

01.12.2014

1

Sixteenth Series, Vol. V, No.06

Monday, December 01, 2014

Agrahayana 10, 1936 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Third Session

(Sixteenth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. V contains Nos.1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

© 2014 Lok Sabha Secretariat

None of the material may be copied, reproduced, distributed, republished, downloaded, displayed, posted or transmitted in any form or by any means, including but not limited to, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of Lok Sabha Secretariat. However, the material can be displayed, copied, distributed and downloaded for personal, non-commercial use only, provided the material is not modified and all copyright and other proprietary notices contained in the material are retained.

“Disclaimer: The content of the 16th and 17th Lok Sabha Debates available on this website has been translated from the original text using Artificial Intelligence tools for reference purposes. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, users are advised to refer to the official floor version of the Lok Sabha Debates available under the “Debates” weblink on the Lok Sabha website as the authoritative text.”

CONTENTS

Sixteenth Series, Vol. V Third Session, 2014/1936 (Saka)

No.6, Monday, December 01, 2014/Agrahayana 10, 1936 (Saka)

SUBJECT

PAGES

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

Relinquishment of office by Secretary-General (Shri P. K. Grover) and appointment of Shri Anoop Mishra as Secretary- General, Lok Sabha	16
--	----

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*Starred Question Nos.101 to 105	24-62
----------------------------------	-------

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS 63

Starred Question Nos.106 to 120

Unstarred Question Nos.1151 to 1380

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

FELICITATIONS BY THE SPEAKER

Felicitations to shuttler P. V. Sindhu for winning Women's Singles Title at Macau Open Grand Prix Gold Tournament on 30 th November 2014 in Macau, China	64
---	----

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

World Aids Day	65
----------------	----

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 66-74

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS 75

1st and 2nd Reports

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS 76

- (i) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 32nd Report of the Standing Committee on Labour on 'Welfare of Glass and Bangle Workers of Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh – A case study',

pertaining to the Ministry of Labour and
Employment

Shri Bandaru Dattatreya

76

- (ii) Status of implementation of the
recommendations contained in the 23rd Report
of the Standing Committee on Railways on
'Suburban Train Services of Indian Railways,
with particular emphasis on Security of Women
Passengers', pertaining to the Ministry of
Railways

Shri Manoj Sinha

77

GOVERNMENT BILL -Introduced

Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Laws
(Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014

80

**STATEMENT RE: PROMULGATION OF
TEXTILE UNDERTAKINGS
(NATIONALISATION) LAWS (AMENDMENT
AND VALIDATION) ORDINANCE, 2014**

82

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Re: Lack of proper connectivity and poor functioning of BSNL network in the country particularly in Tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh and some districts, viz., Nabarangpur, Malkangiri, Koraput and Rayagada in Odisha

82

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

Tabling of Amendments to Textile Undertaking (Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014

94

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

126-154

- (i) Need to restart operation of Container Depot in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh to boost business

activities in the city

Shri Rajendra Agrawal 127

- (ii) Need to open more ticket windows at Savarkundla railway station in Gujarat

Shri Naranbhai Kachhadia 128

- (iii) Need to provide a rail link to Karauli district headquarters in Rajasthan

Dr. Manoj Rajoria 130

- (iv) Need to formulate a scheme to provide clean drinking water to people of Tonk- Sawai Madhopur Parliamentary Constituency in Rajasthan

Shri Sukhbir Singh Jaunpuria 132

- (v) Need to accord the status of Central University to Vikram University, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh

Prof. Chintamani Malviya 134

- (vi) Need to introduce job-oriented skill development programmes in schools in Paschim Champaran Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar

Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal

136

- (vii) Need to put in place all the necessary preparations to prevent outbreak of Ebola virus in the country

Shri Dinesh Trivedi

137

- (viii) Need to undertake drought-relief measures in Bolangir Parliamentary Constituency, Odisha

Shri Kalikesh N. Singh Deo

139

- (ix) Need to construct a six-lane road on N. H.7 near Vadki village in Yavatmal-Washim Parliamentary Constituency in Maharashtra

Shrimati Bhavana Pundalikrao Gawali

141

- (x) Need to grant special category status to

Andhra Pradesh

Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu

142

- (xi) Need to expedite the pending railway projects in Mahabubnagar Parliamentary Constituency, Telangana and also provide stoppage of important trains in Mahabubnagar district, Telangana.

Shri A.P Jithender Reddy

143

- (xii) Need to improve the socio-economic condition of tribal people living in Attapady tribal area in Palakkad Parliamentary Constituency, Kerala

Shri M.B. Rajesh

145

- (xiii) Need to declare calamity caused by 'Hudhud' cyclone as a national calamity and release adequate financial assistance to Andhra Pradesh

Shrimati Kothapalli Geetha

147

- (xiv) Need to declare the birth place of all the great personalities of Bihar as tourist places and develop them as tourist places of international importance.

Shri Rajesh Ranjan

150

- (xv) Need to develop tourist places of religious and historical importance in Rohtas and Kaimur districts of Bihar

Shri Chhedi Paswan

152

- (xvi) Need to release the full share of funds under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana to Tamil Nadu

Dr. C. Gopalakrishnan

154

**TEXTILE UNDERTAKING (NATIONALISATION)
LAWS (AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION) BILL,
2014**

156

Motion to Consider	156
Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar	156
Shri Ashok Shankarrao Chavan	162
Shrimati Poonam Mahajan	171
Shri S. Selvakumara Chinnayan	179
Prof. Saugata Roy	182
Shri Kalikesh N. Singh Deo	192
Shri Arvind Sawant	200
Shri Kadiyam Srihari	205
Shrimati Butta Renuka	209
Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury	211
Shri M.B. Rajesh	217
Yogi Adityanath	222
Shri N. Kristappa	229

Dr. Arun Kumar	233
Shri E. T. Mohammad Basheer	235
Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari	238
Shri Kaushalendra Kumar	241
Shri N. K. Premachandran	243
Shri Nana Patole	249
Shri M. Udhayakumar	254
Shri Rahul Shewale	258
Shri Mullapally Ramchandran	262
Shri Pralhad Joshi	265
Shri K. H. Muniyappa	273
Dr. Satya Pal Singh	277
Shri P. P. Chaudhary	280
Shri Gopal Shetty	285
Shri Suresh C. Angadi	289

01.12.2014

13

Clauses 2 to 8 and 1

317

Motion to Pass

321

OFFICERS OF LOK SABHA

THE SPEAKER

Shrimati Sumitra Mahajan

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER

Dr. M. Thambidurai

PANEL OF CHAIRPERSONS

Shri Arjun Charan Sethi

Shri Hukmdeo Narayan Yadav

Prof. K. V. Thomas

Shri Anandrao Adsul

Shri Prahlad Joshi

Dr. Ratna De (Nag)

Shri Ramen Deka

Shri Konakalla Narayan Rao

Shri Hukum Singh

SECRETARY GENERAL

Shri Anoop Mishra

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, December 01, 2014/Agrahayana 10, 1936 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[HON. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER**Relinquishment of office by Secretary-General****(Shri P. K. Grover) and appointment of Shri Anoop Mishra
as Secretary-General, Lok Sabha**

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that Shri Anoop Mishra has been appointed as the Secretary-General of Lok Sabha and Lok Sabha Secretariat with effect from 1st December, 2014. Prior to his appointment as Secretary-General, Shri Mishra was serving as the Chairman in the Uttar Pradesh State Transport Corporation Limited. They have been in administrative service for a period of more than 35 years. I believe that the House will benefit from his in-depth experience.

I also have to inform the House that Shri P. K. Grover, the Secretary-General, resigned his position on 30th November, 2014. Shri Grover had extensive knowledge of constitutional matters, helping the presiding officers and the Members in the table of speakers to conduct the proceedings of the House smoothly. In recognition of his service, I have great pleasure in

announcing that Shri Grover has been appointed Honorary Officer of the House.

On my behalf and on behalf of the Hon. Members, I wish him good health and a successful future.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): Madam, there is an important issue in it. I have no objection to the right you have upon me or my party or any Member of this House to take a decision. You are supreme, and you can take any decision.

HON. SPEAKER: I understand what subject you want to raise.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, whatever you say after that, we will accept that, and ultimately your sayings will work. It is my appeal to you that it is always customary that whenever there is an appointment of the Secretary-General in this House, you are under the rules of 1996 or those who always overrule, or you make new rules, presidents; only under them is any appointment made in consultation with the Leader of the House, the Leader of the Opposition and the Speaker. You may also say that I have not recognised the position of the opposition

leader, so there is no need to consult them. Such an argument can come; the Government has taken the decision after understanding this, and perhaps you will also agree to this. You have tried to change 6 laws; among them, we also pursued the issue of C.B.I. Together we have given consent to it. When you change 6 laws then you invite the single largest party to listen to their views on it. I wondered why this was not the case. Why was this ignored? ... (*Interruptions*) I am not questioning. ... (*Interruptions*) We are not questioning the decision of the Speaker. ... (*Interruptions*) I am appealing to them. ... (*Interruptions*) Can I not even appeal in a parliamentary democracy? ... (*Interruptions*) This is an issue. ... (*Interruptions*) I am not discussing; I am appealing. ... (*Interruptions*) I am not even asking questions. ... (*Interruptions*) If I question, I will not survive. ... (*Interruptions*) Secondly, the practice of keeping this secretariat, which is today called Parliament Secretariat, as supreme has been going on. Starting from Shri Vithal Bhai Patel, everyone has fought for its independence. At the time of the British Government in the year 1928 as well, he fought and created his existence. Shri Vithal Bhai Patel has shown that the Secretariat is independent and supreme, so this Secretariat

should be looked at separately. If that's how it blended today...
(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Kharge Ji, please listen to me.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Hon. Speaker, after all, I have to listen to you. ... *(Interruptions)* I do not want to say anything about the Secretary-General who has come today, but as a matter of principle, can it be that no officer here is capable? This has to be made by looking at the system of the Secretariat, the seniority in the Secretariat, the experience of the people of the Secretariat ... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Kharge Ji, I have heard your point. It's enough now.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: I am sorry; it cannot become a topic of discussion.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: Please, no one should discuss it.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. SPEAKER: No one will give an explanation.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please, all of you, take your seats.

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): We associate ourselves with the opinion expressed by Shri Kharge. ...

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You have no right to speak at all. You please sit down.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Saugata Ray Ji, I will seek advice from you if I feel so.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I am speaking to Kharge Ji.

... (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Hon. Speaker, I do not want to argue and should not even argue; the situation is not good as well. The leaders of the Congress who were speaking should remember what has happened in their time. What have they done? Did any new tradition start? ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I am less knowledgeable than you, but I have also seen the rules. If you had to hold such a discussion, you would have come to my chamber.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I will continue to discuss it with you further. Don't worry, you are the senior; I agree. I am sorry.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Question No.101

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI SUDIP BANDYOPADHYAY (KOLKATA UTTAR):

Madam, I have given notice for suspension of Question Hour...

(*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Sudip Bandopadhyay, the notice you have given for Suspension Hour, I am repeatedly explaining to all of you that there is no suspension of Question Hour under the rules, and I disallow that.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: I said that there will be no Question Hour.

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam, this should not go on record...

(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing would go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

11.13 hrs

At this stage, Shri Kalyan Banerjee and some other Hon.

Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.

HON. SPEAKER: Q.101 Not recorded. – Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab.

... (Interruptions)

* Not recorded.

11.14 hrs.

***ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

HON. SPEAKER: Q.101 – Shri Bhartruhari Mahtab.

(Q.101)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Madam, is it true that in India with over 20 per cent growth per year in air traffic, there is critical shortage of well-trained air-traffic and there is critical shortage of well-trained air-traffic controllers (ATCOs)? ... *(Interruptions)* As entire emphasis of the Government in the past decade or more under both the NDA and the UPA dispensations has been on privatization of airlines and airports and on deregulation of civil aviation in general, the result has been that air traffic has expanded exponentially but air-traffic infrastructure and safety measures have not kept pace and scant attention has been paid to this issue... *(Interruptions)* When Delhi and Mumbai Airports are both under private management with foreign collaboration which manages 700 flights daily, I would like to know whether the Government is going to add any value to airport operations whose main problem lay in poor

* For Questions, please visit <https://sansad.in/ls/questions/questions-and-answers> .

airside infrastructure and air-traffic management. ...

(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Minister, you may reply. You have to go on. They have decided not to follow the rules. So, you go on with your reply.

... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: Madam, safety is an important factor and safety cannot be compromised. We have our problem and we are attending to them. Regulation is important and it is the responsibility of the Government. So, no Government can jettison safety and security and we are at it. We would look at it and take action... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: DGCA looks into routes, fares, flying conditions and acts as the authority for giving licences to airlines and pilots, types of certification of aircraft and overseeing of air safety. On top of it all, DGCA is also tasked with conducting accident investigations... *(Interruptions)* Is it not this clearly a clash of interest since DGCA signs of an aircraft maintenance and repairs, oversees the air services, advises Airports Authority of India on safety issues

and report to the Minister? ... (*Interruptions*) How can one reasonably expect it to conduct accident or near-miss investigations properly, identify responsibility and also make systematic recommendations which could go against or put pressure on any of its clients organizations? ... (*Interruptions*) How many cases of air miss and air field accidents all over India are pending with DGCA? When the United States, Canada, Australia, France, the United Kingdom and most of the European countries, in order to avoid conflict of interest, have independent air safety agency, why are we not creating one? ... (*Interruptions*) Is it too much to expect which is certainly feasible and eminently desirable? ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: In India DGCA is the regulatory authority charged with all the functions of safety about airlines, airports and connected issues... (*Interruptions*) Recently also DGCA was down-graded by the FAO. There are implications on that also... (*Interruptions*) But it is basically about having independent flight inspectors. ... (*Interruptions*) Even those have been recruited and have been placed and I understand the FAA is going to come back again to do its audit

shortly... (*Interruptions*) It could be sometimes in December or January... (*Interruptions*) Safety can never be compromised. We have had our incidents and each incident throws up a lesson... (*Interruptions*) We are willing to learn from it and go ahead... (*Interruptions*) Safety, in no way, will be compromised. This idea, which the Hon. Member is talking, about having independent investigation in accidents and incidents should happen, right now the DGCA is handling it and it would be probably better to get some other agency to handle it... (*Interruptions*) We will look into that matter... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN: The reply of the Hon. Minister has been laid on the Table of the House... (*Interruptions*) I have gone through some reports published in the newspapers... (*Interruptions*)

11.19 hrs

At this stage, Shri Kalyan Banerjee and some other Hon.

Members left the House.

SHRI MD. BADARUDDOZA KHAN: It is seen that in the month of October, 2014, Airports Authority Officers' Association has complained about the low quality of radar and other air traffic control systems at the Indian airports. Besides that, in Mumbai airport, during second and third week of May this year, five air miss incidents took place. The ATC services in our country are provided by the Airports Authority of India. But it is a matter of serious concern that the Deputy General Manager of Airports Authority India, looking after aviation safety, Western Region, complained to the Authority that the Airports Authority of India officials are suppressing to her about the air miss incidents since last year though he is the Aviation Safety officer of the Western Region.

Now, my question is this. With low quality radar and air traffic control systems and also by keeping the Deputy General Manager (Aviation Safety), Western Region, in dark about the air misses, how is it possible for Airports Authority of India to give aviation safety to its passengers?

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: Madam Speaker, the Hon. Member is under the presumption that there is low quality

equipment. India cannot afford low quality equipment. In fact, we have a reasonable safety record which is comparable to any other country in the world. So, that is a wrong premise.

As regards incidents, they can be classified as serious incidents and ordinary incidents but all of them will definitely go to the concerned authority. Nothing can be kept secret and particularly, these things can never be kept as secret. ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: Madam Speaker, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to put a supplementary.

It was found in the newspapers last month that the Director-General of Surat Airport in Gujarat has been transferred to the Lilabari Airport in Assam. The reason for the transfer has been found to be relating to the airport safety. In Surat Airport, there was a case regarding air safety when the bullocks from the nearby field had strayed on to the runway and collided with the aircraft resulting in potential harm to the civilians who were in the aircraft. As a punishment posting, the Director-General of the Surat Airport has now been posted in Assam.

I want to ask the Hon. Minister as to whether Assam is considered as a punishment posting for failed bureaucrats and if you do not like someone in Gujarat, you will send them to the North-East whether it is the case of Governors or the bureaucrats.

My final request is to please cancel this request.

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Nobody's name will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

[English]

SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: The Hon. Prime Minister visited the State yesterday and talked about the development of the State. Development cannot take place if you send bureaucrats to our State as punishment postings. ... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU: Madam Speaker, a transfer is definitely not a punishment. Otherwise, bureaucrats would have been punished every minute. This is not the point.

* Not recorded.

The gentleman was transferred out of Surat because he should not be interfering in the inquiry. The inquiry which has to be done should not be influenced by him. That is why, he has been transferred out. Transfer is definitely not a punishment. If he is proved to be substandard... (*Interruptions*)

Madam, transfer is not a punishment. It has been done so that the inquiry cannot be influenced. This is the only reason for his transfer and the result of the inquiry will determine his future.

(Q.102)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: Speaker Madam, Hon. Minister has mentioned the employment target of about Rs 5.8 crore in the 11th Five-Year Plan, which was the plan of the UPA Government. In the year 2011-12, 3.29 crore jobs have been created, in which many schemes like MGNREGA, Swarn Jayanti Urban Employment, etc., are running. Now their target is 5 crores. They will remember that in order to provide employment to the unemployed in the elections, they have shown excellent dreams to the people and said that employment will be given as per skills. Six months have passed. Is there any plan to create employment for the talented youth living in the village, and yes, for how long will it be applicable? Along with this, the plan for the year 2011-12, in which there was a scheme like MGNREGA, migration is happening, and you are stopping the things of MGNREGA. You plan to provide 5 crore jobs on one hand, and in old schemes like MGNREGA, you talk of giving less money. Where will you get employment in such a situation? This is my first supplementary.

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Madam, in the answer I have given to the question in detail, especially all the details of the State wise employment exchanges. On the MNREGA after the UPA came to power, he said, After the NDA came to power, the first announcements were made. What was done? How far was it done? They have proposed it. The 11th Five-Year Plan had set a target of creating 5.8 crore job opportunities. Out of five crore 80 lakh, three crore 29 lakh employment opportunities have been created, which is 57 per cent performance. In the 12th Five-Year Plan, a target is to create five crore non-agricultural employment opportunities, but this plan will be completed in the year 2017; only then will its report come. The achievement in the 11th Five-Year Plan has been only 57 per cent. So what is the proposal after the NDA government came to power, you told me? I am pleased; after the arrival of Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji, the National Career Service has come to moderate the number of implied activities across the country. It is very innovative. Today, all the employment exchanges have become the registration centres of the unemployed youth. This government has made a provision to counsel the youth by installing IT in it through the National Career Service. The

youth who come and register their names in the employment exchanges will be given counselling. In all the employment exchanges, our implementing officers will train them and counsel them wherever they get employment. For this, our government has taken two and a half years; a sum of Rs.292 crore for this project has been sanctioned.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: Speaker Madam, I would rather not get into disputes.

HON. SPEAKER: Your question is also on educated implementation.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: Madam, according to the Annual Survey of India, they are planned to generate 62 per cent of the employment generated. Apart from Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh, there are plans to stop the exodus of educated and educated unemployed according to geographies, along with the yearlong preparation and providing employment to other States under the Skilled India Scheme. I have a clear view about that: more unemployment is taking place in the government and private sectors than providing employment under the contract. In the rural areas of

the states where the number of unemployed youth is continuously increasing, no new schemes apart from the old scheme for creating employment in those areas or the target set for creating 5 crore jobs have been stated due to the non-creation of employment.

HON. SPEAKER: Please ask your question.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: The Minister has only shown the goal. Secondly, he did not answer the original question. Thirdly, their main emphasis was on providing employment, especially for the youth, and stopping their exodus. Most of the people migrate from Bihar, Jharkhand and Bengal. He had talked about giving skills for employment at the rural level; he did not make any mention of it. On the one hand, you have said for three years that we will not be able to provide any new employment now. Now you have done it by the Ministry of Finance. I would like to know from you why your government is putting so much burden on the youth and why it is conspiring to eliminate them. Do you have any plan to provide employment by bringing any skill at the village level and migrating from states like Bihar,

Jharkhand, Bengal, etc.? Is there a plan for Odisha or for another four districts? Do you have such a plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

(SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): Madam Speaker, the question of Hon. Pappu Ji is very appropriate. There is some difficulty in that. Hon. Prime Minister has formed a new Ministry which is called skill development. The skill development that has been mentioned in their question is related to my ministry. If you transfer this question to me, I will be able to answer it in the next Question Hour, because this Ministry is connected to 22 Ministry.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: Let the Hon. Minister reply.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Because this Department of Protection is about skill development, and I know that they have questions about skill development itself. It is a different department. The question has been sent to the wrong Ministry.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Why is it speaking in the middle? Let the Hon. Minister reply. Millions of youth are migrating.

HON. SPEAKER: Ranjeet Ji and Rajesh Ji are capable; you sit down; only the Hon. Minister is responding.

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Right now the Hon. Minister has rightly pointed out that a new Skill Development Ministry was created. As far as my Ministry is concerned, the Apprentices Act has been passed in the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha recently. We have made a provision for training to give jobs to many people in new trades through that act. Apart from this, the stipend that was given earlier, after the formation of our government, the programme has been started to provide employment by increasing the seats in MSME units by giving a 50 per cent subsidy for the first time. ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Only Hon. Minister's reply will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ... **

[Translation]

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Also, another new scheme after Narendra Modi Ji became the Prime Minister. That scheme is recognition of prior learning. This is very important. That is why the Recognition of Prior Learning consists of the unorganised sector, especially construction labour. They have contemplated making provision for providing jobs wherever they are needed by training them under this scheme.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Madam, now what the Hon. Minister of Skill Development said about this, I do not understand whether to go here or go there or to whom to ask questions. I am in a big dilemma. If you have permission, I ask questions, whatever you want to answer.

HON. SPRAKER: In the same context to which the question relates, you have to ask supplementary questions.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: Skills are of three types, as everybody knows. I have also seen the answer to the written question. There is an unskilled, a semi-skilled, and a skilled. In response,

* Not recorded.

we saw that the schemes that were run in the 11th and 12th Five-Year Plans, when the UPA was in power, only talked of giving more loans or MGNREGA at that time. But how to develop skills and how to implement them properly were not discussed. I want to tell you that when this session of Parliament was going on, I came to know that there had been vocational training in my area. No one knows who came or when.

HON. SPEAKER: It keeps moving.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: There are many NGOs in it that are excellent. There are some who get by working only on papers. I want to give an example. The Microsoft Company has just launched a programme of skill development for about 80,000 youths, neglected women, or a few different communities in our country that are neglected. The programme is also going on in rural areas. This has directly benefitted many families and youth. They are targeting people who can perform their tasks. I want to know from Minister Ji whether the Government will give vocational training or skill training to our youth in the future on such an example.

HON. SPEAKER: You have to ask questions about skill development and then ask separately. There is a separate ministry for that. You can ask questions in the context of the vocational training that is going on in this question.

SHRI KIRTI AZAD: I said that vocational or skill, if you like, remove the skill. That is why I said in the past that whoever of the two Ministers wants to respond. Will the government conduct a plan in this way for vocational training so that crores of our youth can benefit from it?

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: Madam Speaker, it also has a question of skill development.

HON. SPEAKER: Don't explain to me; I am reading the question.

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Madam, just now the Hon. Member asked about the employment, and I have already explained about the National Career Service. The basic issue of the second question is to make a soft skill. Taking recourse to all the MSME institutions that we have, through all our ITI institutions, to create soft skills, keeping in mind the people at the lower level, have also increased their seats and have also

formed regional directors, and they have made a provision wherever they can arrange for providing training to them by taking their list in every state.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Madam, our Labour and Employment Minister is also a senior BJP leader and a politician. First, skill development was with his Ministry, but now a new economy has been established by separating. But there are also vocational course institutions, ITIs, and polytechnics among them. Therefore, the government will give recognition to the new ITIs that are going to be created and the new ITIs, or aided institutions. In the last 50 years only 5,000 ITIs remained, but in the last five years we made 5,000, i.e., double. This was because of the huge achievement of encouraging vocational and promoting skill development. What is the preamble of the Government now about it? Will you also encroach upon private institutions? Will the government give some grants to the aided institutions?

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Madam, about ITIs, our Leader of the Opposition, Mallikarjun Kharge Ji, has asked, and what he pointed out is that training is given to semi-skilled

workers to give self-employment. There are 11,964 ITIs in the country, with 2,284 under State Governments and 9,680 private ITIs. There are 122 of these trades. But today ITIs need to be improved, and we want a big model ITI to be created in every state so that people can also get training and develop trainers. Our programme is going on, and there is a provision to provide more employment. New trades that have come into ITIs and can bring more to the IT sector. Therefore, we will run it forward by mixing new trades.

(Q.103)

[English]

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Hon. Speaker, in some States the cost of living is very high. For instance in the North-Eastern States, because of their topography and geographical conditions, the transportation charges and the cost of production in these areas are also extremely high. Therefore, the minimum wages in these land-locked State areas are bound to be in the higher side.

Madam, through you, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, whether all these States revise the minimum wages regularly. If not, can the Central Government insist the State Governments to revise their wages accordingly, keeping in view the various factors like the rising cost of living and the per capital income?

[Translation]

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: Hon. Speaker, Hon. Member, has asked a question about the variation from one State to another in the minimum wage. As an example, Bihar has a rank of Rs.163 to Rs.176, while Chandigarh has Rs.282. Therefore, the State Government and the Union Government

have their own scheduled areas in enacting the Minimum Wages Act, according to which the State Governments make minimum wages on the basis of local conditions and cost of living index. The idea that is going around about bringing uniformity to wages, which will be explained further.

[English]

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Madam, through you, I would like to draw the attention of this august House towards the discrepancy in minimum wages which leads to labour migration. People from the States where wages are very low tend to migrate to the places where wages are comparatively high. It is creating a demographic pressure on those States. If we rationalize our wages then such migration can also be reduced.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to what is the thinking of the Government in this regard.

[Translation]

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: The National Commission on Rural Labour has given two or three suggestions about building a floor level for uniformity of wages. But the National Trade Unions has a distinction that it should be

increased from ten thousand to fifteen thousand. For this, we are looking at creating a statutory law. Right now the minimum wage is Rs.137. Keeping this in view, we will consider whatever action has to be taken further.

SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI: Hon. Speaker, the minimum wage of every state is fixed. But still there is no nameplate in the name of any unit. The poor men and unorganised workers do not get the minimum wages. They get it signed, but they give only five or six thousand rupees.

I want to know from the Labour Minister Ji whether the Government will consider enacting any such law that every unit and every company is written in front of the way the minor child is written about and that the minimum wage is paid in this company. So that they can ask for their rights as rights. Can the Government make such a law?

HON. SPEAKER: The Hon. Member's suggestion is good.

SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA: The new amendments we have formed the Inter-Ministerial Group to bring about this. The group has received 29.10.2014 of them. It will carry out notifications under Section 19 of the Implementation of

Minimum Wages Act, along with the official gazette, and the Appointment of the Person for Inspection will be done through this Minimum Wage Act. But we make the labour commissioner, and the appointment is also added by notification to the state government.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Dharmendra Yadav - Not present.

Shri Shrirang Appa Barne – Not present.

It's not both. Minister Ji, you can reply.

(Q.104)

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Hon. Speaker, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister Ji that since the year 2009 they have completed 55 new lines, 9 gauge conversions, 128 doubling projects, and 10 projects, and the amount that goes to the Ramganj Mandi railway line from Jhalawar in the east, the cost data that you have given, and every cost you have given is less than 10 per cent of the money. Will the Department of Railways get that? When will you complete the railway projects earlier and present? What is the plan of the Government in this regard, and the Ramganj Mandi train line from Jhalawar, which goes up to Bhopal and which is also in your area – is there a new scheme to connect Madhya Pradesh and connect South India? I want your protection in this matter. Is the Government going to take some steps in this, and how much will the financial institutions do?

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon. Speaker, the answer that the Hon. Member has sought to know is true: so far, projects worth Rs.2,58,277 crore are sanctioned, and so much money is not available with the Railways. In the last budget, when the Hon. Railway Minister Ji presented the budget, a provision of about Rs.13.5 thousand crore was made for these works. The pending projects are so many that it does not seem possible at present that full funds will be provided, but I will personally get the details of the project about which the Hon. Member has expressed concern, and I will provide them and also worry about what can be done by holding personal discussions.

[English]

SHRI M. K. RAGHAVAN: Hon. Speaker Madam, Kozhikode railway station is over 125 years old. It forms the gateway to North Kerala with daily passenger turnout of approximately 55,000. Kozhikode is the headquarters of the Malabar region. The Kozhikode railway station was included in 50 and odd railway stations to be developed as world-class stations in 2009-10. The Government of Kerala's agency had already submitted the feasibility report. It is also understood that a meeting was held

under the Chairmanship of General Manager, Southern Railway after some agencies showed interest for the project under PPP mode. I would like to know from Hon. Minister through you, Madam, the steps that are being taken to include and complete the work on Kozhikode railway station.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon. Speaker, his question is not related to the original question. Despite this, I want to assure the Hon. Member that the Indian Railways is taking effective steps in this direction so that a separate station development authority has been created by the Indian Railways through private investment, and I will provide details of their stations by worrying about them specifically.

[English]

SHRI KADIYAM SRIHARI: Hon. Speaker, Madam, the answer tabled by the Hon. Minister with regard to railway projects is incomplete. The Hon. Minister has given information with regard to new railway lines, doubling of lines and gauge conversion. But he has not given information with regard to other projects. For example, in 2012-13, a new railway wagon

manufacturing unit was sanctioned for Kazipet, Telangana State. A sum of Rs.10 crore was earmarked for the project in the year 2012-13. In the recent 2014-15 budget also, a sum of Rs.5 crore was allocated to that particular project, but even after two years of sanction, work has not started yet. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he will take any initiative to expedite the process and to start the work at Kazipet.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon. Speaker, the answer given by the HON. Member has been correct, and we have provided complete details about the projects that are there. ... *(Interruptions)* I am talking about the railway projects only. ... *(Interruptions)* The details of the works that are under railway projects are given in it. Details of the particular factory, the waggon factory, that they are talking about are not available here, but further details thereof will be provided to you.

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM: Madam, the question that was asked just now, in the 'a' part of the original question, was about the details of the railway projects started in different parts from 2009, in which the Minister has completed only those ten

projects; the doubling of the public has been completed very skilfully, while 2009 was asked. Since a lot of tables were patted during the railway budget, especially during the time of the second UPA government since 2009, hundreds of schemes were announced, and some were also laid. But in fact, he is . . . *just gone. That's why this new government, which was old announcements, is being forgotten. The previous government was trying to forget it. If this Government is not able to forget, then it should be presented at the House's table, since the question is of the House; it is not an individual question. It will be seen in ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA: How has this word been used? ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Now this word will also have to be seen. If this word is good, then keep it; if not, then do not keep it.

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM: It happened that about him It happened, believe him; they have an objection about the word. I am asking that announcements were made in the Railway Budget one after the other since 2009 and later on, and the

* Not recorded.

foundation stone was laid thereafter. Whether the Hon. Minister will be pleased to state, since there is not a single project in Northeast India, be it North Bengal, part of Bihar, or Northeast India, in which full work has been done. These factories that were laid, are they not railway projects?

HON. SPEAKER: You ask the question that gives a list of all the projects.

SHRI MOHAMMAD SALIM: I am asking you the same question: whether you will give any assurance to the House or there will be nothing other than declarations like previous Ministers. Also tell me in what condition those plans are.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Projects means all projects.

... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Why are you replying, Bidhuri Ji.

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Hon. Member I want to state with responsibility that we have nothing to hide. We are ready to tell the House clearly what it is. As far as the details of the projects

are concerned... (*Interruptions*) Why are you ranting in between? You leave this habit of yours. I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Member that 55 new lines, nine gauge conversions, and 128 doubling projects are clearly written in the answer. The details have not been provided. I have the details; I send them to you and lay them on the Table of the House also. So our Government has nothing to hide.

As far as backward projects are concerned, the policy of our Government is clear, and that is why we had not sanctioned any new project in the budget. Top-priority projects should be completed with maximum funds; that was said by our then Railway Minister Ji in the budget, and that is what we are doing. We did nothing to clap. Today, investment is required in railways. Our new Minister of Finance Ji and our Prime Minister Ji are seriously trying for this, and we will not decide the projects on political grounds; we will take decisions based on the needs of the country and invest maximum money by taking decisions.

DR. SATYAPAL SINGH: Madam Speaker, I had asked the question in the last session, and all of us had read in our

childhood that there is darkness under the lamp. If you want to see about the railway projects around Delhi, then the Delhi, Saharanpur, Shahdara, and Saharanpur railway line is 107 years old. But to date, this railway line was neither doubled nor electrified, nor were compartments reserved for women. The condition of railway stations is very poor. You look around Delhi; metro work has been done everywhere in Gurgaon, Faridabad, Alwar, Noida and Ghaziabad. I want to know when the metro work will be approved in our area, up to Baraut and Modinagar. Thousands of people come here every day to work in central government offices.

HON. SPEAKER: You ask questions quickly; don't give a speech.

DR. SATYAPAL SINGH (BAGHPAT): My question is that Prabhu Ji has just come as the Hon. Railway Minister. I am very hopeful that our region will be better, metro rail will come here, and electrification and doubling of this line will take place.

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Madam, as far as the metro is concerned, it is not related to our Ministry. This is seen by the Hon. Minister Ji of Urban Development. I am aware of the

concern of the Hon. Member; I also come from Uttar Pradesh and expand the railway facilities in western Uttar Pradesh; it is a top priority of our government.

HON. SPEAKER: Jyotiraditya Ji, some will ask about Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Madam, I would like to raise a very important question about our region; our Hon. MPs of Gwalior are also present here. The Gwalior-Shivpuri-Kota line was sanctioned in the year 2010-11. It was also established in the Pink Book of the Railways. A budget allocation of Rs.30 crore was made last year also. Now we are being told that the thinking of this Government is that either it has to be kept on hold or it has to be dropped. I would like to clarify with the Hon. Minister as to how long this Government will take to start the fast-paced work on that project because it is the largest narrow-gauge line in the world, which is required to be converted into broad gauge. It is also a tribal-dominated area. In the name of development and progress, the work of this scheme should start at the earliest.

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Madam, I would like to assure the Hon. Member that there is no consideration in the Ministry to drop that project. They themselves are telling us that an allocation of Rs.30 crore was made. We will all do this concern that funds should also be given to that project on the basis of availability of funds. ... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Q. No.105.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: Madam, doubling of Puri is in process. Please allow us to ask a Supplementary. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: There have been many questions on this subject. You will give a discussion.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: Madam, I have a very important question. ... (*Interruptions*) We have nobody but you.

HON. SPEAKER: Tathagata Ji, there have been many questions on this one subject. Ask a very short question.

[English]

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY: I promise you, Madam, it will be very short.

Navakalevara is a great event in the process of Lord of the Universe, Lord Jagannath. This time in 2015, Navakalevara is happening in Puri at the Lord Jagannath Temple when all the three deities will get a new form.

Madam, we have been hammering with the Railway Minister; we have been reminding over and over again from the Biju Janata Dal side. Our Hon. Chief Minister has written numerous letters reminding the Minister. We are requesting. Before the festival, before the event, would the Minister be kind enough, would the Ministry of Railways be kind enough to complete doubling of the line from Khurda Road, Jatni to Puri to enable smooth flow of traffic during huge rush that is anticipated in 2015 Rath Yatra of the Lord Jagannath?

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Madam, in this context I do not have the details fully available. I will elaborate on the issue tomorrow to the Hon. Member.

(Q.105)

[English]

SHRIMATI P. K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: Madam Speaker, I am very grateful to you for allowing me to raise this question about the artists in the field of performing arts, who are the worst suffers to live in our society.

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, the time at our disposal is very less. Please ask your question in short.

SHRIMATI P. K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: Okay, Madam.

The traditional artists of Kerala Theyyam, Kalaripayattu, Kathakali are mostly sidelined while considering about the artists' pension from the Government. It is not getting distributed on time. It is mentioned as scholarship only and not mentioned about pension.

To the selected few, pension is not getting disbursed on time. The authorized agency, LIC, says that the Government is not releasing the money.

So, I would like to raise this question and request that the steps may be taken as early as possible to disburse the pension for the artists, specially in Kerala.

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Minister. She is requesting you.

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: Madam, her primary question is whether any financial assistance has been provided. Let me say that the financial assistance has been provided in two forms. One is in the form of scholarship and the other is in the form of fellowship. We had been giving 400 scholarships for a period of two years. We are also giving 400 fellowships. The quota has not been defined State-wise or artist-wise. It is a national quota, A Screening Committee has been formed under the Joint Secretary (Culture), which screens the cases from the whole of the nation on the basis of merit.

12.00 hrs

I think that is the way it is done. I think the question of LIC giving some help to all those things is not a part of this Question. We do not discriminate it in this case State-wise or artiste-wise.

SHRIMATI P. K. SHREEMATHI TEACHER: Madam, you know Kathakali and Kalaripayattu are very famous in Kerala. In 2001, the UNESCO recognized the 2000-years old Koodiyattam as the most ancient heritage of humanity. Even though Kerala is famous in different cultural fields, the Government of India has not set up a Zonal Cultural Centre in Kerala. I would like to ask whether the Government is ready to allow a Cultural Centre in Kannur.

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: We have seven Zonal Cultural Centres in Patiala, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur, Nagpur and Thanjavur under which different States have been categorized. The Hon. Member has given a suggestion to include the State of Kerala. She can give us the proposal. We will get it examined in the Ministry.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Raju Shetty – Not present.

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT: Madam, you are well aware of the culture of Maharashtra where the Bhajan singers are there. They have made a number of applications for pension benefits. Those applications are pending with the Central Government. As the Hon. Member has already said, I would like to ask the Minister,

through you, Madam, how many such applications are pending with the Central Government for pension from the Bhajan singers of Maharashtra.

DR. MAHESH SHARMA: I have taken over this Ministry 20 days back only. Regarding the question of Hon. Member, I will get back to him after due investigation.

HON. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

***WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

Starred Question Nos.106 to 120

Unstarred Question Nos.1151 to 1380

12.01hrs

FELICITATION BY THE SPEAKER

Felicitations to shuttler P. V. Sindhu for winning Women's Singles Title at Macau Open Grand Prix Gold Tournament on 30th November, 2014 in Macau, China

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, on my behalf and on behalf of the House, I congratulate badminton player P. V. Sindhu on winning the Women's Singles title at the Macau Open Grand Prix Gold Tournament in Macau, China, on 30th November, 2014.

Her outstanding accomplishment is a matter of national pride, which will become a source of inspiration for all the budding sportspersons.

We wish P. V. Sindhu all the best for her future endeavours.

12.02 hrs

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

World Aids Day

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, as you are all aware, today is World AIDS Day, which is dedicated to creating awareness about the AIDS pandemic and demonstrating international solidarity.

More than three crore forty lakh people around the world have suffered from HIV/AIDS, and three crore fifty lakh people have died due to AIDS; there is information that it has become a formidable pandemic in history.

On this occasion, let us decide to prevent the spread of this terrible disease, which continues to be a difficult challenge for mankind even today, and cooperate fully with the people suffering from HIV.

And pray for those who have suffered from this disease.

12.03 hrs

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Papers to be laid on the Table.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): Madam, on behalf of my colleague, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 62 of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006: -

(1) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Technical Standards and Specifications including Safety Standards for Natural Gas Pipelines) Amendment Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. F. No. REG/T4S/NGPL/1/2012 in Gazette of India dated 14th March, 2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 893/16/14]

(2) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Determination of Natural Gas Pipeline Tariff) Second Amendment Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. F. No. PNGRB/M(C)/100 in Gazette of India dated 28th February, 2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 894/16/14]

(3) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Authorising Entities to Lay, Build, Operate or Expand City or Local Natural Gas Distribution Networks) Amendment Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. F. No. PNGRB/CGD/B/D/4/2013-PRE BID in Gazette of India dated 7th April, 2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 895/16/14]

(4) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Access Code for Common Carrier or Contract Carrier Natural Gas Pipelines) Amendment Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. F. No. PNGRB/M(C)/48 in Gazette of India dated 17th February, 2014.

(5) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Imbalance Management Services) Regulations, 2014

published in Notification No. F. No. PNGRB/M(C)/48 in Gazette of India dated 17th February, 2014.

(6) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Determination of Natural Gas Pipeline Tariff) Amendment Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. F. No. PNGRB/M(C)/48 in Gazette of India dated 17th February, 2014.

(7) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Authorizing Entities to Lay, Build, Operate or Expand Natural Gas Pipelines) Amendment Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. F. No. PNGRB/M(C)/48 in Gazette of India dated 17th February, 2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 896/16/14]

(8) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Affiliate Code of Conduct for Entities Engaged in Marketing of Natural Gas and Laying, Building, Operating or Expanding Natural Gas Pipeline) Amendment Regulations, 2014 published in Notification No. F. No. PNGRB/M(C)/42 in Gazette of India dated 19th February, 2014.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 897/16/14]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table: -

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956: -

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Container Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.

(ii) Annual Report of the Container Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 898/16/14]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 899/16/14]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under Section 199 of the Railways Act, 1989:-

(i) The Authorisation of Rail Travellers' Service Agents Rules, 2014 published in Notification No. S. O.1219(E) in Gazette of India dated 7th May, 2014.

(ii) The Indian Railways (Open Lines) General Amendment Rules, 2014 published in Notification No. G. S. R.775(E) in Gazette of India dated 7th November, 2014.

(3) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item No. (i) of (2) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 900/16/14]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI) : Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following papers under sub-section (1) of Section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956: -

- (1)(i) Review by Government of the working of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2013-2014.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2013-2014, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 901/16/14]

- (2)(i) Review by Government of the working of the Steel Authority of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Steel Authority of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2013-2014, along with Audited

Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 902/16/14]

(3)(i) Review by Government of the working of the MoIL Limited, Nagpur, for the year 2013-2014.

(ii) 2013-2014 Annual Report of the MOIL Limited, Nagpur, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 902A/16/14]

(4)(i) Review by Government of the working of the NMDC Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2013-2014.

(ii) Annual Report of the NMDC Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 2013-2014, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 903/16/14]

(5)(i) Review by Government on the working of MSTC Limited, Kolkata with its subsidiary Ferro Swap

Corporation Limited for the year 2013-2014.

- (ii) Annual Report, Audited Accounts of MSTC Limited, Kolkata along with its subsidiary Ferro Swap Nigam Limited for the year 2013-2014 and the comments of the CAG thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 904/16/14]

- (6)(i) Review by Government of the working of the KIOCL Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2013-2014.

- (ii) Annual Report of the KIOCL Limited, Bangalore, for the year 2013-2014, along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 905/16/14]

- (7)(i) Review by Survey on the working of National Aluminium Company Limited, Bhubaneswar for the year 2013-2014.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Aluminium Company Limited, Bhubaneswar, for the year 2013-2014, along

with Audited Accounts and comments of the
Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT 906/16/14]

12.04 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

1st and 2nd Reports

[English]

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM):

Madam, I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs: -

- (1) First Report on 'The Constitution (One Hundred and Nineteenth Amendment) Bill, 2013'.
 - (2) Second Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Twenty-fifth Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Passport Seva Project – Targets and Achievements'.
-

12.04 ½ hrs

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

(i) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 32nd Report of the Standing Committee on Labour on `Welfare of Glass and Bangle Workers of Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh – A case study`, pertaining to the Ministry of Labour and Employment*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): Madam, I beg to lay a statement regarding the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 32nd Report of the Standing Committee on Labour on `Welfare of Glass and Bangle Workers of Firozabad, Uttar Pradesh – A case study`, pertaining to the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 907/16/14

12.05 hrs

(ii) Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 23rd Report of the Standing Committee on Railways on `Suburban Train Services of Indian Railways, with particular emphasis on Security of Women Passengers`, pertaining to the Ministry of Railways *

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): I beg to lay the statement on the status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 23rd Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways (15th Lok Sabha) in pursuance of the Directive 73 A, of the Hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin-Part II, dated 1st September, 2004.

* * The 23rd Report of the Committee on `Suburban Train Services of Indian Railway, with particular emphasis on Security of Women Passengers`, presented to the Lok Sabha on

* Placed in Library, See No. LT 908/16/14

* * This part of the speech was laid on the Table.

06.02.2014 contained 40 recommendations and Action Taken Notes thereon were furnished to the Committee on 30.07.2014.

Statements showing details of all the recommendations contained in the Report and implementation status thereof are enclosed. Since the statements are voluminous, I request that the same may be taken as read. *

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam, I have a small submission to make.

As per the rules displaying something and whatever said from not being in their respective seats is against the rules and, therefore, should not go in record. It is because they have taken the name of my party's President. I take a serious view of it. At the same time, rules do not provide to take the name of the people, who are not present in the House. I request the Chair to take care to see that such things are expunged from record.

I request other Members also not to take the name of people, who are not present in the House. Tomorrow it may happen to somebody else.

HON. SPEAKER: Yes I agree. That will not go in record.

(Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Bill to be introduced.

12.06 hrs

GOVERNMENT BILL -Introduced

**Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment
And Validation) Bill, 2014***

[Translation]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR):**

Madam, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Sick Textile Undertaking (Nationalisation) Act, 1974 and the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995 to maintain the leased rights vested in the National Textile Corporation upon completion of the lease.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The question is:

“To move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1974 and the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995 in order to continue with

* Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section-2, dated 01.12.2014.

the lease-hold rights vested in the National Textile Corporation on completion of the lease-hold tenure.”

The motion was adopted.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Madam, I introduce the Bill.

12.07 hrs

**STATEMENT RE: PROMULGATION OF TEXTILE
UNDERTAKINGS
(NATIONALISATION) LAWS (AMENDMENT AND
VALIDATION) ORDINANCE, 2014***

[Translation]

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR):**

Madam, I lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for bringing an immediate legislation by promulgating the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 2014 (No.6 of 2014).

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Now, we shall take up 'Zero Hour'.

* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 909/16/14.

12.08 hrs

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Re: Lack of proper connectivity and poor functioning of BSNL network in the country particularly in Tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh and some districts, viz., Nabarangpur, Malkangiri, Koraput and Rayagada in Odisha

SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA (ARAKU): Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to speak in the Zero Hour about the functioning of BSNL network in the country.

Today this has been a major problem. Communication has been a vital part of our life. A lot of people living in rural areas depend upon the BSNL network to communicate certain important information to the people outside. But, I beg to submit to the Chair that BSNL towers are not being given electricity. It is a sad state of affairs that even in cities like New Delhi we are using MTNL network which is connected to BSNL. Every one minute the call gets cut thrice. We have to make a call thrice to

talk to anybody. This creates a lot of problem. We do not know whether this network is functioning this way to facilitate other private players or it is the inefficiency on the part of BSNL team that has been doing this. All of us sitting in Parliament are facing the same problem. This problem exists all over the country.

I come from a rural area wherein the towers are being shut off for a particular period of time. The towers are not being serviced properly. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You can associate yourself.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You can be an ally in this.

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: S/Shri M.B. Rajesh, P. K. Shreemathi Teacher, Arvind Sawant, P. K. Biju and Dr. Kirit P. Solanki are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Shrimati Kothapalli Geetha.

[Translation]

SHRI BALBHADRA MAJHI (NABARANGPUR): Madam, as the Hon. Member said, my area is also the poorest area in this country, and except for BSNL, here only one service has been Airtel. Sometimes it happens that there is no network at all. The saddest incident took place on October 19, the day of the postman's exam. Children of four blocks, namely Chandahandi, Jharigam, Radwarghar and Umerkote, could not download their admit cards. After my intervention, that exam had to be postponed. For this, the postal department was hesitant, saying that we have spent crores of rupees for the exam, so now it cannot be postponed. But in that case the children of four blocks would have been deprived of that examination. Finally, they obeyed me and postponed it.

Madam, my two districts, Malkangiri and almost all the blocks of Navrang, do not have the internet at all, and the same is the case with the BSNL mobile network. We asked them, Why do you not run generators on diesel? If there is no electricity, then the people at the bottom of their service provider say, We run a little bit of a generator with our money

sometimes. When we did the C. G. M. When we talk to them, the CGM says that we have given them full diesel for this. I also asked them whether they sell diesel.

Madam, they should run on diesel or electricity, but at least run it all the time. Whether it is for admission or for a job or anything, nowadays the internet has become accessible to everything. Due to lack of internet, children are neither able to upload anything nor able to download anything.

Madam, my submission is, as just now, the Hon. Member said, my area, Malkangiri and Nabarangpur, is the most severely impacted Regarding this, the government and the Hon. Minister should observe that cell and internet services are functioning well there. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: This is everyone's concern. He has said this.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Sit. Nothing will go on record.

... (*Interruptions*) *

[English]

* Not recorded.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Madam Speaker, this is a very important issue. Recently in Visakhapatnam also the same thing happened. It is because of lack of power and internet facility, people could not apply online and then penalties were also imposed on them.

I will convey to the Hon. Minister for Telecommunications to see to it that some flexibility is given. The concerns expressed by the Hon. Member and by others would be addressed. ... *(Interruptions)* In Odisha it is a peculiar problem. ... *(Interruptions)* We will take note of what the Hon. Member has said and ask the Minister to consider this.

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (INNER MANIPUR): Thank you, Madam. I would like to raise a matter of urgent public importance.

Very often, youths from the North East India have been attacked and killed in the National Capital Region and other Metros of the country. In the month of November, there have been as many as 5 such attacks on the youths from the North East. In these attacks there appears to be a serious presence of racial profiling. Of late, Delhi Police has been quite cooperative. I do not deny the fact that the Union Home Ministry has been working hard to find a solution to this acute problem.

The last UPA Government constituted the M. P. Bezbaruah Committee for finding out a strategy to face this menace. The report of the Committee is with the Union Government. I urge upon the Union Government, the Home Ministry in particular, to take immediate steps to place the Report of the M. P. Bezbaruah Committee in Parliament and make a strong anti-racial legislation to permanently stop such wild attacks perpetrated on the youths of North East in the National Capital Region and other Metros of the country. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: S/Shri P.K. Biju, M.B. Rajesh, P.K. Shreemathi Teacher and Dr. Kirit P. Solanki are allowed to associate with the matter raised by Dr. Thokchom Meinya.

[Translation]

SHRI DADDAN MISHRA (SHRAVASTI): Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me an opportunity to put my point here.

Madam, Shravasti district of my parliamentary constituency was a part of Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh until yesterday. Today, this city, which established itself as a separate district, is of ancient and historical importance. It can be a very rich area of tourist attraction, but the Government of India and the State Government do not want to underscore the geographical and historical significance of the region. The broken roads of this important area, traffic abuses and neglect of this area by the government and administration are not allowing this area to be brought on the national tourism map. Four Chaturmas by Lord Buddha in the Sahat Namak Kshetra located in Shravasti, approx. There is much historical evidence of a long time span of up to 24 years. This region also finds mention in the Ramayana and Mahabharata, as Shravasti was also the capital of Lord

Rama's son Kush. In the mythological period, this city was constructed by a king named Shravasti, by whose name the name of this district has now become Shravasti. The remains of many entrances can be seen clearly here. Imli Darwaza, Rajgarh Darwaza, Nausahara Darwaza and Kadambari Darwaza are the main gates of these gates. Many ancient remains of Buddha and Jain buildings have been found here, as well as many remains of mediaeval tombs that have also been revealed here.

Therefore, through the House, I request the Government of India declare it a major tourist destination, considering the availability of immense tourism potential in Shravasti district, by installing it on the national and international map, preparing an action plan for its all-round development and allocating necessary funds for it in the budget.

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA (AMRELI): Madam, I would like to ask a question through you. The Hon. Minister is present here; the entire house is worried about this, and the same problem is in my area as the question of BSNL came up. Madam, more than 800 villages are in my area. The people of the village are suffering due to lack of a network. 15 towers of

BSNL have been installed in the last 5 years, but due to non-availability of material, these towers are still not functional. An all-ready demand for more than 20 towers was sent, but that too has not been approved.

HON. SPEAKER: Kindly state your point in brief.

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA: The problem of the internet needs to be solved. Today the labourers in the village go to get rations, so due to non-availability of internet, they have to stand in queue day by day, yet they come home without rations. The net has become a livelihood for our country today. Regarding technology, Hon. Minister should ask the BSNL Department to implement this as soon as possible across the country. It is a question of the entire country. That is my request through you; thank you.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Madam, Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh is a hallowed name in the annals of Freedom Struggle of India. When we deliberate on the struggle for freedom of 20th Century under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, the name of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh is a glorious

example. He was a stalwart in organising people to rise against the British authority, and had declared and formed an independent Government in Afghanistan before Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose formed Azad Hind or Independent India during the Second World War.

He was instrumental to organise the freedom fighters under the aegis of All India Freedom Fighters' Samiti to look after the welfare and interest of the freedom fighters and was the founder of All India Freedom Fighters' Samiti that came into existence in 1969. Later Madam Indira Gandhi gave Samman Pension to the freedom fighters from 1969.

As a college student, I had the occasion of meeting him, when organisations like All India Freedom Fighters' Samiti was organizing freedom fighters' sammelan, as a worker, as a swechchasevi.

He breathed his last in 1979. He was a *raja* by birth, but he gave away everything to the nation, including land to the Aligarh Muslim University. It is in fitness of things that this country should observe his birth anniversary in a befitting manner. An attempt should also be made to explore Raja

Mahendra Pratap Singh's deeds and bring to light those that have been forgotten. We should remember that it is our bounden duty to recollect the hoary past and draw inspiration from it.

I urge upon the Government to take up research work on Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh and impress upon Aligarh Muslim University to do so by establishing a chair in his name and bring to light the activities of freedom fighters who have contributed immensely to make this country independent.

Thank you.

12.19 hrs

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

**Tabling of Amendments to Textile Undertaking
(Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill,
2014**

HON. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have permitted the inclusion of the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014 in today's List of Business for introduction, consideration and passing. To enable Members to give notices of amendments to the Bill, if they so desire, I am allowing them, as a special case, to table amendments up to 2 p. m. today.

Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL (MEHSANA): Hon. Speaker, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Railway Minister that Gandhi Nagar station is being avoided. Since the year 2009, we have been continuously raising this question. Gandhinagar is the capital city of Gujarat. The Government of Gujarat had requested there from Ahmedabad to Delhi, Gandhinagar, to start the train, for train facilities and for frequency in the year 1998. The "Rajya Rani" scheme of the Railway Budget year 2011-12 also stated that 9 trains connecting the city and the state would be run, but to date not a single one of these trains has been given via Gandhinagar. Very few trains pass through Gandhinagar, which causes inconvenience to the people, as Gandhinagar is the capital of Gujarat. People from many states come here. The Hon. Railway Minister is here.

I want to tell the Hon. Railway Minister through you that it should be connected to the national railway network; I request that. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA):

Madam, thank you very much for having given me this opportunity. I wish to draw the kind attention of this House to a very important matter relating to social-sector expenditure.

It has been widely reported that the Government of India has decided to cut expenditure in social-sector drastically in the coming financial year. The Government is proposing to cut expenditure on education by Rs.11, 000 crore, and the budget for rural development, panchayati raj and also sanitation by about 25 per cent.

Leading economists, social activists and people at large are deeply agitated over such a decision as it will hamper overall development and growth of this country. In fact, healthcare is also badly affected by such a decision. Reduction in social-sector spending will lead to social unrest. Hence, this issue has to be addressed in a serious manner. I would request the Hon. Finance Minister to revisit and reconsider the issue without any loss of time.

HON. SPEAKER: Shrimati P. K. Sreemathi Teacher, Shri P. Karuanakaran, Adv. Joice George, Shri Jose K. Mani, Shrimati

Ranjit Ranjan, Dr. Dharamvira Gandhi, Shri P. K. Biju and Shri M. B. Rajesh are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Mullappally Ramchandran.

[Translation]

SHRI HUKMADEV NARAYAN YADAV (MADHUBANI):

Madam, The railway line from Sakri to Bhaptiyahi in Bihar was sanctioned during the time of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ji's Government. The work of converting it into broad gauge is still incomplete. With the construction of this railway line, the shortest distance train will run between Delhi and Guwahati. It is also necessary from the point of view of immunity. The work of the Sitamarhi, Jainagar, and Nirmali rail lines on the Indo-Nepal border is lying incomplete. The work of the Darbhanga-Muzaffarpur rail line is incomplete. The work on the Madhubani, Benipati, and Pupri rail line is incomplete.

I would request the Hon. Railway Minister to start quick work on these railway lines and complete them.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Kirti Azad is permitted to associate with the matter raised by Shri Hukmdev Narayan Yadav.

[English]

SHRI P. K. BIJU (ALATHUR): Madam Speaker, I would like to raise an important issue regarding MGNREGA workers in our country.

We started this project in 2005 for the better life of rural people in this country. But I am sorry to say that the present Government is going to dismantle the entire project. Now, the Government is not ready to pay wages to the rural people, and more than Rs.5, 000 crore were not distributed till today. In my State of Kerala itself more than Rs.4, 446 lakh were due to the workers in the form of wages.

We passed this Act in 2005; in 2006, we started this in 200 districts of our country; and in 2008, this was completed in all our districts, but now the Government is going to reduce its implementation into little blocks in different States. So, I would like to ask the Government to withdraw such an move and distribute the due amount to the common people including SC, ST, OBC, BPL and poor families who are fully dependent on these wages. They are not getting these wages for the last 4-5 months, and they are collecting money from moneylenders for their living. So, urgent intervention of the Government is

required in this regard to disburse money as early as possible.
Thank you very much.

HON. SPEAKER: Shrimati P. K. Sreemathi Teacher, Shri P. Karuanakaran, Adv. Joice George, Shri Jose K. Mani, Shrimati Ranjit Ranjan, Dr. Dharamvira Gandhi, and Md. Badaruddoza Khan are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri P. K. Biju,

[Translation]

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH (LUDHIANA): Hon. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to the farmers of Punjab. Ever since this government came, I don't know why the farmers of Punjab were first expelled from Gujarat. Today the farmer of Punjab contributes the maximum share to the central pool. In two months, the paddies of the farmers of Punjab came to the mandis, bought by the arhtiyas, and put them in the central pool. It is not known that the BJP Government is avenging a variety of things, while during the UPA government, the crop price used to be available in 24 hours. Farmers are either dying due to the fight of the BJP and Akali Dal. Due to lack of payment,

marriages of their children are falling apart. They are unable to pay school fees.

My direct allegation is that Finance Minister fought the election from Amritsar, Punjab, and could not win it; its insistence is being taken out on the farmers of Punjab.

HON. SPEAKER: You are saying that the instalment should be given.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RAVNEET SINGH: I want a reply from the Government through you. Do they want the farmers to stop sowing paddy or wheat crops next time and not put a share in the central pool? The Government should answer this. ... (*Interruptions*) Send a team there; the Central Government has to give Rs.3100 crore to the farmers of Punjab; it is not being given. This is a massive issue. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Why are you speaking? He's saying his thing. Nothing will go on record.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: You have put in the demand.

... (*Interruptions*)*

[English]

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY

(BAHARAMPUR): Madam, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that Planning Commission is a post-independent great institution of our country. It is a diadem of our democratic institution, which was aimed to guide towards social and economic prosperity, especially, in view of the complex society in our country where equality should be given to all sections of life. It was launched in the year 1951.

In the Independence Day speech, the present Prime Minister of India expressed his desire to replace the Planning Commission with a new institution having new design and other structure, but we do not know as to what is the exact structure of that institution. We have an emotional attachment with the Planning Commission because it was launched in the year 1951, and it was identified with great leaders like Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and others. If there is

* Not recorded.

any deficiency / shortcoming in running the Planning Commission, then it may be mended, but it should not be ended.

So, I would urge upon this Government not to dismantle the Planning Commission. If it is required, then you may strengthen this institution and you may rejuvenate this institution, but for God's sake, you should not dismantle the Planning Commission. ... (*Interruptions*)

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: It is very important that you are raising the issue.

... (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Yes, you can associate with the issue raised here.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Now, Dr. Shashi Tharoor.

... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Please sit down. This is not the way to do it.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY: I would also urge upon this Government to have a threadbare discussion on this issue before dismantling the greatest institution of post-independent India. ... (*Interruptions*)

HON. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ...**

[Translation]

HON. SPEAKER: You associate. You write.

... (Interruptions)

HON. SPEAKER: You know. Enter your name and associate.

... (Interruptions)

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri K. C. Venugopal, Prfo. Saugata Roy, Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Shri M. B. Rajesh, Shri P. K. Biju, Shri N. K. Premachandran, and Shri Mullappally Ramchandran are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

* Not recorded.

DR. SHASHI THAROOR (THIRUVANANTHAPURAM):

Madam Speaker, it has already been pointed out during the Question Hour that there have been a lot of Railway announcements made solemnly on the floor of this House, which the new Government cannot simply ignore.

In 2009, the then Railway Minister announced the establishment of five Railway Medical Colleges across India, and one of them was earmarked in my constituency, Thiruvananthapuram, in Kerala. The land for this college is already in the possession of the Railways identified at Parassala Railway Station, but no steps have been taken for the establishment of the college. We cannot get a straight answer out of the Government. There are not sufficient hospitals for treating the Railway employees, and the private hospitals often avoid them because of the inordinate delays by the Railway management in settling the bills. So, they do not even receive private medical care.

A Railway Medical College can benefit railway employees; it can benefit the local population in this particular area. It is a rural area which can certainly benefit from this.

I would urge the Government to fulfil this long-standing promise. If funding is an issue, once the Railways gives the land and approves the project, I am sure we can find Public-Private Partnership ready to build the College. But this need must be fulfilled.

[Translation]

SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL (BHIWANDI):

Madam Speaker, in my Bhiwandi Lok Sabha constituency, there is a Badlapur railway station under the Central Railway. There, people go from Skywalk on platform number three to platform number one. Earlier, people used to directly land on platform number three. Right now a wall has been built to go to platform number three. If platform number one is to go from platform number three, then for this, one has to step out of the railway station and walk a hundred metres again. One lakh twenty-five thousand passengers migrate every day from there. If our sisters are to catch the train, they have to go outside the railway station, so they cannot catch the train, and the train is missed. Once a train is missed, the difference between the time of catching another train is 25 minutes, so they reach the office late. I

request the Railway Ministry, through you, that the wall built on platform number three should be demolished at the earliest so that the inconvenience being caused to the people can be relieved.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Devji Mansingram Patel is permitted to associate with Shri Kapil Moreswar Patil. Shri Harinarayan Rajbhar - not present.

SHRI R. DHRUVANARAYANA (CHAMARAJANAGAR): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to raise an important issue regarding delayed financial assistance to Karnataka State affected by drought and floods.

Karnataka State is severely affected by drought and floods. About 12 districts, 35 blocks/talukas, are affected by drought, and some districts are affected by floods. The approximate estimate of losses is Rs.3, 589 crore.

Under the NDRF, only Rs.149 crore has been made available to Karnataka. Since the loss is much higher, the State Government has submitted a memorandum in October, 2014 requesting for Rs.799 crore for drought-affected areas, and

Rs.266 crore for flood-affected areas. So far the Central Government has not released a single *paisa* to our Karnataka State.

My humble request to the Hon. Minister of Finance and the Government of India is to release the funds under NDRF on a priority basis so that funds could reach the distressed farmers. Thank you.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri S. P. Muddahanumegowda and Shri B. V. Nayak are permitted to associate with Shri R. Dhruvanarayana.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (SASARAM): Madam Speaker, I would like to draw the attention of you and the Government to a very important point of public importance through the House. The long-distance siltation is increasing rapidly in the Son River near the Rohtas Jilantargat Indrapuri barrage in Bihar. It has not been cleaned for years. The Department of Water Resources and the State Government are indifferent to this problem, due to which this problem is becoming serious. There have been wastes, and the population has also started settling there. From

Indrapuri to Nowhatta, the stomach is being filled due to an increase in siltation or siltation in the Son River. As a result, the erosion of the river is increasing rapidly on both sides. Villages are also flowing in it. If this erosion is not stopped, it will affect the districts of Rohtas, Kaimur, Buxar, Bhojpur, Jehanabad, Patna and Gaya, etc. of Bihar, which will stop the means of irrigation. Therefore, I especially request the Government that the Ministry concerned should be removed to start the conservation and rescue work of the Son River without any delay so that the uninterrupted flow of the Son River and the nature that is given is kept intact.

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI (SHEOHAR): Hon. Madam Speaker, thank you very much; you have given me an opportunity to speak in Zero Hour.

This town is divided into two parts due to the railway line in the middle of Ghorasahan town in the East Champaran district under the Sheohar parliamentary constituency. This station falls in the Samastipur division of the East-Central Railway Zone, Hajipur. On one side, Ghorasahan city police station, the hospital and all administrative offices are on the south side of

the railway line; on the other side, the main bazaar and the population are on the north side of the railway line. For this reason, the only option for entering the city or going out of the city towards the north direction is the newly constructed relocated railway kiosk, which is often deserted. In such a situation, people of the city and its surrounding villages have to travel all over the city to cross the railway gap. Under compulsion, common people cross the railway line directly to the city, due to which many accidents have taken place. There is an opinion of the common citizens there, and I have also seen that if the underpass from Karpuri Chowk in Ghorasahan to Ambedkar Chowk is constructed, it will be a big relief to the local people and accidents can also be avoided. It may be noted that under the Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana, Ghorasahan South village has adopted me. Therefore, I request the Government through you that, in the public interest, underground passage should be constructed from Karpuri Chowk in Ghorasahan city to Ambedkar Chowk so that the movement of citizens here is safe and convenient.

Along with this, I also want to say that I am an MP from the Sheohar district, but the people there are still longing to see the railway line and are restless. Therefore, I urge the Hon.Railway Minister to lay a rail line there as well. Thank you.

DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE (BEED): Thank you Speaker Madam. I would like to draw the government's special attention through the AP to the famine-like situation that has arisen in the Marathwada region of Maharashtra.

Last year, there was a heavy hailstorm, for which many farmers have not yet received compensation. This year, due to very few family members, the condition of the farmers is very worrying. Crops like sugarcane, cotton, soyabean, jowar and tur dal have suffered huge losses. The productivity of the crop has come down to less than 30 per cent, which is a matter of great concern. Drinking water is also a major problem, especially in Beed district. Water is being provided through tankers in many villages today. In my district, occupation is dependent on farming, and farming is the main occupation of the people. Therefore, the State Government as well as the Central Government should extend their support in providing relief to

the farmers, including crop insurance, waivers of electricity bills and waivers of school fees for the children of the farmers, and provide the maximum amount to the farmers as compensation. That is the demand I want to keep through you. Thank you.

[English]

SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA (TIRUPPUR): Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to speak in Tamil.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: You have not intimated that you will speak in Tamil language. So, please speak in English or in Hindi because Tamil interpreter is not available. If you want to speak in Tamil language, then you have to intimate beforehand for Tamil interpretation.

SHRIMATI V. SATHYABAMA: Madam, in our State, we have a project namely, 'Athikadaru Avanashi project'. In this context, our Party Leader Amma has already written a letter to our Hon. Prime Minister. This project is a very important project. The rainwater harvesting system is already implemented in Tamil Nadu. This project will benefit many regions of Tamil Nadu – Tirupur, Nambiyur, Gobichettipalayam, Perundurai, Erode and Pollachi. Many farmers will get benefit of this project. Please consider this project and has to be implemented very soon. The level of ground water is going deeper and deeper. Thank you, Madam.

HON. SPEAKER: You are saying about ground water recharging. Okay.

[Translation]

SHRI NANA PATOLE (BHANDARA-GONDIA): Madam Speaker, farmers are committing suicide there due to the drought situation in Maharashtra. Even yesterday, about ten farmers committed suicide, and this trend continues. I demand from the government that the way the central government helped the floods in Kashmir after declaring it a national disaster, the government should do the same for the people affected by drought in Maharashtra.

I want to say one more thing that this issue should be discussed in the House.

HON. SPEAKER: Give notice for this.

[English]

PROF. A.S.R. NAIK (MAHABUBABAD): Madam, I am happy to have our own 29th Telangana State after many struggles and sacrifices. On the pretext of the construction of the Polavaram Dam in Andhra Pradesh, seven Mandals from the Telangana State were merged in residuary Andhra Pradesh. These seven Mandals are being represented by two MLAs and two MPs from Telangana State. Out of seven Mandals, four Mandals were previously under my parliamentary constituency.

A majority of these Mandals are located in tribal areas under the Fifth Schedule.

Now the question is who the legislative representatives both at the State Legislature and the Union Parliament are. How are these legislators going to take care of the welfare of the people of these Mandals?

Further, certain Government employees are working in these Mandals in various Departments. My further question is as to which State they now belong. Since this question has arisen because of subsequent merger of the seven Telangana Mandals to Andhra Pradesh. Hence, I would request the Government to take an initiative to settle the issue.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN (MADHEPURA): Madam Speaker, I would like to raise in the House the interest of the people of the entire country, as this question is related to the health of 120 crore people and the students. This was reported by Hindustan Times in Delhi.

HON. SPEAKER: You should state your point.

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN: In that report it has been reported that in the country, wrong medicines and investigations are done by frequent doctors taking money from the pharmaceutical companies. The Medical Council of India has acknowledged this. 20 such doctors have also been found in Patna in Bihar. In Bihar, nine fake doctors have also been found in Saharsa and Gaya. There have also been reports of a victim being mistreated and misbehaved with in Bhagalpur. However, no action has been taken against the doctor. Those who are fake doctors and have become doctors with wrong certificates, they have also been caught in Saharsa. All of them worked with money. I demand from the MCI and the Health Ministry of the Central Government that, in such a way, stringent action should be taken against the doctors who become doctors by making fertiliser degrees or certificates and the doctors who give wrong medicines in collaboration with the pharmaceutical companies, and a case under Section 302 should be registered.

SHRI HARINARAYAN RAJBHAR (GHOSI): Hon. Speaker, the previous government in Mau district had approved the construction of a railway terminal. I would like to know from

the Hon. Railway Minister when it will be built. Apart from this, I would also like to tell the Hon. Railway Minister that there is a great need to convert the small line from Indara to Dohrightat into a broad line. Therefore, this work should be done immediately, because this is a very harmonious demand of the people there.

[English]

SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI (BELAGAVI): Madam, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. Belagavi is one of the historical places and Rani Chennamma was the first one to fight for the freedom of our country, India. Even Mahatama Gandhi contributed much for Belagavi during the freedom movement. The whole advocate fraternity has been on strike for the last fifteen days. Belagavi is a Divisional Headquarters of Karnataka. The advocates are on strike on the ground that the Karnataka Appellate Tribunal should be set up in Belagavi. The Government of Karnataka had promised six months before that they would set up the Karnataka Appellate Tribunal at Belagavi itself. The Belagavi Bar is the oldest bar. It has produced many Central Ministers and State Chief Ministers.

My earnest request to you is to direct the Government of Karnataka to set up the Karnataka Appellate Tribunal as early as possible. The senior leader from the Opposition Shri Kharge is here and the Law Minister is also here. All the courts have stopped working for the last fifteen days. Nobody is going to the District Court or the Tehsildar Office. Nobody is attending the

Court. The common man is facing a lot of problem in Belagavi Region because of this. I would request the Hon. Law Minister to direct the State Government to settle the issue immediately.

SHRI K. C. VENUGOPAL (ALAPPUZHA): Madam, the recent outbreak of bird flu in various parts of Southern Kerala particularly in Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta Districts has revealed lack of basic laboratory facilities to cope up with it. The situation has been now under control because of the efforts of the State Government and the assistance of the Central Government. I am pointing out one thing. Due to lack of modern laboratories for confirming the disease, we have to go to the National Laboratory of Bhopal. It takes at least one week for confirming the disease. Therefore, the people are very much in dilemma for confirming the disease.

My request to the Government is this. There is a Virology Institute in Alappuzha for doing these things. There is a need to strengthen the laboratory facility in that Virology Institute. The Government of Kerala and the University has given a proposal for setting up a research institute in Alappuzha itself. Through you, I would urge upon the Government to set up that research

facilities in Alappuzha and to strengthen the Virology Institute which is existing there. There is a need to strengthen that Institute for coping with this disease.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri P. K. Biju, Shri M. B. Rajesh, Adv. Joice George and Shri Jose K. Mani are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri K. C. Venugopal.

[Translation]

DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY (CHANDAULI):

Madam Speaker, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. The Chandauli area in Uttar Pradesh, from which I come, is called the rice bowl. But today the farmers there are living a life of misery. The paddy crop one is wasted due to drought; the other is not even being procured. Last time there were 56 paddy cream centres, but this time 46 are open, and they are also open in papers. The irony is that in drought conditions, moisture is found in paddy, and there is also lightness in paddy. While FCI procures rice at 13-14 per cent moisture, today FCI They are not buying only after giving 15 per cent moisture, while they should keep the criteria of 18 per cent moisture. All these problems are being faced by the farmers there. Through you, I want to tell the

state government and the central government to give proper instructions to their institutions so that the problem of farmers can be solved. Secondly, Rabi sowing has started, but the farmer has not been able to buy fertilisers. Today, 30,000 metric tonnes of fertiliser are required, but the Government has sent only 15,000 metric tonnes of requests, and only 3,000 metric tonnes of manure have reached there. Farmers are dying in Chandauli and Banaras districts, so Madam, please give proper instructions on this and ensure the availability of fertilisers. Thank you

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Bhairon Prasad Mishra is granted permission to associate with the matter raised by Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey.

DR. SATYAPAL SINGH (BAGHPAT): Madam, Government data says that 65 per cent of people in this country depend on agriculture, but data of life says that a hundred per cent of people are based on agriculture. Without agriculture and farmers, no man can live. Agriculture and farmers cannot be merely a state subject. There are two sugar mills in my parliamentary constituency, Baghpat. I had raised this question last time also: three hundred crore rupees of farmers are still left.

In the petition filed in the Supreme Court, sugar mills... He said that he has paid 80 per cent of farmers. It has not even been 20 per cent.

HON. SPEAKER: Unparliamentary words will not go into action.

DR. SATYAPAL SINGH: I request the Government of India, since they have committed a huge fraud, misused the money of the farmers.

HON. SPEAKER: Unparliamentary words will not go into action.

DR. SATYAPAL SINGH: I request the Government of India, since they have committed a huge fraud, misused the money of the farmers.

HON. SPEAKER: You should not use such words again and again; only put your point.

DR. SATYAPAL SINGH: Madam, I request the Government of India to make any payment to the sugarcane of the farmers which is due at this time in view of the interest of the farmers.

DR. SATYAPAL SINGH: Madam, I request the Government of India to make any payment to the sugarcane of the farmers which is due at this time in view of the interest of the farmers.

[English]

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER (CHANDIGARH): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wanted to ask a question in the Question Hour since the Minister was here related to the artistes and their condition.

You know that I come from the cine world. Not only cine artistes but artistes across India, whether in folk or tribal art forms, which I think make the very basis of the art and culture of our country, are going through a really bad time. Everybody knows how Ustad Bismillah Khan Sahab, after receiving the highest award, died in abject penury. I feel that we must do something to make their lives a little easier and better.

As it is, children of the people who are traditionally taking part in either handlooms or handicrafts do not carry forward their tradition. Because they do not get enough money, they are becoming peons or looking for railway jobs, etc., and our arts are dying out. This is very important for our country. When we

talk about culture, when we talk about tourism, I feel all this goes towards making our culture richer. I think we need to keep these arts alive, and for that we need the Government to help them in some way. If you give Rs.4000 a month, nobody can live on it. I think we need to look after them because they are very precious.

Akbar had nine gems in his court. Like that, India has these gems, and they are keeping our folk traditions alive, keeping our tribal arts alive, and keeping our modern art alive. So, I feel we need to look after our artistes and make sure that we help them so that they live a life of grace and dignity right to the end. And I would urge the Government to do something for that. Thank you.

[Translation]

DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA (MUMBAI NORTH EAST): Madam Speaker, more chit fund scams have come out in the last few days. 22 thousand small investors are stuck in Rose Valley in West Bengal. I want to present one point from you: in the cases in which small investors went to court, the Supreme Court ordered an inquiry in which one and a half dozen politicians

were found guilty. Some of them were arrested. The State Government there, since these one and a half dozen people belong to a particular political party... (*Interruptions*) So the state government there is not cooperating in this investigation... (*Interruptions*) I want to give you a specific example that the Saradha chit fund scam is being investigated by the CBI, the investigating agency of the Centre... (*Interruptions*) They are not allowing the inquiry to take place. ... (*Interruptions*) Three and a half lakh small investors can get a refund... (*Interruptions*) But the Government of West Bengal has different types of it... (*Interruptions*) Therefore, I would like to request that you note the CBI in the Saradha chit fund scam is being probed by the West Bengal Police... (*Interruptions*) The Government of West Bengal... (*Interruptions*) Cooperate fully; give such directions. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): Madam, I associate myself with the matter raised by Dr. Kirit Somaiya.

[English]

HON. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2 p.m.

12.55 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the
Clock.*

14.02 hrs

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Two Minutes past
Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Hon. Deputy-Speaker *in the Chair*)

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up matters under rule 377. Shri Chhedi Paswan – not present; Shri Rajendra Agrawal.

(i)Need to restart operation of container depot in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh to boost business activities in cities.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL (MEERUT): Deputy Speaker Sir, Meerut is the major centre of industry and trade in Western Uttar Pradesh. Despite the collapse of the infrastructure, the entrepreneurs here export goods worth about Rs.500 crore every year on the strength of their own efforts without any Government protection or encouragement. These goods exported are products related to the sports industry, carpet industry, food items, handicrafts, engineering goods, steel, etc. Presently there are 76 export units in Meerut which have to go to ICD (Inland Container Depot) at Dadri to send their goods. It costs a lot to exporters. By the year 2005 there was a container depot in Meerut, which is now lying closed.

I request the government through you to restart the container depots which have been closed since 2005 so that the difficulties of exporters of Meerut and western Uttar Pradesh can be reduced in some quantity.

**(ii) Need to open more ticket windows at
Savarkundl arailway station in Gujarat.**

SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA (AMRELI): Deputy Speaker Sir, passengers face many difficulties due to the same window of tickets at Savar Kundla railway station in Gujarat. The line of women and old people to get tickets at the time of arrival of the Bhavnagar-bound train passing through the said station is so long that it goes out of the station premises, the barrier at which the train comes due to non-availability of tickets, and many passengers are unable to get tickets, due to which they are not able to board the train. Due to this, the Ministry of Railways has to lose revenue, as well as the tendency to travel without tickets, which is forced. Due to the push to get the tickets, having the same window and a long line, many women and elders get into an accident because the policemen posted there are not present.

Sir, I would like to request Hon. Minister to make a provision to open at least two to three windows of the ticket at

Savar Kundla railway station so that the passengers can get the tickets on time. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Bharat Singh - not present.

Shri Rabindra Kumar Pandey - not present.

**(iii) Need to provide a rail link to Karauli District
Headquarters In Rajasthan**

DR. MANOJ RAJORIA (KARAU-LI-DHOLPUR): Sir, I would like to draw your kind attention to the problem of railways in my Lok Sabha constituency, Karauli. I would like to share that the long-standing demand of railways at Karauli district headquarters has not been fulfilled even today. The stone emanating from the mines here keeps its own identity, but due to the absence of a rail line, business here is being affected. Apart from this, there is also a princely identity of Karauli, and there are many major religious places in the district, where devotees from all over the country reach in lakhs. Along with this, there is a huge potential for tourism here, but due to the lack of a rail line, Karauli is not directly connected to other areas of the country, and people have to face huge problems in movement. In the past, a survey was conducted for the Karauli-Dholpur-Gangapur city rail route, but after that, due to lack of budget, the work of laying railway lines could not be done.

I would like to request the Government through the House that there is a huge need to connect Karauli district headquarters with the railway line and sanction a budget for the railway line to promote tourism and trade, keeping in view the problems of the people.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Anurag Singh Thakur - not present.

(iv) Need to formulate a scheme to provide clean drinking water to people of Tonk-Sawai Madhopur Parliamentary Constituency in Rajasthan

SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH JAUNAPURIA (TONK -SAWAI MADHOPUR): Sir, District Tonk and District Sawai Madhopur of Rajasthan have very serious drinking water problems. The level of drinking water in the ground is about 400-500 feet deep, and there is a lot of fluoride in it, due to which people have to face many diseases. Due to this, people can live life on average till the age of 50 years.

There is number seven, Banasthali Kanya University, in my parliamentary constituency, Tonk Sawai Madhopur, where girls from all over India and abroad come to study. Along with this, there is also a Ranthambore tourist place, in which a large number of tourists come to visit from the country and abroad, so this topic is very important.

Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister of Drinking Water and Sanitation through the House that the Central Government should make such a plan, so that lakhs of people can get

drinking or clean water. This is an important demand and matter of the people of my parliamentary constituency.

**(v) Need to accord the status of Central University to
Vikram University, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh**

PRO. CHINTAMANI MALVIYA (UJJAIN): Sir, Ujjain has been the centre of knowledge, science and education since ancient times. It has the distinction of being the place of education of Lord Shri Krishna and the place of work of Mahakavi Kalidasa. The famous names of ancient India have been associated with scholar Varah Mihir (Khagolvid), Varruchi, Kshapanaka, Shanku, Ghatkharpar, Dhanvantari (medical scientist), and Ujjain. Vikram University in Ujjain has been established since 1956 and is the second oldest university in Madhya Pradesh. This university, spread over 330 acres, has many important institutions. As SCINDIA Oriental Institute is the centre of ancient Indian culture. It has 3500 rare manuscripts and is also a recognised centre of the Institute of Manuscripts of the Government of India. This university is also an important centre of Buddhist studies. This university has all the qualifications to have a central university.

Through you, I request the Hon. Prime Minister and Hon. Human Resource Development Minister to initiate the action of closing Central University to Vikram University, Ujjain.

(vi) Need to introduce job-oriented skill development programmes in schools in Paschim Champaran Parliamentary Constituency, Bihar

DR. SANJAY JAISWAL (WEST CHAMPARAN): Sir, Mahatma Gandhi ji established a basic middle school in Champaran district of Bihar where children were given training in education as well as farming, horticulture, yarn and woodworking, etc., so that children could build their self-employment in the future. Today those basic middle schools have ended, and said training is not given there.

Therefore, I request through the House that those schools should be given skill development to realise the dreams of Mahatma Gandhi Ji.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Anto Antony - not present

Dr. C. Gopalakrishnan – not present.

(vii) Need to put in place all the necessary preparations to prevent outbreak of Ebola virus in the country

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI (BARRACKPUR): The WHO on August 8, 2014 declared the spread of Ebola in West Africa as an international health emergency. Terming the outbreak as an “extraordinary event” it said that it constitutes a public health risk to other States. While the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare in his statement to the House on August 6, 2014 said that the risk of transmission to countries outside African region was low, cases of Ebola have already surfaced in the US., Spain and now in India.

There have also been reports that the protocols issued by the Ministry for screening passengers have not been implemented fully. Only two out of 14 airports have isolation facilities and hospital staff have been found lacking in training.

I would request the Minister to apprise us of the current status of the country’s core capacity of laboratory support, as per the WHO advisory of assured access to a qualified diagnostic laboratory for the virus. Medical protocols once a person is

diagnosed with the disease may be made public. Further, awareness initiatives proposed by the Ministry, which will inform and not create panic amongst the citizens of the country may also be made public.

I would request the Government to expedite its preparation in managing Ebola so that we are not caught unaware as in the case of avian flu and swine flu.

**(viii)Need to undertake drought-relief measures in
Bolangir Parliamentary Constituency, Odisha**

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): Several States in the country and particularly Odisha are drought-prone, which causes immense damage to crops, cattle and people. As per local weather data, 27 of 30 districts in Odisha have received 56 per cent less than normal rainfall this year.

My constituency, which is extremely poor and economically backward, is severely drought-prone. This year too it faced such severe conditions that under MNREGS, additional 50 days work to families in the Bolangir and Nuapada districts had been declared by the CM. If preventive measures are not taken immediately, such situation is likely to lead to famine, which will have the worst impact on landless agricultural labourers and people from socially underprivileged communities including dalits and tribals – who constitute 70 per cent of Odisha's 37 million people. This could lead to increase in number of hunger deaths and trigger mass migration to other States. A UNDP supported study on nutritional status in

Odisha's drought-affected districts revealed chronic malnutrition in 58 per cent and severe malnutrition in 11 per cent of children.

I would request immediate Government intervention in providing alternative employment, easy crop loans, construction of dams and maintenance of potable water n reservoirs, development of irrigation infrastructure, emergency crisis response teams, integrated watershed management, rainwater harvesting and soil and crop management approaches through implementation of effective national and regional drought and disaster management policies be made the priority.

(ix) Need to construct a six-lane road on N. H.7 near Vadki village in Yavatmal-Washim Parliamentary Constituency in Maharashtra

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDALIKRAO GAWALI (YAVATMAL-WASHIM): Sir, There is a demand of the people of the village to construct a six-lane road in its place on Nagpur-Hyderabad National Highway No.7 going to my constituency YAVATMAL-WASHIM; there is a demand of the people of the village to construct a six-lane road in its place because the shops of the small traders of the village are there and their families survive on the income earned from these shops. There have been massive farmer suicides in the area. When the main figures of this highway came for the survey, we brought to their notice that the road which has become very bad instead of the overbridge here should be converted into 6 lanes.

You are requested to cancel the overbridge near Wadki town on National Highway No.7 Nagpur-Hyderabad and make a 6-lane road on the damaged road of the village.

(x) Need to grant special category status to Andhra Pradesh

[English]

SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU

(SRIKAKULAM): The residual Andhra Pradesh is seriously disadvantaged because of eventual transfer of Hyderabad to Telangana, apart from losing the vast industrial network, research and development establishment, education, training and service infrastructure in and around Hyderabad city. During the course of debate in Parliament on 20th, February, 2014 the then Prime Minister had stated categorically that the residuary Andhra Pradesh would be included in the special category State. It is understood that the process for inclusion of Andhra Pradesh in the Special Category State has been initiated. Such an inclusion would help the State recover from the financial hardships emanating after Division. Our Chief Minister had earlier requested that special category Status to Andhra Pradesh be accorded for fifteen years and the request was responded positively. I would like to request the Hon. Prime Minister to accelerate the process for inclusion of Andhra Pradesh amongst the special category States.

(xi) Need to expedite the pending railway projects in Mahabubnagar Parliamentary Constituency, Telangana and also provide stoppage of important trains in Mahabubnagar district, Telangana.

SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY (MAHABUBNAGAR): I wish to bring the matter of critical importance relating to several matters on Railways in my State Telangana to the notice of the House.

Sir, I would like to bring to your kind attention that during the Railway Budget, 2014 no funds were allocated to the Telangana and Andhra Pradesh States. On an inquiry it has been informed by the Hon. Minister that a Committee has been constituted to look into matters and that they would invite all Hon. Members of Parliament for a meeting to take their suggestions but till date it has not been convened.

Further, I would like to state that there are many important railway projects pending in my Parliamentary constituency, Mahabubnagar, Namely: -

1. Doubling of Umdanagar-Dhone railway line;

2. Devarkadra-Munirabad;
3. Jadcherla-Nandyal *via* Nagarkunool-Kolhapur
4. Mahabubnagar-Raichur *via* Maktal up to Munirabad railway line

Sir, further some representations have been given by me for stoppage of some important trains to facilitate the people of Mahabubnagar district like: -

1. Karnataka Sampark Kranti Express at Mahabubnagar railway station;
2. Chennai-Egmore, Demu-Bangalore Express at Shamshabad of Mahaboobnagar district;
3. Express trains to stop at Wanapathy Road (Maduraput) Devarakadra railway station.

Therefore, I urge upon the Railway Minister that proper importance be given to these issues and oblige.

(xii) Need to improve the socio-economic condition of tribal people living in Attapady tribal area in Palakkad Parliamentary constituency, Kerala

SHRI M. B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): Sir, this is to draw the attention of this august House towards a serious crisis that has affected the Attapady tribal area in Kerala. Attapady is the largest tribal area in the State and geographically this block is bigger than some districts in the State. Recently Attapady has witnessed widespread malnutrition deaths of new born babies. In 2013 sixty three new born babies died and I had taken up this issue with both Central and State Governments. As a result the then Union Minister for Rural Development and PMO officials had visited the area. Both Governments had announced packages. However, these packages were not implemented properly. Again this year, Attapady witnessed malnutrition death of new born babies. This year alone more than 20 new born babies died. There is widespread malnutrition among pregnant mothers and children. It has been found that the babies who died were having extremely low weight. This grave situation is only a

symptom of a larger livelihood crisis among the tribals in that area. This livelihood crisis can be addressed only by ensuring land, employment, safe drinking water, affordable health care, better road connectivity, promotion of agriculture, provision of rural infrastructure and various other measures. The package announced by the Union Government needs to be implemented in order to achieve these objectives. The implementation has to be under the strict monitoring of people's representatives. Hence, I urge upon the Union Government to intervene in a proper way to address the crisis of tribal people in Attapady.

**(xiii) Need to declare calamity caused by `Hudhud` cyclone
as a national calamity and release adequate financial
assistance to Andhra Pradesh**

SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA (ARAKU): Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of the august House regarding the Hudhud cyclone and its impact in Andhra Pradesh. Visakhapatnam, which is also called the Steel City was devastated by cyclone Hudhud which hit on October 12. Hudhud cyclone has also devastated Srikalulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam districts. East Godavari district was partly affected in the cyclone. Devastation was unprecedented and the fury of cyclones not only killed 46 persons and injured 43 others, but also affected 20.93 lakh families and took lives of 2831 animals and 24.43 lakh poultry/ducks in four districts. More than 4484 villages of above said four districts were affected by the cyclone that damaged 31269 houses. Around 2.37 lakh hectare of farm land having 22.14 lakh tonnes of food grains and standing cash crops and 6.89 tonnes of horticultural crops suffered damage. Road, Railway transport,

telecommunication and power were severely affected. Coffee and pepper plantations and teak trees in the Agency area have been totally damaged. Panchayati Raj roads were also fully damaged and the loss was estimated at around Rs.47 crore. The fishermen population is about two lakh families in the northern coast of the State. They are dependent on fishing only. Due to this cyclone they have lost not only their houses but also their livelihood. Nearly 470 fishing boats were damaged. A large number of fishing material mainly fishing nets was destroyed. But the Government declared only Rs.10, 000 per boat as compensation. The cyclone hit the tribal areas including Araku and Paderu very hard. Due to landslides in Araku Mandal, five tribals died. The coffee plantation and silver oak trees have fallen in large numbers. Paddy has been destroyed. Even commercial crops like coconut, cashew, sugarcane, banana, beetle leaf, mango were destroyed. But the Government declared meager compensation. The estimated loss would be around Rs.70, 000 crore but the PM has announced Rs.1, 000 crore only as initial compensation which is very meagre. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has already prepared a note in this regard and sent to the Centre. Hence, in view of the above

situation, I request the Hon. Minister for Home Affairs, through the Chair, to take necessary steps to announce Hudhud cyclone as national calamity and release adequate financial succor at the earliest.

(xiv) Need to declare the birth places of all the great personalities of Bihar as tourist places and develop them as tourist places of international importance

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH RANJAN (MADHEPURA): Sir, I would like to mention some great personalities, litterateurs, and poets who have been instrumental in making India. Historians believe that the history of India cannot be imagined without the history of Bihar. In this context, I would like to mention the birthplace of the great men, who are, respectively:

1. Maithili Mahakavi Vidyapati, whose birthplace, Pyspi, District-Darbhangha (Bihar)
2. Birthplace of Sher Shah Suri, the founder of the Sur dynasty - Sasaram
3. Birthplace of Rashtrakavi Ramadhari Singh Dinkar - Simaria ghat, Begusarai
4. Birthplace of Mandal Mishra - Wanga Mahishi
5. Bhikhari Thakur - Kutubpur of Saran district
6. Babu Veer Kunwar Singh - Jagdishpur of Ara district

7. Place to launch Mahatma Gandhi's Satyagraha movement - Bhitiharwa

8. Phanishwar Nath 'Renu' – Hingna village in Araria district

9. It would be inappropriate to imagine modern India without the development of the birthplace of Guru Gobind Singh Ji - Patna Sahib and other great personalities.

Therefore, I demand from the Government through the House that the above sites should be declared as tourist places and they should be developed as international tourist destinations.

(xv) Need to develop tourist places of religious and historical importance in Rohtas and Kaimur districts of Bihar

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (SASARAM): Sir, Rohtas and Kaimur districts of my constituency have many tourist places of national and international importance, which come under the Buddha Circuit, where devotees from India and abroad come to visit. From the point of view of tourism, they need a holistic development. Below is a list of some important tourist destinations -

District - Kaimur (Bihar) 1. Harshu Brahm Dham, 2. Mundeshwari Dham

District - Rohtas (Bihar) -1. Gupta Dham 2. Shergarh Fort 3. Rohtas Fort 4. Tara chandi Dham 5. Tomb of Sher Shah Suri 6. Indrapuri Barrage 7. Hasan Shah Suri's Rosa 8. Chandan Peer martyr etc.

Therefore, it is specifically requested from the Hon. Minister to please disapprove the Ministry concerned through the House for the overall development of the important tourist destinations mentioned above, which, along with development,

the Government will get revenue, and employment opportunities will also be available to the unemployed.

(xvi) Need to release the full share of funds under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana to Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI C. GOPALAKRISHNAN (NILGIRIS): Sir, saluting Makkalin Mudhalvar Amma, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana or PMGSY is a nationwide Centrally sponsored scheme in India implemented since 2000.

I invite the kind attention of the august House that in Tamil Nadu, the State Government is implementing this Central Scheme very effectively. Our Hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had taken many steps to improve and implement this scheme. Tamil Nadu is the pioneer in implementing various Centrally sponsored and State sponsored schemes very effectively.

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, in the financial year 2012-13, the Ministry of Rural Development has sanctioned Rs.1021 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana Phase VIII whereas so far, only Rs.443 crore has been received by the

Tamil Nadu Government. Due to this, various projects under the PMGSY are getting stuck. Further, the cost also will increase if the balance sanctioned amount is not released immediately.

Considering the urgency of time and money, I urge upon the Government through this august House to kindly release the full share of funds to ensure effective implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Tamil Nadu.

14.29 hrs

**TEXTILE UNDERTAKINGS (NATIONALISATION)
LAWS (AMENDMENT AND VALIDATION) BILL, 2014**

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House will now take up item No.11, the Textiles Undertakings (Nationalization) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Modinium, 1974 and the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995 to maintain the leased rights vested in the National Textile Corporation, on completion of the lease, be taken into consideration. "

Sir, I urge the Members to participate in the discussion on this important subject. The entire House and the whole country are aware of the term NTC. Today, its status is. I would not like to go into the reasons that, in the last years, many textile mills became sick due to various reasons.

The Central Government has taken over such mills through legislation, with the main objective of protecting the interest of the textile industry in an effective and public manner. 118 such mills took over in two phases, i.e., 1974 (103 mills) and 15 mills in the year 1995. Apart from this, 6 other mills of Uttar Pradesh were also taken into custody, and their management was handed over to NTC. Out of these 124 mills, 5 mills were later merged, and 119 mills were transferred to NTC. The Central Government invested sufficient financial and managerial resources in the management of these mills in the public interest. A substantial amount towards outstanding loans and interest on investments made by the Central Government, which is about Rs.6000 crore, has been inserted into their accounts, i.e., write-offs. In the Central law regarding the land occupied by private mill owners, NTC has been incorporated to remove certain legal deficiencies

in the management of these sick textile mills, especially on a leasehold basis. The present amendment to the Act was considered essential.

The legal issue involved relates to the argument that though the rights and entitlements of land held on a freehold basis are with the Central Government and were handed over to the NTC for running the leasehold land. The original owner of the sick textile mill was keeping it on a leasehold basis. The said leasehold rights were handed over to the Central Government on nationalisation and subsequently to NTC for management. In certain cases, on expiry of the lease period, the original lessee approached the courts for handing over the land originally held by them on a lease basis. Under the existing provision of the NTC Act, the assets of sick textile mills are fully with the Government of India, and immediately after they were taken over, their management was transferred to the NTC

Under the Maharashtra Rent Control Act, the provision of protection from eviction is only with respect to the leased land of the Central Government and not with the public sector undertaking, i.e., NTC After examining the legal aspects, there

is a proposal to amend the NTC Act to make it clear that in keeping with the legal intentions of homogeneity, the leasehold base, including the occupied land, the sick textile mills will remain fully with the Central Government, and such land occupied on a lease basis will remain with the Central Government. It will be managed by NTC. Once this amendment is done, the rent will be applicable to the legal protection leased property available with the Government in respect of lease valley land under the Control Act. Accordingly, the leased land will be available for textile activities.

I told you something for you. I would like to tell the House that the work of NTC is to take care of the land; the work that has been done through the Government, it is to be done properly. NTC, which had incurred a loss of Rs.605 crore in the years 2001 and 2002, today I would like to say with great responsibility that in the year 2013-14, it is showing a profit of Rs.15 crore. I would like to say that today its net worth is Rs.1602 crore, due to which I am happy to state that very soon BFIR has worked to exclude it. The NTC will decide on its own. BFIR announced it on 28.10.2014; NTC is no longer a sick

company. Our Ministry and Government are determined to improve the NTC mills. We are working together for that. I had also spoken to the Hon. MPs from various parties, and everyone believes that this is absolutely correct; some apprehensions were also pointed out, which I will respond to later.

I request that today some people want to take out deficiencies in the law and take it from the NTC with a net worth of about Rs.25 thousand crores. We want to work in the interest of the Government, in the interest of the country, and the way we have got to work, we can confidently say that in the coming time you will not get a complaint from the NTC. You will be proud of the fact that NTC is functioning well despite being a Government undertaking. I end my speech here and urge all of you to do whatever is your suggestion or not in this regard.

Thank you.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

“That the Bill further to amend the Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1974 and the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995 in

order to continue with the lease-hold rights vested in the National Textile Corporation completion of the lease-hold tenure, be taken into consideration.”

[Translation]

SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN (NANDED):

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, the Bill moved by Hon. Minister about NTC, the ordinance issue which was raised under the Textile Undertaking Nationalisation Law, and the proposal to convert that ordinance into the Bill has been introduced here.

The Hon. Minister has said this fact, after nationalisation, the lands of mills have been transferred to the Government on a large scale, and after that, today many things have been changed through court after the time of lease of these lands or after the period is over. People went to the High Court and the Supreme Court and filed claims there that the land lease is over, so the landowner should get the land back again; they had made such claims. Somewhere the High Court and the Supreme Court gave decisions in their favour, due to which this new difficulty came to light, due to which the government had to bring this ordinance. Today, the change of ordinance will happen in this bill, and after the bill is passed, it will be changed in due course.

The motive behind the bill seems to be correct, but whether the government wants to play the role of just a landlord or a

landlord is a matter to be understood. The Hon. Minister said that the Government wants to protect the land. We agree that the government should have security of the land if there is encroachment of the land or misuse of the land somewhere. Is the role of NTC the only thing that NTC will work on? Beyond that, will it take any steps for the workers who are working in the mills? Will NTC and the Textiles Ministry take a decision about the good functioning of the mills? These things have definitely come up while discussing this Bill today. The Hon. Minister mentioned here that this year there is probably a profit of Rs.15 crore. The profit of Rs.15 crore is a good thing; there is some improvement in it, and there are no two opinions about it. But in an organisation like NTC, where thousands of mills are in the jurisdiction of the Government of India, if there is a profit of Rs.15 crore, there is a need to implement more in it, and according to the existing goods that I have, 828 acres of land, the sick mill has 2200 acres of land, and there is a leasehold property of about 828 acres. This land is in important cities of Mumbai, Ahmedabad and various states of the country, and its prices are higher than gold today. It is very important to keep such land protected and ensure proper use through the textile

ministry. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister especially.

I understand that the bill that has been brought here today means that the government wants to remove the perception which people have that it will return the land to private people and perhaps thousands of people will become useless. This concept is there in the common people; efforts are definitely being made through this bill, and there is no doubt about it. Even though you have land in your hand, many mills are closed and workers are useless. We have sent people home by giving VRS in some place. Just keeping the land with you is not going to solve this matter, but the government should think that the land is also kept with it and how to keep the mill running. It is very important to have this effort by the Ministry and the NTC

I understand that private textile mills are running well in our country. Fabric is being produced on a large scale. Large mills have moderated, and due to this, good textiles are exported. Good quality fabric is being produced. Private companies are working. Private companies spend on advertising in a huge budget. Decisions are taken in private mills at the

earliest. What is the price of cotton? What is the price of yarn? At what price is it necessary to take it? At what price is it necessary to sell? What is the cloth wanted? What is the market for export? Such day-to-day decisions are taken at a very fast pace in private mills and at such a speed perhaps not in our mills. That is why NTC is suffering a lot.

We have a direct relationship with the farmers. NTC is the mill of the government, but textile production alone should not be the aim. Cotton is produced by farmers in the country. The cotton is sold in the market, then the yarn is made, it buys the mill, and then it makes the cloth. Keeping this process in mind, the support price has probably been declared as Rs.4000. Is the farmer's livelihood going to run at a minimum support price of Rs. 4000 as of the date? This fundamental question is the need to understand the textile ministry, so the price should be increased above the minimum support price of Rs. 4000. Nearly 20 people committed suicide in Maharashtra yesterday due to spoilage of pigs and crop conditions. It is priced at Rs. 4000 for the minimum support price. Is this going to benefit the farmers?

Sir, whether it is seeds, pesticides or labour prices, if we calculate everything, it will be found that this minimum support price is not going to help. The NTC and the Government should take steps to compete with the private sector. There are fluctuations in the market; there is profit and loss, but the government should take quick decisions in production, modernisation, marketing, etc., keeping in mind the private sector. Along with this, NTC needs to be run on a management professional basis.

Hon. Minister said that many mills are closed; probably 78 mills are closed. These include Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Indore and Amritsar. Five mills are proposed to be modernised under a joint venture. NTC has already modernised 23 mills. We say that many proposals of your joint venture are lying in arbitration today. If there is no arbitration decision for

three to four years, what is the use? Money has been invested for modernisation by selling lands. You said that an amount of six thousand crore rupees has been earmarked for this, so you are trying to protect the land. I understand this. Despite this, the decisions you had taken under the joint venture,

you had done it so that these mills should be run by taking the private party along. If the joint venture decisions remain stuck in arbitration for three to four years, when will these mills start? Workers are still sitting at home. They are not benefiting from it. Therefore, I request that you ensure joint ventures, whether in arbitration or in formation, should pay attention to them at the earliest, and NTC should be revived. Decisions should be taken so that all the mills remain profitable. It is the Delegation of Authority, the right to take decisions. Today, everything has to be sent to the Ministry or to the CMD. I understand that no decision is made by the general manager there. The general manager sends the MD; before deciding, the MD sends the CM.D; the CMD sends it to the minister; the minister sends it to the board. This is the process of decision; it takes several months, and when he comes to the minister, the Minister changes. This is happening nowadays. If these decisions continue like this, if the arbitration decisions of the NTC mill are not taken for three to four years, then how will these mills run in profit? By then, the private people would have decided it, and whether it is yarn or cloth in the market, it will be sold at the right price. Whose responsibility is this deficit? Does it belong

to GM, CMD, Minister or the textile department? There is a need to fix responsibility somewhere so that it can be decided at the right time. The land whose prices are higher than gold today – it is necessary to protect the land and use it properly. I think this needs to be looked into.

Secondly, I would like to especially tell Hon. Minister. Here I will definitely discuss my parliamentary constituency, Nanded. NTC Mill was started during the Nizam under the name of Osmanshahi Mill. In between, the mill closed. Efforts were made by the government to start it; it stopped again. Today, people have been sitting in slums on the mill land for more than 40 years. I would like to tell Hon. Minister that under the law, people living in these slums cannot be expelled; this is a problem. The Government of India had announced a scheme under JNNURM. If it wants to give pucca houses to the people settled there absolutely free, then without the no-objection of the NTC, this work cannot be done. I request the Minister Ji that under the programme of BSUP. under JNNURM., pucca houses should be given to these people because the people living there, the retired people working in the mill and their families will

have to provide houses there. This decision should be taken immediately by the Union Cabinet. The proposal has come to the Government of India, but no decision has been taken on it so far. I would especially like to give an example. Those who had retired from mills in Mumbai have been given houses free of cost by the Maharashtra Government on the land of mills. ... *(Interruptions)* So, whatever people are mill workers there, they need to be provided houses free of cost, and those who have been living in slums for 40-50 years on the land of NTC are protected elements; they also need to be given houses under the BSUP programme. It is very important to do this work. This work is very important under the B.S.U.P. programme. There should be transparency in the behaviour of the land. This land belongs to NTC, and you have sold the place; it has also been your effort to revive the mills by selling the land in many places. I think there should be more and more transparency. The matter of starting these mills should also be decided at the earliest. The Maharashtra government has given the land of Indu Mills through the central government for the memorial of Baba Saheb Ambedkar Ji in Mumbai. There is no harm in giving land for such social works, for good works, but while doing all this,

efforts should be made to restart the mill as soon as possible and start the closed mills immediately. Revive and modernise the mills that are in loss.

We support this bill that you have brought. The only thing to note is that the purpose behind this should not be defected. Giving protection to the land, the land is being provided by NTC and moderated the mill so that it contributes to the production of the country.

SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN (NORTH CENTRAL MUMBAI): Thank you, Deputy Speaker Sir. I stand today to speak in support of this Bill. I would like to thank Hon. Gangwar Ji that this Bill was introduced separately in the years 1974 and 1995, but with the amendment of this Bill, he has made a new measure of validation by taking everyone's partnership in the year 2014.

Sir, India has a history; the movement of Mahatma Gandhi Ji has started from Charkha. At that time, everyone made cloth indigenously from cotton. Our symbol was Mahatma Gandhi's spinning wheel. Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji gave some basic mantras to the people of the country. The most important of the five original mantras was the original mantra – Shramev Jayate. The basic mantra of Shramev Jayate is that the workers of the organised and unorganised sectors should get their respect. There was another important basic mantra with this basic mantra – Make in India. Whatever may be, in our country, as Mahatma Gandhi Ji had said, Make your goods in your country. Become your own, and be it an export, not much import; the cost of your country should increase the way the

country benefits from it and the name of its country runs abroad as well. In this way we have taken it forward. It is in the form of this amendment that the slogan of Make in India and Shramev Jayate has been brought into this bill. There is a total of about 2400 acres of land of NTC across the country, but 800 acres of land are stuck in the mills of NTC in the city and state where I come from. The city I come from, the highest number of mills in south-central Mumbai adjoining my constituency, which are the mills of NTC. There are many things like that due to some law loopholes: the work that should have been done in those mills, the respect that should have been given to the people living there – it was not found, and every matter was stuck as an entry for justice; the talk of arbitration went on. After that neither the mills nor the NTC benefitted. The Ministry did not benefit, and most importantly, the farmers and the labourers – those who are the backbone of our country – also did not benefit. The way the city of Mumbai helps 25 per cent of the GDP of this country, the Hon. Member rightly said that the land of Mumbai is like gold. Its price is also similar to the price of gold. Today, the same land is lying with NTC. There are many lands where we wanted to do something. The Maharashtra Rent Control Act was passed in the

year 2000, but it had loopholes, and even after inserting PIL on many things, the matter used to remain trapped as a justice insert and did not benefit in any way. I feel that by partnering with the Maharashtra Rent Control Act, which was passed in the year 2000, Hon. Gangwar Ji has brought a good bill before us so that the problem of validation has been resolved. The divorce used to be that in the first act it was shown that in any case of the Government of India, the legal procedures would not be and should not be at all, but the problem of NTC was that they were managing the property on behalf of the Central Government. This thing could never be cleared, and those cases remained stranded as justice was inserted.

Just now our fellow MP said a good thing, that the workers in private mills got respect. But I want to point out one thing, Tata has an indigenous mill in the parliamentary constituency I have come from. It has been closed for many years. The workers working there have met me many times. I do not want to say that private mills are not doing well and our mills are doing well. This story is of the mill workers across the country that they have not got the manner in which they should get respect. In my

constituency, there is a TATA Swadeshi mill in Kurla Sion. Generations have been lost working in that mill of the workers working in it, but the way they should have given compensation to these people, a house should have been given, not by TATA. They wanted to revive the closed mills, but it could not happen because the matter was justified. This Amendment Bill has come before us for such justified cases, due to which we are getting validation.

I would like to give an example of a mill of NTC. There is a case of the mill of NTC in the year 1999; this is also under consideration with the Supreme Court. Bahram Ji Jiju Bhai Private Company abandoned his lease and sold it to a company like HDIL for Rs.300-350. Even when the matter was sub judice, the private company did not ask NTC. After that, the promoter who sold his shares and took the company – that company put so much money in, but nothing happened to those mills. Finally, the money was also stuck; this case of NTC is still going on in the Supreme Court. Being justified, no workers are getting anything, and no mill is happening. For the promoters who should be, it has happened. Such problems keep coming in

Mumbai. For this, the illegal reality sharks who want to control and capture the people in our country do not see the good of the people; they need to be seen.

In a city like Mumbai, we want there to be good open space and good affordable houses. In Mumbai, every mill worker wants that I get work. Two or three generations of him have worked in that mill, so he expects that my children also get work. I am a good mill worker, so I get work and get a rightful house. Apart from this, one-third of the place of that mill should be given to those workers as open space. The mill should be nice.

I would also like to give a good example after that. For the last several years, the Government of Gujarat has revived 20 to 25 mills which were lying closed there, which comes in the entry of the Government in a good way. Apart from this, the workers working in them have also been given their rights; they have also been given a subsidy. I would like to thank the Government of Gujarat here for implementing cotton-to-garment textiles from cotton. This is an integrated system, and they have revived 25 mills in the last two to three years and have also

helped the labourers, the cotton-growing farmers there. I have heard of a similar practice that the Heavy Industry Ministry of the Centre is also doing. In two months, he is going to make a report on the transition from cotton to cloth, an integrated system, just like my former speaker said, okay? Textile will become what our mills should go ahead and what will happen to cotton. I am also from the same Marathwada region that he belongs to. The cotton that is used there, farmers face a lot of problems.

The backbone of this country is the farmers and the labourers. Unless we strengthen their hands, the country will not progress. So the model of Gujarat, which for the last two or three years we have seen, is that 20 to 25 mills are working from cotton to textiles, an integrated system; similarly, I expect NTC to be in the entire country.

Gandhi Ji's basic mantra was that everyone should be respected. The heritage of our country, the textile industry of our country, north India from south India and east India from west India in every state, this industry makes its kind of textile, whether as silk or as cotton. That fabric has a high price in the

international market but is less in the domestic market. The problem is that the way we expect our workers to move forward in the mills, the textile industry should be revived and regain its old glory; this industry should move forward, and the country should move forward. This thing is not being fully realised right now. That is why we have to import from China. Seeing this, the basic mantra that we have been given with the blessings of Mahatma Gandhi Ji and our Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji is 'Make in India' and 'Shrammev Jayate'. A common example of this is that this Amendment Bill has been brought for the revival of these NTC mills.

I would like to thank the Minister for bringing this bill. I would like to raise two more issues in the House. In 2014, there were four JVs along with the mills of Mumbai. His matter is also pending in the court. Today, when this bill is passed with the endorsement of everyone, then I expect you to pay more consideration to these four mills of JV. Mumbai city needs one-third; one-third should be affordable houses. Labourers working in Mumbai, whose two or three generations have been lost in this work, are not getting respect.

15.00hrs

Their housing in One Third should be given to them in the form of affordable housing. The work of mills should resume in one-third, and the name of our textile industry should go ahead, and they should be revived; that is what I expect. You have taken the backbone of the worker in the form of this bill, for which I want to thank you very much.

By saying this, I want to complete that the labour that the labourers and kisan do, we will not value it. We will not value our labourers; we will not keep the value of our farmers. Until then, our country will not progress, and we have moved forward with this basic mantra to take this country forward.

I want to fully endorse this bill and thank Gangwar ji that he has brought this bill. This bill will increase the honour and dignity of farmers and workers. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI S. SELVAKUMARA CHINNAYAN (ERODE): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Law (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014.

Prior to 1974, several textile mills in many parts of the country, were facing closure giving rise to labour unrest and a gloomy feeling of insecurity among the working class. Increased use of artificial fibre for production of the fabric requirement of the people of India moving towards modernised way of dressing, was seen during those days.

15.02 hrs

(Prof. K. V. Thomas *in the Chair*)

This led to the creation of a situation where demand for cotton textiles was falling. This affected the production, which had to be curtailed, which also led to reduction of jobs in the shop floors of the textile mills. Simmering discontent among the working class and the disappointment faced by the owners of textile mills due to lesser demand and fall in earnings leading to heavy losses, made the Union Government of the day to

intervene and help the textile sector. Many textile mills became sick and were in the process of declaring layoffs and closure.

The Government of India stepped in to take over the sick textile mills to help both the owners and the labour class who were getting employment opportunities there. The Sick Textile Undertaking (Nationalisation) Act, 1974 came into force to vest in the Central Government the right, title and interest of the owners in respect of the sick textile undertakings. The textile undertakings of the respective areas were transferred and vested with the National Textile Corporation Limited, which was formed as a Central Public Sector Undertaking. Later on, the Central Government of the day also set up the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, which evolved schemes for reviving the sick textile mills under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. In order to make the sick mills viable and to protect the interests of the workers, a large sums of public funds were invested in these mills.

Rather unexpectedly, some of these Undertakings which were on leasehold land, were getting into the problem of being

taken back by the original lessor on the expiry of the leasehold tenure.

The NTC, which did not have adequate legal protection, was not in a position to protect the leasehold lands, which were taken over right from 1974. Now, the Government has thought it fit to seek a shelter for the NTC by way of bringing about this Amendment and Validation Bill to seek recourse to the legal setback it had to face.

Sir, I hail from Tamil Nadu and I am a faithful soldier of AIADMK party led by our beloved leader, Amma who believes in protecting the living conditions of the working class through various measures. Hence I support this Bill, which seeks to protect the NTC from facing further losses in this age of competition in the wake of globalisation.

With these words, I conclude. Thank you.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): Hon. Chairperson Sir, about the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014, which has been brought by the Hon. Minister, Shri Santosh Gangwarji, I have nothing to oppose.

Basically this Bill is for one purpose. The NTC mills have a lot of land all over the country and many of the land is leasehold. So, after the mills became closed, the original lessors, in many cases, are trying to recover the land because the land is situated in very prime locations in big cities and in some cases, they obtained the order of the High Court so that the land goes back to them. Now the NTC has nothing else except the land. So, this Bill asserts the right of the Government of India over the NTC lands and to that extent it is an enabling law which allows the Government of India to take possession of the land.

Having said that, let me point out that I heard Shri Ashok Chavan and I also heard young lady Member, Shrimati Poonam Mahajan who left after speaking. I think they are not really aware of the situation in which the National Textile Corporation actually is. The nationalisation of textile mills was started by

Shrimati Indira Gandhi in 1974. In 1968, the NTC was formed and then in a big way the first Act came in 1974. Then again there were subsequent Acts, including one in 1986 and again another in 1995. This was the total corpus of the NTC law.

Now what happened? Altogether 119 mills were under the NTC. It was a huge organisation. It had nine regions but then due to neglect, due to wrong decisions of Governments, due to lack of management, the mills became sick. Then, we can say, there was lack of modernisation. So, they were referred to the Board for Industrial Finance and Reconstruction in 1992-93. As it happens in all the judicial processes, the BIFR took 10 years to announce its final package. In 2002-03 the BIFR gave the package. What was the package? The BIFR originally envisaged that out of these mills, 77 would be closed; 22 would be modernised and 18 would be run in joint venture. In spite of the BIFR's recommendation, which was followed up in 2008-09, a total of 18 mills have been modernised. Then, three mills were re-located as new or greenfield mills and two were later added. So, out of 117 mills or you can say, 119 mills because two were added later, only 23 mills are operating. It is a pathetic situation

where the NTC has closed out 80 per cent of the mills and is left with a skeleton of only 23 mills. The so called joint ventures have not worked out because the Government wanted certain conditions with the joint venture partners. They have not agreed to them. They have gone to the court. So, the question of revival through the joint venture does not arise.

The young lady Member was very hopeful that they want the workers to get back their jobs. Nobody will get back their jobs. Unfortunately, we have taken the situation to such a point in which you would be surprised that a total of 63, 188 employees have been given VRS. So, actually, it is a process of constant bleeding. Now, how have they given the VRS? We have to realise that the NTC mills in Bombay own the prime lands... (*Interruptions*) I am sorry, we, Bengalis, call it Bombay. But Marathis call it Mumbai. It does not matter. All the NTC mills are on prime land. The Minister is busy. Why? It is because he has just got some land. He will sell the land. Big builders, land sharks are waiting. They will pounce on the land and buy at a cheaper rate and make hundreds of crores of rupees. That is the only source of NTC money now.

Sir, you would be surprised to know – you have been a Minister – that so far NTC has got Rs.6, 584 crore from land sales alone. What are they doing? They are saying that they will slowly sell the land, pay some more VRS and then talk of modernisation. The Minister must state clearly as to what your policy for the future is. Are you going to sell more land closing down a few more companies and give them VRS out of this land sale? What is the point of running an establishment like this where there is enough demand? People in the country do not have enough clothes to wear. Still we are closing down mills. The Reliance is flourishing; other companies are flourishing. This is the most unfortunate story of the public sector. The NTC has fallen to Shri Gangwar, who is from Bareilly. If he had been from Kanpur, I would have said that he is very familiar. I do not know how familiar he is with this.

I tell you the pathetic story of our State. NTC had nine subsidiaries. One of them was called WBAB&O. It included West Bengal, Odisha and Bihar. With this, they formed a company. What is the position of WBAB&O? There were 15 mills in WBAB&O. These 15 mills have been closed down.

Only one mill, Arati Cotton Mills in Dasnagar, West Bengal has been modernised. Now, Look at this. You opened the mill, nationalised it, workers had hope but now the Government itself is closing down the mills because they were not able to manage them earlier.

In my constituency, which is an industrial area, there is a mill called Sodepur Cotton Mills. Huge land is there. It is lying unguarded. Slowly, encroachment will take place. The area is such that unlike in Mumbai the land will not be sold at high rate.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL (DAMOHO): Dada, it has already closed down. ... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: No, this is the property of NTC The Government of India has just taken complete control of it. If someone encroaches on your land, then you should go to the High Court. The High Court will give you protection. The ministers will be sitting here; nothing will be done. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL: You also know this. You are such a senior man.

PROF. SOUGATA RAY: Know. In our region, I see that the condition of cotton mills is deteriorating day by day. We have discussed this problem also.

[English]

The NTC is making three types of products. Its major product is cotton yarn. The second product is cotton cloth and the third product is furnishing material, that is, curtains and all that. It is also trying its hand at geo-textile. But, its market share is very small. Its total turnover is only Rs.1100 crore. I think the Minister mentioned that it made a small profit of Rs.85 crore in 2012-13 and Rs.170 crore in 2013-14. It is all right that you keep the land. But I want to know from the Minister as to what is your roadmap. What are you going to do with this land? Will you sell it to the real estate people and pay VRS to employees and then close down the mills one by one? Or, you will say that you will modernise the existing mills, run them well and, if necessary, revive a few more mills and give more jobs to workers. This is the point which Shri Gangwar, who is new to the Ministry, has to answer.

Sir, the young lady Member was talking of Gujarat model. Do you know how many mills have been closed down in Gujarat? In Ahmedabad, Ahmedabad Jupiter textile mills, Ahmedabad new textile mills, himadri textile mills, Jehangir textile mills, new Manikchowk textile mills and Rajnagar textiles mills no. II have been closed down. Mahalaxmi textiles mills in Bhavnagar, Petlad textiles mills in Petlad, Rajkot textiles mills in Rajkot and Rirangam textile mills in Virangma have also been closed down in Gujarat. [Transaltion] All are closed, where was the new formula of Gujarat. There was a prior time that when Gujarat was the formula. Because of the Gujarat formula they were not able to revive the mills.

Sir, I may also tell how many mills have closed down in Mumbai. This is where the eyes of the real estate brokers really are. Apollo Textile Mills, Bharat Textile Mills, Digvijay Textile Mills, Elphinstone Mills, Finlay Mills, Gold Mohur Mills, Jupiter Textile Mills, Madhusudan Mills, Mumbai Textile Mills, New City of Bombay Manufacturing Mills, New Hind Textile Mills and Podar Processors, India United Mills No.1, 2, 3 and 4, India United Mills Dyeworks, Jam Manufacturing Mills,

Kohinoor Mills No.1, 2, and 3 and Shri Sitram Mills have closed down in Mumbai. Altogether 26 mills have been closed down in Mumbai. This is the land which is going to real estate.

I do not want to name one trade union leader. He was a strongman of Mumbai. The industrialists gave him money to have a strike so that the mills are closed down because these mills are in the heart of Mumbai – Parel. In the place of one mill, Grand Maratha ITC Hotel has come up. In the place of other mills, where hundreds of people were employed, shopping malls and night clubs have come up. So, at the cost of mills, where workers were earning their wages, luxurious shopping malls and other things have come up.

Now, the time has come to take a view. The Government has got this much of property. It has to declare what its policy is for the future. Now, you are saying you have a great model in Gujarat. Gujarat model is bogus one. Fifteen mills of NTC have been closed down. We want a positive model which will talk of rejuvenating and reviving the mills and capturing a part of the market.

Lastly, NTC had very good showrooms in prime areas in many cities. You go to them and they will say that nothing is available as supply is not coming. There is no effort made to really revive them. Sir, you will be surprised – Shri Gangwar is sitting here – to know that they do not have a full-time Chairman-cum-Managing Director in the whole of NTC at New Delhi. A Technical Director is acting in his place. How can you run a big industry in this way?

While we support this Bill, we say that this is not the way the public sector should be run. Public sector was started by Pandit Nehru so that the public sector controls the commanding heights of the economy. NTC was created by Indira Gandhi so that the jobs of the workers and the production of textile in this country are protected. Let the Minister say what the outlook, the roadmap and the vision he has for NTC . I hope that after the support that he receives from all of us unanimously, he will be able to take positive steps towards taking the mills forward.

So far as textiles sector is concerned, we are concerned in Bengal about textiles because jute is also under this Ministry. I would like the Minister to also visit some jute mills. One mill in

my constituency has closed down today. He should give a little more time and he should also be given a little more power because textile concerns the basic working class.

Thank you.

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): Sir, with your permission, may I speak from here?

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Yes.

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO: Thank you, Sir.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): Your rank can be withdrawn if your Party comes to know about it.

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO: Sir, I am only going down the line in my Party, and not hopping across.

Sir, the Hon. Minister in his introduction statement mentioned many things about this Bill; the intent of this Bill; and the fact that it has a larger public interest in mind. The fact that it attempts to cover up, as he mentioned, 'loopholes in existing law', and the reasoning behind the amendment in the written text says that "The nationalization of the Textile Undertaking, a large sum of money has been invested with a

view to making the said Textile Undertaking viable. ” Hence, the Government claims that this amendment has been brought to light.

Hon. Member, Prof. Saugata Roy, in a cross-flow discussion told one of the other Members that the Government should have approached the High Court for redressal of encroachment, but this Bill itself has been brought about because the NTC and the Government has received many adverse judgements both in the High Court and the Supreme Court. Why is this Government going to go to the High Court when it attempts to subvert the judicial law / judgement made by the Hon. High Court and the Supreme Court?

The first thing that this Bill claims is that a large sum of money has been invested to modernize the textile mills. The Hon. Member, Prof. Saugata Roy, very correctly mentioned that out of selling of all the land, roughly Rs.6, 551 crore has been realized by the NTC as yet. However, only Rs.1, 391.24 crore has been spent for modernization and revival. Where has the rest of the money gone? If you claim that you are selling the land, which originally belonged to private mill owners, and which was

leased by individuals to those private mill owners who have got cases in court, which have given that land back to the private owners or for that matter to the original lease holders and you are selling that in the larger public interest, then where has the other Rs.5, 200 crore gone? Why has the Government not spent Rs.5, 200 crore to revive sick mills, and to raise the living standards of the employees and of the people who actually lost jobs in that area?

Let us look a little bit about the history of NTC. Prof. Saugata Roy has mentioned a lot about it. 119 Mills were nationalized since 1968, that is, since its inception; 78 of them have closed down; and 24 of them have been attempted to be modernized and revived. The NTC still has free-hold land of about 641.98 acres, and some more lease-hold land, which is 593.14 acres. Now, this lease-hold land was given to NTC under a lease, which has expired. Right to property is no longer a fundamental right. However, under the articles of Constitution, it still exists and the Supreme Court has upheld it. The Supreme Court in its judgement of 2011 in a case against Poddar Mills, which is a prime land located in Mumbai, upheld that : “The

NTC is not Central Government. It is a public sector unit, and it cannot represent to be Central Government and it cannot hold land in continuation of the lease which was given to it, once the lease time expires.” This Ordinance has been brought about to repeal it.

It would have been okay because the end would justify the means. The means in this case, in my view, is flawed because even when the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister were talking about the GARR, the retrospective taxation clause, they said that this Government will provide stability of progressive regime. They said that we will not have any retrospective tax amendments. However, in your amendment under Clause 7 (a) it states that:

“The provisions of this Act, as amended by the Textile Undertakings (Nationalization) Laws (Amendment & Validation) Act 2014, shall have and shall be deemed always to have effect for all purposes as if the provisions of this Act, as amended by the said Act, had been in force at all material times. ”

Where has that stability of regime gone? I thought this Government was committed to have no retrospective taxation, and no retrospective changes. However, not only have you brought a law which will repeal the judgment of the highest Apex Court of this country, but also you are doing it retrospectively. I could have understood, I could have forgiven it, if you had done it for the larger interest of the public. But what is the NTC doing? All it does is sell land; it has become an agent, a middleman for selling land, for making shore malls and residential complexes to come up in the city of Mumbai.

This amendment should have spoken more about the revival of the textile sector as a whole. I am committed to believe what the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister have continuously mentioned that it does not matter whether it is a public sector or private sector, they will reinforce the conditions for revival of certain sectors; and textiles of course is a major employment generating sector. If this Bill had been brought about with certain reforms in this sector, certain incentives for the sector and the roadmap could have been laid by the Hon. Minister as to how he plans to revive this entire sector, he would

have got unanimous support from this House. However, a Bill which brings about repealment of judicial pronouncements, which takes away ownership from private individuals and vests it into public sector units for the sole purpose of selling that land for money, not all of which is invested back into the revival of textile units is something which, I think, is morally and legally incorrect and I for one cannot support it.

Hon. Member Shrimati Mahajan was talking about the Prime Minister's grand-scale vision for 'Make in India'. However, by bringing about this amendment, the Government seems to have been under the idea of 'Sale in India'. Do they want to sell all public sector lands? Why not privatise the NTC itself? That is a more holistic way of looking at the entire subject. What is the purpose of selling piece-meal land and machinery, when you do not use more than 15 per cent or 20 per cent of that amount for the revival of the textile sector itself? Where is the grandmaster plan that this Government is supposed to have, the so-called employment generating model of Gujarat? Why has that not been replicated in the Government of India? Where is the mismatch? Is the pressure of the real estate lobby

very high and does the Government really want the benefits to go to NTC? Is there a vested interest in this entire transaction? That is something which I would like to know from the Hon. Minister.

Can this amendment be challenged under constitutional provisions in the Supreme Court, especially when the Supreme Court has ruled on certain premises in many cases like the Podar Mills Case, the Elphinstone Case, etc? I have got a number of cases which I have written down, which I do not want to mention. But can this amendment be challenged under the constitutional provisions in the Supreme Court? Has the Government done enough homework about it? That is something I would like to know from the Hon. Minister.

I would like a categorical assurance from the Minister, a detailed account from the Minister as to what has happened to this Rs.6, 500 crore, which the Government has received by divestment of land? What is the roadmap for the other Rs.10, 000 crore or Rs.12, 000 crore which the Government proposes to get by selling of the other 1250 acres of land, which is still in its possession? What is the roadmap for that money to be used for

the revival of the textile sector and not to benefit certain individual quarters or not for the Government to fill in its fiscal deficit gap? Thank you very much, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (SOUTH MUMBAI): Sir, by bringing this law, the Hon. Minister has sought to ensure that all the land will be safe with the NTC. Most of the NTC mills are in my region. My childhood passed there. I have seen lakhs of mill workers working there. Poonam Mahajan ji has expressed her matter in the House. At that time, also from cotton to clothes, all things used to happen in the same mill. The clothes were processed and dyed, and all the things were in the same mill, and today all those mills have been closed. The city of Mumbai was vibrant and was vibrant due to textile mills. Mumbai was vibrant because the ports were there, and both these things are dying there. The vibrancy of Mumbai city has gone. I welcome the bill that you have brought because one thing has come true: neither the rich person nor the government has gone to the rich person. Now I have a question about whether he is secure or not. Recently I went to United India Mills. There is an open building of mill workers. There is a six-floor building, and there is no elevator. The building can collapse anytime. That building is in the premises of the India United Mill. Sougata Ray ji, you were

disclosing; I want to tell you that the first government will be there. He has joined the NTC Mill. The joint venture of United India Mill along with the owner of Dainik Bhaskar took place. He said he would give Rs 55 lakh to repair the building, but only Rs 15 lakh was spent. This building can collapse any time today. I had also written one letter to Gangwar Saheb regarding this. I have not received his reply to date. In such a situation, NTC mills are going to be in your possession. I want to ask you how much money you got from the land that you sold in Mumbai city. According to my knowledge, you got Rs 4,500 crore. As our colleague said where that money was spent, we came to know that they spent the money in the mill of Tamil Nadu. Why didn't you modernise the mills here? How will India United Mill be protected in your joint venture with Dainik Bhaskar and money spent there? When are you going to develop that land or not?

My colleague Poonam Mahajan said that the state government has spoken of one-third of the land. What is that one-third of the land? The open land inside the mills has been mentioned. Where there was a structure, there is not one-third of

the entire land, but one-third of the roads inside the mills, like open land, will get land. One building cannot be built there. For many years the workers of our mills have been demanding that they should be given free houses. Ashok Chavan Jee was the Chief Minister of our state. He said that we have given houses for free, but this is not true. Money is being taken from them even today. Even today many workers are on the waiting list who are asking for houses today. What steps will the government take in this regard? Why was NTC established? NTC was established for the protection of workers and development of the mill. All the PSUs that have stood in this country today, the nationalisation that Indira ji had done was because our employees were secure. But what we are doing today is talking about abolishing every PSU, whether it is telecom, banks, insurance, or Air India. The good thing you are doing through this bill is that you are taking it into your hands.

All the private mills in Mumbai have buildings built there. The Phoenix Mall stood up. Gambling is also going on there. The workers there did not get work. Now you talk of revival, but they cannot be given jobs. Can they give jobs to their children? I

have been fighting for it in the Maharashtra Legislative Council for 12 years and kept demanding that these children be given jobs. Today, their criminalisation was done due to not getting jobs for the children of mill workers because many people came on the way.

Sir, I want to ask you how many mills do you want to modernise in Mumbai through this, through the law? To my knowledge, only three mills are running – India United Mills, Tata Mill and that mill number five. The other two or three mills have been closed. In such a situation, what are you going to do about the houses of the people working in these mills?

Today the Hon. Member talked about Indu Mill. The Mahaparinirvana Day of our Bharat Ratna Late Dr Baba Saheb Ambedkar is coming on 6th December. For the last several years, these people have been fighting that they should be provided in place of Indu Mill. Is the Government going to take any action on this? If you are giving it to them, then say yes; if you don't want to give it, then say no. If the government will give it, when will it give it? If they give it, how much will you give? This should be known.

What arrangements are you going to make for their safety through this bill, whether it is the joint venture of India United Mill along with Bhaskar or the workers of Digvijaya Mill, who are the tenants? Is selling the NTC mill the purpose behind bringing this Bill? If it isn't, what are you going to do about them? If we get some information about it, then we will be pleased.

Sir, I again request through you to protect my mill workers and talk about their houses. If the government comes forward and provides space for their houses, then my government will have done the greatest noble deed, and I will be proud of it. I complete by expressing confidence that you will do this work. Jai Hind.

[English]

SHRI KADIYAM SRIHARI (WARANGAL): Sir, I rise to support this Bill on behalf of my Party Telangana Rashtra Samiti. I also congratulate the Minister for this Bill. This Bill is intended further to amend the Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1974 and the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995 in order to continue with the leasehold rights vested in the National Textile Corporation on completion of the leasehold tenure.

Sir, the Six Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1974 and the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995 were enacted to place within the power of the Central Government the rights, title as well as the interests of the owners in respect of the sick undertakings. After nationalization of six textile undertakings, substantial public funds have been invested in the mills with a view to making the sick textile mills viable and also protect the scores of mill workers. But unfortunately, after nationalization of these mills, 78 mills were closed down particularly in United Andhra Pradesh, five mills were closed down – Azamzai Mills, Warangal, Natraj Spinning Mills,

Adilabad, Adoni Cotton Mills, Adoni, Neta Spinning Mills, Secunderabad and Anantpur Cotton Mills. We expected that after nationalization, all these mills will be revived, the workers will be protected and the farmers will be protected. But unfortunately, all these mills were closed down. No single mill was revived in the present Telangana and the earlier combined Andhra Pradesh.

As per the National Textile Corporation Report, as per the scheme approved by the BIFR, they are modernizing 24 mills with a cost of Rs.9, 102 crore. I am doubtful whether these 24 mills will be profitable; whether these 24 mills will become viable; whether they were modernized as per the latest technology. I would like to know about it.

Another important thing is that some of these undertakings were on leasehold land and on expiry of leasehold tenure, the original lessor in some cases initiated proceedings against the NTC before the Court and got the order for vacation of the leasehold land and for handing over the same to the lessor. Now the Bill is intended to protect the land and assets of six textile undertakings.

While supporting this Bill, I want to know from the Hon. Minister one thing. The Hon. Minister just now informed the House that the NTC is out of BIFR. We are happy to know this. Once the NTC is out of BIFR, I want to know from the Hon. Minister as to what is the future plan of the NTC. How are they going to revive the existing mills? Do they want to start a new composite textile mill? What is the policy of the NTC? The Azamjai Mills at Warangal which was established by Nizam Nawab was closed after nationalisation of six textile undertakings. Many workers particularly weavers migrated from Warangal to other parts of the country in search of wage and employment.

Warangal is a very famous area for cotton. Lakhs of weavers are migrating from Warangal to Maharashtra or Gujarat area. I would request the Hon. Minister one thing. The Azamjai Mill was closed down in Warangal and now lakhs of weavers are migrating to other parts of the country. Cotton is available at Warangal. I would like to know whether, in their future plan, there is any proposal to establish a composite textile mill at Warangal.

Once again, we support this Bill on behalf of my Party,
TRS.

SHRIMATI BUTTA RENUKA (KURNOOL): Sir, I welcome this Bill and I support this Bill. I congratulate the Hon. Minister Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar for bringing this Bill in this august House.

Sir, by continuing this lease, we are not only protecting the investment of the Government, but at the same time, we will be protecting the employment of the employees who have been working since long in this industry and these textile mills.

After agriculture, the second biggest activity is weaving and textile industry. In my Constituency, there are a lot of weavers in Yemmiganur, Adoni and Kodumur. There is also a lot of cotton farming in my constituency. But unfortunately, we do not have any ginning mills, not even a spinning mill, not even a textile park. So, a lot of weavers, for their livelihood, are migrating from my constituency to other States.

I think by bringing this Bill, we are reviving the lot of sick textile industry and creating a lot of employment. In the same manner, I feel that we need to extend these kinds of textile parks through NTC in other areas wherever there is a large weaver community.

The Government should support these weaver communities and ensure that they do not move away from their profession and take up other works. Weaving is a great art. However, I have seen in my Constituency a lot of weavers leaving their traditional profession and going to work in small restaurants and at other places to earn their livelihood. From this we can understand how pathetic the situation of weavers in our country is.

Sir, I urge upon the Government to take initiatives to support weavers and build up textile industries to encourage this profession. Thank you.

SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY

(BAHARAMPUR): Sir, I rise to participate in the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014 which is preceded by an ordinance.

In the year 2011 the Supreme Court held that it was preposterous for the NTC to claim to be Government's agent and ordered its eviction from a prime 2.5 acre plot in Mumbai. The NTC has lost land on similar grounds elsewhere also and has placed other sick mills on tenanted land at risk. By dint of Rent Control laws, the sick textile units were evicted through legal procedures, and it was felt imperative to restore the right of the Government on leasehold lands in order to protect the huge public investment and the interest of the workers.

The Bill also states the reversing of the effect of judicial pronouncements that made a distinction between NTC and the Government. The legislation now makes it clear that NTC only holds the land as a custodian for the Centre, and thus reverses the effect of judicial pronouncements that make a distinction between NTC and the Government. Many of my esteemed

colleagues have already participated in the debate on this issue. I do not want to repeat the argument advanced by them.

As we all know, NTC was established in 1968 for managing the affairs of sick textile undertakings in the private sector taken over by the Government. In 1974 all these units were nationalized, and later three Acts for nationalization had been enacted to save our nationalized assets from being plundered.

Textiles are a part of our country's heritage. Textiles could be traced back to the Indus Valley Civilisation when homespun cotton was used for weaving of clothes. So, textile is as old as India itself as a nation. By all accounts, on one hand, we must preserve the right of the Government on leasehold and on the other hand, we have to be careful that those leasehold lands under the custody of the Government should not be given to any private organization or should not be used for any ulterior motives because now we are in the age of Adanis and Ambanis.

The Adani syndrome is very much evident in our country. So, we need to be careful of it. Insofar as textile industry is concerned, we know that in the wake of the year 1995, multi-

fibre regime was done away with and we had to face the competitive environment in the global arena.

Since liberalization of Indian economy in 1991, India has been witnessing phenomenal growth in the textile sector. We are earning 4 per cent of GDP, 14 per cent of industrial production, 17 per cent of foreign earnings and 35 per cent of our employment from this segment. In textile sector, we have many advantages and disadvantages towards which I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister. India has been ranked second globally in the textile export.

In China, the cost of labour has been increasing. In Bangladesh, which is another competitor of India in textile sector, compliance of international loans is not being maintained. So, naturally, India has a big opportunity in view of its relative advantage. At the same time, there are reports suggesting that Indian garment exporters are facing steep competition from China and other neighbouring countries especially when it comes to exporting to the European Union. Under the generalized scheme of preference it allows developing countries like Bangladesh to pay less or no duties on their

exports to European Union. Besides, the European Union has recently given special preference to imports from Pakistan, allowing it duty free access into 27 markets while withdrawing concessions to several Indian goods including textiles.

Has the Ministry taken cognizance of this issue? What kind of action has been taken by this Government to protect our export in the global arena? The textile and clothing has a dynamic effect on our economy, both in short term and long term. It gives income, it gives opportunity and it gives jobs; and in the long term it also strengthens our sustainability of economy.

I come from a State called West Bengal which is known as the largest jute producing state in the country. I would simply like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister that in West Bengal now, jute industry is facing a severe uncertainty. A number of jute mills are going to be closed; lakhs of jute mill workers are being retrenched. A few days ago, the workers out of rage killed the CEO of a jute mill named Northbrook Jute Co. Ltd.

Sir, 1, 00, 053 mills are there in West Bengal which need to be rejuvenated, which need to be provided technological upgradation and which need to be saved from fly by night operators.

I would request this Government that this Government should take initiative for using the jute fibre in more and more Government Departments so that jute could be saved as jute is recognised as the golden fibre of the world.

My district's name is Murshidabad. One of the schemes approved for implementation during the Twelfth Plan is the Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme. One of the mega clusters taken up for development is in Murshidabad. As on 14.11.2014, a sum of Rs.12 crore have been allocated for development of all the mega clusters. I would like to know how much has been allocated for Murshidabad and what is the progress so far.

The *Vastra Kamgar Punarvas Yojana* or the Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Scheme is an important scheme which provides interim relief to textile workers and those unemployed as a consequence of permanent closure of any particular portion

or entire unit in the private sector. When we look at the status of State-wise funds, West Bengal has not received any funds from 2010-11 while other States have received funds under the scheme. What is the reason for such kind of discrimination?

A few days ago, the trade facilitation agreement has been signed. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether it has been ascertained how much foreign direct investment has been absorbed in the textile industry in the wake of the trade facilitation agreement which ensures that easier customs could help our textile industry because 100 per cent FDI is allowed?

I find no reason to oppose you but on a rider that all the land vested with you should not be allotted or given to any private organisation or any other private interest.

Thank you.

SHRI M. B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Bill.

This Bill is to facilitate the on-going process of modernisation and to continue with the leasehold rights vested in the National Textile Corporation on completion of the leasehold tenure. Since in the content and intent of this Bill nothing objectionable is there, our Party, CPI (M) would like to support this Bill but at the same time I would like to raise some serious concerns and make some critical observations regarding the functioning of NTC and regarding the state of textile sector.

What has been the experience of this process of modernisation? What has happened to this process of modernization? The process of modernisation has not led to the revival of NTC and textile sector. Instead, it has led to the exploitation of NTC rather than the development and modernisation of textile sector, using the National Textile Corporation. Large scale corruption has taken place under the cover of modernisation. Some people, with their political clout, have got permits and these NTC mills have not benefited from that. The profits made have been siphoned off. So, I would like

to appeal to the Hon. Minister to please take some strong steps to avoid middlemen and promote direct marketing. Direct marketing could be promoted by opening more showrooms and NTC developing its own brand. So, I hope that the Government will take such steps and will take the initiative to develop their own brands.

16.00 hrs

Indian textile has become a global brand. It has become a big thing in the world and this is the right time to act. The Government takes some positive steps. I appreciate those steps. I hope that the Government will carry forward these steps.

When it comes to the workers, the Government claims that large sums of public funds have been invested in the mills with a view to making these mills viable and protect the interests of workers but I am sorry to state that this claim is a hollow claim. I am saying this because in the process of modernisation what has happened is that the number of workers in NTC has come down from more than 70, 000 to a mere 8, 000. A large number of workers have lost their jobs. This modernisation process should not be a job killing process but unfortunately it has

become a job killing process. This modernisation process has to be a process of expanding the capacity of NTC. Otherwise, the whole exercise will be futile.

16.02 hrs

(Shri Pralhad Joshi *in the Chair*)

There is enough scope for expanding the production capacity of NTC. The *per capita* cloth available in our country is one of the lowest as compared to the global standard. It is a shameful situation. The *per capita* cloth availability is only 12 yards. So, there is enough scope for expanding the capacity. I hope, the Government will take such steps.

The Government's claim that the workers' interests have been protected is a false claim because a large share of funds meant for modernisation has gone to the VRS scheme. That itself shows that the Government's claim that the workers' interests are protected is a false claim.

I would like to appeal to the Hon. Minister that the Government should also look into the plight of the weavers and cotton growers. They are also sufferers. Though that is not directly within the purview of this Bill, I hope the Government will also look into that aspect.

Finally, the intention may be good but given the policy thrust of this Government on privatisation and disinvestment, we have some serious concerns and apprehensions. Some of our colleagues have pointed out how cities like Mumbai have become the graveyards of textile mills and how glittering malls have been erected and have come up in those graveyards. It has been rightly pointed out that the whole thrust of this Government is on privatisation and disinvestment. I seek a clear and categorical assurance from the Hon. Minister that after consolidating the NTC the Government would not disinvest or privatise NTC. I am afraid that after consolidating NTC the Government may go for disinvestment. So, I demand a clear assurance from the Hon. Minister that the public sector character of NTC will be maintained.

I appreciate the steps taken by the Hon. Minister and the Government. Some positive direction has also been given by the Hon. Minister. I hope that the Hon. Minister will live up to the expectations of the whole House. The entire House has expressed its support despite some concerns and apprehensions. The whole House has expressed its support for the Bill. I hope

that the Government and the Hon. Minister will imbibe the spirit of the discussion and debate of the House.

Thank you very much.

[Translation]

YOGI ADITYANATH (GORAKHPUR): Hon. Chairperson, I support this Bill presented by the Hon. Textiles Minister. This bill is very important for farmers and workers in terms of the market.

In this country, the area where more employment potential is there after agriculture is the sector of the textile industry. If there is an integrity effort on this, more than 2.20 crore jobs and employment can be developed in the field of the textile industry. The Bill presented to preserve such an important area is welcome. We have seen the situation arising out of the closure of industry and have experienced it in eastern Uttar Pradesh. When one industry is closed, the market is destroyed, the farmer is devastated, many families lose their livelihood, and an army of unemployed is created. It also causes chaos at all, so the need to bring this bill has been felt, and I think it is most important.

There are both types of people in the real estate lobby. One is those who have truly come and are working in this area honestly. The other side is also the negative, which has the mafia and such elements, who conspire to shut down the

industries in advance running by pushing some people forward and trying to grab the lands at throwaway prices. A simple means of this is such that they get an order passed by the court. The industries to which this Bill is related to NTC are very important. I think we are living in a period of modernisation, but it is a sad situation for NTC. It was in loss last year after a continuous advantage. Approximately its profit this year, the Minister has said that we are presently running at about 15 crore in profits. We believe that in the coming times, with the ill power which the government is operating, NTC will be successful. Not only will this country be able to work in accordance with the sentiments of the common people in the textile industry sector, but it will also be successful in developing the vast possibilities of employment generation in this country, about 2.5 crore jobs and employment possibilities. When we talk about two-and-a-half crores, two-and-a-half crores in this country mean approximately 10 crores, which directly connect here.

Sir, the things I was saying about the real estate, the leaseholders, and the people who are trying to recapture the

lands of those mills by getting orders from the court or somewhere. You can fix the fare under the Rent Control Act and give it to them, but that industry should not close, because the closure of the industry means devastation for millions of people. Some things have come before us from that middle; the government has also accepted those things. The Government says that there are about 78 mills, which were closed under the revival package of BIFR, in which the Government is working; at 24 mills, the Government is currently working, and at 5 mills, there is work to be done in a joint venture.

In this, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister that there are some mills associated with Uttar Pradesh as well. In the mills of Uttar Pradesh, there are ten mills of Kanpur, but when it comes to revival, not a single mill of Uttar Pradesh is taken in. I would like to request that you note that Uttar Pradesh is the largest state in this country in terms of population, but when it comes to revival, it is written as unviable for it. When other types of questions related to that arise, then these ten textile mills, which are located in Kanpur, Hathras,

Saharanpur, Rae Bareli, Lucknow and Naini, should also be taken under the package of revival; this is my request.

Through you, I want to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to another issue. He is associated with the Gorakhpur Commissionerate. Under NTC, two sugar mills operated there through mills. ... (*Interruptions*) Sugar mills were also operated through them. It has a Ganesh Sugar Mill of Maharajganj district and a Kanpur Sugar Works Limited of Padrauna. They were also operated under NTC. Surprisingly, Ganesh Sugar Mill has been lying closed since the year 1993-94. It was running and in profit under NTC since the year 1988. Despite being in profit, this sugar mill was closed. He was later sent to the BIFR. The intention behind it was to sell the land of this sugar mill to some mafia, but at that time, that sugar mill was such that at the gate of which the farmer used to deliver his sugarcane in sufficient quantity, but the farmers there were devastated. The employees have not been able to get any salary or other facilities since the year 1993. The employees are devastated. The employees had to go to court and take a stay when efforts were being made to sell that sugar mill. This is a serious question on the working system

of mill-linked managements. This is a serious question, because, in the private sector, the textile mills are running at a profit. Why are these mills running under the control of the government running into losses? Is it not the fault of the management? Will the responsibility be fixed? The same has happened with regard to Ganesh Sugar Mill. A mill running in profit was closed, and after that, employees were denied all kinds of facilities. Even today there is enough sugarcane there. Even today, an adequate quantity of sugarcane is there, but the scrap of the sugar mill was sold. For Rs 12 crore that scrap was sold; two crore rupees were given to the employees, and ten crore is still there. I have come to my notice that there is an outstanding amount of Rs.29 crore owed to employees over the mill; so far it has not been paid. I would like to request the Hon. Minister that arrangements should be made to reopen the Ganesh Sugar Mill, as an adequate quantity of sugarcane is there. If that mill runs under NTC, then NTC should run it again. I think there are no constraints on sugarcane and that mill will go into profit.

Another sugar mill is at Padrauna under NTC itself. This sugar mill defaulted Rs 4843 lakh to farmers and employees.

This sugar mill has been sold to some people. It was given to the private sector on the condition that after running for two years, the mill owner will pay the sugarcane price of farmers in six equal instalments and pay the dues of the employees. He ran for three or four years and made a profit, but neither paid the dues of the farmers nor paid the dues of the employees. I would like to request the Hon. Minister that the problem of Padrauna Sugar Mill be solved by the Ministry of Textiles, so this sugar mill running under NTC should also be revived. It can get sugar; its machinery is fine. If the Government wants, it can run it in this session so that the sugarcane price of the farmers is paid and the payment of those salary items is also arranged for the employees.

The Bill that you have presented, the land associated with NTC, I think NTC has a lot of land. You are talking of 2400 acres of land; Ganesh Sugar Mill alone in Maharajganj district has about 800 acres of land. If honestly a farmer tries to work on that land, he will be in profit in any situation, so I would request you that along with the revival of all the textile mills of NTC, those mills run by NTC, which are in the larger interest of the

farmers, are in the larger interest of the employees and are in the larger interest of the country. Thank you.

[English]

***SHRI N. KRISTAPPA (HINDUPUR):** Respected Chairman Sir, I support this Bill and would like to bring to the notice of Hon. Minister, plight of handloom weavers in my state. I would also like to highlight the problems faced by the industry and the hunger deaths of large number of weavers.

Chairperson Sir, our state has large number of weavers than any other state in our country. After agriculture, weaving is the next largest profession in our country. Under British regime, East India Company asked weavers to work in textile mills. Weavers refused to such proposals vehemently and continued with handlooms. Such handloom weavers are now finding this profession unsustainable and are committing suicides due to hunger. It is the responsibility of the Government to control hunger deaths. In last 10 years, due to wrong decisions taken by the Government many weavers committed suicide. In Andhra Pradesh including Telangana, around 1000 weavers committed suicide in last ten years. The Government could not stop even a single suicide. Handloom weavers are on roads. Then

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Telugu

Government gave false assurances. In Andhra Pradesh, there were 1100 handloom unions, but now even 100 such unions are not in a position to function.

Government promised to revive all closed handloom unions in last ten years. Government also assured to buy handlooms from weavers and sanction loans to every handloom weaver. But none of them were provided with any loans. Due to failure of previous Government in fulfilling it's promises, 1000 weavers committed suicides in my state. Sir, because of Mills and Power looms, handlooms are not getting profitable price. The cost of production of a fabric on Power looms or Mills is Rs.7 per metre whereas cost of production of similar fabric on handlooms is Rs.10 per metre. There is a gap of around Rs.3-3.50 in cost of production. In such a scenario, Government should take steps to protect our weaving community. This is the responsibility of the Government of the day. If the Government cannot find ways to fund this gap of Rs.3, weavers cannot continue in this profession.

There is a danger of losing this profession, which may result in even more suicides. The Government should see that

weavers are protected. Government is providing training to encourage handlooms. A weaver who was dependent on this profession for 40 years and all of a sudden he finds this profession unprofitable. Government may find ways to diversify this profession. In such a situation, we should work to protect this profession and weavers, who are dependent on this profession.

I request the Government to revive closed handloom associations and take steps to protect this profession. In 1995, Handloom Reservation Act was enacted, in which 11 types of fabrics were to be manufactured exclusively on handlooms and not to be manufactured in Mills or Power looms. But that law was violated openly and these fabrics are being manufactured by Mills and Power looms, but the Government is not taking cognisance of this development and I request the Government to kindly take note of this violation.

Similarly there is a provision to manufacture 50% hand yarn in spinning Mills, but this is not being complied with. I also request the Government to take note of this violation as well.

Sir, Government should take steps to stop suicides of weavers and should help in continuation of handloom profession. Government should arrange for buying handlooms from weavers. Similarly, Silk sector is also in crisis because of least imports and as a result silk weavers are also in distress. I request the Government to take necessary steps to protect weavers and I support this Bill.

Thank you.

[Translation]

DR. ARUN KUMAR (JEHANABAD): Hon. Chairperson Sir, I rise to endorse this Bill introduced by the Government. Today all the parties have their support for this Bill. Sir, textiles are the second important element in bread, cloth and houses. The hero of the bread is the farmer and the labourer giving the base of the cloth. This is the second most important element for life. There have been many ups and downs in this journey from 1974 to 2014, and the condition of NTC is not good. People who used to call themselves progressive – our great orator, Sougata Ray Ji, has left after giving speeches. But giving speeches is one side; bringing it to the ground is the other side. In this disappointing situation, the government's resolve and conversion of dividend in the short term speak of a positive resolve. In such a situation, the government has brought this bill; it reiterates its intention and resolve that we will change the nature of NTC tomorrow and will succeed in the purpose for which it was established.

Hunar also has protection in it, and people associated with the textile industry are still preserving their art. If it did not get protection for long days, then definitely this skill will disappear.

On the scale of the world, Malmal of Dhaka and Silk of Bhagalpur in India had an identity; today that identity is becoming extinct. In such a situation, Sarwar's resolve and such things which are going to come in the way of labourers are being removed, and this bill is being brought for the protection of workers and the industry.

Sir, I would like to say through you that ANTC has also created a wire of its own for a long time. Although many other companies came into the market, the quality of NTC is searched for by people in the market. So, definitely, we would like to say that the government should establish that fundamental character of NTC, give strength, and through this bill, that form of NCT should be strengthened. This will be a major collaborative step in fulfilling the demand for NTC wire in the market. With these words, we support this progressive step of the government and hope that a gap which is going to be a gap will stop and our skilled labourers will get protection. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI E. T. MOHAMMAD BASHEER (PONNANI): Sir, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Bill.

The very intention of this legislation is to protect the National Textiles Corporation and make it free from all encumbrances; to protect the property now under the possession of the National Textiles Corporation as per the lease-hold basis. This is all right but the very purpose of this legislation is very limited. I naturally thought that the Hon. Minister would bring forward a comprehensive legislation on this very important industry.

Our friends were saying about the deplorable conditions of the NTC. I also endorse their views. The NTC is in a very bad shape now. Almost all the public sector industries are only like that. Because of this Government's policies, almost all the public sector industries are in death bed. We can say that.

We had a glorious tradition built up by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. We know of the gigantic public sector industries as per the vision and determination of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He

called them all as the Temple of the Nation. We had such good industries. Unfortunately, because of this Government's negative policies, all these industries are diminishing like anything.

Coming to the NTC, I would like to say that the NTC, as has correctly been pointed out by my friends, has created a lot of bad debts record. We had high expectations. When nationalization took place in 1974, we had a lot of expectations.

Unfortunately that expectation has not been fulfilled. We all know that there is a lot of potential in the textile industry. As correctly pointed out by my friends, we have employment opportunities, export avenues, industrial output in all these areas where textile industry is very attractive.

Textile industry is contributing 14 per cent of our industrial production. Three to four per cent contribution is made by textile industry to our GDP; and it is providing 25 million employment. Textile industry is such an industry which can give employment opportunities; we can build it up into a prestigious industrial sector. But that sector is now facing acute shortages.

If we do an honest swot analysis of the textile industry, we would realise that we should have a comprehensive legislation on this. We know the present situation. What exactly is happening? After liberalisation, goods are brought from neighbouring countries under Open General License. FDI is there in the retail sector in a big way. Textile goods are coming, especially from China with 'made in China tag' in a big way. Imports of cheap textiles are coming from other Asian neighbours. Upgradation of technology is not taking place. Poor supply chain is also a problem. All these problems are there. Instead of attending to these problems, the Hon. Minister is paying little attention to it. What I am suggesting is that the Government should take initiative and save this industry. Textile industries have a lot of scope. Unfortunately, we are not thinking loudly on that. Of course, I agree with the view that these are good things. At the same time, we must make analysis as to how to save textile industries from crisis. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI (NAINITAL -

UDHAM SINGH NAGAR): Hon. Chairperson, you have given me the textile undertakings (nationalisation) laws (amendment and validation) bill, 2014, the opportunity to speak; I am grateful to you for this.

I fully support this bill, and I think there are a lot of issues in favour of this. Many Hon. Members have detailed their views on this. When it comes to textiles, from Kabirdas Ji's Jhini-Jhini Bhini Chadariya to Gandhiji's charkha, now one of our friends was saying, Dhaka's Malmal, etc., comes to our mind. This makes us think we are moving towards a new era.

The Bill introduced by our Hon. Minister is about NTC, but I think through this NTC Bill, a new chapter in the textile industry will start. This bill will revive the NTC mills; their land will be thought of. My state is adjacent to the Himalayas, and the people there still run their livelihood by making wool katvars and clothes. There were first two spinning mills in my area, Nainital-Udhamsingh Nagar. They were formed under a cooperative, but today they are on the verge of closure. They

have a lot of land. Our Prime Minister talks about the skilled labour. There are skilled labourers there, but they are on the verge of unemployment. Their condition is deteriorating day by day. In such a situation, I would request the Hon. Minister that apart from bringing this Bill about NTC, the spinning that has been made in the whole country, especially my area, if they are closed because they are not running in the right condition, I would like to take them with NTC. Or, by opening a textile park, the mills should be taken over by the government so that the migration to the hilly area today and the problem of industry are huge, the unemployment problem and the people who are employed there are also becoming unemployed, so I want the Hon. Minister to consider this NTC Bill further. As they are bringing this Bill today, all of us on both sides are supporting it. Our colleague Sougata Ray Ji was saying that no one will get employment. How are you predicting this? After all, we have a lot of capable people sitting at the centre. The Hon. Prime Minister has set an example in Gujarat; in other states, he is presenting those examples, Poonam ji was saying. That's why definitely the reforms that the Hon. Minister is bringing in this bill, I think this will create new employment opportunities. The

mills which are going to be closed in my area will get a new life. If the Hon. Minister opens a textile park, that backward area will get a new life. Thank you.

SHRI KAUSHALNDRA KUMAR (NALANDA): Hon. Chairperson, for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on this bill. I thank you for that.

The sick textile corporation is being discussed in the House today to maintain the leased rights vested in the National Textile Corporation. As stated, due to low production and excess manpower, the National Textiles Corporation was entrusted to the Industrial and Finance Reorganisation Board, which led to the closure of 78 mills. We come from Bihar. When Jharkhand separated from Bihar, most of the industries that were there went to Jharkhand. 78 mills have been closed there; out of them, two mills are there in Bihar – Gaya Cotton Mill Jute Sumils and Gaya and Bihar Cooperative Mills, Mokama. I request that the 78 mills which have been closed be considered also. After all, our children are not getting employment. So in such a situation, my request would be that the Government should consider starting the 78 closed mills.

During the election, the Hon. Prime Minister had gone around and said that I will give employment to the unemployed people. The 78 mills which are closed today, I would like to tell

the Hon. Minister that there is a need to consider those 78 mills in the bill that you have brought. NTC is a Government undertaking. What is the condition of government mills? Everyone has been told here, but the Minister has said that in the year 2013-14 there has been a profit of Rs 15 crore. I would like to make the mills state-of-the-art and provide employment to the unemployed people also.

I support this bill, and I hope the government will consider reviving the 78 closed mills.

Thank you.

[English]

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN (KOLLAM): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill but with certain reservations and I would also like to seek certain clarifications from the Hon. Minister.

Sir, I support the spirit and the intention of the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014 that the two Acts, namely the Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1974 and the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995 have to be amended so as to protect the property of the National Textiles Corporation, especially in view of certain judgements given by the Supreme Court in which the leased property has to be handed over to the private companies which are the original lease holders.

Also, it will be adversely affecting the interest of the National Textiles Corporation. Definitely, even through an Ordinance or even by way of this piece of legislation, what the Government did, I fully support it and appreciate the step also. But my reservation is in respect of the legal validity of this Bill. That is to be taken into consideration.

The second reservation which I would like to cite before the august House is regarding the purpose of having this much of land and what the Government or the NTC is going to do in respect of this property which is being accumulated by way of this Ordinance or by means of this legislation. These are the two questions which I would like to highlight before the Hon. Minister as well as the Government.

Sir, when we come to the National Textiles Corporation's position, it was a prestigious industrial establishment in textile sector in India. There were 119 textile mills. Now the latest position which has already been stated by my Hon. colleagues in this House is that out of 119 mills, 78 mills have already been closed; 23 mills we are able to revive. Now they are running in profit also. And 5 mills are in joint venture. There are 11 mills under arbitration pending legal proceedings. How has this happened?

Sir, I will explain with an example in my constituency, Kollam. Parvathy Mills is a century-old mill in Kollam. It was a very reputed textile Mill in Kerala. I am fortunate that in my State, out of the five mills, four mills have already been revived.

This mill was also included in the revival package. Unfortunately, it has been taken out of the revival package. It has been proposed for the joint venture also. Subsequently a Memorandum of Understanding has been entered into with some private partners so as to have a joint venture. After the review of the joint venture proposal the NTC and the Government of India cancelled the joint venture proposal. Against the cancellation of the joint venture proposal, the private parties went to the court.

Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister of Textiles, you may kindly see, when the joint venture MoU has been entered into five years back, what the NTC management has done. They went to the court. What was the role of the NTC management? They were keeping mum; they were keeping silence. I am alleging that the NTC management was colluding with the private companies so as to get this company for them just for real estate purposes. Nothing has been done so far. For all these four-five years, nothing has been done. Still it is pending before the court and it is under the arbitration proceedings. The land belongs to the public. The Government of India is just colluding with them. We have made

several representations. The State Government of Kerala has requested the NTC management, if you are not running the mill, if you are not reviving the mill, you please handover the mill to the State Government so that we can commence a medical college there, which is very near to the District Hospital in Kollam. I am for revival of the mill. Now less than 100 workers are there. Most of them have retired without getting anything. The Hon. Minister may kindly see, today the *badli* worker's daily wage is Rs.185. You have increased that; I appreciate that and I am thankful to you. Just one week back it was Rs.110. After giving a representation to you and having a meeting with NTC officials, they have increased it to Rs.185. This is the pathetic position of the NTC mills in India. There is no management. I think, there is no NTC Chairman also. It is an unfortunate affair on the part of the NTC management. So my submission is, Parvathy Mills in Kollam may be revived, if it is possible. If it is not possible, please handover the mill to the State Government. This is 16 acres of prime property in the heart of Kollam city worth crore and crores of rupees. The private partners and private companies are eyeing at this prime

land, not for the revival of the mill. So my submission may kindly be considered. That is my first part of submission.

I am coming to the Bill regarding my reservations once again. Firstly, I do agree with the Government and the Minister, the Bill establishes the right of the NTC in respect of the ownership, the possession. Absolutely, it is okay.

Court has also made a distinction in respect of NTC and the Government of India. It is correct that NTC is the custodian of the land which has been acquired or nationalised by the statute of Parliament. The Acts of 1974 and 1995 stipulate the Government of India to have the nationalisation of the mill. Definitely, the owner of the land is the Government of India. I do agree with it.

The reservation that I have made is regarding clauses 3, 4, 6 and 7 of the Bill. I would like to know whether the validity of the Bill has been taken into consideration. Let us see clause 4 sub-clause 'c':

“no suit or other proceedings shall, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions, be maintained or continued in any court or tribunal or

authority for the enforcement of any decree or order or direction given by such court or tribunal or authority, notwithstanding any undertaking filed by the National Textiles Corporation in any court or tribunal or authority, ... "

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Member, please conclude now.

... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN: Sir, I will conclude. The content of the Section is that if a decree or an order is passed by the court or tribunal or any other authority, the court or the tribunal has no power to execute the decree, judgment or order. I would like to know whether it will sustain in the Bill. That is my main question or apprehension.

So, once again I fully support the Bill. I would also like the Hon. Minister to take into consideration the legal position of the Bill. Otherwise, again it will go to court because the interested parties are the big industrial houses. As a result, it will get struck off. That has to be taken into consideration.

With these words, I support the Bill. Thank you very much.

[Translation]

SHRI NANA PATOLE (BHANDARA-GONDIA): Sir, the property so vested under the Textile Undertaking Act shall not be sold or leased to any private businessmen. This bill is being brought here to protect our precious lands and to save this property of the country. First of all, I support it. Certainly when these mills were built, they were built outside the city. After these mills were built, next to them, there came a large-scale industry into their premises, and they expanded. Prices of these lands started increasing then, and labour started to prejudice. It was being told to these millers that if they sell the land, then they will get more profit.

Regarding the Sick Textile Undertakings Act, 1974, and the Textile Undertakings Act, 1995, Sick Textile Undertakings and Textile Undertakings in their country, the Government has modified to vest the rights, title and the interests of the owners. Sub-section (1) of Section 3 of the concerned Act was transferred and vested with the National Textiles Corporation Limited (NTC) under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the said Act.

The Central Government invested in the revival of sick textile mills under the Ailing Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985. The scheme was approved by the Industrial and Financial Reconstruction Board for the revival of sick textile mills under the law. To protect the behaviour and the interests of the workers, to do some leaseholds of these undertakings that were there, to hand them over to the same, on the expiry of the leasehold tenure, in the said case ordered to proceed against the NTC before the original leaseholder court and leave of leasehold land. In the absence of adequate legal protection, the NTC, which has land in its possession on a leasehold basis, cannot be in a position to protect leasehold lands. For proper and effective implementation of this revival plan, it is necessary to preserve public investment in textile undertakings and ensure clarification of the status of such vesting of leasehold rights in the Central Government.

Hon. Chairperson, of course, the National Textile Corporation provides benefits to the general public and maintains land in the possession of the said corporation. The bill that has been brought here today will definitely have the

usefulness of this bill in curbing the funds that used to run till yesterday. I come from the State of Maharashtra, and there are a total of 58 textile mills. Among them, 33 mills belonged to Central Textile Industries Mahamandal, i.e., NTC, and at least 145 acres of land of the following mills were sold by millers to developers. It includes Kohinoor Mill – One, Two, Three, Four; India United; New India Textile Mill; Gulmohar Mill; Sitaram Mill; Apollo Mill; New City of Bombay Mill; Elephaston Mill; Finley Mill; Poddar Mill; Madhusudan Mill; Jam Mill; Tata Mill; Digvijay Mill; and Jupiter Mill.

Hon. Chairperson, I would like to inform you that the number three mill land of Kohinoor mill at Dadar in Mumbai was sold by the millers for Rs.421 crore, and the land purchased was sold to the big industrialist for Rs.1600 crore. When the Highrise Kohinoor Tower was built on this land, the poor workers working in this mill were rendered homeless and evicted by not giving them any compensation.

Hon. Chairperson, when cotton farmers were in our Maharashtra through textile mills, they used to get good money on a large scale. Then the number of farmer suicides was lower

with us. Ever since these mills and land started getting more than gold, these people shut down textile mills and set up large towers like Kohinoor there, and today we see the suicide of the most farmers in the country in Maharashtra itself. Through this bill, I would like to say to the minister that this bill has definitely been brought for the security of the land. This bill will definitely be approved here, but on the basis of promise, people who took land on lease on the basis of agriculture and who violated the agreement should take action on them all and take the land into possession. The farmers and workers of Maharashtra should get justice through this bill.

Hon. Chairperson, although I had to speak a lot, one thing I would definitely say is that the day before yesterday we had a huge front brought out by the people of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar's ideology in Mumbai. The previous government had talked about giving twelve and a half acres of land at Indu Mill for the memorial of Baba Saheb, but till now the land has not gone into their possession. I would say through this bill to the Hon. Minister that on December 6, in the memory of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar, there is a huge programme there. I want to say

to the Minister that today when he speaks elaborately about the bill, at that time he should also announce to give the twelve and a half acres of land for the memorial of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar; I request that and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI M. UDHAYAKUMAR (DINDIGUL): Hon. Chairman, Sir, vanakam! I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this auspicious occasion before this august House on the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment) Bill.

I have been fielded by my party AIADMK, as the second speaker to speak on this Amendment Bill because we consider this to be an important legislation.

Sir, the thrust of this Bill is to streamline the functioning of the National Textile Corporation (NTC). The NTC was established to run sick mills in several parts of the country in order to save the interests of the working class, namely, the textile workers.

This legislation is to remove the legal hurdles related to the land owning of these NTC mills. Now, I find an opportunity to request the Hon. Textile Minister, to bring about some more measures in the interests of the textile workers and also the traditional weavers.

I come from Dindigul Constituency, which has got traditional weaving industry for long. The Chungudi sarees of Chinnalapatti are world famous. This traditional pattern of weaving is liked by Tamil women folk from all over the world. It is being exported to Malaysia, Singapore and places where Tamil Diaspora are living in many parts of the world. This weaving industry is there in the form of many small scale units. More than 25, 000 weavers and their families are living in and around Chinnalapatti, which is very near to Dindigul town.

In order to raise the standard of living of the weavers, our AIADMK supremo Hon. "Makkalin Mudhalvar" People's Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Ammaji's Government extended the benefit of providing 'greenhouse' to every weaver at a cost of Rs.2.60 lakh. This move of our Government is to help their livelihood enabling them to have their weaving looms inside their houses. These houses have also been provided with solar panels. This model of textile promotion has been introduced in many parts of our State of Tamil Nadu. I would urge upon the Central Government to take this model of Tamil Nadu throughout India.

Nagal Nagar, which is a famous place in Dindigul town is a weaving centre in itself, widely known for silk sarees. These weavers are, now, facing problems due to increased competition, especially because of the Chinese imports. The Government must come forward to extend the financial assistance so that this industry does not wane way from that place. The survival of these artisans and weavers must be ensured.

My Dindigul Constituency is also known for suitable climatic condition for setting up textile mills. Hence, we find several units both at the small and medium scale level. It would be a right measure to establish a Textile Park, which will help the textile industry in that part of our country. So, if the Centre comes forward to set up a Textile Park, more focused measures can be extended to both the weavers and textile workers.

Since this Bill aims at the welfare of the worst affected textile industry, I hope the Hon. Textile Minister will take a comprehensive view to help the textile workers and weavers, who are in various pockets of the country.

I would, therefore, urge upon the Union Textile Minister to come with a realistic Textile Policy and also with a financial

package in order to help and save the textile industry and traditional weavers, in particular.

With these suggestions, let me conclude expressing my full support to this Bill on behalf of our party, AIADMK led by our supremo, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Ammaji.

Thank you.

17.00 hrs

[Translation]

SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE (MUMBAIR SOUTH CENTRAL): Hon. Chairperson Sir, I welcome this Bill and also give an impression to the Hon. Minister.

Sir, legal problems of the textile industry can be solved through this bill, but social problems should also be solved through this. I have been selected from Mumbai. Mumbai is known as the financial capital of the country, but the old identity of Mumbai is from its textile industry. The mill workers in the textile industry have an important role in the development of Mumbai. Mumbai, which is associated with Maharashtra today, is associated with the movement of the mill workers of Mumbai due to their cooperation. In the development of Mumbai today, whatever name is there, its mill workers have an important role in it. Today the condition of those mill workers is serious. Attention should be paid to that serious situation because this bill will solve the legal problem, but an action plan should also be prepared by the ANTC to solve the social problem due to the

closure of the mill. When the Hon. Minister replies to this bill, he should also provide information about its action plan.

Sir, all the millers who live in the premises of the mill today, all those structures in which they live are in delayed condition. They face death every day. The condition in which they are living today is grave. The government should pay attention to their serious condition. When the State Government, NTC and Central Government gave permission for the redevelopment of land of NTC there, it was decided that all the mill workers there would be rehabilitated. Unfortunately, even after taking such a decision, the permission was given to build big towers and make malls in all the lands of NTC, but the rehabilitation of the mill workers has not happened yet. They are in the same condition even today.

Sir, through you, I want to request the Hon. Minister that unless the programme of rehabilitation of mill workers is implemented, you should not give permission for its development. All the towers and malls that have been allowed there should be successfully implemented by withholding the permission for the rehabilitation of the mill workers.

The commitment was made by the previous UPA government to provide free houses to these mill workers. But, unfortunately, that commitment was not fulfilled by the UPA Government. Today there is a great expectation from the NDA government, from its government, from many citizens of the whole country. With this expectation, all citizens voted in favour of the NDA government. All citizens are also labourers in fulfilling that expectation. Mill labourers also expect a lot from this government: that the injustice done to them in the UPA government will be done away with and give justice to them. I am sure my Government will give them justice and rehabilitate them in a proper way.

Sir, the fund that has been generated by selling the land of NTC is around Rs.4,500 crore in Mumbai. If 10% of that fund is used for the rehabilitation of the mill workers who live there or in the repairing of the houses of those who live in the delayed condition, then definitely it will provide relief to all the mill workers, and the resentment among the mill workers will be removed.

I want to tell you that a film was made last year on the condition of the families of Mumbai mill workers. His painful condition was depicted through that movie. I request the Government to take this matter seriously.

17.04 hrs

(Hon. Deputy Speaker in the Chair)

Sir, my former speakers lived about the international memorial of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. About this, I want to say that the tongue of Indu Mill was allocated to build the international memorial of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. But, unfortunately, it has not got permission from the Environment Department so far. Along with this, till the bill comes in that regard in this hall through NTC, that international monument cannot be built there. I request the government through you to give permission from the Environment Department as soon as possible to build the international monument of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar ji and bring the bill regarding it soon. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN (VADAKARA):

I thank the Chair for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Textile Undertakings (Nationalization) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014.

In opting for an ordinance route the real intention of the last Government was to protect the sick units and their rights on the leased land held by the Government. National Textile Corporation was incorporated in the year 1968 for managing sick textile undertakings in private sector taken over by the Government. The NTC had made a turnaround within a short span of time to emerge as debt free company with a highly competitive revival strategy. So, the NTC is a key player in the textile sector. The moves by the last Government had transformed it into an integrated company capable of addressing the needs of the nation.

The NTC has made profit in the years 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13. During the current year also it is making profit. Under such circumstances, it is in the interest of our country that NTC is protected and strengthened.

Sir, this amendment Bill, as many Members have stated, may appear innocuous. But the real intention behind the move of this Government is to sell the precious land under the pretext of reviving and strengthening the mills under NTC. The Hon. Textile Minister, Shri Santosh Gangwar also said that the Government is disposing National Textile Corporation lands worth Rs.1750 crore in Uttar Pradesh alone. He said that he had a fruitful discussion on this issue with the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. I do not know what that fruitful discussion is. He said that they are going to sell land worth Rs.1750 crore in U. P. alone. The Minister said that this is with a view to generating revenue to the Government. But, what is most likely to happen is that it is going to be a total sell out of NTC in a phased manner. This is a retrograde step which is to be condemned by all sections of this House. It is my appeal that Government should desist from selling the lands as it will ultimately render thousands of labourers jobless.

I would also say that this Government, it appears, does not stand for the interests of the working classes. They are, in fact, supporting the interests of the corporate sector. The time has

come for us to be aware of the move of the Government which is towards swift privatization and selling out of the public undertakings and the Government lands.

The right wing economic policies of this Government and its espousal of majoritarianism in politics will ruin this country. It is my fervent appeal to all sections of this House to oppose the right economic agenda of this Government with all the might at our command. Thank you.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (DHARWAD): Thank you, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Textile Undertakings (Nationalization) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Bill, 2014.

First of all, I congratulate and thank the Hon. Minister because in 2011 the Supreme Court had issued an order for the NTC to hand over 2.5 acre of land, which is a prime land, to Seth Hirachand Charitable Trust while dismissing the argument that the PSU was protected from rent laws and it was a government agent. The NTC was the tenant of the trust. A number of other mills have also been hit by similar ruling. But, till then, from that date to this date, nothing was done. Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar under the guidance of Shri Narender Modiji took a dynamic decision.

Looking at the land mafia and real estate mafia, it can be said that he would have compromised if the ordinance had not been brought. Probably, this prime land of four mills, which have been closed, in Mumbai itself and in respect of which the order has been issued by the Supreme Court

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would request the Hon. Members to listen to his speech. Otherwise, I am listening to

your discussion and not his speech. That is the problem. That is why, I am requesting you to please maintain order in the House.

If we allow like this now, afterwards we cannot run the House as it may become a customary thing that other Members may speak from the other side of the House. When everybody goes on speaking, how can he speak?

I am requesting the Hon. Members to please have order in the House.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: The land belonging to these four mills, which have been closed down, in Mumbai is worth Rs.555 crore. If the intention of the Government was not good or it wanted to do something else, it could have not brought the ordinance followed by the present Bill or legislation. By this itself, the intention of the Government is very clear.

This Textile Bill has been brought by the Government because the Government and the NTC have a plan to revive the sick industry, which was sanctioned and approved by the BIFR. According to the BIFR sanction and recommendation, a lot of money, that is, public money, has been invested in these lands and that is why, it was very much necessary to bring this

legislation so as to avoid the handing over of the land which would have resulted in closing of the mills and the workers losing their jobs permanently. That is why, I appreciate the concern of the Government.

Now, the question is why to extend so much of support to NTC. Textile industry, which is the second largest employment provider in the country, contributes around four per cent of GDP, 14 per cent of industrial production and 17 per cent of export earnings. India's textile industry has transformed from a declining sector to a rapidly developing sector in recent years. India's cotton farm fibre and textile industry provides employment to 4.5 crore people in the country. That is one of the biggest in India. Textile sector is the second largest employment provider as I said earlier. The Government has set a target of creating one crore employment opportunities in 12th Five Year Plan from 2012 to 2017.

During the year 2013-14, the country's textile exports stood at US \$38 billion. For the current fiscal year, the Ministry has set an ambitious target of US \$50 billion. To achieve all these

things, there is a need to support this. I am so happy that this Bill has received support of all sections.

About the textile industry, in one of the studies by Wazir Advisors and PCI Xylenes & Polyesters Limited, an expert consulting company in textiles, it is said 'If the Indian textile industry takes the right steps and gets adequate policy support from the government, it could add another \$400 billion by 2025 to its present size of \$108 billion. This would also catalyse another 35 million jobs and \$200 billion of investments.' This was the report of the study group which was set up by the previous Government and that expert committee has given such a report that the Government's policy and the Government has to support the textile industry.

Having said that and while supporting this Bill fully and appreciating the concerns of the Hon. Prime Minister and the Textiles Minister, I have some suggestions to give to the Hon. Minister. Firstly, due to weak demand of the global markets, mainly, the US and Europe, textile exporters are making efforts to increase their presence in emerging markets like Latin America, Africa and Japan. The US and Europe, together,

account for 65 per cent of India's textile exports. I would like to urge the Hon. Minister to consider a few points as many of the textile industries are on the verge of shutting down.

Firstly, establish fashion hubs all over India to attract all domestic / international professionals from the field of fashion, design, buying houses and business representatives on a single platform to facilitate business with India. Secondly, interact and exchange ideas from all fields of design through seminars, exhibitions, fashion weeks, workshops, interactive sessions, etc. Basically, in this, we need to do research, which we are lacking in India. Though we are lacking, yet we grow coloured cotton in this country. Coloured cotton is grown even in my own constituency of Dharwad. The Agriculture University, Dharwad has developed coloured cotton seeds, and farmers of our country are doing so much that we need to explore and support the research activity in this field. Therefore, we need to establish a Research and Development Centre to project and explore Indian capabilities in design technology and quality standards.

Another important suggestion would be to establish new skill development centres. As it is, is the ambitious plan of skill

development of the Prime Minister. He has taken a lot of interest in it, and he is encouraging, with all enthusiasm skill development in the country. Hence, realising the potential of textile and garment industry in creating large-scale employment for the unemployed youth, especially, skill development in women has to be encouraged.

After developing / establishing skill centres, industry and institution linkages should be established. Now, what is happening is that on the one side we are establishing some skill development centres, but the industry is not linked with it. Many a time, whatever is taught in the institution is not practical, and sometimes it will be obsolete. So, linkage between industry and institution is necessary, and it is the need of the hour also.

Single-window clearance is needed because in many cases if a person wants to establish an industry, then he has to move around so many Departments. Hence, as far as textile is concerned, the Government has to take a firm decision for a single-window scheme, and it should advise all the State Governments for single-window clearances.

Safety and health issues in the textile industry are another area of concern. The textile industry consists of a number of units engaged in spinning, weaving, dyeing, printing, finishing and a number of other processes. Hence, they are exposed to so many things, especially, cotton dust, chemicals, noise, etc. Once they get addicted or are made to hear it continuously, then deafness will occur. Hence, exposure to these things is causing all such health-related problems.

Sir, I would require just one more minute to conclude my speech. Healthcare among the workers in the industry has to be taken care of, and that has to be taken into consideration when a new industry is established where cotton is grown. For example, in Raichur in Karnataka and other areas, in Hyderabad-Karnataka, and even in Northern part of so-called Mumbai-Karnataka a lot of cotton is grown, but no industry is there. Hence, I would urge the Textile Minister to look into this point that whenever an industry is established, then the growers -- where it is grown more -- have to be kept in mind. I am saying this because in Karnataka the cotton grown is the highest in

South-East Asia. Hence, the new industrial policy, as far as textile is concerned, has to be immediately announced.

It should be ensured that all the State Governments implement it. With these words, I support this Bill. Once again, I congratulate the Hon. Textile Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister for not coming under the influence of the Mafia of land grabbers by immediately coming out with an Ordinance and now with this Bill, which is being supported by the entire House.

SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA (KOLAR): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. I thank Gangwar ji who has brought this Bill in the interest of the nation and in the interest of the employees.

The Bill is not clear about two important issues. Before investing money, the Government of India should have all the details. When you have taken the land on lease and if you want to stake claim to that land, it becomes very difficult. In order to stake your claim to that land, you have to give proper compensation to the lessor. However, such land should not be sold out and it should remain as Government's property. There is no clarity on this issue. The BJD Members have given an amendment in this respect. I think Gangwar ji has to take care to ensure that this land is not sold out to private people. It has happened like that during the NDA Government, when Shri Vajpayee was the Prime Minister. At that time, public properties like the Ashoka Hotel in Karnataka, the Laxmi Palace in Udaipur, which were like historical monuments in India, were sold at 20 per cent or 30 per cent of their actual value.

Today the cost of the land is hundred times more than what it was when it was taken on lease. If you again offer it to private people, again the same thing which happened during the NDA Government will repeat itself. They had also planned to sell the Ashoka Hotel in Delhi. By that time, we came to power and we have stopped that deal. This is the most important point.

Basically, it is a good legislation and it is correct that the property should vest with the Government. As Pralhad Joshi ji was saying, the textile sector contributes more than four per cent to our GDP. Today what is urgently required is the creation of more employment opportunities. Besides, maintaining quality and skill development is a must. If we manufacture quality products from cotton, silk or wool, they will then be marketable in the international market resulting in the availability of more foreign exchange for the country. What is also important is the establishment of skill development institutes wherever the NTC mills are located. The UPA Government has taken a stand on this issue and we have started them in some areas. Being 'skilled' is most important and it is not enough if you have any qualification like B. E or ITI diploma. What is the demand in

our country and in the international market? Keeping that in view, skill development is required. I hope the Government will take care of this issue.

Secondly, Tamil Nadu, Andhra and Karnataka are the largest producers and manufacturers of silk fabrics. This is one of the most important export commodities which is earning more foreign exchange. In order to encourage them, I would urge upon the Government to set up good textile parks in those areas where silk production is more like in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka or Tamil Nadu. These are the areas where the quantum of production is very high.

The Chief Minister of my State, Shri Siddaramaiah, has announced that wherever the Union Government supports the manufacturing of silk in our State, there the land will be given free of cost. In my parliamentary constituency, Chikballapur District, Sidlaghatta Taluka, our Hon. Chief Minister has announced that if the Government of India is willing to support, then the State Government will give land free of cost, whatever may be the requirement of land. Sidlaghatta Taluka is one of the largest producers of silk in the entire State of Karnataka.

That is why, I urge upon the Government to give support to the silk industries. I think it will be helpful to two or three districts. This is my request to the Hon. Minister but again, I will appeal to the Government that your intention seems to be hiding. You have not clarified whether this land has to be given to the private or not. It is not said clearly. We have suspicion on this issue because you have made a mistake by selling the monumental like hotels in the then NDA Government. Do not allow to happen these things. Please protect the public property, establish them and develop them. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

DR. SATYA PAL SINGH (BAGHPAT): Sir, at the outset, I would like to congratulate the Hon. Textile Minister and the government for bringing out this ordinance and now the bill. This bill is in the public interest and in the national interest. I would like to make my point very briefly, not repeating what the esteemed Members have said before me. This country was once the world leader in the textile industry. Durand had written a book, 'The Cause for India'. At that time, i.e., at the end of the 18th century, 30 per cent of the world's GDP was from India. How the East India Company and the British Government destroyed the textile industry of this country is worth reading in this book. Honourable Modi ji did not become the Prime Minister at that time. In the Central Hall, he had said that our government, the government to come, and all the Members of Parliament will think for the poor and will work for the poor. Today's Bill is a very commendable effort in that direction.

Our culture says 'Ganaat Gunoah Ganayana, i.e., quality is better than quantity. In NTC, 78 mills are closed; we should think about how world-class textile industries can be created.

The government's resolve behind this Bill is to provide employment to the people, to teach skills, to be a sick person or to make the industry healthy and to give employment to thousands and lakhs of unemployed persons. In this way, the Government wants to infuse a new hope. This bill is saving land worth Rs.20,000 crore, and only land worth Rs.5,500 crore will be saved in Mumbai.

Thousands of workers have lost their jobs due to the closure of my constitutional Modi Nagar in Mumbai and textile industries in western Uttar Pradesh, Bulandshahar. They have neither employment nor their children have any skills. I would like to request the Hon. Minister to think about them as to how to restore these thousands of unemployed. Many of these people have retired. I request that their children be taught skills. Modi Nagar has been the first centre of the textile industry. I request that the National Institute of Textile Engineering be opened here. When there is a farmer producing cotton, shouldn't there be representation of a farmer in the NTC Board of Directors? It is very important to have the representation of farmers.

There is no industry in western Uttar Pradesh, especially in Baghpat. I demand that a good industry be opened in Baghpat according to world technology so that criminalisation can be stopped and youth can get employment.

I would also request that exploration behind good intentions is not the identity of gentlemen. Our government's intent is excellent. All members should wholeheartedly welcome this Bill and support it. Thank you.

[English]

SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY (PALI): Sir, I thank you very much for affording me an opportunity to speak on this very important legislation. I stand here to support the Bill. The Bill before this august House is very well worded and it is a visionary one. Basically, it protects the interests of the farmers, the interests of the labourers and it is in the interest of the nation also.

To understand the true nature of the Bill, we have to go back to the two earlier Acts with respect to sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1974 and the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995. Basically, these enactments were enacted with a view to vest in the Central Government the right, title and the interest of the owners with respect to the sick textile undertakings. Now, after passage of time, this is basically the purpose of both the Acts to transfer the vesting of the right of the Central Government in the National Textile Corporation. As large sums of the public funds were at stake, the Government had invested in these mills. It may either be a sick textile mill or otherwise, to make them viable and to

protect the interests of the workers, some of the undertakings were on leasehold. On expiry of the leasehold tenure, the original lessor initiated proceedings against the NTC. To protect the leasehold right of the NTC, this Bill is before this august House.

It is necessary, for proper and effective implementation of the revival scheme and to protect public investment, to vest the leasehold rights in the Central Government. Hence, this Bill is before this House. Now the fear has been expressed that "the property so vested with the National Textile Corporation should not be sold or given out on lease to any private business concern". In my humble submission, this fear is unfounded, misconceived for the reason that under the Bill, there is no delegated power either to the Government or to the NTC either to sell or lease to any private businessmen or business concern. Further, a notice for amendment has also been given with respect to the fact that "this Bill should be introduced with retrospective effect, that is, with effect from 24th of October, 2014".

If we see the Bill, then it is very clear in section 1 itself. Section 1 sub-section (ii) says that it shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from 24th October, 2014. Now in view of this, both the amendments moved by the Hon. Members are, on the face of it, ill-founded, misconceived as well as not tenable in view of the provision already envisaged in the Bill itself.

Now, I come to Chapter II and Chapter III. Chapter II deals with sick textile undertakings whereas Chapter III deals with the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act. These provisions make it clear that the Court's jurisdiction has been ousted with respect to the leasehold rights vested in the Central Government. This jurisdiction was ousted when the Act of 1974 and the Act of 1995 came into force.

Again with respect to this there is a deeming provision under Clause 3 that where textile operation has been discontinued, no plea can be taken for this. Under the provisions of this Bill those textile operations shall be deemed that the operations are being continued and no suit or proceeding shall be instituted. So, this has also been taken care of.

For removal of the doubt it is declared that the continued deemed vesting of the leasehold right is in the Central Government and in the subsequent capacity in the National Textiles Corporation. Further, provision has also been made that in case any judgment or decree is given by the court, with effect from the date when the earlier Acts of 1974 and 1995 came into force, it will relate back, and this Bill will have overriding effect.

Everywhere in the Bill the word "court" has been mentioned. I would suggest the Hon. Minister to define the word "court" so as to include High Court and the Supreme Court. In the Civil Procedure Code and everywhere else the word "court" does not include High Court and the Supreme Court. So, on the floor of the House if the Hon. Minister considers it proper, he should ensure that the word court must include the High Court and the Supreme Court so that any order or decree passed by a High Court or Supreme Court will also be included for the purpose of this Bill.

As far as Chapter III is concerned, this is an analogous provision with the Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation)

Act, 1974. The two Acts are analogous, and the other provisions are also the same.

This Act in a nutshell is in the interest of the nation. I fully support the Bill presented before the august House and would request all the Members to kindly pass it with an overwhelming majority.

Thank you very much, Sir.

[Translation]

SHRI GOPAL SHETTI (MUMBAI NORTH): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. I would like to thank the Government and especially thank the Minister that this Bill has been brought at the right time. The mill owners who were there went to the court, lived in the High Court, lived in the Supreme Court, then claimed this land through ordinance, and today a chapter will be completed as soon as this bill is passed, I believe. But when we move towards the second chapter, there are some doubts that the government will give the land to someone in the future. It is a deadlock. Therefore, our basic objective is that people should get employment and work through the mill, and the government should take immediate steps for it; this is my demand. It would be great if we could start this mill again through new technology. This will provide work to the unemployed people of Mumbai city. Secondly, one of my small demands is that just like with other mills, one-third of the land was given to the metropolitan municipality and one-third to MHADA while changing the DC rule in Maharashtra. I do not want to include MHADA in it, but if one-third of the land is

given to the Mumbai Municipal Corporation, then the major problem of traffic in the city of Mumbai, if we rehabilitate the shops and houses on the road line, can be solved, I believe. Regarding the second chapter, I would like to suggest maybe nobody would like to like it, but with a very open heart we have to talk to the people; we have to talk to the opposition also. The vision of the Modi government is very clear: whatever we do, we will do with transparency and will do for the people; Sabka Saath and Sabka Vikas will take place. Therefore, can all of us think that the money that will be generated by selling this prime land in Mumbai city, which is very high, can provide employment to the people on a large scale by taking land at a very low price next to the city of Mumbai? So much potential and strength are there in it.

Just like the Nano car that Tata wanted to set up in Bengal was removed from there, in Gujarat, Modi ji invited Tata to set up this factory in his state. As a result, in a year itself, the Neno car came to the roads of the country by being built in Gujarat. The people of our country have so much potential. That is why by using the vacant land, we can generate more and more

employment. The government should take immediate initiative in this regard. The Minister is the Chairman of the Committee on Textiles, and I am its Member. I would like to request the Minister that by convening a meeting immediately, we should discuss such problems.

Finally, I would like to say one more thing here. There is a prime land of 12 and a half acres of Hindu Mill in Mumbai city. Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar ji has given the idea of equality, Mamata and brotherhood on the basis of which our country is running. The issue of 12-and-a-half acres of land has not been resolved yet. I would like to suggest that by sitting in the political parties and also calling the heads of the Republican Party of India, some way or the other should be found. If Babasaheb Ambedkar's monument can be built on this land, then it should be built. The thoughts of Dr. Ambedkar ji will be alive for centuries, and they will grow further. If that happens, we will welcome it.

Secondly, if we can find out a right formula about this land and provide employment to the people or find some other solution, then it should also be considered. If this is not possible,

then the land of this Hindu mill should be given to the Republican Party of India and Babasaheb Ambedkar Memorial Trust so that their memorial can be built at the earliest. All political parties should cooperate in this. Let me conclude by giving you this type of idea about this Bill.

[English]

SHRI SURESH C. ANGADI (BELAGAVI): Thank you very much, Deputy-Speaker, Sir, for allowing me to speak on this Bill.

I must congratulate Shri Santosh Gangwar on this occasion for taking the bold step. Textile and agriculture are the two eyes of the country, which are going to create more human resources for the country. On the one side, the farmers can give food for the country; and on the other, they can give clothing for the entire country. So, these two are more important for the growing human resources of the country.

Today, the Hon. Prime Minister and Shri Santosh Gangwar have taken the bold step to revive the textile industry. By reviving the industry, most of the youths can get employment and can have better life in the country.

As my colleague Shri Pralhad Joshi has rightly stated their health condition is also very important. Keeping this aspect in mind, their work ambience should be created and their health should be taken care of.

As Mahatma Gandhi said, 'With cotton and cloth, more revenue and employment can be created by the two industries.' Agriculturists can give employment for labourers and farmers to grow cotton in their fields. After growing cotton industrialists can start industry and provide employment for many youths of the country and prevent them from going. State to State in search of employment.

Earlier, during the British rule, the major production of cloth was from our industry. The world famous cloth was produced by Indian people but unfortunately in later period the governments have not given them proper encouragement and as a result of that we have failed. Today, Shri Narendra Modi is giving proper attention to these two industries. They are the major industries of the country which can create more employment for the people. So, my earnest request is that a small training centre should be opened in each *taluka*.

My constituency, Belagavi is a very important cotton growing place. The farmers who are growing cotton must get a better price. Once the industry is there, he need not depend only on one crop; he can depend upon different crops also. In some

cases farmers are going on strike for better prices for sugarcane. Instead of sugarcane, they can shift to cotton also. So, I request the Government to give skilled labour training for the youths. They can be given proper advice in this area to start self-employment schemes.

I request the Hon. Minister to have textile parks in every district. If there is a textile park in every district, the farmers can grow cotton and bring it to the industry there. If there is a good demand, they can sell it in the open market and if there is lack of demand, they can sell it to the Government at the support price offered by the Government.

So, my earnest request is this. Nowadays, our exports have been reduced when a small country like Bangladesh is exporting huge textile materials, India with over 125 crore human resource, we can create more employment for the people. These two industries are like eyes of the country. I request the Hon. Minister to give more scope for these industries and see that employment opportunities are created so that our people can stay in this country. Thank you very much and I support the Bill.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): The Deputy Speaker: Today, to convert an ordinance into a bill, we all are present in the House. Today, 27 Hon. Members have expressed their views in this regard, which makes the interest of the members understandable. I am happy that not most of the Members, all the Members have supported our ordinance and this Bill, I am very grateful to you. I would like to thank my friend Kalikesh ji for expressing some other interest. What Kalikesh ji was saying is that what our aim and thinking are makes our sense of his interest? Now, I have not stood up to criticise the previous Government. We didn't take all these decisions. We want to carry forward the legacy that we got. The previous government did well in its own way, but its result is in front of you. If the members here have said any opposite thing, then you can guess who it goes to. I want to say that our goal is not to sell the land. You should accept that we want to follow the same map which the Hon. Prime Minister says that everyone should develop; everyone should get work. Like many of our

colleagues, I said that after agriculture, textiles is the sector which has employment opportunities. We also know how many employees used to work here when it was acquired and how many do now; it is in our knowledge. So, when it was said, What happened to the money that came? The Government of that time will probably not be interested in giving VRS in this way. VRS was also given, and VRS was given well.

I would like to briefly inform you that Rs.1618 crore was spent for the modernisation and expansion of NTC mills during that time, and Rs.2380 crore was spent on voluntary retirement for the workers. It would also be appropriate to mention here that everyone was satisfied with the V AARS that the workers had taken. Rs 660 crore was spent to give to financial institutions and creditors.882 crore was spent on interest and other expenses. I am giving this information because some money has been wasted; we should accuse it, and maybe it is not. We say that this Bill has come up with only clarificatory. If we wanted, we would not have brought it; then we would have been accused of having bargained. We do not feel anything opposite in this, and people should say this. Today's situation

you are seeing and what we are telling you about it...

(Interruptions)

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you can continue replying.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can address the Chair.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ... **

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can continue your speech.

... *(Interruptions)*

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions) ... **

[Translation]

* Not recorded.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Hon. Deputy Speaker, now I want to say the initial thing. The thing is true that currently the NTC is running five mills, which are in profit. Eleven more mills are running; we believe that these 16 mills will run at a good profit. Two mills are near Puducherry. The joint venture has five mills which are running in profit. As our colleague pointed out, there are 11 pending due to joint venture court and arbitration. I am saying this because we want to take it forward. I want to say that if we are making a profit, then in the coming time, our goal is also to make these five mills which are in profit. How do we take these textile mills forward in profit? Today we can say that we soon will bring out 11 mills in three to four months which are going to be profitable. We also understand how we can take this work forward. We know that the number of employees has steadily decreased and this number will not reduce further; it is our request to you, and through you we want to inform the House that we want to revive them and stop the package as to how we should take them in the right direction.

I would like to tell all your colleagues that the Hon. Minister of Finance had announced textile clusters in her budget speech. I want to tell Muniyappa Ji that inside Mysore, we have announced a cluster in this budget. Soon, with the cooperation of the State Government, we want to take forward the development of this work of Silk, and we are also doing this work. We want to bring to your notice and also call on the amount of interest that the House has shown; we request all of you that we will get as much benefit as we do ahead in this field.

I would like to urge the Hon. Members that if you have a suggestion that this work should be done in this field and if you write to us, we will consult you properly and take it in the right direction. I am saying this because we are interested in how to increase employment in the country and how to develop everyone; it is our interest.

Respected Yogi Adityanath ji is sitting here, and it is true that in Uttar Pradesh we also wonder that textile mills and sugar mills should run them. It is really surprising, but we also have a problem saying, How do we fix it? We understand how these companies, which are subsidiary companies of NTC, should be

repaired after hearing in the High Court. We are working together in this direction. I can only say that after our government came to power, its stand was placed in the High Court and worked to tell us that we should dispose of it. We understand that a decision will be taken soon.

The sugar mill of Patrona is not of NTC. We are making efforts in this direction, and all the MPs of Uttar Pradesh, in whose areas these mills come, we will talk to them and decide what to do with the mill. About a mill, we were made a party in the court that you are not the owner of it. How have you sent your men to it? The court notice sent by those gentlemen also added our name to it. I am saying this because we are coming out of the systems of old times. There are a total of 11 mills in UP, 166 acres of leasehold land, freehold land of 190 acres, and everyone is worth five thousand crores. One mill is in the arbitration of JV, and 10 mills are closed. This is what we all are aware of and will call the Hon. Members of Parliament concerned for the same. How can we bring them on the path of improvement so that people can feel that NTC has been given, which people should be proud of? We believe that in future

people will work to have a good opinion about NTC. We have full faith in this.

Just now one of our colleagues was saying – and the details are correct – that the post of CMD has been lying vacant for a long time. We can't answer who is responsible for this. But I want to tell the House that you will get a notice about it very soon because the process is in the final stages.

I don't want to go into many things. Our written reply will also be given to the members who have spoken today, and we will also talk to them if necessary by announcing them. But one very important topic was told by our colleagues about Indu Mill. All I would like to say is that the problem of Indu Mill was not created by us. I have spoken to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra twice, and our office is in constant touch there. Indu Mill is on 12 acres of land. The Maharashtra Government had requested the memorial of Baba Saheb, and continuously we were told, and we also said, that we did not have any objection. But if we go into the dates, it will feel that the present government is not responsible for this also.

The latest situation is that the Cabinet of the Government of Maharashtra has sent a few conditions to 17-11-14. We don't disagree with them. We have given our consent. I have also called Law Secretary Saheb and have spoken to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra in this regard. Soon whatever is the problem in this, we will overcome it, and on the coming 6th day, we will have no objection to it that the statue of the very grand and beautiful Babasaheb will be installed there. No one should have any doubt about this. The Central Government and the State Government of Maharashtra are the same. Both of them have agreed, and the way I have spoken to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra, I think they have fully agreed to it. We cannot give any clarity on what has been delayed here. But I think you shouldn't have any doubts. This is not an issue, and this issue has been resolved. We can all say that.

Shri Prem Chand ji had said about Parvati Mills. All I can say to him is that still this subject is in the tribunal with the arbitrators. It will be decided soon; our office will talk to you. Whatever will be the solution at the earliest, we will try to complete that solution and work towards improving it properly

so that you do not get a chance to say anything about it. I want to say one thing: the way this Ministry was functioning in the past, we immediately announced to build 13 textile parks after coming into the Government. In the coming time, we are going to make more announcements, and textile clusters have also been announced.

I want to mention one more thing here that a textile policy was formulated in the year 2001-02. Today again, we are making a textile policy. He has been put on NAT, and very soon we want to have a new textile policy because we just called the textile ministers of all the states a few days ago. And we talked to them. We had also asked for suggestions from them that you should give us suggestions on how we should take this policy, and if there is any dispute anywhere, then it should be resolved.

I think that how we can work to advance the new textile policy by next month will be decided very soon. But people come to us and tell us about it, like we are in UP; much work can be done in UP. Now it seems that we have not worked to take it forward in that way, whether it is in the old place Banaras we have announced to build, whether it is about Mirzapur, or

whether it is about Bhadohi-Mirzapur. I would also like to say that a cluster should be formed with Shahjahanpur, Farrukhabad and, in addition to Sitapur, this has also been said by the Hon. Chief Minister. Apart from this, there is Mathura and Agra; these are all areas. I would like that if you would like to inform us about all this, that this work can be done here; then definitely our Ministry will be concerned in this direction.

I feel that the textile is such a big ministry that I will take it forward better because there is no limit to its work. The special thing is that this Ministry works for the development of the lower strata of society. The society which lives below the poverty line, the society which is associated with BPL, today this Ministry is ready to work for it and is standing among you. This is just the beginning, and how much interest you have through it is understandable to all of us. I would like this interest to grow further, and our endeavour is that this Ministry should work as a colleague, ceasing to be a Ministry.

18.00 hrs

We have decided that whoever comes here, we invite everyone and tell them that you give us suggestions and what we

can do. Just a few days ago I got an opportunity to go abroad, and it came to see who number one is. Number one is China. Can't we go beyond China? Don't we have that much courage? We understand this, and when we spoke to our colleagues and our officials in the department, we decided that if Bangladesh or small countries want to come into our fight today, why can't we move forward?

Sir, jute is such an industry about which we all know, but its problems are heard. At present, there is no Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now it is six o'clock. Is it the pleasure that the time of the House may be extended till this Bill is passed?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: How we can multiply jute is understandable to all of us. We are constantly talking about jute to the people of West Bengal and going accordingly. I would like to tell the Hon. Members that cotton is

a very important subject, and today there is a lot of pain among the people regarding cotton. Since I am also from a farmer's family, if any product is produced more, then the fault of the farmer is not considered. I felt good when I came to know that this time cotton production in our country is more than every year. But the problem is the same: now a farmer gets a complaint that he should not commit suicide. Especially in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, the problems are being heard in these four states. I would like to tell all colleagues that if you feel that there are problems, then tell them. We have opened purchasing centres of MSP everywhere. Even after that, if you feel that more centres are to be opened, we are ready to open, and we are talking to different state governments. Right now there was a problem in Telangana; we met and resolved it. Our department is continuously engaging and interacting with the officials of Gujarat and in Maharashtra also. My effort to not face this problem. Last time there was excavation around three hundred bails; this time around four hundred bails are being produced, about 20 to 25 per cent more is being produced. We are trying not to make the farmer feel that we have produced more, so we are losing it, and we want to

work together accordingly. I would like to congratulate the farmers that they have acted so well. It is the responsibility of our government not to let them get into the problem; we should work together accordingly. That is what I want.

I can say many things in this context, but I would only like to say that this bill has come only because today NTC is working in that way. We all want to work together, and I am very happy that now people from outside the country also come to our country and talk. You and everyone know that India can take the lead in this field. All the people involved in this business in the country who are interested in this business want that now an opportunity is available, and the way the Ministry of Labour is amending the law, we are also getting the benefit of that. We have brought this bill before you here today, and everyone has supported us. I hope you try to pass this Bill. Two amendments have come; I request that... (*Interruptions*) I will call all the concerned MPs of Uttar Pradesh within a week. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. I ask Shri Mahtab to put his question now.

*(Interruptions) ... **

[Translation]

SHRI BHARTURUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): You listen to the question; thereafter, you can answer everyone together. You are a capable Minister.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: I would like to request that you have a very small amendment; you can understand our sentiment. I urge you to cooperate and suffer to withdraw your amendments. Whatever you want to say on this, you are welcome.

[English]

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB: The Hon. Minister has said about establishing Textile Park. Of course, during the Budget Session, in the Budget speech, a declaration was made and some work has already started after the declaration has been made.

* Not recorded.

Today also, the Minister has said which are the places where these textile parks are going to be constructed. Odisha has been famous for textiles. Odisha has been exporting textiles. My question is in two parts. I need an answer for that. The question is in two parts.

Mr. Minister, you mentioned about jute products. You have also mixed that our cotton production has increased this year and in silk production also we do not depend on China. There are all status, Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and part of West Bengal - these are the places where silk production is to the maximum extent. There has been a consistent effort to kill the silk industry. So also, is the case in Karnataka and other places? It has been a consistent effort to kill the silk industry in our country. My request to you is this. While promoting textile parks, would the government take adequate measures so that cotton products, silk products and jute products are given priority? Terylene and terry cotton product should be discouraged so that cotton product get the maximum benefit. For Odisha, the Odisha Government has also approached your Ministry to set up a Textile Park in Oridsha. We would like to understand on that from you.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE (GULBARGA): My main question is this. The National Textiles Corporation nationalized the Gulbarga MSK Mill in the year 1971. Recently, some five or six years back, that property was handed over to the Gulbarga Development Authority to distribute the plots to the poor people but that money was taken by the GDA. I do not know whether it is auctioned or not. The point is that nearly 300 workers have occupied the National Textiles Mill quarters. They are staying there. They have given Rs.75, 000 as per the instructions of the National Textiles Corporation. Several meetings took place. I think not less than 50 meetings took place. They promised that these quarters would be given to the occupied workers and those who are there since 40 or 50 years and like that. But till today, that matter is not solved. Recently, the Textile Park is declared for Gulbarga but that work is also slowed down.

The third thing is that last time also the Government promised about the Bellary Textile Park. I hope the present Minister will visit Bellary because Bellary is the main garment centre to export the garments outside this country. Therefore, I want to know whether the Government is going to take action on

these three things and it is going to allot the plots to the original workers who are residing there, who have paid the money. They are waiting for your order.

I also want to thank him because a decision has already been taken that 12 acres of land of Hindu Mill is to be given to the Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Memorial Trust and they are going to form it. But it has to be expedited along with the Maharashtra Government. No objection to this is already there from the Government of India but how to come out of it is the problem. So, if they both sit together, I think, it will be solved.

SHRI M. B. RAJESH (PALAKKAD): Sir, I am forced to seek this clarification because the Minister was silent on an important assurance sought by me

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You seek it. There is no problem.

SHRI M. B. RAJESH: The question is this. Even after the revival of the NTC, will the Hon. Minister assure the House that the public sector character of the NTC is maintained? This is the question.

SHRI ARVIND SAWANT (MUMBAI SOUTH): I want to seek a clarification. Houses were to be given to the mill workers.

In Mumbai 36 mills are there. Textile workers are demanding free houses and the State Government has already agreed to it. Now they are charging some money for that. What is going to happen to those mill workers who are working in NTC? Are you going to give free houses? Regarding the India United Mills, for which you were to give some money for the repairs of the building, which is an historic building or for redevelopment. I would like to express thanks to the Hon. Minister, particularly for giving a positive answer for the Baba Saheb Ambedkar Memorial.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJESH PANDEY (KUSHINAGAR): Directly, I express my gratitude to you for allowing me to speak. I would like to bring two very important facts to the notice of the Hon. Minister which are related to Padrauna Sugar Mill. The first fact is that it is owned by the BIC Group, the subsidiary of the Textile Corporation. Earlier there were six sugar mills, Padrauna and Maraura, both of which are from Kanpur Sugar Works Limited, a subsidiary of National Textile Corporation. A month ago, I took out a 12-year record and went to your office and

submitted it to the revenue record that it is owned by Kanpur Sugar Works Limited.

Secondly, a notice of recovery has been issued by the High Court, which has also given notice to Kanpur Sugar Works. There is also an establishment that the High Court also believes that it is owned by the NTC. So, if NTC is owned by it, then arrangements should be made by NTC to run it. These two important facts were to be brought to the notice of the Minister. Thank you.

SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV (MADHUBANI):

Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, most of the workers working in NTC are backward classes, scheduled castes and tribes, but unfortunately, there is not a single OBC, scheduled caste or tribe director on the Board of Directors of NTC. Therefore, by making special provisions, the director should be kept in it for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes, which should look after their interests. There is a small request: the jute mills which are under these in Katihar, Bihar have been closed for a long time; they should be started soon so that jute growers of that area benefit.

SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA (BANDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, through you, I want to tell the Hon. Minister that spinning is available in Banda, Uttar Pradesh, which has been closed for a long time. He has not said anything about it. Include that in the revival plan, as there is no industry in Bundelkhand. The only industry is a spinning mill in Banda. If you do it, it will be good.

[English]

SHRI KADIYAM SRIHARI (WARANGAL): Just now the Hon. Minister inform the House that a new textile policy will be announced soon. He was talking about textile parks and textile clusters. I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether there is any proposal with NTC to start new composite textile mills in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI KESHAV PRASAD MAURYA (FOOLPUR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that there are three spinning mills inside Allahabad. There is a nanny, a mauaima and a meja. I have written several letters to you in this regard.

The land measurements have created a situation of selling a mill, and no one is stopping them. Please pay attention to that. The other two mills are closed. I would request that these should also be taken care of and get the mill emptied and started with the illegal occupants.

YOGI ADITYANATH: Hon. Deputy Speaker Sir, the confusion that has arisen about Padrauna Sugar Mill, I would like the Hon. Minister to clarify whether he belongs to NTC or not. ... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI (SANT KABIR NAGAR): Hon. Deputy Speaker, I would like to request through you that Maghar Spinning Mill has been closed in Sant Kabir Nagar district for a long time. There are 27 acres of land near that mill. I would urge the minister through you that weavers are also the highest number in Sant Kabir Nagar itself. I would like the Hon. Minister to start the Maghar Spinning Mill of Sant Kabir Nagar by showering his affection on it too... (*Interruptions*) And establish a Textile Park in Sant Kabir Nagar.

[English]

SHRI RAMEN DEKA (MANGALDAI): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Assam has a very good weaving industry and Mahatma Gandhi said Sualkuchi is the Manchester of the East when he visited Sualkuchi in 1946. So, I appeal to the Minister to give a cluster of textile parks in Assam so that the weavers of Assam get benefited.

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Sir, through you, I would like to urge the Hon. Yogi ji to decide on any date next week, and MPs from all over Uttar Pradesh should come and sit and talk. We will solve all their problems. ... (*Interruptions*)

Sir, I would like to mention in the context of Odisha that just some time back we held a conference on silk and honoured women associated with silk from all over the country. The Hon. President had visited that conference. You will note that the Prime Minister had gone to Leh and had come up with something about silk. I just went to Leh last month and have come there by announcing a dehydration centre at a cost of thirty crores. We have full interest in Silk. Just four days ago I went to Bangalore; we have big silk work there. How to take

this work forward and at this time in the world we are number two and four times ago was China; we know this thing. We came after talking to the scientists there, and they believe that we are interested in silk at this time and are able to work to take it forward correctly.

We have changed the policy regarding the textile park inside the country. At least one of the announcements that will be made in the northeastern states will be given. We have also announced that priority will be given in states which do not have a single textile park, and 25 per cent of textile parks will be opened in those states. We want to move forward by integrating the whole country.

I would like to tell you what respected Kharge ji has said: this problem has been going on for a long time. It is in our notice. Facts about this that are in front of us may be wrong; then you can improve that the number of workers on 40 acres of land is 11919. They live on 40 acres of land. We are ready to give them space and housing if any locality is identified. We don't have any problem with that. There have been a lot of meetings about this, and after the year 2002, Rs 75 thousand per

family has been given. That is the deposit, and on the basis of that, you have suggested giving it, but the problem ahead of us is that if we give forty acres of land to these people, then we will not be able to solve wherever this problem is in the whole country.

SHRI MALLIKARJUNA KHARGE: He has a 20 by 30 house. Leave large houses or office quarters. Those who are poor are in 20 by 40, and those who have filled the money that has been lying with you for at least 15-20 years. We have asked them to give it to you. ... (*Interruptions*) You just give them that much light. They are not asking for the full 40 acres of land.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: What you have told us, we want that with your knowledge, it should be resolved at the earliest, and you do not get a chance to complain. We understand this and will work to solve it soon.

A big thank you to all of you. The Members who felt that their questions were not answered have been noted by our officials. We will personally answer every member's questions. I request you to appreciate whatever your suggestions are in this

work. I once again urge the House to bear with the pain of passing it.

[English]

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the Bill further to amend the Sick Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1974 and the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Act, 1995 in order to continue with the lease-hold rights vested in the National Textile Corporation on completion of the lease-hold tenure, be taken into consideration. ”

The motion was adopted.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is:

“That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 Amendment of Section 4

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Tathagata Satpathy, are you moving your amendment to clause 3?

SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY (DHENKANAL): Yes, Sir, I beg to move:

Page 2, *after* line 38, *insert*, -

“(10) The property so vested with the National Textile Corporation shall not be sold or given out on lease to any private business concern.”. (1)

Sir, I would just like to state, the Hon. Minister has already agreed that he is aware of this point that I have tried to raise in this amendment. It is self-explanatory. I do not have to explain more. I am sure, everybody in the ruling benches also agrees that this land should not be sold off.

Sir, in a passing phase, the Hon. Minister said in Hindi – I think I heard it correct – which meant that we want to get this passed by uniting all of you and not by breaking them. He wants to get it passed with all of us supporting it. I support the Bill

wholeheartedly. All that I am saying is that why don't we practise a positive democracy where, when a suggestion comes and the Government and the ruling party are aware that this needs to be addressed, why does not he accept it on the floor that let this amendment be moved by the Government? It should become a part of the Bill so that in future no other Government or individual will have a scope for corruption or for misuse of this land or to sell it off or to barter it off. I hope the Minister will consider it. I insist on this.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No.1 to clause 3 moved by Shri Tathagata Satpathy to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That clause 3 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4 to 6 were added to the Bill.

Clause 7 Insertion of new Section 39

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Kalikesh N. Singh Deo, are you moving your amendment to clause 7?

SHRI KALIKESH N. SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR): Yes, Sir, I beg to move:

Page 4, *for* lines 10 to 13, *substitute*, -

“(a) The provisions of this Act, as amended by the Textile Undertakings (Nationalisation) Laws (Amendment and Validation) Act, 2014, shall come into force with effect from the 24th October, 2014. ”.

(2)

Sir, it has become a habit for the Government of India that whenever they lose a case in the High Court or the Supreme Court, they come up with a retrospective amendment. This is especially shocking when the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister said very clearly that they will not have any retrospective laws coming into place.

Therefore, my amendment is to make this particular law not retrospective, as explained today, but prospective from the date of the Ordinance. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No.2 to clause 7 moved by Shri Kalikesh N. Singh Deo, to the vote of the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That clause 7 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

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

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed.”

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet tomorrow, the 2nd December, 2014 at 11 a.m.

18.24 hrs

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 / Agrahayana 11, 1936 (Saka).

INTERNET

The Original version, English version and Hindi Version of Lok Sabha proceedings are available on Parliament of India Website at the following address:

<https://sansad.in/ls>

LIVE TELECAST OF PROCEEDINGS OF LOK SABHA

Lok Sabha proceedings are telecast live on Sansad TV Channel. Live telecast begins at 11 A.M. every day the Lok Sabha sits till the adjournment of the House.

©2014 By Lok Sabha Secretariat

Published under Rules 379 and 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of
Business in Lok Sabha (Sixteenth Edition)
