the approval of the State. ... *(Interruptions)* It can be made available to other authorities dealing with other State databases upon prior notification of the State Government. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Hon. Member. Now, Shri Rahul Shewale.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N. REDDEPPA: While such a step keeps the federal nature of the country intact, by enabling both the Centre and State to work in tandem, it is not defined what type of authority... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE (MUMBAI SOUTH-CENTRAL): Sir, I and on behalf of my party Shiv Sena support the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023....*(Interruptions)* The Bill aims to amend the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 to keep pace with social changes and technological advancements.... *(Interruptions)* The proposed amendments aim to make the registration process more citizen-friendly and efficient.

Sir, this Bill amends the sections relating to registration of births and deaths and specifies the required information including Aadhaar numbers of parents and informants where applicable....*(Interruptions)* This will check false information from spreading. This is a very good step by the Government. According to the Bill, the Registrar General of India will maintain a database of registered births and deaths at the national level. The Chief Registrar and Registrars will be bound to share data with this central database which will help the government in preparing schemes according to the population.... *(Interruptions)* After enactment of the Bill the registered birth and death data can be shared with various authorities for purposes such as population register, voter list, Aadhaar number, ration card, passport, driving license, property registration and other purposes with the prior approval of the Union Government. This Bill will prove to be a boon to ascertain the authenticity of voter list. This Bill will make it easier to get a driving licence, passport, ration card and property registration as all information will be available on the portal. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE: Sir, I would like to give some suggestions. I would like to talk about an amendment to Section 10. If a person dies at home and no doctor has attended him recently, then who will issue the death certificate in that case?... *(Interruptions)* Even if a doctor has attended the person recently and he refuses to issue a death certificate saying that he has not treated the patient for the last few days and hence cannot issue the death certificate.... *(Interruptions)* In this situation, how will death registration be done without a death certificate? There is no provision for such situation in the Bill. I request the Minister to take cognizance of this issue and add these circumstances in the amendment to Section 10....*(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please conclude .

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE: Sir, I would like to talk about the amendment of Section 23(d) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely it is included that any person who neglects or refuses to give or issue a certificate required under sub-section (2) or sub-section (3) of section 10 or any person neglects or refuses to deliver such certificate to the Registrar, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to fifty rupees. I would like to state that a penalty of fifty rupees is very less....(*Interruptions*) It is needed to be increased.

Sir, I would like to say about the new section 25A. The District Registrar or the Chief Registrar, as the case may be, shall decide the appeal specified in sub-section (1) within a period of ninety days from the date of such appeal....(*Interruptions*) 90 days is the too much time for the District Registrar or Chief Registrar to dispose of the appeal. There should be a provision to settle the appeal within 30 days, because in India justice is anyway delivered very late. I request the Minister that the time limit for disposal of the appeal should be limited to 30 days. ...(*Interruptions*)

With these words, I conclude.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shrimati Sangeeta Azad.

You please conclude your speech in two minutes.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD (LALGANJ): Hon. Chairperson. Sir, I would like to express my gratitude to you and the leader of my party for giving me the opportunity to express my views on the Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Bill, 2023. ...*(Interruptions)* It is mandatory to register births and deaths as per RBD Act 1969. Registration is done on the basis of birth and death only. In order to simplify the provisions contained in various sections towards having one nation one data portal in the country due to the rapid digitization, the proposal of the Government of India to amend the RBD Act is commendable, but such anomalies are heard, which is also related to my district, like death certificate is issued to a living person. ...*(Interruptions)* He has constituted a committee in his name called Lal Bihari Mrityu Sangh. At least twenty thousand people are registered in this committee. Even though they are alive, they have been declared dead and kept out of all welfare schemes. There are many such incidents where wrong death certificate is issued in an attempt to grab their land and property....*(Interruptions)*

Sir, even today our employees, who are pensioners, have to submit life certificate every year and they have to go to the offices and submit life certificate for this. ... *(Interruptions)* The pensioners who are between 90 to 100 years of age, face a lot of difficulty in going to the office and to submit the life certificate, they have to travel a lot, and they face a lot of difficulty. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, my request to the government is that the life certificates of the pensioners, who have attained a very old age, should be collected and accepted either from the block or from the standing committees ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Asaduddin Owaisi.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (HYDERABAD): Sir, I stand to oppose this RBD Bill.

In a democracy, the Government must be transparent and the citizen's life must be protected but this Government believes in the opposite. ... (*Interruptions*) When we ask for data on poverty or death during COVID-19 time, the Government says no data is available. But the Government feels it is entitled to collect all our personal and private data and use it for its own ends. ... (*Interruptions*) There is a phrase in English called 'Peeping Tom'. In *Hindustani* phrase it should be called as 'Jhankoo Uncle' considering the way the Government is indulging in. ... (*Interruptions*)

The proposed Section 3, sub-section 3(A) violates the fundamental right to privacy guaranteed by the Constitution and as recognised by the Supreme Court in the *Puttaswamy vs. Union of India* judgement. ... (*Interruptions*)

The information collected under the RP Act, Aadhaar Act, National Food Security Act, Passport Act, and the Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Act is collected for that purpose alone. Interlinking and centralising such diverse database violates the principle of purpose limitation which is at the heart of right to privacy. ... (*Interruptions*).

The test laid down in the Puttaswamy case requires that there must be a statute for any State action that infringes on the right to privacy. In the case of NPR, no statute exists. The Citizenship Act, 1955 has no reference to any popular registration. This is backdoor NRC, and it is completely unconstitutional. ... *(Interruptions)*. The Government must first tell us when the Census is going to happen.

Linking of the proposed National Database under the RBD Act with electoral rolls is fraught with Constitutional impropriety. ... *(Interruptions)* There is a likelihood of such data being used for targeted disenfranchisement and suppression of voters. Also, there is a likelihood that some electoral consultants, whether it is Association of Billion Brains or Foundation of Billion Brains, can create a database that provides granular data on voters, their caste, and religion. ... *(Interruptions)*

Under the RP Act, the ERO has a statutory duty to conduct enrolment after assessing evidence. Linking this to applicants is violation of Article 324 and the RP Act. ... *(Interruptions)* The Supreme Court in its judgement in Lal Babu Hussein case held that the ERO is responsible for deleting and adding the names. ... *(Interruptions)*

Lastly, the Puttaswamy judgement laid down three-fold tests, namely, legality, necessity, and proportionality. This amendment does not meet these three-fold tests. ... *(Interruptions)* The centralised database will enable creation of mass surveillance infrastructure that may be used for profiling, targeting and discriminating against citizens. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, amendment to Section 17 is blatantly anti-poor as it extends to any person whose birth was not registered or incorrectly registered. Sir, 38

per cent of children under the age of five do not have birth certificates. ...
(Interruptions) Sir, in the year 2015-16, 62.3 per cent of children under the age of five had their births registered, and they possessed a birth certificate.

The National Family Health Survey-IV says that only 56.4 per cent of the people in rural areas had registered births and possessed birth certificates whereas 82 per cent of children under the age of five in the richest wealth group had their births registered and possessed birth certificates. ... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: I request all the Hon. Members to go to their seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Once you let the House run smoothly, then why are you creating a ruckus?

[English] ... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please go back to your seats.

... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: When the no-confidence motion is debated, then you can present your views.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The bill is being passed now, please cooperate in it.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please, participate in the discussion.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: In the light of the administrative limitations that are present in the birth/death registration system, it is unacceptable to allow such proofs to be treated as conclusive and mandatory. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, why is the Election Commission not bringing the amendment? Why is the Ministry of Home Affairs doing it? That is why, there will be a large-scale surveillance. The Government can target and delete genuine voters thereby creating exclusive criteria for the 2026 delimitation exercise. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, I am thankful that they have come to me to show themselves. I am very thankful. ... *(Interruptions)*

That is why, I oppose this Bill. I hope the Government will send it to the concerned Standing Committee.

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NITYANAND RAI: Sir, some of the Hon. Members have given their valuable suggestions.... *(Interruptions)* This shows that it is for public convenience and to deliver government schemes with ease and transparency without any delay. ... *(Interruptions)* Which is necessary for the state as well as the Union. ... *(Interruptions)* These concerns have been expressed. ... *(Interruptions)* There is a solution for everything in this. ... *(Interruptions)* A few Hon. Members have also expressed their doubts. ... *(Interruptions)* I would also like to request them that there is no scope for doubt in this. ... *(Interruptions)* The Modi government has brought this Bill with a very pure heart. The government of Hon. Modi ji has brought this Bill with the intention of creating a database through a birth-death certificate i.e. registration so that the delivery of public facilities is not delayed for any reason and services are provided to the people. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, when the Union Government thought about introducing Bill then the departments, ministries related to the Centre, all the States, Union Territories were consulted. ... *(Interruptions)* No one raised any objection; everyone's support was received. ... *(Interruptions)* Not only this, the draft which was prepared for several months was also put up for public consultation and whatever suggestions came from the general public they were also taken into account... *(Interruptions)* this will simplify the issuance of birth and death certificates. ... *(Interruptions)* Earlier it was recorded in physical register, now its digital data base will be created. ... *(Interruptions)* If someone needs his birth certificate or after someone's death his family members or anyone needs a death certificate then it will be easily available to him wherever he lives.... *(Interruptions)* You will

get the birth certificate after its registration. ... *(Interruptions)* When the information is received, the certificate has to be made available within seven days of its registration, such arrangement has been made. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, to ensure redressal of public grievances, a simple arrangement has been made in it. ... *(Interruptions)* This birth certificate will be such a document that wherever one goes for any government job, whether at the center or state level, or for getting a driving license, or for getting ones name included in the voter list, or for getting admission in any educational institution, at that time when the certificate of birth and place is required to be presented, it will be a very useful document. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, I would like to say one more thing with sensitivity that even at the time of disaster when death certificate was required immediately, such arrangement was not made. Now such arrangement has also been made in it. ... *(Interruptions)* Hence it is useful for the public. ... *(Interruptions)* This Bill has been brought in the public interest so that it can be used for public convenience and public utility purposes.... *(Interruptions)* I request everyone to kindly pass this very important amendment Bill.... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House will, now, take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, Dr. Alok Kumar Suman, Prof. Sougata Ray and Shri N.K. Premachandran have given their amendments, but they do not want to present them in the House.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: If you all agree then I am taking all the clauses together for the decision of the House.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 18 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 18 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to
the Bill.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister, now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI NITYANANDA ROY: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, please sit down. You would have been tired. Now take some rest. Sit down, please go to your seat.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

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

... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 29, Hon'ble Minister.

... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, the House shall take up Item No. 29: The Offshore Area Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2023.

The hon. minister.

... *(Interruptions)*

15.25 hrs

**THE OFFSHORE AREAS MINERAL (DEVELOPMENT AND
REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL, 2023**

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF
COAL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI):** Sir,

I beg to move:

“That the Bill to amend the Offshore Areas Mineral
(Development and Regulation) Act, 2002, be taken into
consideration.”

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The motion was moved:

" that the Bill to amend the Offshore Areas Mineral
(Development and Regulation) Act, 2002 be taken into
consideration.”

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Gopal Shetty.

SHRI GOPAL SHETTY (MUMBAI NORTH): Hon. Chairperson sir, I
rise to support the Offshore Minerals (Development and Regulation)
Amendment Bill, 2023. I congratulate and express my gratitude to the Hon.
Prime Minister of the country Shri Narendra Modi and the Hon. Minister
Shri Pralhad Joshi. An important Bill has been introduced. The country
and the state are set to benefit significantly in the future through this Bill. I
would also like to congratulate Shri Pralhad Joshi because last week he

introduced a Bill and got it approved and has done a great job for the country. ... *(Interruptions)*

In the coming days the country is likely to get substantial revenue through the Offshore Mineral Development and Regulation Amendment Bill, 2023 from eight thousand kilometer of seacoast and two thousand square kilometer of area in the country. After the passage of this Bill people will get large scale employment. Essential items will also be available on time in offshore states and a great help will be provided to the country. This Bill has been brought in a very transparent manner, in which bidding will take place. There will be no partiality at all in getting this tender. The business class will get work after the introduction of this Bill. Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has introduced the Ease of Doing Business for the business community which will eliminate the need for frequent visits to government offices for license renewals. There is also a provision for long term extension in this Bill. There will be a sea change after the passage of this Bill.... *(Interruptions)*

These days, Prime Minister Modi talks about Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas with State Governments. In the past nine to ten years we have observed that any state government or the opposition leader has not raised any issue that their states have received less revenue, no such issue has been raised here. These days they have no work so what will he say in the Parliament? ... *(Interruptions)*

They raise one issue before the commencement of Lok Sabha session and try to interrupt the proceedings of the Parliament by using the said issue. ... *(Interruptions)*

I remember it well. I have reached here from the corporation. When the GST Bill was passed, Shiv Sena members, who had worked with me for 25 years, had concerns about reduced revenue for corporations after the passage of the GST Bill. How will we run such a huge Mumbai Municipal Corporation? Then Finance Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar promised this and assured that no money would be reduced. Same amount of fund will be given as we used to get earlier. He himself went to the corporation and gave his first cheque. Subsequently, it was observed that the corporation is receiving even more money than earlier. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Please confine your remarks to the Bill.

SHRI GOPAL SHETTY: Hon. Chairperson Sir, the Mumbai Municipal Corporation is running very well. I am saying this because hon. Minister said this two days ago. A state like Odisha gets a benefit of two thousand crore rupees every year thanks to the Mineral Bill which was passed earlier. I am saying this because after the passage of this Bill all the states are going to get big amount. They used to get 32 percent amount during the Congress era. The Modi government started paying 42 percent since 2015 i.e. 10 percent increase by Narendra Modi's government without any such demand....*(Interruptions)* Many large offshore gardens have been developed. Children are fond of playing with sand. When we requested the collector that we want to bring sand from the river side and dump it here even the collector did not give permission for it. However, the land mafia would bring it. After this Bill is passed, we can officially bring the sand from the river through the government. ...*(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Pinaki Misra.

... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI PINAKI MISRA (PURI): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to speak on a very important Bill that this House is today sitting to consider. ... (*Interruptions*)

At the threshold, let me first straightaway say that under express instructions of Mr. Naveen Patnaik, the Biju Janata Dal has always deprecated this attitude that the House should not run. ... (*Interruptions*)

The House must run because otherwise we MPs lose. ...

(*Interruptions*) Only the Government gains. ... (*Interruptions*) If the House does not run, governance will carry on. ... (*Interruptions*) So, I appeal to my brothers that do not do this. ... (*Interruptions*) It is not in your interest. ... (*Interruptions*)

Now, as far as the Bill is concerned, according to the Geological Survey of India 79 million tonnes of heavy minerals are available in India, and most of this is in Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra. ... (*Interruptions*) Therefore, for all these States this Bill is of vital importance. ... (*Interruptions*) This is, therefore, for the first time that the Central Government is opening up the country's vast mineral-bearing offshore areas. ... (*Interruptions*)

We are grateful to the hon. Minister. He has been a progressive Minister. ... (*Interruptions*) I am very grateful to Mr. Joshi for having opened up the offshore areas the way you have. ... (*Interruptions*) You have put in adequate safeguards. ... (*Interruptions*) It is a very good thing. ... (*Interruptions*) This is all going to be done *via* auctions. ...

(Interruptions) Therefore, that is the way forward. ... *(Interruptions)* I am very happy that the auction route is being pursued by the Government. ... *(Interruptions)*

In addition, the mining of atomic minerals has also been opened up. ... *(Interruptions)* These are rare earth minerals containing Uranium, Thorium, etc., which are very critical for India's growth, India's Atomic Energy, and for India to become a \$ 5 trillion economy. ... *(Interruptions)* These are vital ingredients. ... *(Interruptions)* And again, I commend the Government for this absolutely correct step that they are taking in this direction. ... *(Interruptions)*

The Offshore Area Mineral Trust that the Government has setup, again I believe is a very salutary thing because the concession holders will be required to pay an amount to the Trust in addition to any royalty, and this will be sent for research, for relief, etc. ... *(Interruptions)*

Now, Mr. Chairman, my last point is that there will be some environmental concerns. ... *(Interruptions)* I am sure that in sustainable development, environment must be protected. ... *(Interruptions)* The 'polluter-pays' principle works, but the precautionary principle also works. ... *(Interruptions)* We must ensure that the Government takes adequate steps for environmental protection while allowing this. ... *(Interruptions)*

I commend the Government, and I support the Bill wholeheartedly. ... *(Interruptions)*.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Thank you.

... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, you are not doing the work at all that the public expects from you.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, discussions are underway on very important Bills. You should express your views, express your opinions, give suggestions to the government and criticise the government. Please, all of you go back to your seats.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, a very important Bill is being discussed.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Krupal Balaji Tumane.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE (RAMTEK): Thank you hon. Chairperson Sir, I congratulate Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji and the Minister of Mines Hon. Pralhad Joshi ji for bringing this amendment Bill. *...(Interruptions)* I, on behalf of my party Shiv Sena support this Bill.

Sir, exploration and mining of minerals in India has remained a complex problem for a long time. This process requires permits and licenses. *... (Interruptions)* The Government has proposed amendments to address this issue and promote ease of doing business in the mining sector through this Bill.... *(Interruptions)* This is very important for India's

economic development and national security. There is a need for even more reforms to increase exploration and mining of critical minerals....*(Interruptions)* India has the same mineral potential as South Africa and Australia and is a producer of a wide variety of minerals. ... *(Interruptions)* India's mining sector has still not utilized its potential in that sense despite such a huge mineral potential. This amendment will help in developing mining areas....*(Interruptions)* The mining sector contributes about 7 to 7.5 percent to the GDP of countries like South Africa and Australia. However, in India it is only 1.75 percent.

Sir, India is importing minerals worth 2.5 lakh crore rupees. India has so far discovered only 10 percent of its apparent geological potential.... *(Interruptions)* Only 5 percent of OGP is being used for mining by India, whereas in Australia and South Africa 70 to 80 percent of it is being used.

... *(Interruptions)*

Hon. Chairperson Sir, the purpose of the proposed amendment is to suggest introduction of exploration licenses for deeply located and important minerals through auction. Private companies encourage private sector participation and exploration.... *(Interruptions)* They can do other prospecting and operations which is vital for various industries and India's commitment to achieve the set target of net zero emissions. ... *(Interruptions)* Apart from this, the proposed amendment has been brought to increase domestic production, reduce import dependence on import, bring progress in strategic industries, make India more self-reliant in space, electronics, communication, energy and electronic batteries and make it globally competitive. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Shri Malook Nagar.

Please conclude in one minute.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALOOK NAGAR (BIJNOR): Thank you very much for allowing me to speak.... *(Interruptions)* If we need to strengthen the country's economy regarding minerals and want to improve our standing from the current fifth and fourth position to the third position, this Bill is very good in that respect.... *(Interruptions)* There is still a lot of scope in this. Our country is full of minerals, which can help in the progress of the country.... *(Interruptions)* I want to add only one thing to this wherever there are minerals and mines, wherever minerals are found, on whose land they are found, the government should give some part of it to those farmers also so that the farmers can also become financially strong along with the economy of the country. Thank you. ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Hon. Chairperson Sir, I am feeling very sad.... *(Interruptions)* Today, there is a discussion on an important Bill. The Bill that I have just introduced, and the House is considering, is a very important Bill.... *(Interruptions)* The students who have come here are watching the behavior of these people. ... *(Interruptions)* On such an important Bill, some Hon. Members move amendments and some express objections. ... *(Interruptions)* At least they must sit quietly to listen it, they should listen and discuss.... *(Interruptions)* If we do not maintain even this much prestige and dignity, then these children who are watching us, they consider us as role models. ... *(Interruptions)* They have come here to

observe us. Several members come here fully prepared from this side as well. Many members from that side also. Sir, I am telling you, many members from that side want us to participate in the discussion. ... *(Interruptions)* We should be able to present our views before the House and the country, while participating in the discussion. However, it is very unfortunate that the members of the opposition do not want to discuss such an important issue. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, there are a lot of things to say about the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act. There are very important points in this. I will follow your instruction and in three or four minutes.... *(Interruptions)* But at least please give me five-six minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*[*English*] the present Bill seeks to amend the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002.

In this, we are proposing to introduce auction as a method for production lease. The second is to introduce the composite license that is exploration license-cum-production lease to be granted through auction. ... *(Interruptions)*. The third is declaring all applications received prior to the date of commencement of the amendment Act as ineligible in view of introduction of auction only as the method. ... *(Interruptions)*

In addition to this, the period of production lease is to be for 50 years on the lines of the MMDR Act....*(Interruptions)*[*Translation*] It is written in the block that is there. The Offshore Areas Mineral Trust (OAMT), on the same lines as we have created the Mineral Exploration Trust through the MMDR Act, we are going to create OAMT....*(Interruptions)* Some people have opposed this. I would like to ask them a question that

provision for this has been there since the year 2002. Those who are on this side, at least you should listen. These people who are opposing this Bill right now, which is the auction route, we are going to allocate the blocks in offshore. ...*(Interruptions)* In the year 2010, these people had made the allotment arbitrarily through the discretionary route. Those who wanted it were called and allocated.... *(Interruptions)*

Those who are shouting slogans right now, when they were asked for applications, 53 applicants submitted 377 applications....*(Interruptions)* *[English]* The Screening Committee selected 16 applicants for the grant of 62 exploration blocks. ... *(Interruptions)* *[Translation]* There is no yardstick. There is no transparent regime. Afterwards, the Chief Vigilance Officer [IBM] conducted an investigation. He said that *[English]* five companies of the same group having a common Director and common address got 28 out of 62 blocks. ... *(Interruptions)* *[Translation]* In this, only one person got the allotment. Who is he, they should tell us first. ...*(Interruptions)*

What are we doing? The amendments we are making to this act are through the auction route. ...*(Interruptions)* The people who are here, their kins are not able to get it. Their relatives are not getting it, their uncles and maternal uncles are not getting it. These people are protesting and shouting slogans against this Bill for this reason.... *(Interruptions)* Under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister Modi ji the transparent system that we have brought necessitates that anyone coming from across the entire nation must go through the auction route. Their relatives and kins are not likely to get it that's why they are distressed. ... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, later a CBI inquiry was conducted. *[English]* The Preliminary Enquiry Report stated that there was no clear-cut guideline for shortlisting of the applicants and that the criteria for selection of applicants for issuance of exploration license was fixed after the receipt of application. ... *(Interruptions)**[Translation]*First, applications were invited, and later on rules were laid down. This is your track record. Now you have come to the well and are opposing this Bill.... *(Interruptions)* At least maintain a little bit of ... *.You should at least try to support what is happening....*(Interruptions)*

Sir, Shravan month is going on right now. The churning of the ocean took place in the month of Shravan.14 precious gems were extracted from the churning of the ocean. After that, the nectar emerged. Similarly, in the tenure of Modi ji, today by passing this Bill, we are churning the ocean in the modern era....*(Interruptions)* Under the leadership of Modi ji We are creating a transparent auction route to make available the critical minerals needed in the country.... *(Interruptions)* The coal blocks were allotted to those who received letters from the AICC office. We never do such things....*(Interruptions)*

Whatever we are doing, Modi Ji is bringing a transparent system for the country in every sector. Therefore, our critical mineral will be available. Many countries of the world, like Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, are smaller countries than us, these countries are also ahead of us in offshore minerals. ... *(Interruptions)* Therefore, I request that the critical minerals are the requirement of the energy sector of the country

*Not recorded

and to fulfil this requirement and for energy technology, critical minerals are essential. We are bringing it through auction in a transparent manner. You should kindly pass this Bill unanimously. I want to say only this
(Interruptions) The children are watching, you should have also some prestige, understand this, and behave with some restraint. ...
(Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 2002, be taken into consideration.""

The motion was adopted.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House will, now, take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, Dr. Alok Kumar Suman and Prof. Sougata Ray, you have given your amendments If you do not wish to introduce your amendments in the House, I put all the clauses together to the vote of the House

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That Clauses 2 to 24 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 24 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long title were added to the
Bill.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed.”

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed.""

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Members, please sit down. Now there is a very important Bill related to the Scheduled Castes, participate in it and express your views.

... (Interruptions)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Item No. 30, Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order Amendment Bill, 2023, Hon’ble Minister.

15.48 hrs

**CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED CASTES) ORDER AMENDMENT
BILL, 2023**

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 to modify the list of Scheduled Castes in the State of Chhattisgarh, be taken into consideration."

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The motion was moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 to modify the list of Scheduled Castes in the State of Chhattisgarh, be taken into consideration."

SHRIMATI SANDHYA ROY (BHIND): Hon. Chairperson. Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important Bill. The Scheduled Caste Amendment Bill was brought in the Constitution by Hon. Union Minister Shri Virendra Khatik under the leadership of Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Bhai Modi.'... *(Interruptions)* It is clear from this Bill that our government believes in Sabka Sath and Sabka Vikas. The government is working to give wings to the dreams of even the last person by realising the goal of Antyodaya under the leadership of Modi Ji. This amendment Bill has been brought in the same direction. The Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, Amendment Bill, 2023-24 has just been introduced in Lok Sabha. ... *(Interruptions)* This Bill amends the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950. The Bill lists the castes and tribes which are considered as Scheduled Castes in the State of

Chhattisgarh and the Union Territories. The Bill includes the communities as synonyms of Mehra, Mahar, Mehar communities in Chhattisgarh. ...*(Interruptions)*

Hon. Chairperson Sir, through you I request all the Hon'ble Members to support this Bill unanimously and I also support this Bill.

[English]

KUMARI GODDETI MADHAVI (ARAKU): Thank you Hon. Chairman Sir for allowing me to speak on this Bill.

Sir, I have some suggestions about this Bill. The annual budget shows its commitment to economic empowerment of weaker sections of society by allocating Rs. 38,605 crore for the BC component, Rs. 20,005 crore for the SC component and Rs. 6,929 crore for the ST component.

I urge upon the Government to fulfil the commitment for the well-being of this section and ensure that the funds allocated are effectively utilized to create opportunities for their socio-economic growth and development

... *(Interruptions)*

Besides education and economic empowerment, there is a need to promote diversity and representation in the judiciary. It is shocking that, since the establishment of the Supreme Court, there have been only five judges from the SCs. Currently, only 24 out of 850 High Court Judges hail from SC community. Fourteen of these courts have no SC judge at all. ...
(Interruptions)

The Government must implement policies to increase the inclusion of qualified and deserving candidates from SC background in the judicial system. ...*(Interruptions)*

In conclusion, with these suggestions, I support the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD (LALGANJ): Sir, I will conclude my speech in a minute. I support the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order Amendment Bill, 2023 which is being brought for Chhattisgarh, I support it... *(Interruptions)*

Sir, even before this, an amendment was brought to include four castes along with the Gaur caste of Uttar Pradesh, Purvanchal in ST.... *(Interruptions)* However till now ST caste certificate has not been issued to them at the ground level.... *(Interruptions)* These poor people can neither remain SC, nor ST, nor OBC.... *(Interruptions)* These people are not getting full reservation in education and employment.... *(Interruptions)* As a result, they are not able to take benefit of the welfare schemes.... *(Interruptions)* Similarly, recently in Purvanchal also, a provision has been made to include “Rajbhar” caste in ST.... *(Interruptions)* This is right.... *(Interruptions)* I also support the government in this regard.... *(Interruptions)* However along with that, this government should also accept the proposal made by the Uttar Pradesh government to bring the remaining 16 castes from OBC to ST.... *(Interruptions)* I express my gratitude to the Minister.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Minister.

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR: Hon. Chairperson Sir, first of all, I would like to express my gratitude to all the Hon. Members who have spoken for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, those who are at the bottom of the social ladder.... *(Interruptions)* Welfare measures have been taken by the government in the last nine years under the able guidance of the Prime Minister of the country, Hon. Narendra Modi ji.... *(Interruptions)* Regarding today's effective Bill, I would like to address the points raised by Hon. Members, in the Bill that has been proposed for the state of Chhattisgarh.... *(Interruptions)* Hon. Chairperson. Sir, the Government of India has made some procedures for amending the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.... *(Interruptions)* In which, after receiving the proposal from the states and union territory governments, after being approved by the RGI and the National Scheduled Caste Commission it goes before the Union Cabinet.... *(Interruptions)* Then, after their approval, it is brought here in the House.... *(Interruptions)* The Chhattisgarh government recommended on 03.06.2021 and 28.01.2022 that the 'Mehra' and 'Mahra' communities in the state be included under serial number 33 as alternatives to 'Mahar', 'Mehar', and 'Mehra'. ...*(Interruptions)* Which is supported by the Registrar General-RGI and National Scheduled Caste Commission. This Bill should be brought to include the 'Mehra' and 'Mahra' communities in the schedule of Scheduled Castes of Chhattisgarh State.... *(Interruptions)* That Bill has been brought here on the recommendation of the state of Chhattisgarh. ...*(Interruptions)* After the passing of this Bill, our brothers from Chhattisgarh "Mehra" and "Mahara" community who were left out, were deprived of the welfare schemes for Scheduled Castes.... *(Interruptions)* Their children will be

able to study to become doctors after the passage of this Bill. They will be able to study engineering and will get the benefit of all the welfare schemes of the government for the Scheduled Castes, be it a loan scheme, a venture capital fund scheme or a National Overseas Scholarship Scheme. Therefore, through you, I would like to request the House to extend its cooperation in passing this important Bill.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 to modify the list of Scheduled Castes in the State of Chhattisgarh, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON.SPEAKER: The House will, now, take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

**Clause 2 Amendment of Constitution
(Scheduled Caste) Order 1950**

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Mr. Alok Kumar Suman ji, would you like to move Amendment No. 1?

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the long title were added to the Bill.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, now move that the Bill be passed.

... (*Interruptions*)

DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. CHAIRPERSON: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the August 02, 2023.

... (*Interruptions*)

15.55 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, August 02, 2023/Sravana 11, 1945(Saka).

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